



MoreThanAJob

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The Project's third semester was focused on empowering Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) actors and Public Administrators (PAs) through a series of ToT workshops and seminars meant to improve collaboration between both and equip them with the skills and tools they need to provide social services to vulnerable populations. A policy brief based on an analysis of each partner's unique national context was also developed by the partners and used to provide policymakers and relevant PAs with recommendations for improving SSE's.

The consortium also launched an online portal meant to facilitate and reinforce collaboration between SSE actors and public administrators and serve as a platform for vulnerable populations to access the services they desperately need. Finally, the MoreThanAJob team ended the semester by creating a sub-grant and will be published in the next weeks` for SSE actors whose projects focus on providing the most vulnerable segments of society with social services within the MoreThanAJob framework. The grants will support 10 projects, 2 per partner country, and will be comprised of €20,000 each.

The project is coordinated by **An-Najah National University** (Palestine) and involves 4 other partners: **Nablus Chamber of Commerce and Industry** (Palestine); **Mutah University** (Jordan); **Business Consultancy and Training Services - BCTS** (Lebanon); **EUROTRAINING** (Greece); and **CESIE** (Italy).



Promoting Cooperation Among Social and Solidarity Economy Actors and Public Administrations



An integrated offer of services for community well-being

The consortium developed an online portal tailored for cooperation between public administrations and SSE actors in order to facilitate their ability to develop and provide social services aimed at the inclusion of vulnerable groups.

The MoreThanAJob portal is a multilingual structured database and interactive platform that fosters dialogue, experience sharing, and collaboration. It also provides vulnerable groups, and citizens in general, with a better overview and understanding of the services available to them and the ways to access them.

The portal will be continuously updated and content uploaded to it will be posted under five main Categories as follows: Family and Income Support; Health and Counseling Services; Education and Training; Career Guidance and Employment Support; Culture and Participation.

The portal was designed to be easy to use, requiring no previous knowledge of the service providers, and allowing for clear and filtered searches that cater to the beneficiaries' specific needs, effectively connecting them to the most suitable service provider.

CESIE holds an online training session for the consortium

In order to ensure that it is well received and understood, CESIE (Italy), delivered an online training session to the representatives from each of the consortium's organizations on the 10th of November. The session focused on the ways of presenting the portal to local stakeholders and guiding them through the registration process, as well as teaching them effective usage of the portal's various features. By the end of the training, the representatives had a clear understanding of the portal's usage and purpose and were ready to disseminate the knowledge they had learned to the beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Outreach, Advocacy, and Synergy Building

Memorandum of Understanding signed with major SSE actor in Palestine

With the aim of supporting SSE actors and empowering their work, NCCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Palestinian Fund for Employment and Social Protection (PFESP) in the month of January 2021. This collaboration is aimed at dealing with issues of employment and economic empowerment, especially when it comes to graduates, entrepreneurs, and marginalized groups. The Chamber will be effectively providing its services and various funded employment programs to the PFESP, in order to achieve the best outcome for the final beneficiaries. The PFESP's Care and Business Development Unit will provide legal, technical, and professional guidance, raise public awareness on the issue and project, provide economic support in the implementation of projects, and help make NCCI's services available to all third party actors with similar strategic goals.



Country-specific policy briefs created from international best practices

The entire consortium members also sought to enhance the capabilities of SSE actors, however, in order to develop activities in line with the demands and priorities of each partner's country, the MoreThanAJob consortium carried out an analysis of international local best practices related to the promotion of the inclusion of vulnerable people, and 3 priorities and policy areas were identified: the need for a perpetually and increasingly responsive social service delivery system, a progressively growing Social and Solidarity Economy, and an educational system that adapts dynamically to market needs. Based on these findings, each partner then developed a policy brief outlining their country's context.



Consortium submits policy recommendations to decision-makers

MoreThanAJob's first-year policy brief was developed with input from all project partners using the results of WP3 (Social schemes & subgrant) and WP4 (Public institutions involvement and training). The policy brief describes the ways in which the project results could be integrated into future policies, in order to make a strong impact and ensure sustainability.





It was also used to create recommendations that can support public administrators and policymakers in creating action plans and relevant policies. The aim of these recommendations is to promote social entrepreneurship, grassroots participation, community inclusion, and multi-sectoral cooperation.

The MoreThanAJob team met decision- and policy-makers related to SSE's and vulnerable populations (the unemployed, uneducated, and refugees) in the month of November 2020 and presented, both face-to-face and virtually, its first policy brief, and discussed the project's results and applicability in the context of each partner's country (Palestine, Greece, Jordan, Italy, and Lebanon).

Virtual event brings together representatives from 12 EU-funded projects and the MoreThanAJob consortium members

On February 16, 2021, the MoreThanAJob partners attended a virtual event with representatives from 12 EU-funded projects relating to social inclusion and fighting poverty in the Mediterranean countries. The purpose of the event was to take note of the results achieved so far by ENI CBCMed projects while highlighting possible synergies and identifying good practices for stronger impact on the regional level.

Discussions were focused on the results achieved and the good practices and experiences learned during the ENI CBCMed projects' implementation.








**T.O. 3 - Seminar of
“Good Practices and First Year Achievements”
16 of February 2021**

12 EU-funded projects to highlight, discuss, share solutions, and possible synergy ideas for social inclusion in the Mediterranean

 GREENLAND	 INTERNISA	 MYSEA
 SIRCLES	 Skills4Sports	 HELIOS
 InnovAgroWoMed	 MedTOWN	 MoreThanAJob
 RESMYLE	 TEC-MED	 YEP MED

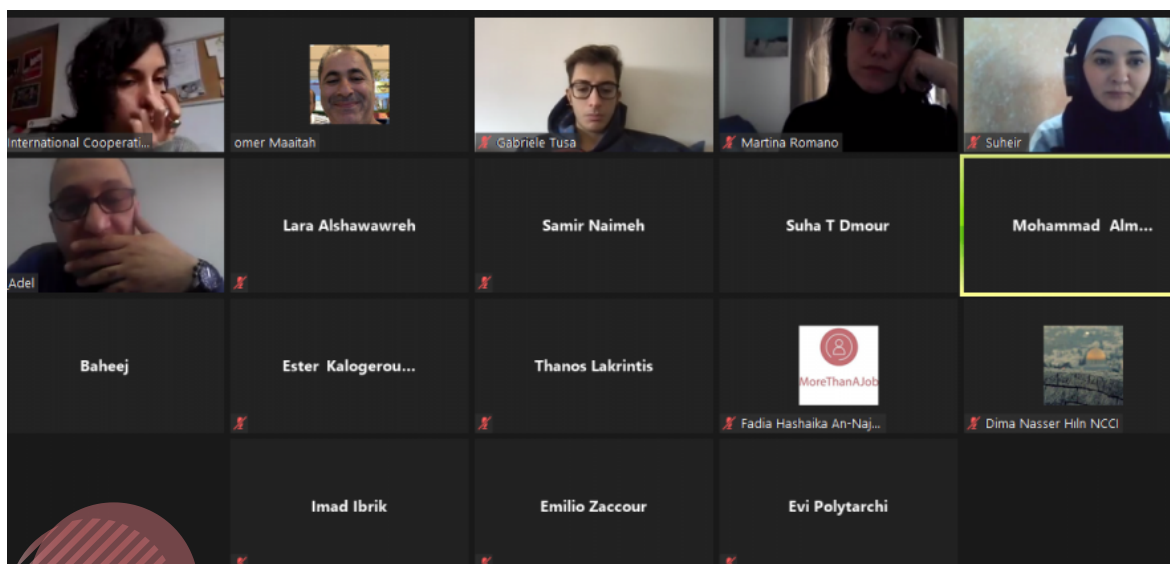
United will be stronger!

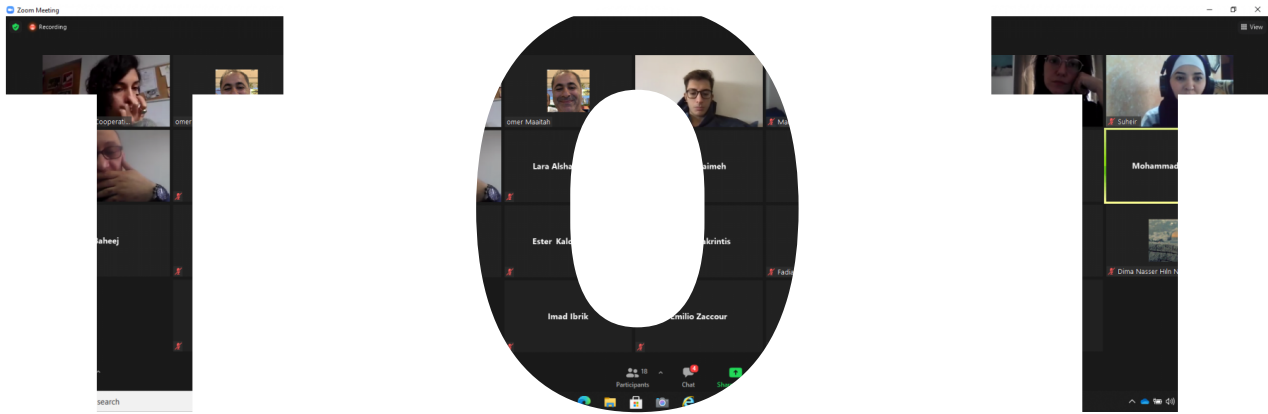
Consortium launches first of a series of ToT and capacity building workshops



The MoreThanAJob partners excitedly launched the project's first cross-border ToT targeting trainers from the partner's countries. The two-day training was delivered by MUTAH University to 15 participants on the 17th and 18th of December, with the aim of strengthening their skills and increasing their knowledge on the best ways to include vulnerable groups in the labor market. The trainers will then transfer this information to the project's final beneficiaries, i.e., SSE actors and PAs, after completing the 4-part training program ending in February 2021.

The training helped the participants explore new tools, models, and methods of delivering and demonstrating the MoreThanAJob framework, which is based on a study of the international best practices relating to the inclusion of the unemployed, especially refugees and the uneducated, into the labor and education sectors.





“Train the Trainers” e-Workshops

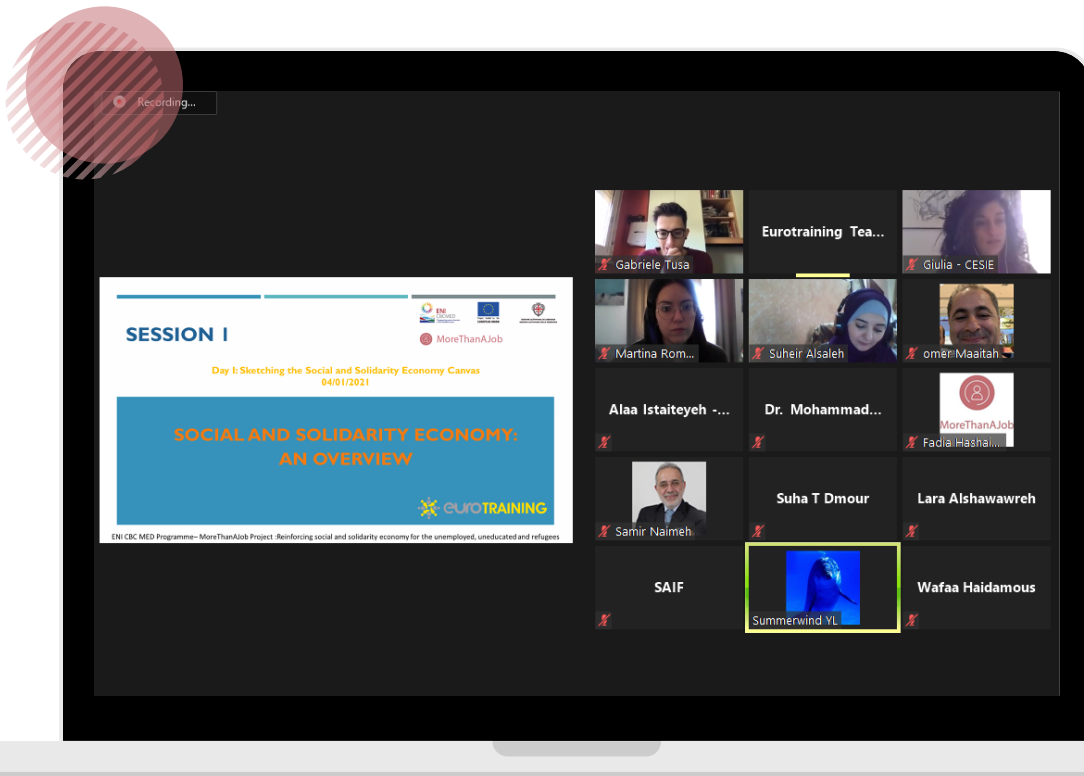
Short review of the second and fourth 'Training of Trainers' seminar

The project's ToT activity continued in this second and fourth round of training sessions that took place from the 4th till the 7th of January 2021 and from the 1st till the 3rd of February 2021. These seminars were organized by EUROTraining Educational Organization and included theoretical and practical training in thematic focusing on SSE actors, PA's, and stakeholders. A participatory approach was employed, with case studies, team exercises, and interactive activities being utilized throughout the training. Peer-to-peer learning was also encouraged during this seminar and resulted in the exchange of best practices and the sharing of ideas and challenges. At the end of the training, participants were ready to explain key concepts to their local actors, select the appropriate tools for each context, and implement better inclusion strategies in their territories.



 MoreThanAJob



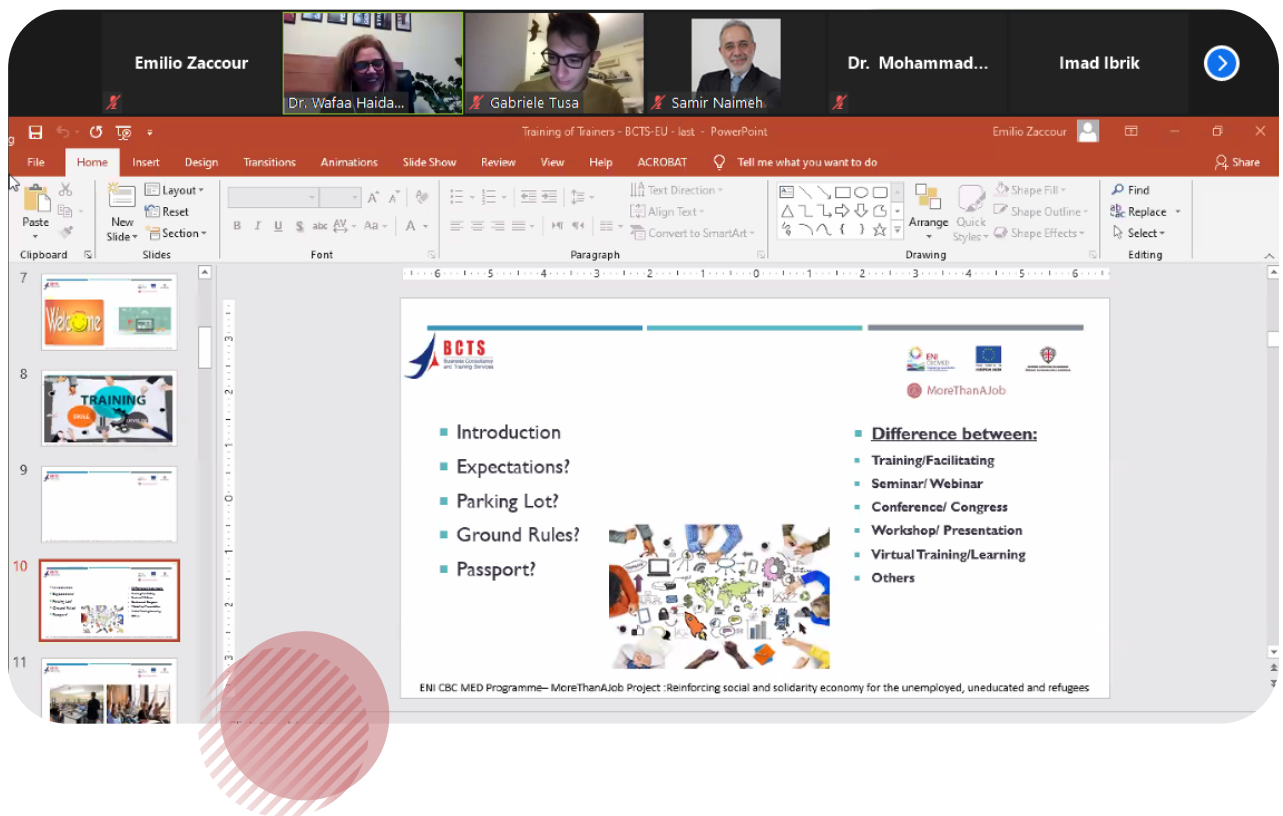


MoreThanAJob continues 'Train the Trainers' cross-border e-programme

The Nablus Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) organized on January 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st, 2021 a 4-day online ToT workshop centered on labor market integration through skill matching and youth empowerment, and through the support of innovative and entrepreneurial initiatives related to the social sphere.

This cross-border ToT targeting SSE actors is the third of its kind. Participants will receive a certificate upon successful completion of the final training and will be responsible for transferring their acquired knowledge to SSE actors and Public administrators and for assisting in the implementation of the MoreThanAJob framework.





Implementation of the final ToT session dedicated to Public Administrations

An online ToT spanning for 3 days, from 15 to 17 February 2021, was organized by "Business Consultancy and Training Services" (BCTS) and delivered to 15 trainers with the purpose of refining their skills before they must administer the MoreThanAJob training sessions to public administrators.

The training focused on the learning and training cycle, with an emphasis on training design and participatory facilitation approaches. Practical exercises and case studies were used to tie theory to practice and cement the learned information in the participants' minds. The trainees / potential trainers also had the opportunity to share their experiences and exchange best practices, ultimately enriching the training and strengthening the understanding of the MoreThanAJob framework. A strong rapport was built between the trainers and a shared channel of communication was established for learning and support for more effective implementation of project activities.



Training for Public Administrators



Consortium prepares virtual training seminars for public authorities & trainers

The MoreThanAJob consortium met in the month of October, 2020 in virtual meetings in order to prepare a ToT program for Public Administrations (PA) and SSE actors in the fields of employment, education, and migration. The training sessions aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of public authorities so that they may implement social services more effectively, in collaboration with other SSE actors.

There were a total of 4 sessions targeting PA and SSE actors, delivered throughout the months of November 2020 until February 2021. The topics discussed in the trainings were categorized under 3 main topics as follows: Social Dialogue between PAs and SSEs; Coaching, Counseling, and Mentoring; ROI - Return on Investment on vocational education.



Training sessions launched for SSE actors

As part of MoreThanAJob's ongoing goal of empowering Social and Solidarity Economy Actors (SSE) actors, Mutah University, Jordan, organized a 10 day training seminar delivered both virtually, through Zoom, and face-to-face. The training began on the 4th of February, 2021 and ended on the 14th. It focused on sharing the best practices and social schemes identified through this project with the participants, as well as shedding light on the role of SSE's in providing public services that satisfy people's basic needs, while highlighting the need for non-discrimination towards vulnerable groups, especially migrants and refugees.

The training also came as support for the SSE actors' eventual implementation of the adapted best practices through sub-grants provided by this project.

On another note, the MoreThanAJob portal was presented to the participants and was received with high praise and excitement. They welcomed the idea of a platform that allows SSE actors and public administrations to upload services and opportunities they are providing to the most vulnerable populations, and embraced its use as a space for sharing experiences and doubts, and obtain the assistance they might need to respond to challenges.



MoreThanAJob will award 10 grants in support of innovative social schemes

The MoreThanAJob consortium has sent out a call for proposals from SSE actors whose projects aim to develop innovative social development projects for the most vulnerable groups in society, within the project's framework.

The call will be launched in the next few weeks after the finalization of documents.

Ten proposals will be selected with the help of an external evaluator, two from each partner country, and will be offered €20,000 each to implement their projects. All private enterprises that qualify as SSE actors are eligible to apply electronically to the call.



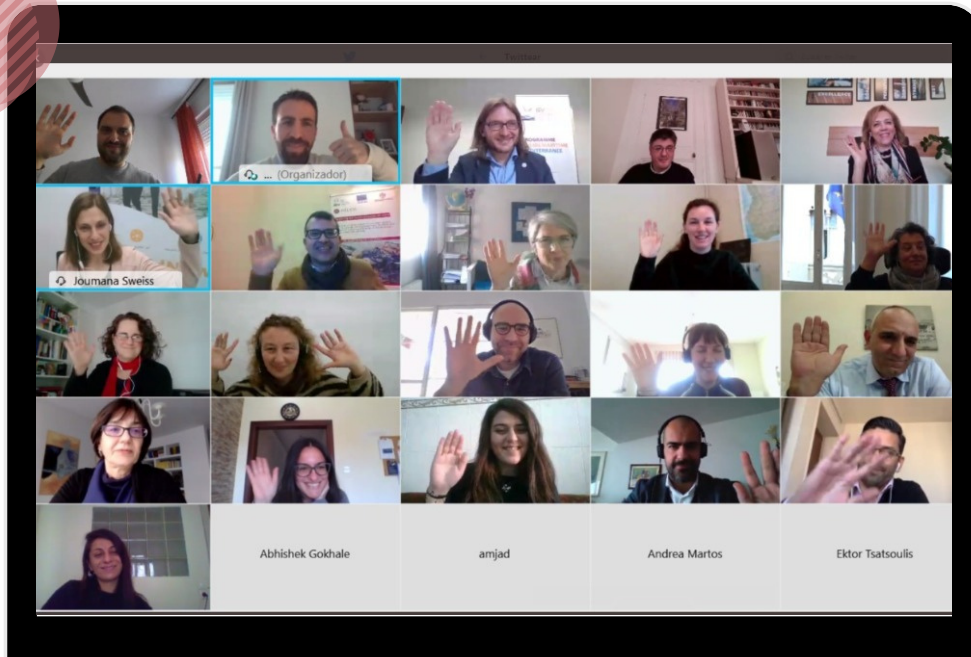
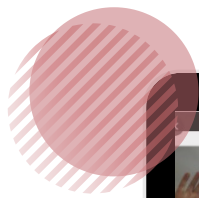
The framework for the new pilot projects as well as the previously worked on policy brief and recommendations will lead to the development of innovative social schemes and will improve the planning of policies adapted to the needs of the target groups, i.e., unemployed people, and vulnerable groups, such as the uneducated and newly arrived migrants and refugees.

Consortium announces a call for external evaluators

A call for external evaluators was sent in order to have expert input on proposals. The MoreThanAJob team will be receiving from applicants to a sub-grant that will be launched in the following months. This sub-grant serves to finance projects founded on SSE-PA cooperation and aimed at improving welfare and social services for vulnerable groups.

After the call for proposals is closed, the proposals will be assigned to external evaluators within each partner's country. Their role will be to review the proposals and assess their impact, feasibility, and clarity with regard to activities. The evaluators will then rank the proposals based on the evaluation criteria provided by the MoreThanAJob consortium.





MoreThanAJob celebrates Social Justice Day with representatives from other ENICBCMed projects

On Social Justice Day, and as part of a webinar organized by ENICBCMed on the 22nd of February, 2021, Dr. Wafaa Haidamous from BCTS (Lebanon), presented and explained the job-creating goal of MoreThanAJob, as well as its other facets, such as capacity building, and PA-SSE collaboration, among others. The webinar was titled “A Call for Social Justice in the Digital Economy”, and was attended by representatives from various projects under ENICBCMed.

Attendees of the webinar discussed the importance of productive employment and decent work in achieving fair globalization and poverty reduction. There was unanimous agreement that it is only through the solidarity of the public and private sectors with SSE actors, that international organizations can contribute to job creation, labor rights, social protection, and social dialogue, with gender equality as a crosscutting objective.



MoreThanAJob Environmental Impact Report

The consortium's Greek partner 'Eurotraining' conducted an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the first year of activities based on the carbon footprint of each partner. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the global situation, there was a **90% decrease in carbon emissions** between the first 2 quarters and the last 2. The consortium is happy to report a carbon footprint of only **8,422 tons**.



<http://www.enicbcmmed.eu/projects/morethanajob>



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