



STEAM EDUCATION: A KEY TO HIGHER EDUCATION ACCESS FOR VULNERABLE SYRIAN AND LEBANESE YOUTH



LOCATION

Bekaa, Lebanon



DURATION

15 April 2022 → 15 June 2023



BUDGET

EUR 59,834



PRIORITY AREA

- Access to Higher and Further Education

LEAD INSTITUTION



KAYANY FOUNDATION
SAVING A GENERATION THROUGH EDUCATION

PARTNER

Young Makers



OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen the pipeline to Higher Education for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese students in secondary education through the creation of a makerspace (STEAM Lab) and providing STEAM education and support
- To improve the capacity of secondary level science educators to lead the STEAM courses
- To enhance the critical thinking of the students and develop their 21st century skills focusing on understanding of sciences, mathematics and technology subjects, increasing their access to the labour market in the future



BENEFICIARIES

- **120 Syrian refugees and Lebanese** from vulnerable communities between the ages of 14 and 20 years enrolled in Lebanese public secondary schools in grades 11 and 12



60



60

- **15 middle and secondary Lebanese and Syrian** science and math teachers teaching in Lebanese public schools in the Bekaa area



ACTIVITIES

- Two STEAM Labs established at Kayany's Middle Schools in Saadnayel and Bar Elias,
- STEAM curriculum update of Kayany's sciences and math programmes,
- Training and capacity building of secondary level science teachers,
- 4 cycle of three-month STEAM trainings including analytical and problem-solving skills, digital fabrication, manufacturing, electronics and coding microcontrollers,
- Development of projects and building products using open-source technologies



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HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITIES & PERSPECTIVES

Implemented by



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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SALAM

20 Years old

"I live in the camp. I am the eldest of two brothers and a sister and I am responsible of the family as my father is old and sick, and my mother is also sick. I am currently a third secondary school student and I work and study at the same time. This project helped me gain information on a broader scale and the time we spent together was extremely enjoyable and useful. I gained a lot of information and ideas to develop in the future. I was part of the electrical team but the teamwork and collaboration with the teams of electronics & 3D design strengthened my spirit of participation and cooperation."

DANA

17 years old

"I am an artist; I am currently finishing my high school and my end goal is to become a graphic designer. This project helped me by improving my artistic skills in a creative way, it gave me an idea about design and how it should be done. It also helped in filling my time in a constructive way and helped people who do not know their academic path yet, to discover new majors."

KHALED

18 Years old

"The project helped me by providing a simple explanation of the various scientific subjects and motivated me to benefit from new experiences and learn in a practical way on the ground."

LOUAY

17 Years old

"I had studied until the third year of primary school in Syria, but I moved with my family to Lebanon due to the war. Now, I am completing my education in Lebanon; I am in grade 12, in the Sociology and Economics (SE) branch and aim to pursue a degree in Computer Science."

I faced many difficulties initially in adapting to another country, but one quickly adapts to his surroundings. The English language was also a barrier because the language used in Lebanon in most schools is either English or French, but practice helped me overcome this problem. This project helped me learn some of the basics of programming, which is one of the most important things in the major I want to pursue."

REFLECTIONS FROM THE LEAD INSTITUTION

The "STEAM education: a key to higher education access for vulnerable Syrian and Lebanese youth" project led by the Kayany Foundation, aimed to modernize the education system and strengthen the pipeline to higher education for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese students. Through the establishment of STEAM Labs and the provision of STEAM education, the project aimed to empower students and enhance their access to the labour market.

This project emphasized the value of hands-on learning and practical application of knowledge, fostering critical thinking skills, and promoting collaboration and community engagement. The project's added value lies in its contribution to addressing the education needs of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Lebanese students, empowering them with 21st-century skills and improving their access to higher education. In the context of the Syria crisis and times of collapse, the project provided a pathway for academic and socio-economic development, offering hope and opportunities for the beneficiaries and the communities they belong to.

Seeing students utilize the skills they learned to create products they needed, solve problems, and even generate income through selling their own products was incredibly rewarding. Especially while presenting their final projects, these moments showcased the tangible impact of the project on the students' lives and their potential for future success.

TEDDY ABOU RJEILY

Grant & Project Manager, Kayany Foundation

