



# INVESTING IN INDIVIDUALS, REBUILDING COMMUNITIES

Higher Education: The foundation for post- conflict recovery



**fakhoora.org**  
take action: defend education.  
A programme of education above all™



**“Every migrant feel lost at first, but with a chance to thrive, he will flourish. This is exactly my story; I got this chance when I was awarded this scholarship.”**

**Ousama Bakir,**  
Graphic Design,  
The Lebanese International University

# ONLY FIVE PERCENT

We live in a rapidly changing world. The global economy is growing, yet unemployment rises at an unprecedented rate. Global wealth increases, while the disparity between socio-economic groups widens. Further, the recent COVID-19 pandemic that has swept across the world has carried with it a pervasive sense of uncertainty, changing the global landscape as we know it. The pandemic has transformed the way we work, learn and socialise. A new way of connecting has emerged, maximising technology and allowing us to transcend borders, connecting humanity like never before.

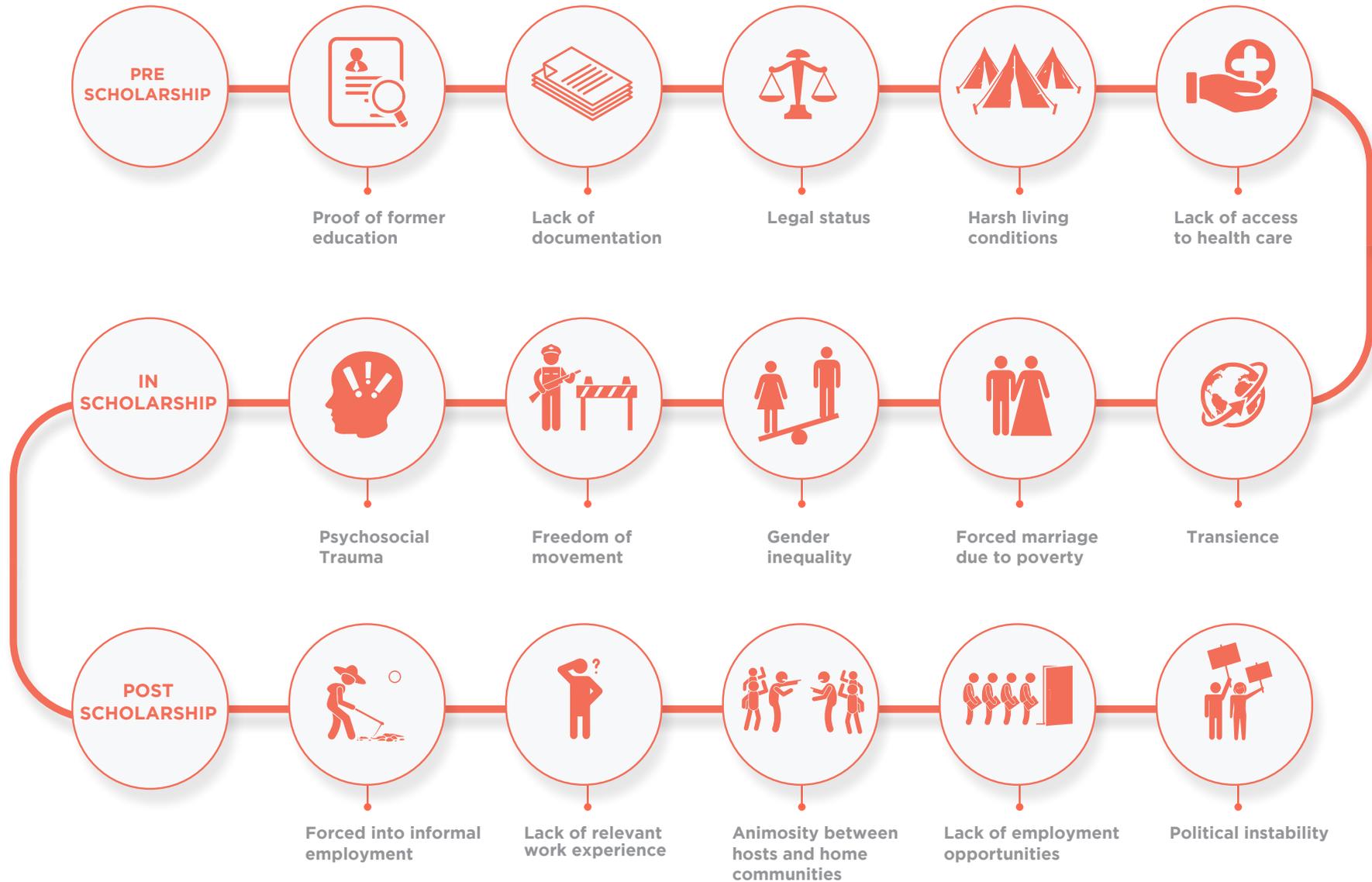
Yet at the same time, the aftermath of recent and ongoing conflicts continues to produce the largest number of refugees and IDPs since World War II, a shocking 82.4 million displaced persons worldwide.

The youth of today look to education to prepare them for this new reality. A reality where post-secondary education is no longer an advantage, but a minimum requirement for gainful employment. A reality where employers demand versatile, highly qualified graduates equipped with 21st century skills.

Students graduating from some of the best institutions across the globe are finding it increasingly challenging to compete in this day and age, let alone marginalised youth facing obstacles due to poverty, conflict, and forced migration.

**Only five per cent of refugee youth worldwide have access to higher education.**

# OBSTACLES TO ACCESSING HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT





## VISION:

Al Fakhoora works to promote the right to education in conflict and post-conflict states, by unlocking a new generation of marginalised youth to become educated, professionally skilled, civically- engaged individuals who inspire and guide their families communities towards cohesion and prosperity.

# MORE THAN JUST A SCHOLARSHIP

Only five per cent of refugee youth worldwide have access to higher education, but a degree is no longer enough. There already exists a 'lost generation' whose educational needs are not being addressed. The ramifications of not providing them with an opportunity to further skill and educate themselves only adds to the cycle of poverty created by conflict and forced migration.

**SDG 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.**

Al Fakhoora believes in the innate resilience of youth, and works to enable the most marginalised, particularly refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), to reach their maximum potential, despite their surrounding circumstances, by removing barriers and facilitating access to quality, relevant higher education. We place beneficiaries at the heart of our programming, tailoring each intervention to address the obstacles and challenges that they face within the economic, social and cultural context in which they live.

## QATAR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

### A UNIQUE MODEL



#### QUALITY EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES:

Empowering students through scholarships for post- secondary education, ensuring students' academic success and mental and emotional well-being.



#### QATAR CONNECTION

Providing meaningful opportunities for Qatar Scholarship recipients to participate in various events, trainings, workshops, internships and exchange opportunities, provided by partnering Qatari stakeholders, connecting scholars to Qatar and a broader student network.



#### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Providing students with 21st century skills, social emotional learning competencies, and opportunities to actualize their knowledge through experiential learning.

By providing comprehensive support to our beneficiaries throughout their journey, from education to employment, Al Fakhoora enables and empowers youth to be engaged, productive, inspirational civic- minded individuals who can adapt and excel in their challenging environments.



# QATAR CONNECTION

Connecting students across the MENA region and beyond

Al Fakhoora is proud of its growing network of scholarship recipients across the MENA region and beyond. In 2021, Qatar Connection was created to “connect” Al Fakhoora’s beneficiaries to one another and to Qatar. Through the provision of various activities, internships and exchange opportunities, provided by partnering Qatari stakeholders, Al Fakhoora scholars have the opportunity to develop a diverse range of life skills whilst expanding their personal and professional network.

Qatar Connection is comprised of three key components:



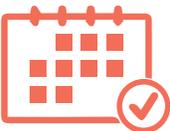
## STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME:

Allowing Qatar Scholarship beneficiaries to apply to complete an exchange programme at partner universities based in Qatar, providing them with the opportunity to study and live in Qatar and experience the culture and country first hand.



## INTERNSHIPS:

Providing Qatar Scholarship beneficiaries with the opportunity to apply for various internship and/ or training programmes provided by local Qatari organisations. Opportunities will be offered both virtually and in person.



## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Offering Qatar Scholarship beneficiaries a diverse range of activities (including webinars, workshops, lectures, and meet-and-greets) by various Qatari stakeholders, allowing beneficiaries to understand more about Qatari culture, history and heritage. Students also have the opportunity to network, gain knowledge, and develop a wide range of life skills.



**“This training has provided me with the skills and knowledge to document our reality and convey the truth with minimum resources. I’m looking forward to applying these skills to spread the Palestinian message to the world.”**

**Mohammed Zurob,**  
24 years old, Physics,  
Gaza, Palestine University



**“Being an Al Fakhoora student is like holding a distinctive passport whenever I apply for training and jobs. I believe this is due to the civic engagement programme that the scholarship offered us.”**

**Badr Al Zaharna,**  
23 years old, English Teacher, Gaza,  
Palestine.

# FROM CONFLICT TO COHESION

## *Community in times of Crisis*

**“For true global citizenship to be achieved, we must first work towards civic engagement.”**

Al Fakhoora believes that, in an ever-changing world, all students must be provided with the skills, knowledge, and experience to become civic-minded individuals who act in the broader interest of their communities. Our civic engagement programme impacts youth, who in turn inspire their peers, families and communities. It provides students not only with 21st century skills and SEL spheres, but also with the characteristic traits needed to foster a “pay it forward” attitude. Al Fakhoora provides marginalised and refugee youth with the foundation needed to become inspirational, civic-minded individuals who can adapt and excel in their challenging environments.

Our programme is founded on a methodology of nurturing students from selection through to graduation, and assisting them in their transition into meaningful employment. The programme is designed around a comprehensive, student-centered curriculum that focuses on participants taking part in a journey of experiential learning through both theory and practice. From the onset, students understand that they are not simply recipients of aid, but rather that they are change makers who initiate and implement social enterprises for the benefit of their communities.

Throughout their journey, students are given the opportunity to actualise the skills and SEL spheres they have learnt, by identifying obstacles within their communities and designing and implementing sustainable solutions to help alleviate them.



# CHANGING MINDSETS

The MENA region currently hosts the largest number of displaced persons across the globe, home to over 16.8 million refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs); this number represents nearly 25% of all displaced persons worldwide. In addition, the recent Afghan crisis has resulted in the country producing one of the largest refugee populations across the globe. There are approximately 2.6 million registered Afghan refugees, and another 3.5 million of which are internally displaced. Given the rapidly changing context of the region, this number will only rise.

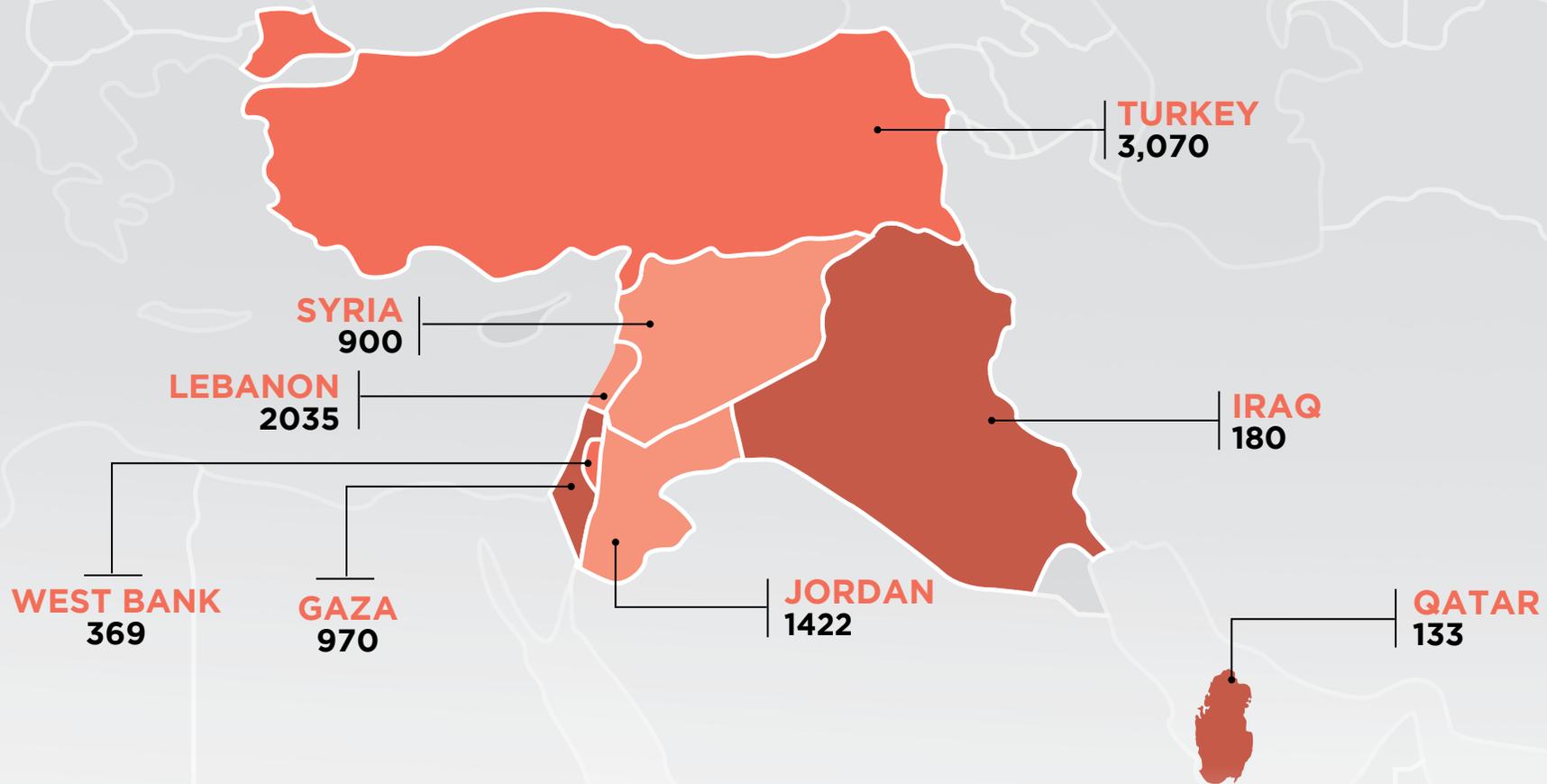
**The average refugee will stay in their host community for 17 years. We cannot become part of the vicious cycle of dependence on aid, which keeps them trapped in poverty.**

Faced with the sheer magnitude of this crisis, we need to change mindsets: we need to stop viewing refugees as individuals defined only by conflict, and we need to help refugees transcend their victim mentality. We are all impacted by this situation; from governments to the private sector, from home to host communities, from small businesses to national economies. For the benefit of all involved we must equip refugees with transferrable skills, allowing them to maximise their full potential, to prosper now and in the future, regardless of whether they decide to stay in their host communities, relocate, or repatriate.

Al Fakhoora invests in refugee and marginalised youth by removing barriers to accessing quality higher education, mobilising partners from all sectors, creating pathways to cohesion and prosperity.



# OUR REACH



# BECOME A PARTNER

Al Fakhoora works together with like-minded organisations in support of SDG 4, Quality Education, specifically goal 4.3 ensuring access to quality higher education, including post-secondary education, undergraduate, and post graduate studies. We have over a decade of experience in providing our holistic higher education programme to marginalised youth across the MENA region and beyond.

We believe that higher education enables marginalised youth, particularly those from conflict-affected regions, to reach their full potential and break the cycle of poverty created by socio-economic circumstances, conflict and forced migration.

Al Fakhoora works directly with implementing partners, such as higher education institutions, as well as strategic partners who share our vision to invest in youth and create pathways to cohesion and prosperity.

If your organisation is interested in partnering with Al Fakhoora, for more information and guidelines on how to apply please email [Partners.ALF@eaa.org.qa](mailto:Partners.ALF@eaa.org.qa)