News Release

MED-HELA Partners Gather at the UVT for Training of Trainers Workshop and Project Meeting

Tunis, Tunisia, 26-29 October 2026

The Virtual University of Tunis (UVT) successfully hosted the MED-HELA Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop and Project Meeting from 26 to 29 October 2026, bringing together higher education leaders, academics, trainers, and project partners from Tunisia, Algeria, and Europe within the framework of the MED-HELA project, an Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education initiative dedicated to strengthening leadership in higher education institutions in Tunisia and Algeria.

MED-HELA aims to develop a new generation of higher education leaders capable of driving institutional innovation, strategic transformation, and sustainable change. The project places particular emphasis on leadership development, change management, mentoring, and organizational effectiveness in higher education institutions. It is implemented with the active involvement and support of both the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, ensuring alignment with national higher education priorities and reforms.

The four-day event combined an intensive Training of Trainers programme with a consortium meeting dedicated to reviewing progress and preparing for the next stages of the project. The training equipped participants with the pedagogical approaches, tools, and methodologies necessary to deliver the MED-HELA Leadership Development Programme. Sessions explored a range of topics including authentic leadership, reflective practice, change leadership, mentoring and coaching, project-based learning, assessment, and leadership development in higher education contexts.

The event brought together representatives from the project's partner institutions in Tunisia, Algeria, and Europe, creating a dynamic environment for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and strategic planning. Through interactive workshops, group activities, peer learning opportunities, and project discussions, participants strengthened their capacity to support future higher education leaders and contribute to institutional development across the region.

In addition to the academic and professional programme, the organizers arranged several cultural visits aimed at strengthening networking and fostering closer ties among consortium members. Participants had the opportunity to discover the unique heritage and cultural richness of Tunisia through visits to Sidi Bou Said, La Goulette, and the Medina of Tunis. These activities provided valuable opportunities for informal exchange and reinforced the spirit of collaboration that characterizes the MED-HELA partnership.

At the conclusion of the event, participants expressed a high level of satisfaction with the quality of the organization, the relevance and effectiveness of the workshop activities, and the warm hospitality extended by the Virtual University of Tunis. Many highlighted the excellent learning

environment, the practical nature of the training sessions, and the strong sense of partnership that was fostered throughout the week.

The successful completion of the Training of Trainers workshop represents an important milestone for MED-HELA as the consortium advances towards the implementation phase of the Leadership Development Programme and continues its mission of strengthening leadership capacities in higher education institutions across Tunisia and Algeria.

Upcoming Milestones

As leader of Work Package 3 (WP3) on piloting, the Virtual University of Tunis (UVT) will coordinate the next phase of the MED-HELA project: the piloting of the Leadership Development Programme.

The first pilot block will take place at the University of Sousse in December 2026, followed by the second pilot block at the University of Biskra in February 2027. These activities will provide an opportunity to test and further refine the programme before its wider deployment.

Further details about these important milestones will be announced in the coming days.