



**Address by Rev. Fr. Hady Mahfouz**

**President of the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK)**

**Launching of CEDRO IV Project**

**USEK - November 11, 2014**

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It is our immense pleasure to be hosting today the launching of the CEDRO IV project and to be at USEK a dynamic hub that gathers activists and decision makers in the field of water and energy from Lebanon and from other European countries.

I know the impact of such a project on a Lebanon such as ours, and I know how many hands are working to optimize the benefit from our existing resources and to find the most appropriate solutions for ecological problems, solutions anchored in various regions in Lebanon. Here at USEK, we are focusing our priority to raise awareness among our community members and feed the sense of **developmental responsibility** among our students, the builders of tomorrow, and to

shift to the use of more sustainable and more efficient resources and to greening more spaces.

The entire world is now joining efforts to respond to the increasing need for energy and resource rationalization, and this CEDRO IV project is quite a live example of such efforts and of the commitment of different stakeholders, who are in the front line for taking action, to partake in the shaping of a better tomorrow.

So to all those who will be having an active role in the said project, I hope the success of the previous editions will crown your endeavors in this fourth edition as well, always for the best of our future generations, and for the development of our human family as per the words of Pope Francis, in his speech last July at the University of Molise, “... The gift of knowledge gives rise to grateful contemplation of the world of nature and joyful praise of the Creator. The perspective given by this spiritual gift leads us to respect God’s gift of creation and **to exercise wise stewardship of its resources for the benefit of the whole human family.**” ([www.news.va](http://www.news.va) )

Welcome again at USEK and thank you!