

# EU awards scholarships to two students

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MASERU – The European Union Delegation in Lesotho yesterday unveiled two local students who have been awarded economy-related scholarships to study in Europe.

Mpolelo Lydia Letsoela will study for a Masters degree in Economics at the University of Porto in Portugal starting this September, while Tšolo Sidwell Lehata will study for Master of Science in Economics degree at the Pantheon Sorbonne University (Paris) in France also beginning next month.

The scholarships are awarded through European Union’s Erasmus Mundus Programme which supports academic excellence and the attractiveness of Europe’s higher education worldwide.

They are also aimed at fostering cooperation with targeted third countries with the objective of contributing to their development.

Speaking to *Public Eye*, Letsoela expressed her jubilation at being afforded this learning opportunity.

“When I first learned that I have qualified for the scholarship I felt very humbled, and I am out of words to describe my joy. This is especially because it had always been my dream to further my studies and its finally happening thanks to the European Union,” she said.

She added: “My desire to continue in academia comes from an even stronger desire for personal advancement, social fulfillment, the desire to play a prominent role in Lesotho’s economic development and most importantly, the promise of a brighter future for my delightful and intelligent three years. I feel humbled to have been selected to be part of the Erasmus Mundus Programme.”

Letsoela graduated from the National University of Lesotho with a BA in Economics.

Lehata, on the other hand, studied for a BA Economics at University of Botswana.

“Upon successful completion of my programme, I wish to have both professionally and personally been better equipped to play a paramount role in the development of Lesotho’s economy and do my bit for the world.

“Furthermore, I plan to continue my ambassadorial responsibilities to foster the relationship between the French and Basotho through the network I would have created,” Lehata indicated.