PRODUCTIVITY ECOSYSTEMS FOR DECENT WORK

A COURSE FOR POLICY-MAKERS AND PRACTITIONERS

23 MAY – 03 JUNE 2022
2 WEEKS, 10 HRS/WEEK

Information Note
INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

Novel estimates of employment by firm size, suggest that the number of employees within SMEs in the formal sector almost doubled in the 132 countries for which estimates are available; with SMEs' share of total employment rising from 31 to 35 per cent. SMEs and young firms are also often more dynamic with respect to employment growth.

Despite this, there are persisting decent work deficits in these contexts, particularly in developing and emerging economies. Often, they show significantly lower levels of productivity than large enterprises. In SMEs low productivity often coexists with poor working conditions, low market share, a low skilled workforce and ineffective management practices.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This training course aims to enhance the skills of policy makers and practitioners in assessing and designing policies to improve productivity and working conditions in SMEs. The course hopes to inspire policy makers and practitioners to adopt a systemic approach to SME productivity that encompasses an effective combination of macro- and meso-level policies, the creation of a conducive business environment and the strengthening of SME support institutions, together with intervention at the enterprise level. Special attention will be given to strategies that promote productivity at the corporate level and ways to scale-up corporate-level productivity programmes.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants in this training course will:

• identify the drivers of productivity in SMEs;
• identify some of the linkages between productivity and working conditions in SMEs;
• review productivity measurement methods and indicators;
• examine the role of framework policy measures and SME targeted policies in enhancing SME productivity and working conditions;
• analyse firm-level interventions to enhance productivity and improve working conditions;
• analyse policy options to improve SME productivity and working conditions;
• discuss and examine methods to share the gains of productivity enhancement in SMEs.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The training course is specifically designed for policy makers and practitioners involved in the design and implementation of policies and related interventions affecting the productivity and working conditions of SMEs, such as decision makers and managers representing governments, workers’ and employers’ organizations, productivity organizations and SME agencies.
COURSE CONTENT

The course will be delivered by ILO and OECD specialists with the assistance of trainers from the International Training Centre of the ILO. The course will also incorporate relevant experiences from other national and international agencies. The draft training agenda is shown below:

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<td>Webinar 1</td>
<td>Self-guided module</td>
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Drivers of productivity and working conditions in SMEs

SMEs: Socio-economic relevance and constraints

Productivity and how it is measured

SME policies for productivity enhancement

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The role of industrial policies in productivity enhancement

Enterprise-level interventions to enhance productivity in SMEs

Access to finance for SMEs

Innovation policies for SMEs

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Skills development policies and strategies for SME productivity

Sharing the gains of productivity enhancement

LANGUAGE

The course is offered in English.

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

Register for the course online using the link: https://oarf2.itcilo.org/DST/A9713762/en

Deadline for registration: 08 May 2022

Cost: 980 Euros

For more information on the course, please write to: productivity@itcilo.org