

INTESA SANPAOLO: STUDIOSi FUND READY TO LAUNCH **50 million euro in interest-free loans to promote university education in the south of Italy**

Milan/Turin, 24 October 2020 - Intesa Sanpaolo is a financial partner of the European Investment Bank (EIB) for the StudioSi Fund, the interest-free funding allocated by the Italian Ministry of University and Research to mark the launch of the academic year 20/21. The loan - which is aimed at covering the costs of tuition fees and other study-related costs (e.g. transport, accommodation, living expenses) - is offered to graduates who live or study in the south of Italy. No guarantee is required and the loan can reach a maximum of 50,000 euro, to be repaid over a 20-year period at most.

The loan is offered to students who live in one of the eight regions covered by the PON (National Operational Programme) - Abruzzo, Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Molise, Puglia, Sardinia and Sicily - and who currently attend or will attend the last two years of a single-cycle degree, two-year Master's degrees, or specialist Master's courses and schools of specialisation, in any university (in Italy or abroad). The Fund is also open to students who live in other regions of Italy and who wish to attend a university or Specialisation School in the south of Italy.

Marco Morganti, Head of Intesa Sanpaolo's Impact Department, commented: *“Contributing to the spread of StudioSi means recognition of Intesa Sanpaolo's positive experience with 'per Merito'. The student loan perfectly encapsulates our vision of ourselves as an impact bank: equal credit access conditions for all students in all universities, to curtail social class differences and reward merit and responsible action, supporting those citizens who most need financial assistance and also represent the highest potential.”*

StudioSi joins “per Merito”, the loan launched by Intesa Sanpaolo in 2019 which has already allocated 80 million euro in impact investment for over 7,000 students enrolled on all types of courses in tertiary education: undergraduate degrees, Master's degrees, specialist Master's courses, AFAM (Higher Education in Art, Music and Dance), ITS (Technical colleges and other post-diploma higher education institutes), university courses abroad and, more recently, research doctorates.

Intesa Sanpaolo

Media and Associations Relations

Media Office for Institutional, Social and Cultural Activities

stampa@intesasampaolo.com

<https://group.intesasampaolo.com/it/sala-stampa/news>

About Intesa Sanpaolo

Intesa Sanpaolo is one of the most solid and profitable banks in Europe, providing wealth management, consumer banking, corporate and investment banking, asset management and insurance. As the market leader in Italy, Intesa Sanpaolo serves nearly 12 million customers through digital and traditional channels. The Group's international subsidiary banks provide for an additional 7.2 million customers in Central Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Intesa Sanpaolo is recognized as one of the most sustainable banks in the world.

The Group believes that value creation should be interpreted broadly, supporting social purpose and driving the real economy. As part of its commitment to sustainable growth, Intesa Sanpaolo has created a €5 billion financing facility dedicated to the circular economy. The Group's large-scale project for economic inclusion and poverty alleviation includes a Fund for Impact to provide €1.2 billion in loans to those parts of society that find access to credit difficult. Intesa Sanpaolo is deeply committed to cultural initiatives that it promotes on its own and together with partners in Italy

and abroad, including permanent and temporary exhibits of the vast artistic patrimony at the Gallerie d'Italia, the Group's three museums located in Milan, Naples and Vicenza.

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