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Info Session on Students and Youth Opportunities By Erasmus+ in collaboration with UNDP SHABABEEK Regional Portfolio 5 September 2024 | 3 – 5:30 pm via zoom

Concept Note

The future and prosperity of countries are closely tied to the well-being of their youth and students and the growth opportunities available to them. As such, investing in these groups is crucial. This necessity has led national authorities worldwide to focus significantly on youth and students, resulting in various policies and initiatives aimed at supporting them.

The situation in Lebanon is similar to that of other countries experiencing conflict and crises. These challenging circumstances restrict national efforts to address students and youth needs adequately. Despite this, Lebanese students and youth still have access to opportunities offered by regional and international bodies. However, they often have limited knowledge about these opportunities and how to benefit from them.

In response to this fact, the Erasmus+ programme and UNDP SHABABEEK Regional Portfolio, joined efforts to organise an information session about the different opportunities available for youth and university students under the Erasmus+ programme and SHABABEEK Portfolio.

In this info session, participants will have the chance to learn about opportunities dedicated to university students including short-term exchange projects and scholarships for Master's programme in Europe. Besides, they will be introduced to youth opportunities including volunteering and training in Europe. On another level, participants will be introduced to the UNDP SHABABEEK Regional Portfolio and the various opportunities it provides, including the NextGenYouth Platform. Additionally, they will receive information about specific activities and opportunities available through the UNDP Lebanon Country Office. Testimonials from university students who have participated in Erasmus+ exchange projects and received master's scholarships will be presented, in addition to other testimonials of youth who have participated in volunteering and training opportunities with Lebanese NGOs.

Finally, participants will be introduced to the initiative developed by Lebanese students entitled "Beirut Erasmus International Club" which will hopefully develop into a chapter for the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) in Lebanon. ESN is a supporting body for students going on an Erasmus+ exchange project.