"Going global" takes on a new meaning at the University St. Kliment Ohridski (Bitola, MK) on 19-20 November when experts from 20 universities spanning the EU pre-accession and Southern Mediterranean regions converge to discuss the outcomes of a multi-country effort to promote entrepreneurship in higher education.

On 19-20 November, the University St. Kliment Ohridski in Bitola plays host to high-level university experts and policy makers from some 18 countries to determine how entrepreneurship can be better promoted in higher education. Supported by ETF, the meeting follows an earlier gathering of experts from the EU pre-accession and Southern Mediterranean regions in November 2008 who drew up a set of common indicators designed to promote across-campus entrepreneurship education. The indicators were put to the test by a eight pilot universities in 2009 involving an intensive peer review process with experts criss-crossing the ETF partner regions in pursuit of good policy know-how and better practice in third-level entrepreneurship education.

"I’m pleased that we are meeting up in Bitola which spearheaded the indicator development process to hear at first hand what has been the experience from the first eight university partners in the project", says Rosita Van Meel, ETF’s senior specialist in higher education. The University St. Kliment Ohridski, in partnership with the Université de Sfax (TUN), pioneered the peer review process in January and February 2009 which paved the way for a more developed assessment process involving six further universities from March onwards:

- Polytechnic of Tirana (ALB)
- Université de Bordj Bou Arreridj (ALG)
- University of Sarajevo (BiH)
- American University of Cairo (EGY)
- University of Prishtina (KS)
- Université Hassan II, Casablanca (MA)

The meeting in Bitola on 19-20 November brings together representatives of the 2009 participating universities with experts from a further ten partner country universities, as follows:

- University of Montenegro (MNE)
- University of Kragujevac (SR)
- University of Al-Baath (SYR)
- American University of Beirut (LEB)
- Yarmouk University (JOR)
- Haifa Institute of Technology (SR)
- University of Zadar (HR)
- Palestine Technical University (PAL)
- University of Ifrane (MA)
- Université de Sousse (TUN)

Representatives from education ministries from all countries will also participate while a large delegation from universities and the higher education establishment from the host country are expected to join the proceedings.

ETF will cooperate with the Euro-Mediterranean University in the 2010 phase of the project.

"We are very pleased to cooperate with the University St. Kliment Ohridski on this exciting project", says Tony Gribben who leads the ETF’s enterprise team. "It’s a double celebration for Bitola, hosting this high profile international symposium while the university celebrates its first 30 years of service to the community. The ETF team is really looking forward to meeting all our partners in Bitola and hearing how we can improve the assessment process in 2010", he added.
The meeting on 19-20 November is being organised by ETF and the University St. Kliment Ohridski in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Economy and the City of Bitola.