

Successful Benchmarking of Progress in Enterprise Policy in the Western Balkans and in the Mediterranean Partner Countries

John Farnell
Director, DG Enterprise and Industry



European Commission
Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry

History

- 2000 Adoption of the European Charter for Small Enterprises at the EU level
- 2003 EU- Western Balkans Summit in Thessaloniki – adoption of the European Charter for Small Enterprises

History (continued)

- 2004 The Mediterranean partner countries adopted the Euro-Mediterranean Charter for Enterprise
- 2006-07 The cooperation with the partner organisations started and the measurement tool was introduced

Participants

- Partner organisations:
 - § WB – EC, OECD, ETF and EBRD
 - § Med countries – EC, OECD, ETF and EIB
- Partner countries:
 - § WB: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia
 - § Med: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia

The process

- § 10 dimensions, indicators per dimension, five-level grid per indicator
- § Government self-evaluation and independent evaluation

Results

1. Progress in reforms has become more visible.
2. Identification of achievements and priorities.
3. The enterprise policy in the EU and partner regions more closely connected.

Results (continued)

4. High level of participation by all the actors concerned.
5. Common initiatives at the regional level.

Moving towards the SBA

- Continuation of the process with the Western Balkans
- Looking for possibilities to continue the process and move towards SBA for the Mediterranean partner countries
- First step – work on 4 areas:
 - § Skills development
 - § Access to finance
 - Market access
 - Innovation

Thank you for your attention!

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/index_en.htm