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## SAGESSE

### *Amélioration de la gouvernance*

*dans le système de l'Enseignement Supérieur en Tunisie:*

*vers une autonomie des universités*

*et de nouveaux mécanismes d'assurance qualité*

### **Context:**

For the past three years, UNIMED has been coordinating the [SAGESSE project – “Improving Governance in the Higher Education System in Tunisia”](#) aimed at modernizing the higher education system in Tunisia by strengthening its quality assurance system, governance and results-based funding.

The project had three years of activity and was funded under the *Erasmus plus program in the Capacity Building action*. All the 13 Tunisian public universities, the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Tunisian National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation and 5 European institutions have actively participated in the project with the aim of supporting the process of reform of the higher education sector in Tunisia.

This project - which is therefore part of the reform process of higher education in the country – allowed for a reflection and concrete actions to be taken in favor of universities' autonomy and led to significant results that are available [here](#).

The SAGESSE project is coming to an end. The **project's closing conference** takes place online **on July 12th, 2021** and represents the final moment of comparison and dialogue with Tunisian universities and with international stakeholders.

This event intends to have a national and international character, and feature the presence of the Tunisian community, local authorities and other international organizations present in the territory.

The event is open to the public and will be held in French and English, accompanied by a simultaneous translation.

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**Project's Final conference**

**12 July 2021**

CONTACTS  
info@sagesseproject.eu  
www.sagesseproject.eu



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## PROGRAMME

**Monday 12 July 2021\***

**10h00 – 13h30 (CEST time)**

**9h00 – 12h30 (Tunisian time)**

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9h00 – 9h15	<b>Connection of the participants</b>
9h15 – 09h45	<b>Opening and welcome speeches</b>  <b>H.E. Marcus CORNARO</b> , Ambassador of the European Union in Tunisia <b>Hmaid BEN AZIZA</b> , Secretary General of UNIMED and former President of the University of Tunis <b>H.E. Olfa BENOUDA</b> , Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Tunisia (on video)  Session moderated by: <b>Marcello SCALISI</b> , Director of UNIMED
09h45 – 10h00	<b>1st Session: Keynote speaker</b>  <b>Hilligje VAN'T LAND</b> , Secretary General, International Association of Universities - IAU
10h00 – 10h15	<b>Projection of the final video of the project “The reform of the university system in Tunisia: Testimonies from the SAGESSE project”</b>
10h15 – 11h15	<b>2nd Session: “SAGESSE after 3 years of project: impact at institutional and national level”</b>  <b>Abdelwahed MOKNI</b> , President of the University of Sfax and President of the Conference of University Presidents  <b>Jouhaina GHERIB</b> , President of the University of Manouba  <b>Moez CHAFRA</b> , President of the University of Tunis El Manar  <b>Rached BEN YOUNES</b> , President of the University of Gafsa  Session moderated by: <b>Hmaid BEN AZIZA</b> , Secretary General of UNIMED and former President of the University of Tunis

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11h15 – 11h30	<b>3rd Session: “Quality assurance in vocational training, the experience of the European Training Foundation”</b>  <b>Mounir BAATI</b> , Senior Expert in Quality Assurance, European Training Foundation
11h30- 12h00	<b>4th Session “SAGESSE Sustainability Plan: Achievements, Results and Perspectives”</b>
12h00– 12h30	<b>Questions et Conclusions</b>

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## About SAGESSE :

Programme: Erasmus +

Action: Key Action 2 - Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education

Country involved: Tunisia

### Main objective:

The project aims to modernize the higher education system in Tunisia by strengthening its quality assurance system, governance mechanisms and results-based financing. By promoting the autonomy of universities in terms of human, academic and above all financial resources, the project has contributed to improve the employability of graduates and promote innovation and research.

### Specific objectives:

1. Creation of an integrated system of definition and quality control involving the whole organization either for the realization of new decision-making and management procedures, or for the definition of new professionals internal / external to HEIs capable of manage and monitor the entire process by building the capacities and skills of academic, administrative and managerial staff;
2. Definition of a good governance framework to promote an innovative, efficient and more autonomous financial management structure;
3. Commitment of leadership at all levels of the organization as well as a political will to support the process of decentralization of management by capitalizing on the expertise and experiences of HEIs in the exercise of quality assurance promoting adoption of strategic planning through the production of action plans;
4. Act on future policies to consolidate, improve and develop new quality assurance mechanisms. Recommendations are prepared from the experiences acquired during the implementation of the project and addressed to interest groups and relevant national, regional and international political authorities for them to be taken into account for a more efficient, accountable and autonomous university

Project duration : 3 years: From 10/15/2017 to 07/14/2021

Coordinator: UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy

### EU Partners:

- University of Siena, Italy
- Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

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- University of Barcelona, Spain
- University of Paris 1 Sorbonne, France
- CESIE, Centro studi e iniziative europeo, Italy

#### Tunisian partners:

- University of Carthage
- University of Gabès
- University of Gafsa
- University of Jendouba
- University of Kairouan
- University of La Manouba
- University of Monastir
- University of Sfax
- University of Sousse
- University of Tunis
- University of Tunis - El Manar
- Ezzitouna University
- Virtual University of Tunis
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MESRS)
- National Authority for Assessment, Quality Assurance and Accreditation (IEAQA)

All the results of the project are available here [Sagesse Project - Results](#)

For more information, visit the project website: [Sagesse Project - Home page](#)

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