





DURATION

1 July 2021 \rightarrow 15 December 2022



BUDGET EUR 59,603

PRIORITY AREA

- Access to Higher & Further Education
- Completion of Higher & Further Education

LEAD INSTITUTION



PARTNERS





OBJECTIVES

To ease the transition of underprivileged students to higher education and enhance their access to scholarships by providing them with the necessary knowledge, skills, and capacities and introducing them to professional research careers



BENEFICIARIES

69 Lebanese and refugee public high school students in grades 10 and **11** and college students enrolled at the Lebanese University



21





48



ACTIVITIES

- Preparatory courses: SAT training courses and practice tests,
- Financial assistance for SAT and university entrance application,
- Soft skills and career guidance workshops,
- · Research didactic seminars,
- Hands-on research experience in laboratories, guidance and mentorship,
- Presentation of research projects during the STREAM Into College Final Conference



MARIA

22 years old

"STREAM into college program boosted my motivation. It had given me a push to participate in the concours at the Lebanese University this year and luckily, I was accepted. Also, it helped me improve my English language, and last but not least, it enriched my scientific knowledge in general and my laboratory basic skills."

MARIAM

20 years old

"When I got accepted in this journey, I met professors and mentors who helped us gain laboratory and research skills while supporting our mental health given the current challenges in Lebanon. If given the chance, I will definitely repeat this programme because it was a unique lifetime experience."

ALI

18 years old

"The impact of this programme on my life, particularly in terms of preparing for the SAT exam, improving my English skills, and facilitating my interaction with esteemed doctors in research, is immeasurable. I am now equipped with the necessary skills to communicate confidently in various academic and professional settings."













REFLECTIONS FROM THE LEAD INSTITUTION

STREAM Into College is an innovative, successful and needed program providing high school students in Lebanon with the chance to learn about and be involved in scientific research. Furthermore, the students are introduced to careers in STEM and biomedical research. The project provided underprivileged and vulnerable Lebanese students and refugees with the support needed to apply to college as competent applicants and increase their chances of receiving scholarships.

The implementation of such a program was not devoid of challenges especially in the time of the economic crisis, continuous strikes and the accompanied huge leap in fuel prices. Specific considerations had to be taken in order to accommodate the conditions of underprivileged students and refugees and tailor the program to fit their needs.

Despite all the constraints, the students were able to grasp the new concepts with the help of skilled instructors. Thanks to proper mentorship and a hands-on research experience, students became better scientists and researchers. One of the main achievements of the program was organizing a final conference where all students with different academic levels were equipped with knowledge, skills, and confidence to present scientific research concepts in front of a huge audience. Students gained not only research knowledge and skills but also public speaking capacities. It is also rewarding, when we receive an update email from our alumni informing us that STREAM Into College was helpful in improving their university application and the chance to get a scholarship to enter the university!

STREAM Into College, a project of HOPES-LEB, funded by the European Union, increased the pool of competent applicants for higher education from underprivileged Lebanese and refugees by exposing them to experiences which they lack. It empowered Lebanese and Syrian students amidst economic and political crises with knowledge and skills to pursue higher education.

DR. RIHAB NASR

Professor, Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Physiological Sciences at the American University of **Beirut (AUB) Program Director**

NOUR-MOUNIRA BAKKAR

Research Assistant, Department of Internal **Medicine at the American University of Beirut** (AUB), Stream Into College Program Coordinator











