Assiut University efforts to achieve poverty elimination in 2021-2022, which is considered one of sustainability goals

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Introduction:

Assiut University is one of the oldest governmental universities in Egypt. It provides free education for most of their students, there are very limited book fees that students usually pay. However, poverty or low-income students are sometimes prevented from paying these fees. The university has a financial office that covers the expenses of study for about 40% of students in 2021. The University constantly monitors students' progress and graduation through its office.

The University housing is very low-cost, and students from low-income families can get additional financial housing assistance through presenting a research in the family's social situation.

The attached report showed that the university spent about 40 million Egyptian pounds as financial, food and housing support in 2021. On the other hand, the University helps the surrounding community to raise its social and economic level.

In 2021, the university helps small projects (especially with free technical assistance) in order to help families in their lives. It also offers free courses to raise the abilities of educated young people (even non-university graduates) and help them find jobs. In addition to that, the university employs a large number of citizens from Assiut governorate either full-time or part-time.

Finally, Assiut University experts are involved with local and national authorities and NGOs in developing programmes to eliminate poverty and develop society.

Poverty elimination programmes goals:

<u>First</u>: University anti-poverty programmes aim to admit students whose study expenses represent 20% of family's income. As the total number of students provided with benefits within Assiut University is 36,693 student.

A. The financial support for students helps students in he following:

- 1. To achieve social security for students in various social welfare programmes, insurance, or loans.
- 2. To contribute in providing students with all the services they need.
- 3. To help students who suffer from financial problems that prevent them from completing their education.

Notes:

- The Faculty of Social Service provides Social Fund benefits twice a year; Once at the beginning of the first term, the second at the beginning of the second term.
- Payment must be made after all required papers are delivered through the management of the Youth Welfare Authority.

The criteria of financial support:

- 1. The student must be Egyptian.
- 2. The individual's expenses from family-income don't exceed than the limit that set by the Fund's Board of Directors.

B. Social Assistance Office

1. Social Assistance Office Goals:

- To achieve students' social security from social insurance and welfare.
- To contribute in implementation student and social services.
- To solve the problems facing students and prevent them from completing their studies due to family's financial and economic difficulties.
- To examine requests for assistance and make a recommendation for each case.
- The office provides financial and in-kind assistance to students who apply for financial support, through a trained group of social workers, then they present them to Vice-president of the University for Education and Students Affairs to agree upon it.

How to get social assistance?

The Social Assistance Office provides social assistance by providing subsidy from the Takaful Fund for payment of fees as **follows**:

- a. The student applies for the care of the youth in his college with the payment permit and a copy of the social research issued by the Office of Social Affairs of his residence, certified by stamping the emblem of the Republic and a copy of any other papers that reinforce his application.
- b. Youth welfare prepares, reviews, signs and sends to the "Social Assistance Office "of the General Department of Youth Welfare.
- c. The office examines applications sent by colleges and begins to see the student's need for support and submits the matter to (Prof. Vicepresident of the University for "Education and Student Affairs") in order to determine the amount of the benefit.
- d. The student goes to the financial and administrative affairs of the General Department of Youth Welfare to obtain the benefit of the grant and its value to be submitted to "the Department of Students' Affairs" of his college to complete the procedures for obtaining the university card and academic decisions.

- e. Financial affairs shall send statements of the names of the students receiving the subsidy, indicating the amount of the subsidy approved by (Prof. Vice-president of the University for "Education and Student Affairs") to the Student Affairs Department of the College appointed.
- f. The last step, the student goes to" the Student Affairs Department" with the benefit of receiving the benefit. The Student Affairs in turn issues an authorization to pay Student's expenses the difference between the total fees and academic decisions and Student's assistance expenses.

Second: The graduation programme for students whose study expenses represent 20% of family's income.

Assiut University pays great attention to its students who are unable or have difficulties in paying tuition fees by using the social services offered to them by "the Social Solidarity Fund" to facilitate and support them in paying tuition and e-course fees.

Assiut university President and Prof. Vice-president of the University for "Education and Student Affairs, confirmed the need to take careful account of the solidarity fund and access to support for its beneficiaries; In this regard, Assiut University is keen to provide and develop ways of supporting students, overcoming various obstacles that may impede their university life, reducing the economic burden on most-favoured students and parents by establishing a specialized office to provide support and care for students, (the Social Assistance Office of the General Department of Youth Welfare), which makes a distinct effort to receive students who have difficulties in meeting tuition fees or purchasing curricula. Student welfare methods and support for the neediest groups can be combined through:

1. Subsidy and solidarity for students:

The number of students who deserved Subsidy during 2021-2022 reached 36,693 students.

2. Educational Loan.

This loan is intended to support unable students, which amounts is 500 pounds at maximum, paid from the Student Takaful Fund. The number of students who obtained educational loans in 2021-2022 reached 65 student.

<u>Third:</u> Supporting students from low-income families to enable them to complete their university studies Social welfare for the groups most in need

Assiut University pays great attention to its students who are unable or have difficulties in paying tuition fees by using the social services offered to them by "the Social Solidarity Fund" to facilitate and support them in paying tuition and e-course fees.

3. Student Residence:

Assiut University Residence is committed to providing comfortable accommodation for faculty, administrators, and eligible team members. We provide our employees with an atmosphere that helps their personal development and ensures a pleasant stay in Assiut to support the university's mission.

4. Campus Residence:

We provide housing and real estate services for university students, graduate students, and staff. We provide our students with "another home" for members of our community who live in Assiut University housing away from their families. We are committed to providing our residents with a sustainable, clean and healthy society, an environment for students to increase their ability to adapt to new cultural and scientific developments and help them reach the highest levels of performance and excellence; in addition to motivating them to exercise sports and cultural and artistic activities.

Fourth: Programmes to assist students study expenses represent 20% of family's income (or more specific target) in countries to successfully complete their studies, including:

A. The Assistance and Loan Programme concerns with:

- 1. Subsidy and solidarity for students.
- 2. Educational Loan.

B. Free student accommodation for low-income families, including:

- 1. Student Accommodation.
- 2. Campus accommodation.
- 3. Scholarship programs.
- 4. Social solidarity at Assiut University concerns with;
- Payment of tuition fees for some students who are unable.
- Providing funds to university workers worth (391,000) EGP from Nasser Social Bank.
- Launch of the Incubator Program at Assiut University.
- organize a Camp entitleed "capable of disagreeing" with visually impaired students.
- Preparing a Course on entrepreneurship entitled "way to success".

<u>Fifth:</u> Give the Support for low-income students who live in middle and low-income countries **as**;

- Assiut University Council approves 10 full scholarships for students from developing countries.
- Assiut University is constantly support Yemen's brotherly universities.
- The President of Assiut University meets with representatives of students arriving at postgraduate level from the brotherly State of Yemen and confirms: The University utilizes all its services to care for its students of various nationalities.
- Learning Campaign in Egypt.

Assiut University is keen to receive students from various Arab and foreign nationalities and provide them with all necessary support and care during their stay for study or training in various faculties of the University, which comes within the framework of the initiative launched by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research "Study in Egypt" In accordance with the firm belief of the University in its enlightenment and cultural role

for all its affiliates and the need to provide a close and direct knowledge between Egyptian students and expatriates and to provide an appropriate scientific and social environment to integrate them in order to create an opportunity to familiarize itself with the status of Egypt and its civilizations as well as to recognize the failings of other peoples and the customs and traditions of their peoples.

International Students "2020-2021".

The total number of foreign students within Assiut University was 1775 student in "2020-2021".

<u>Sixth</u>: Assiut University Provides community assistance to support the start-up of sustainable businesses financially and socially through education or related resources as it made;

- Activities of the Faculty of Agriculture in the field of small enterprise development.
- Integrated Technology Transfer Unit.
- "Business incubator" protection for small enterprises. As "Hamah Incubator", that build relationships with local universities and community centers.

Seventh: Provide financial assistance to the community in order to start financially and socially sustainable businesses.

- Assiut University held a conference entitled "Promoting non-bank financial services for business owners and small and medium enterprises in Upper Egypt" organized by the German International Cooperation Agency (GIZ), with the participation of the business incubator "Hama".
- "Business incubator Hema" protects small enterprises and **aims to**:
 - 1. Build relationships with local universities and community centres.
 - 2. Organize trainings.
 - 3. Marketing.
 - 4. Graphic SWOT Design training.

Eighth: Organize training or programmes to improve access to basic services for all.

- a. Assiut University participates in community policy.
- b. There are a lot of achievements in the community service sector.
- c. Assiut University made "Medical convoys to help unable people".
- d. There are a lot of activities of the Faculty of Dentistry and its Hospital.
- e. Assiut University participated in". Operation Smile "activities in Egypt.

"Operation Smile" in Egypt is a national non-profit foundation established for Egyptian children with congenital facial abnormalities. "Operation Smile Egypt" is one of the family members of "Operation Smile International" that located in Virginia- USA, and include 33 countries all over the world.

- f. The Faculty of Pharmacy in Assiut university made a lot of activities that aimed at:
 - Maximize role of "pharmaceutical sector" in meeting the needs of the college community through awareness-raising campaigns.
 - Maximize the sector's role in meeting the needs of society both within and outside the College, by organizing seminars and awareness-raising activities.
- g. Assiut University made "The convoys of the Southern Egypt Cancer Institute" as follows.
 - "The convoys of the Southern Egypt Cancer Institute" organizes awareness seminars on cancer patients for social workers in the educational departments of Assiut, with the assistance of (80) social workers and (2) mentors.
 - It also made series of seminars to raise awareness and medical caravans, including (examination of women's breasts, awareness of krona vaccines, and participation with a dignified life institution for villages more in need).
- h. Assiut University participated in making (30) free obesity surgeries for cases from various governorates.
- i. Faculty of Sports Education participated in All Development Convoys

- j. Assiut University made "Adult Education Center", in the Faculty of Education in "2021".
 - The number of adult's illiterate learners who success in the educational centre of the Faculty of Education of Assiut University is about 11246 learner.
- k. Assiut University made "Adult Education Unit" of the Faculty of Sports Education in "2021".
- 1. There are a lot of Activities in "Faculty of Social Service" in 2021.
- m. There are a lot of Activities in "Faculty of Agriculture" in 2021.

<u>Tenth</u>: To participate in local, regional, national and global policymaking to implement poverty elimination programmes and policies.

Assiut University Contribute to the development of society that lead to changes in it through,

- Linking research at the university to the society problems and needs of production and service institutions.
- Organizing training and qualification programs to raise the performance of employees.
- Provide technical advice and allow some university professors to serve as consultants in community institutions.
- Create scientific awareness among members of the community through cultural and therapeutic seminars and caravans.
- Participation of public figures in university councils to connect the university with the community.
- Holding conferences cultural seminars.
- Provides technical and scientific advice to institutions and sectors of society.
- Adopt "An environmental friendly policy" to manage the facilities of the University and the safe eliminate of high-risk wastes.