



PROGRAMME

5th MEETING OF THE COMCEC POVERTY ALLEVIATION WORKING GROUP (February 26th, 2014, Ankara)

“Activation Policies for the Poor in the OIC Member States”

08.30-09.00 **Registration**

09.00-09.15 **Opening Remarks**

09.15-09.45 **The COMCEC Poverty Outlook**

- Presentation: “Outlook of Poverty in the OIC Member States: Multidimensional Poverty”
*Ms. Hande HACIMAHMUTOĞLU, Expert
COMCEC Coordination Office*

- Views and Comments

09.45-10.45 **Current Developments in Activation Policies**

- Presentation: “Activation Policies for the Poor and Global Trends”
*Mr. Alexandre KOLEV, Head of Unit
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*

Question(s) for Discussion

- What is the existing employment situation of the poor and people at risk of poverty in your country?
- What are the challenges related to the employment situation of the poor in your country?

10.45-11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00-12.00 **Overview of the Activation Policies and Programmes in the OIC Member States**

- Presentation: “Employment situation and activation policies and programmes implemented in the OIC Member States with special focus on case studies”
*Mr. Christopher MELVIN, Director
Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion (CESI)*

Question(s) for Discussion

- What are the public employment/job search support policies and programmes aiming to match unemployed poor and possible vacancies in your country (like job placement, counseling, job mobility support etc.)?
- What are the training programmes in your country aiming to increase qualifications and skills of unemployed poor?

- What are the job creation policies and programmes (like micro-credit, subventions, public work programmes for the poor) aiming to support labour demand by expanding the set of earning opportunities for the poor?

12.00-13.30 **Lunch**

13.30-15.30 **Policy Options for Improving Activation Policies**

There will be a moderation session under this agenda item. The participants are expected to deliberate on the policy options/advice for improving Activation Policies in the Member Countries. *The Room Document on Policy Options for Developing Effective Activation Policies in the Member Countries* was prepared by the CCO, in light of the main findings of the analytical study prepared specifically for the Meeting and the answers of the Member Countries to the policy questions which have already been sent by the CCO. This Document has been shared with the Poverty Alleviation Working Group focal points as well as the participants before the Meeting with a view to enriching the discussions during the Session and coming up with concrete policy advice for the policy approximation among the Member Countries in this important field.

Question(s) for Discussion

- Is there any Public Employment Services (PES) in your country; if yes, do you think that the existing PES is effective?
- Is there any mechanism ensuring the active involvement of the employers in the design and implementation of the activation policies in your country?
- Do the vocational training programmes meet the need for skill improvement of the poor?
- Do you think that the funds allocated to the activation programmes are sufficient?

15.30-15.45 **Coffee Break**

15.45-17.15 **Member Country Presentations**

- Sharing Experiences and Good Practices in Activation Policies and Programmes

Question(s) for Discussion

- Is there a link between activation policies/programmes and poverty reduction in your country? If no, is there any future plan to establish such a link?

17.15-17.45 **The Experience of International/Non-governmental Organizations and Local Authorities in Activation Policies and Programmes**

- Presentation: “*Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee’s (BRAC) Experience in the Activation Policies and Programmes*”

*Mr. Asif SALEH, Senior Director
Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC)*

- Presentation: “*The Experience of İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality Art and Vocational Training Courses (ISMEK) in the Activation Programmes*”

*Mr. Mehmet DOĞAN
İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality Art and Vocational Training
Courses (İSMEK)*

- Presentation: “*Activation Policies under OIC-VET*”

*Mr. Mansur BOYDAŞ, Researcher
Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for
Islamic Countries (SESRIC)*

Question(s) for Discussion

- What is your country experience in developing/implementing activation programmes with international organizations?
- How the NGOs are involved in the activation programmes in your country?

17.45-18.05 **Utilizing the COMCEC PCM**

- Presentation: “Utilizing the COMCEC Project Cycle Management”
Mr. Aykut YILMAZ, Expert
COMCEC Coordination Office

Views and Comments

18.05-18.15 **Closing Remarks**