



ONLINE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PROMOTING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISES IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS

E-LEARNING

3 – 28 MAY 2021

 4 WEEKS

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization



International Training Centre

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

Business environment reform (BER) is increasingly considered as a key component of development strategies in fragile settings, including conflict affected, post-conflict, post-disaster and emergency situations.

Enterprises operating in fragile contexts might face business interruptions, physical damages, disruptions to infrastructure services, difficulties with supplies and shipment, and revenue decline. Small businesses are particularly vulnerable, as they tend to have less financial and human resources to face emergencies and hazards.

When a community faces disasters, violence, conflicts or emergencies, the ability of local enterprises to survive is an important factor in the recovery process. Businesses play an important socio-economic role: they offer jobs and income for affected populations; they provide goods and services as well as tax revenues.

Increasingly, bilateral and multilateral agencies that support private sector development ensure that these programmes have a component focusing on the improvement and reform of the business environment. The reason behind this is that an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises can contribute not only to economic growth, but also to more peaceful and inclusive societies.

However, conducting business environment reforms in fragile contexts is a complex and often-long process. Fragile countries have many different characteristics, including varying levels of fragility, inequalities, income and economic performance. They are also more susceptible to rapid change, which implies that BER must be designed in an adaptable and flexible way. Stakeholders' engagement must be thorough and robust throughout the process, to ensure no stakeholders are isolated causing further tensions.

Against this background, this online course aims to provide participants with an understanding of existing tools and approaches to conduct and contribute to business environment reforms in fragile settings.

WHAT ARE THE COURSE'S OBJECTIVES?

The specific objectives of the course are the following:

- Identify the rationale for promoting an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises in fragile settings;
- Learn the functioning and achievements of the ILO “Enabling Environment for Sustainable Enterprises” Programme, including its methodology, process and track record.
- Understand the peculiarities of business environment reforms in fragile settings
- Learn practical approaches, tips and strategies on how to assess the business environment in fragile settings, how to prioritize needs and how to design and structure a reform process.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND THIS COURSE?

The course is addressed to a varied audience, with a common interest on fragility, resilience, business environment reform, and support to micro, small and medium enterprises. More specifically, the course is designed for:

- ILO and UN in HQ and field, working in fragile contexts, including conflict affected, post-conflict, post-disaster and emergency situations.
- ILO constituents (staff of employers' and workers' organizations, government representatives) that are based in a fragile context and are interested in learning more about how to improve the enabling environment for sustainable enterprises in their country.
- Development and humanitarian professionals, including international experts and consultants in the fields of fragility, resilience, and business environment reform, looking to understand the role and approach of the ILO on these topics.
- Donor agencies supporting MSME and private sector development in fragile contexts.

WHAT TOPICS DOES IT COVER?

This 4-week online course includes three thematic modules plus one “hands on” module:

- **Module 1:** The case for improving the enabling environment in fragile contexts
- **Module 2:** The ILO and the enabling environment in fragile settings
- **Module 3:** Implementing enabling environment programmes in fragile contexts – tools and lessons learned
- **Module 4:** Project work, where participants define their own enabling environment support programme

Each module will include a webinar with international experts, plus a Welcome Webinar.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

This course is an opportunity for participants to:

- Understand the role of business environment reforms in the recovery process of fragile states
- Gain a solid understanding of the functioning, methodology and achievements of the ILO “Enabling Environment for Sustainable Enterprises” Programme
- Learn the main tools and receive practical advice on how that to assess the business environment and conducting enabling environment programmes
- Exchange lessons and experiences with specialists operating in fragile contexts.

HOW TO APPLY?

Applicants are kindly asked to send us:

1. A completed online registration form: <https://oarf2.itcilo.org/MIF/A9714340/en>
2. If you are financed by your organization (or a donor) an official sponsorship letter is required to finalize your registration. The letter can be uploaded to the application form or sent by email to fragilestates@itcilo.org
3. If you pay directly the course fees, please note that the payment is due before enrolment in the course. More details about payment methods can be found [here](#).

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Price: Euro 900

Language: The course will be held in English.

Diploma: An ITCILO Certificate will be awarded at the completion of the course.

Contact: fragilestates@itcilo.org

WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course:
No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course:
Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course:
Penalty of 100% of course price.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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