



National Erasmus+ Office Lebanon

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Cluster Meeting: Inclusion in Erasmus+ CBHE projects

Concept Note

Inclusion has been an important aspect that the Erasmus+ programme advocated for over the past years, albeit it was not formally articulated by the programme as a universal priority across all its actions. This is not the case anymore for the new generation of Erasmus+ starting 2022. Due to its highly perceived significance, the EU commission has now classified inclusion as one of the overarching priorities of the Erasmus+ programme. This places inclusion at a high stake where it should be targeted across the different actions of the programme i.e. inclusion in mobility, inclusion being addressed in CBHE projects... Hence, organisations are expected to follow an inclusive approach when designing their projects in the framework of Erasmus+ to make them accessible to a diversity of potential beneficiaries.

In this prioritised inclusion issue, the programme targets organisations and individuals with fewer opportunities putting resources at their disposal. The key is to have people and areas at disadvantage overcome barriers hindering their accessibility to opportunities as those offered by Erasmus+. These barriers include lack of information, disabilities whether physical or mental, health problems, hindering education systems, as well as social, economic and geographic barriers.

In light of the above, the National Erasmus+ Office of Lebanon decided to organise a cluster meeting gathering CBHE projects that target the aspect of inclusion in its different dimensions: woman participation, student involvement, geographical disparity, people with disabilities, refugees and others. For this purpose, the NEO has selected projects that seem to address the above issues in their proposals and implementation of their activities. These projects are:

- SWaTH (Sustainable Wastewater Treatment for Hospitals),
- ICARE (Inter-professional student-run primary CARE clinics),
- EduBioMed (Capacity Building for Education and applied research in Mediterranean UNESCO's Biosphere Reserves),
- FREE (Female Academic Role Model Empowerment, Equality and Sustainability at Universities in Mediterranean Region: towards 2030 Agenda),
- StEER-LEB (Student Empowerment, Engagement and Representation in Lebanese Universities),
- MORALE (Towards sustainable NGOs management and operation with special focus on refugees),
- RESCUE (Refugees Education Support in MENA countries).

During this meeting, the projects shall present how each serves the purpose of inclusion, difficulties they are facing to reach this purpose, and finally present recommendations about how to enhance inclusion in the future proposals.

The meeting will also be a good opportunity for new stakeholders from the higher education sector and organisations active in the field of social work to network with each other, understand the scope of this EU-defined overarching priority and to see the possibility of working out new proposals in this area of interest.