

# Synergies between Erasmus+ and the Neighbourhood South programmes

Erasmus+ CBHE Grant Holders Meeting

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# Political/policy context

- **Education** as a theme and **youth** as one of the main target groups are highlighted in the **multi-annual indicative programmes for Southern Neighbourhood countries**.
- In line with new **Agenda for the Mediterranean and its Economic and Investment Plan**, support is provided for the delivery of inclusive, efficient, and effective social services, including in the **field of education and skills**, contributing to the economic and social development.

# Erasmus+ benefits to the Southern Neighbourhood

- Erasmus+ gives an **opportunity** not only to strengthen the quality of higher education and mobility programs, but also to strengthen the support to capacity building in the areas of vocational education and training.
- Development of Erasmus+ Offices in the Southern Neighbourhood have raised awareness, enhanced cooperation and information exchange on the programme.
- As presented by DG EAC, the Southern Neighbourhood countries are benefitting from various **Erasmus+ actions**.

# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes

- Erasmus+ actions are **complementary to DG NEAR regional and bilateral programmes** in the Southern Neighbourhood:
  - to support youth and adults to have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills according to the needs of labour market in the countries;
  - to support education quality and access to education.
- Several countries in the Southern Neighbourhood benefit from Education Budget support to accompany **sector reforms**.
- **Vocational education and training (VET) is an important priority**, as a tool to support youth and to the needs for up- and reskilling of the working population in the context of the green and digital transitions in anticipation of emerging skills needs.

# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes - examples

## TUNISIA

- Bilateral programme (**Integrated Education Sector Support Programme**) in Tunisia approved in 2022 aims at improving the inclusion and performance of the education system in Tunisia.
- The EU is also supporting the **education sector** with EIB and KfW through the long-term *Programme de Modernisation des Etablissements Scolaires*, including construction of 800 new schools.

# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes - examples

## EGYPT

- Past and current bilateral programmes in Egypt support TVET reform process with an aim to better respond to the new socio-economic needs, in particular, youth employability and increased competitiveness in the context of the country's current and future development.
- This is complemented by a project funded by the EU (2021-2025) with KfW to promote skills development in the renewable energy sector.



# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes - examples

## LIBYA

- In 2023, the EU adopted a new programme aiming to better align the **Libyan workforce skills to the needs of the labour market in the country.**
- It will more specifically seek to: (i) strengthen the capacities and services of key public institutions for enhancing employability governance and mechanisms; (ii) reinforce skills and employability on blue/green economy for both private and public sector; (iii) support employability, job creation and facilitating business opportunities for the digital transition; (iv) strengthen capacity and skills of the Financial Sector.
- Previously through a bilateral programme a technical support was provided to the Libyan Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and 12 public universities to **address employability, capacity-building for entrepreneurship and innovation centres within universities** and the introduction of the **entrepreneurship curriculum** as an accredited course within Libyan universities.

# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes - examples

## MOROCCO

- The bilateral programme in Morocco aimed at:
  - improving the provision of **accessible and quality education and training for all** to better respond to the needs of young people and their professional projects;
  - strengthening social and societal mobilization around the **Education and Training Sector**.



# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes - examples

## LEBANON

- Programme adopted in 2022 aims at improving employment capacities for poor and vulnerable social groups living in Lebanon through TVET.
- Given the **challenges faced by the higher education sector** in the country since the onset of the financial crisis, the EU Madad funded higher education programme HOPES-LEB has been extended until September 2024. **The programme is coordinated very closely with the Erasmus+ National Office.**

# Erasmus+ and DG NEAR programmes - examples

## JORDAN

- The EU is a long-standing partner for Jordan in the sector of education - new programmes have been adopted to further **support quality education (from early education to higher education) and TVET opportunities**.
- New programmes will also focus on **recovering the education losses from the COVID-19 pandemic** and increasing the access to education and TVET opportunities for all in Jordan by supporting **scholarship systems**.

# Thank you



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