



# Proud of our Achievement ... Committed to our Future













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# SFSD - DAAD

Scholarship Program
GERMANY
2014-2015



# Sawiris Foundation for Social Development



Eng. Samih Sawiris,

"German Engineers enjoy excellent reputations around the world and Egyptian students will now also be able to profit from such high-quality education standards."

Eng. Samih Sawiris,
SFSD Founder and TU Berlin Alumnus

# Sawiris Foundation for Social Development

**DAAD** 



Prof. Dr. Gannat El Samalouty

SFSD Executive Director

As a grant making foundation, we believe in the vital role of civil society organizations as "partners in Development", together with Government and Private sector. In pursuing that role, SFSD goes beyond traditional philanthropy and mere charity donations to invest in empowering people, especially the young generations, through building their human capabilities. As such, supporting education and training for employment programs comes on top of our agenda and work plans.

We believe that science, knowledge and quality education were and will continue to be the driving force behind the advancement of great nations. Thereby, investing in academically talented students is the best investment for the future of our country.

For after all, it is this young generation of merit who should be empowered to lead the way to a new and a better future. To this end, SFSD runs a variety of scholarship programs, nationally and internationally, where candidates are selected on a competitive basis to join top universities and be granted a life-transforming educational experience that does re-shape their future and professional career.

Our scholarship program with the DAAD comes as an outstanding one among other programs. In this regards, special thanks to our German Partner – the DAAD who is working hard to make this program a great success.

Dr. Roman Luckscheiter,
Director, DAAD Cairo Office

I would like to thank the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development for 10 years of fruitful cooperation with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the scholarship programme for graduates from the German Schools in Egypt. Due to our joint efforts there are currently over 30 Egyptian students who are pursuing their Bachelor or Master studies in Germany with support of our joint scholarship programme - around one third of them receive a scholarship from the Sawiris Foundation.

The DAAD is very much looking forward to further cooperating with the Sawiris Foundation in order to enable young talents from Egypt to pursue a subject of their choice at a German university and who, after having returned to Egypt, will be able to contribute to the development of their country as well as to the Egyptian-German relationship.

# SFSD Scholarships: Investing in our future

The Sawiris Foundation for Social Development (SFSD) has been the leader in identifying academic talented young people and supporting their educational aspiration. SFSD recognizes the importance of a quality education and are dedicated to provide scholarship programs and lifelong enrichment opportunities in support of outstanding Egyptian students to achieve their goals of a distinguished degree. SFSD also believes that investing in students who have shown leadership potential, not only in academics, but most importantly, in dedication and actions that positively impact their communities will result in positive, lasting change and sustainable communities. The lasting legacy of the Sawiris Foundation scholarship programs is hundreds of extraordinary individuals who are fulfilling the promise they showed when they were awarded their scholarships.

To ensure that student of merit have a unique opportunity to pursue higher education in reputable educational institutions, SFSD offers a variety of scholarships including international, and national scholarships programs. SFSD International scholarships provide full support for advanced learning in different fields, including sciences, economics, engineering, business and nursing.



While some scholarships are awarded specifically to underprivileged young people, all are offered on a competitive basis. The selection criteria differ from program to another, but include merit and academic excellence, extracurricular activities, and a good command of the English language.

The final selection of scholarship students is made by the relevant educational institution, in collaboration with the Sawiris Foundation. As of 2014, 405 scholarships from both categories have been awarded, with a total budget of almost LE 90 million.



## ... 10 years of Successful Cooperation

The SFSD-DAAD scholarship program began in 2005 for gifted graduates of German Schools. Thanks to a grant from SFSD founder and chairman of Orascom for Hotels and Development Mr. Samih Sawiris (TU Berlin Alumnus). Since then, the Sawiris Foundation has been awarding two full scholarships annually to outstanding graduates from the official German schools in Egypt to pursue their studies in top German universities for five years maximum. The scholarships are awarded based on merit and character as demonstrated through academic excellence, extracurricular activities, and entrepreneurial initiative.

Over the past 10 years, SFSD in collaboration with the DAAD, has helped dreams come true for 21 students by sponsoring them towards earning their Bachelor's and Master's degrees from one of Germany's most prestigious universities such as TU Munchen, TU Berlin, University of Stuttgart, Heidelberg, Darmstadt, RWTH Aachen and Ludwig Maximilians Munchen.

Going forward, SFSD will continue to support students who have the potential to become positive leaders in serving their communities.

#### **SFSD-DAAD** scholarship package includes:

Student's full tuition, Living allowance, Travel fees, and Health Insurance

# **Eligibility Criteria**

- Be an Egyptian national.
- Be a current graduate from one of the German Schools in Egypt (DEO, DSB Alexandria, DSB Cairo, Europaschule).
- Reach a grade point average of 1.5 or better.
- Be interested in other cultures and be socially committed.
- Demonstration of inability to privately finance the course of study.
- Be obliged to return after receiving the academic degree to work in Egypt for duration of no less than 3 years.



#### How to apply for the SFSD - DAAD Scholarship?

- Interested students fulfilling the selection criteria can apply for the program by filling in a pre-selection application and presenting it to the DAAD.
- Deadline for submitting application is defined by end of January each year.
- Students fulfilling all criteria will be invited for an interview at the DAAD premises in Cairo by end of february each year.
- The selection process is being implemented through the joint committee of the DAAD, Sawiris Foundation and German Universities Professors.
- Interview reports will be sent with the applications to the DAAD - Bonn for the final selection.

### Where We Are Now?

Up to date, a total of (21) student have been awarded SFSD- DAAD Scholarships to Germany to study Economics Development, Information Technology, Architecture Engineering, Bio – medical Sciences, Pedagogy, Industrial and Renewable Engineering.

- (8) Students have obtained their masters degree, (6) of them are running their PHD in Germany, while (2) students returned back and are currently working in Egypt.
- (13) Students are now in process of completing their studies in Germany to obtain their Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.



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## **Success Story**

Alia Mortada, RWTH Aachen University: 2008-2014



My name is Alia Mortada. Born and raised in Cairo, I spent my childhood and most of my adolescence at the DEO - German School in Cairo. In 2008, I was awarded the SFSD-DAAD scholarship to study Architecture from the RWTH Aachen University in Germany, which culminated in a bachelor and master degree. This scholarship opened the door for me to a world of different ways of thinking and allowed me to become a product of multiple systems and cultures, which in many ways is very enriching. In 2012, I was chosen as one of eight architects on site in the realization of a kindergarten in a small village north of Cameroon.

The following year I spent two months in Ahmadabad, India, where I worked at the Vastu Shilpa Foundation for Research and Study in Environmental Design. To complement my knowledge with practical working experience, in 2013, I completed a 6 months internship at an architecture firm in Berlin, specialized in inner-city timber construction.



My return to Cairo after spending my university years abroad is a chance for me to rediscover my home country. I am currently working as a teaching and research assistant at the Architecture and Urban Design Department at the German University in Cairo. It has been an amazing and eye-opening experience so far. Teaching in Egypt at this point is not just personally a very rewarding way to have an impact on Egyptian society but it is also a great way to build up a local network of fellow architects and urban planners which will hopefully be a basis for future collaborations.

### Let us tell you why Germany......

### **SFSD-DAAD Scholarship Award Recipients:**

#### Hesham Okeil,

Electrical Engineering and Information Technology at TU Munich. (2010-2015)

Studying Electrical Engineering in one of the top German" universities was an excellent opportunity for obtaining an excellent education and getting a solid basis of a scientific and an engineering way of thinking. My studies abroad did not only allow me to enrich my knowledge in my favourite engineering field, it also allowed me to meet so many different cultures, which had a positive impact on my personality. I hope that one day I can participate in the progress of development in Egypt by the knowledge and experience I am obtaining during my studies, as I deeply believe that the future of our country will be ".build upon knowledge

#### Menna Mubarak,

Molecular Biotechnology -Heidelberg University. (2012-2017)

In 2012 I was awarded a scholarship from the Sawiris" Foundation to study Molecular Biotechnology at Heidelberg University- one of the most reputable universities in Germany. This unique opportunity has benefited me on many levels, both personally and professionally; it helped me develop new skills, encouraged me to unleash my scientific curiosity and gave me the knowledge to pursue my dreams and reach my goals. All in all, I strongly believe that doing my bachelor studies in Germany and being exposed early on to a variety of different scientific fields will open every door for my career, broaden my perspective and hopefully enable me to have a positive impact ."on my society



Omar Kamel, Industrial Engineering -Darmstadt University (2013-2018)

I study industrial engineering at the TU Darmstadt and have just" entered my third semester. The last year was certainly an academic and cultural eye opener to all of us young students. Studying abroad is not just about attending a good university, but it is also about widening your horizons in order to be able to compete on a multi-national level. Graduates with these traits are "exactly what Egypt needs"



Rana El Kholi,
Architecture – RWTHAachen University
( 2011-2016)

Thanks to the SFSD Foundation and its support, I got to fulfill my" dream in studying architecture in one of the highest ranked universities in Germany for this field, the RWTH Aachen. With a lot of hard work, I successfully acquired my Bachelor degree last semester and started the master program. This opportunity helped me a lot in growing personally and it is defiantly preparing "me for a successful professional career afterwards