



### **4.1.1 – Focus Group Discussion Report Tunisia – CGDR\_PP7 CLUSTER (C\_A.3.1\_0014)**

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## 1. Summary

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*Definition of Focus Group (FG), objective of the activity, outputs and outcomes it contributes to.*

**General Agency For Regional Development** of Tunisia (“CGDR”) is PP7 of the [ENI CBC MED CLUSTER project \(C A.3.1 0014\)](#).

CGDR set up a plan to involve staff and services as its partners focusing on the project.

The objective of the FG was to :

- Review the training objectives of the CLUSTER project (04 curricular models proposed)
- Validate the relevance of the themes and curricular proposed in the territorial context
- Evaluate the contents of the curricular and their relevance to the needs of the target audiences (NEETs)
- Collection of proposals from the stake-holders representatives

The workshop (Nabeul, 05-07-2022) was an opportunity to review and enhance the data and ideas exchange.

Partners from Agriculture, Training and Labor market departments as well from SEAs, validated the 04 sectors [#organicfarming](#), [#aquaponics](#), [#hydroponics](#); [#sustainablefood](#). They mentioned that the project require specialized skills in order to achieve the training process to be set up later (WP\_4)

## 2. Methodology

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*General FG methodology, kind of questions used, moderator style, data recording used, interaction, participant selection criteria.*

### 1. Presentation of the FGD workshop :

The workshop was preceded by 02 online briefings organized by the PM with the planned moderators (23-06-2022 and 29-06-2022) : A “tandem” Eng. HATEM BEN THAMEUR, Director of Studies Service (Regional Agriculture Dept.), Eng. SLIM ZOUARI, Director of Regional UTAP HQ (Nabeul Governorate).

It was a F-To-F technical workshop of specialized participants. It was an occasion to know and discuss the 04 sectors targeted. It brings together stakeholders in the various departments dealing with Agriculture, Training and Labor market, SEAs.

### 2. Course of the Workshop

- Tools used : Board, stickers, markers,
- Both moderators have prepared 03 interventions : About the project, about the 04 sectors targeted and about content (07 parts) of the questionnaire (Evaluation)

The workshop was dedicated to a specialized audience took place in Regional UTAP HQ (Professional Agricultural corporation). The participants were from departments dealing with the project concept (NEETs, SEAs, Training and Labor market...)

After introducing moderators and participants by themselves, the work took place as follows :

- Presentation relating to the Project provided (Eng. Chokri Mselmeni, Director of Regional Service, DDR, Nabeul Governorate)
- Introduction of 04 training sectors targeted (Aquaponics, Hydroponics, Processing Food, Bio Agriculture) by the “tandem” (Eng. HATEM BEN THAMEUR, Eng. SLIM ZOUARI)
- Open discussion about proposed framework questionnaire (Questions & Answers) animated by the tandem Eng. HATEM BEN THAMEUR, Eng. SLIM ZOUARI.
- Synthesis of work :
- Certificates of Participation (Distribution)

The Agenda was as follow :

- Introduction of participants
- Introduction of the project CLUSTER (Eng. Chokri Mselmeni, Director of Regional Service, DDR, Nabeul Governorate).
- Introduction of training sectors (Aquaponics, Hydroponics, Processing Food, Bio Agriculture) by the tandem Eng. HATEM BEN THAMEUR, Eng. SLIM ZOUARI.
- Discussion on the proposed framework questionnaire (Questions & Answers)
- Synthesis of work
- Certificats of Participation (Distribution)

### 3. Data Analysis

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#### **Main outcomes :**

- The percentage of the applied field training (70%) Vs theoretical training percentage (30%)
- Training certificates to be approved officially by TVETs
- Timing to fit possibility of young women essentially
- Enhance the SMEs to share know-how with NEETs
- Nabeul Governorate is well suited to develop and expand new projects in the 04 fields targeted
- Many opportunities to build connexions with start-ups related to these fields working in bio diversity potential, sea life protection, wildlife protection

#### 4. Participant Demographics

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*Number of participants that took part in the focus groups, background, institutions they represent.*

Total number of attendees: 31

Total number of respondents: 15

Questionnaire Response Rate : 50%

Average age: About 40 years old

Gender balance: 15 Females and 16 Males

Total number of attendees : 31

The evaluation questionnaire was distributed in "traditional" format (paper).

The attendance was from Regional departments of Agriculture, TVETs and Labor market, SEAs, Bio start-ups.

#### 5. Key Findings

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*Provide a brief description and analysis of the topics discussed, responses received, and overall attitude.*

A common attitude that Nabeul Governorate can succeed in wide spread this sustainable sectors.

All professionals are willing to network with new start-ups

#### 6. Questions and Answers

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Question	Answers
<i>General and technical characteristics and curricula adopted in training programs ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public TVET centers programs are linked to the ministry's program and do not, in a number of cases, coincide with the requirements of the labor market.</li> <li>- Private TVET programs are based on the requirements of the profession and the labor market, without including all sectors</li> </ul>
<i>What are the technical knowledge, skills and characteristics that a training program or a program to enhance capabilities should contain ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developing the personal and life skills of the trainee to facilitate integration into the labor market</li> <li>- Taking into account individual qualifications</li> <li>- Positive thinking, emotional intelligence, stress management</li> <li>- Communication (Interview techniques, CV writing...)</li> <li>- Analytical Critical thinking and problem solving ability</li> <li>- Develop creativity and motivation skills</li> </ul>

Question	Answers
<i>What are the approved elements for evaluating accredited training programs ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extent of response to the needs of the labor market</li> <li>- On-site training is essential in most sectors, while online training can be successful in other sectors</li> <li>- Applied field training (70%) <b>Vs</b> theoretical training (30%)</li> <li>- Promote the spirit of initiative with the aim of creativity</li> </ul>

Question	Answers
<i>Considering the peculiarities of work in these areas and what was discussed in the previous axis, who should be responsible for the formation from your point of view ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TVET centers (public) : usually the training programs are restricted to the ministry's programs and are not up to date with global developments</li> <li>- Operators (private) : Few budget allocated for training courses</li> <li>- Financing Institutions</li> <li>- Weak mechanisms and funding to complete the training courses for young people</li> </ul>

Question	Answers
<i>Depending on your experiences with the target groups of the project, what are the most important areas that must be worked on and developed ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cultural awareness of work and positive thinking among the trainees (NEETs)</li> <li>- Availability of a level of communication and interpersonal skills</li> <li>- Soft skills (informatics, developing personal ...)</li> </ul>
<i>Can CLUSTER project meet your expectations at the level of training programs for women and NEETS ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes, especially if the shortcomings in public programs and the specificities of the targeted sectors are taken into consideration</li> <li>- Sort of, given the difficulty of dealing with the target groups</li> <li>- One condition for success is to carry out awareness-raising and media operations to introduce the targeted sectors in training programs</li> </ul>

Question	Answers
<i>Evaluation of the configuration path ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Current training programs adopt traditional and classical methods</li> <li>- Current programs are not intellectually stimulating and do not keep pace with NICTs</li> <li>- Current training programs lack applied field training</li> <li>- Lack of training courses and experts in the targeted sectors</li> </ul>
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Question	Answers
<i>Aids and means ?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop laws related to the targeted sectors</li> <li>- Developing teaching strategies and adopting new methods that keep pace with modern technologies to attract and entice young people</li> <li>- Organizing training courses appropriate to the conditions available to the trainees, such as choosing the appropriate timing and periodicity of the quotas in line with the conditions of the beneficiaries (married women, young men, working women...)</li> <li>- A compatibility between the time period programmed by the Tunisian Agency for VT and the training thematics</li> <li>- Calling for the adoption of flexible training programs with periodic evaluation in partnership with the two components</li> <li>- Providing successful experiences (success story) within the training period</li> <li>- Proposing the integration of training by circulation within the agricultural VT programs, similar to the training in the field of professions (centers of the Tunisian Agency for VT)</li> </ul>

## 7. Conclusion or recommendations

- The workshop participants emphasized the importance of training in the targeted sectors of the cluster project, considering
- Climate-related challenges
- These sectors are environmentally friendly
- Facing the water scarcity that the party complains of
- Food security challenges
- The high added value that these sectors can generate
- The health benefits of the products of these sectors
- Many differential features in the region, such as research centers, provide successful experiences...
- Cooperation with the EU is an excellent framework for CGDR to further collaboration in Young people inclusion.