



Fraunhofer Center for International  
Management and Knowledge Economy  
IMW

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## IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF INNOVATION MANAGEMENT

#### The Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy IMW

Researchers from the Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy IMW conduct applied sociotechnical and socioeconomic research. Within this context, they develop solutions to the challenges of globalization in order to ensure the long-term success of clients and partners with a business and industry, research or community background. The institute and its staff are recognized experts in the fields of international innovation policy, knowledge and technology transfer design, innovation management and innovation financing as well as strategy development.

#### Background and objective of the project

Approximately 46,300 of the total 259,600 Tunisians possessing higher education qualifications equal to at least a master's degree level are currently unemployed\*. One reason for this is the discrepancy between the skills of the graduates and the labor market requirements. Therefore, the main objective of the project is the long-term improvement of the employability of Tunisian graduates. In order to improve labour market integration for these students, the research team develops - together with Tunisian colleagues - modules to be included in graduate courses. The project runs from May 2017 to January 2019 and extends to six university courses in the regions Tunis, Sahel and Sfax.

\* Source: National Institute of Statistics INS (Tunisia), national population and employment survey.

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**University responsibilities**

Within the scope of the project, each partner university is responsible for the following:

- Workshops with representatives from teaching, research and administration bodies, students and industry
- Coordinating the implementation of the module "Employability skills for innovation" in one of the facility's courses of study

**Fraunhofer IMW responsibilities**

The Fraunhofer IMW is responsible for the following:

- Identifying skills that students lack and design appropriate course modules
- Organizing a workshop in Leipzig in the run-up to the program "Training for trainers"
- Coordinating and implementing the program "Training for trainers"
- Ensuring the implementation of the module "Employability skills for innovation"

In addition, Fraunhofer IMW offers a platform on which innovation contests are organized with students. The Tunisian students involved in the module will receive certificates that confirm their participation. The certificates should improve their chances of being employed after graduation.

**Project Duration**

05/01/2017–01/31/2019