# TOWARDS BETTER EDUCATION: TEACHERS ABOVE THE CRISIS (TAC)

# **LOCATION** Across Lebanon



DURATION 15 April 2022 → April 15, 2023



CLS

Centre for Lebanese Studies

مركاز الدراسات اللبنانية



# **PRIORITY AREA**

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



# OBJECTIVES

- To build the capacity of teachers working in difficult contexts and with vulnerable and marginalised young people ('Continuous Higher Education')
- To build the network of CLS and the capacity of its staff
- To build the capacity of partner organisations and create spaces for knowledge co-creation and exchange

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# BENEFICIARIES

• 47 school teachers and educators in Lebanon from the formal and informal sectors who work with Syrian refugee children and with disadvantaged Lebanese children



• 500 Arabic speaking educators from the region who work with vulnerable learners and who work with limited resources and unstable social and political environments



LEAD

INSTITUTION

# ACTIVITIES

- Capacity building workshops and webinars on education and technology, inclusive education, psychosocial support, innovative assessment methods and research methods,
- Space for teachers for collaboration on joint work, personal development and exchange,
- Updating the content of the MOOC (Towards Better Education: Lessons Learnt from COVID 19) together with the teachers on the Edraak platform,
- Strong and long-term partnership and network with other organisations









### SHIRINE GHADDAR KHASHMAR

#### Arabic teacher

"The workshop was beneficial, I personally learned a lot. I was also able to connect with other teachers from private schools, public schools, university professors, and school principals from various academic backgrounds and with different experiences. This workshop allowed me to develop my digital competency and acquire the latest skills in the changing world of education. I will make sure to transfer all these skills to my students who will benefit from getting modern education in light of the outdated school curriculums. This kind of reflection on developing education tools helps us as teachers and will benefit our students, our community and help to develop our country."

## ZAYNAB ALAMMAR

#### Maths teacher

"The training is very effective; it targets all teachers aiming to improve their skills on two levels: technology and inclusion. The workshop helped me develop my technological skills to prepare and provide both in-person and online education to students."

#### MOHAMMAD SERRI

#### **Informatics Teacher**

"The workshop is very useful because of the trainers' wide experience and the teachers coming from various background and schools who shared their experience and lessons learned. I, personally, learned a lot by listening to each teacher's experience. I specifically learned a lot on the topic of learning difficulties that students face. My goal is to organize training sessions and share the knowledge I acquired with my colleagues."

#### **INAAM FAKIH**

#### **Biology teacher**

"This workshop provided me with solutions to better deal with students who are facing more learning difficulties after COVID-19, especially in public schools. The benefits and outcomes of such a training will be implemented through my daily courses with students and will allow me to provide technological support and solutions to my colleagues on how to deal with post-COVID-19 challenges."

# REFLECTIONS FROM THE LEAD INSTITUTION

The Towards Better Education: Teachers Above the Crisis (TAC) project was developed based on extensive consultations with our partners and educators in Lebanon and builds on previous projects and the extensive research done by the team of the Center for Lebanese Studies over the years following COVID-19 (2020-2022).

The collaborative nature of this project allowed to respond to real and urgent needs of the educators and education sector as a whole and ensured the inclusive approach of working with teachers from all backgrounds and all sectors.

Various lessons were gained throughout our work and are being actively taken into account in all interventions:

- The ongoing consultations with partners and participants will ensure the relevance of the interventions and activities implemented in a fast-changing context
- To ensure that teachers take on a leading role in designing training activities and co-creating teaching methodologies
- To ensure open access to all the material produced
- It is essential to partner with regional institutions to ensure reach, relevance and sustainability of the programmes
- Teachers have a wealth of knowledge and experience that needs to be enriched and spaces created for them to share and exchange

TAC was a great experience and created a unique space for co-creating knowledge and reclaiming the role of teachers as knowledge producers and not only technical staff confined within the walls of the classroom. We have created WhatsApp groups for teachers where they continue to communicate, collaborate and share resources. The involvement of our staff in the trainings allowed to expand their network and exposure to varied experiences. This project allowed us to consolidate strong and long-term partnerships and collaborations with other organisations like Jusoor and Manhajiyat an Arabic education online magazine, and we continue to engage the educators who we worked with and the partner organisations with our events and activities beyond the scope of this project to ensure strong networks and sustainability.

### DR. MAI ABU MOGHLI

Senior Researcher, Centre for Lebanese Studies (CLS)











OPPORTUNITIES & PERSPECTIVES