

Press Release

New Cooperation Agreement between Goethe-Institut Cairo and Sawiris Foundation for Social Development

Cairo – 22. February 2021

The Goethe-Institut Cairo and Sawiris Foundation for Social Development signed a cooperation agreement to grant 10 scholarships for the potential students of the preparatory college programme who are willing to study in the field of technical specializations at any German university.

The agreement stipulates that the Sawiris Foundation will cover the tuition fees for 10 outstanding students graduated from an Egyptian high school with Thanaweya Amma. The Goethe-Institut in coordination with Sawiris Foundation undertakes administrative and marketing procedures, selects the 10 students, and supervises the teaching of the curricula in order to qualify them to pass the German university entrance examination. The call for application will be announced by 1st March till the end of June 2021.

Susanne Höhn – the regional director of the Goethe-Institut in North Africa and the Middle East – said in the virtual launching ceremony: “We are pleased that we were able to build a new bridge between Egypt and Germany with the preparatory college program. Education is the key to the future. This is particularly evident in these challenging times of the epidemic. In this preparatory college, our students not only gain knowledge but also intercultural competencies.

We would be especially pleased if many young women would be encouraged to apply for it and we thank the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development from the bottom of our hearts for granting these wonderful scholarships, as well as for their important societal role in many fields”.

Engineer Noura Selim, the Executive Director of the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, said: “We are proud of this new partnership with the Goethe-Institut, and of the opportunities that the programme offers to distinguished Egyptian students who possess the knowledge and leadership potential. This is what Egypt needs in order to ensure the achievement of sustainable development goals and economic growth. This partnership represents also an important opportunity for our foundation to expand our networks with development partners in Egypt, since such partnerships open new horizons for more programs and more cooperation in the future.”

In order to encourage young female students to apply for the programme and to choose a study program in the field of technical specializations, the agreement included that girls have a greater chance to obtain a scholarship, if they are equal to other applicants.

The preparatory college programme qualifies graduates of secondary governmental/private/experimental schools as well as STEM schools with a Thanaweya Amma degree, in Egypt and Middle East, to study technical specializations in any German university, to live in German society and to overcome difficulties related to language and culture. Criteria for awarding the scholarship include funding needs, personal merit

demonstrated through academic excellence, in addition to extracurricular and social activities.

The preparatory college programme is the result of the cooperation between the Goethe-Institute and the Technical University of Berlin and the agreement signed in June 2018.

For more information about the preparatory college programme, please refer to this link:
www.goethe.de/colleg

SAWIRIS FOUNDATION

The Sawiris Foundation for Social Development was established in 2001 with an endowment from the Sawiris family as one of the first national donors in order to address many pressing issues facing the Egyptian community. It supported development projects and programs implemented by non-profit organizations in partnership with the public and private sectors. The Foundation works to enhance the participation of the most marginalized communities in Egypt, empower them, and improve their living conditions by providing jobs, availing high-quality education, and addressing issues related to public health and community development.

The GOETHE-INSTITUT

The Goethe-Institut is the cultural institute of the Federal Republic of Germany with a global reach (over 90 countries). It promotes knowledge of the German language abroad, fosters international cultural cooperation, and conveys a comprehensive image of Germany.

The Goethe-Institut Cairo has been active for over 60 years. Its work aims to promote intercultural exchange and dialogue, built on a foundation of close cooperation with its Egyptian partners in the areas of culture and education.

In its work it makes room for innovation and creativity to flourish. The Goethe-Institut is committed to sustainability and value quality, while never losing sight of the importance to learn from each other and create with each other.

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