



Association  
pour le développement  
de l'éducation  
en Afrique

## **Private sector, socio-professional organizations, civil society: ADEA seeks the input of new stakeholders in its thinking on education and training for sustainable development**

**Tunis, May 17, 2011.** From 18 to 20 May 2011, Tunis will host a Forum bringing together representatives of the private sector, socio-professional organizations and NGOs for consultation on their role in and their contribution to the development of education and training systems for sustainable development. The Forum, which will be opened by the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training in Tunisia, Hon. Mr. Saïd Aydi, is part of the preparations for the 2011 ADEA Triennale, which will address the theme “Promoting critical knowledge, skills and qualifications for sustainable development in Africa: how to design and implement effective education and training systems?” The 2011 Triennale will be held in Ouagadougou from 27 November to 2 December 2011.

In the great majority of African countries, the private sector is the main developer and provider of skills, well ahead of the public sector in this respect. Analysis of technical and vocational skills development systems in Africa highlights the key role played by business, occupational and social stakeholders in both the design and the implementation of policies on training and qualification.

For this reason, ADEA has stressed the need to consider the private sector, socio-professional organizations and NGOs as the full partners of governments, from identification of skill requirements and the design of occupational profiles and training curricula to the accreditation and certification procedures at the end of the skills development process.

The Consultation Forum to be held this week in Tunis will give the participants the opportunity to express their views on how existing education systems should be reformed to meet Africa’s needs for economic growth and sustainable development.

Expected outcomes of the Forum include:

- identification of the expertise, knowledge, skills and qualifications that the private sector considers critical to sustainable development;
- suggestions for reforms to be undertaken in existing education and training systems in order to produce the needed skills;
- indications as to the role that the private sector and NGOs could play in defining and developing training programs capable of improving young people’s and adults’ capacities to acquire the knowledge and skills that are relevant to labor markets;

**Association for the Development of Education in Africa**  
African Development Bank (AfDB)  
Temporary Relocation Agency  
BP 323 – 1002 Tunis Belvédère - Tunisia  
Tel.: +216/ 71 10 39 00  
Email: [t.desruelles@afdb.org](mailto:t.desruelles@afdb.org) Website: [www.adeanet.org](http://www.adeanet.org)

- indications as to the types of public-private partnerships (PPPs) between the private sector, government and educational institutions that would be capable of inducing a paradigm shift in education and training systems to meet the above;
- models and frameworks for promoting cooperation between business, professional and social stakeholders at national or sub-regional level.

The Forum will also produce a synthesis report and policy briefs. The latter will define the changes needed to improve education and training systems as well as the types of enabling environments needed for the private sector and NGOs to play a meaningful role in addressing youth unemployment and contributing to economic growth.

The Forum is organized by ADEA and will be held in Tunis from 18 to 20 May 2011. It will be attended by about 50 participants, which will include African and foreign entrepreneurs working in Africa, small and medium-sized enterprises operating in Africa, professional associations and organizations, employers' associations, chambers of commerce, NGOs, trade unions and members of the African diaspora who invest in Africa.

**Tunis, May 17, 2011.**

Press contact:

*In Tunis*

- **Thanh-Hoa Desruelles**, External Relations and Communication, ADEA, [t.desruelles@afdb.org](mailto:t.desruelles@afdb.org),  
Tel.: +216/ 7110 3432 (office), +216/ 21 69 11 46 (cell)

**Association for the Development of Education in Africa**  
African Development Bank (AfDB)  
Temporary Relocation Agency  
BP 323 – 1002 Tunis Belvédère - Tunisia  
Tel.: +216/ 71 10 39 00  
Email: [t.desruelles@afdb.org](mailto:t.desruelles@afdb.org) Website: [www.adeanet.org](http://www.adeanet.org)