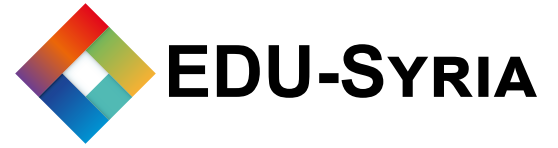




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EDU - T I M E S

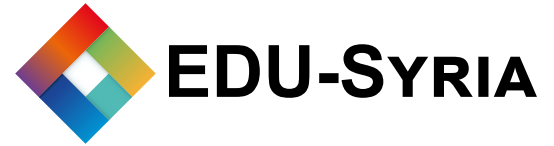
2022!

EDU-SYRIA Newsletter, issued quarterly

- 06\2022 First Issue -



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Dear EDU-SYRIA Community and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to greet you as EDU-SYRIA Director, and I am very grateful for having the opportunity to work on EDU-SYRIA. Hereby, I am pleased to announce the launch of EDU-SYRIA quarterly newsletter which contains the latest news and events.

As the Syrian conflict continues into its eleventh year, Syrian refugee students in Jordan are confronting education obstacles that grow more acute as they progress towards higher education. Accordingly, we stress the fact that every high school graduate has the right to pursue his or her higher education. Moreover, the European Union has realized that the necessity of providing scholarships, to the Syrian refugees as well as the vulnerable Jordanians, is considered a key partner in responding to the Syrian crisis in the educational field and has been active in this arena since 2012.



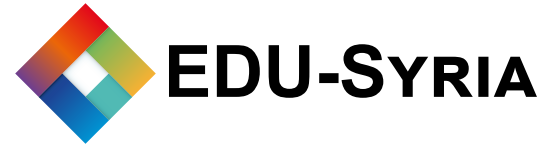
A Word From The Director
President, Prof. Ala'aldeen Al-Halhoul

Therefore, EDU-SYRIA, funded by the European Union and managed by the German Jordanian University is vital to foster the “No Lost Generation” initiative co-led by UNICEF & World Vision, which aims to provide for those affected by the conflict with the chance to shape a more stable and secure future. Furthermore, this higher educational program goes in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, as higher education is an essential part of the right to education.

Since the project's inception in 2015, EDU-SYRIA has become a well-known and trusted higher education scholarship program. The consortium of EDU-SYRIA project is led by a local partner, the German Jordanian University, and we feel proud to be the only governmental Jordanian academic institution, under the European Union that managed a humanitarian project with a fund reaching 32.6 million so far that came as a response to the Syrian crisis in Jordan and was administrated and implemented by Jordanian staff members. Such local ownership came from GJU's excellent experience in successfully implementing several EU and other projects such as Erasmus+ projects, which were built on other future activities and projects.



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All members of the consortium demonstrated a very high degree of enthusiasm and commitment to the project, I would like to stress, however, that we could not have successfully reached this milestone without the excellent cooperation and openness of our local and international partners who constructed a unique consortium between the private and public sectors. Moreover, German Jordanian University , by leading EDU-SYRIA, established new partnerships with local and international organizations and local academic institutions involved in higher education such as The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD Jordan), The Dutch Organization for Internationalisation in Education (NUFFIC), Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), Mutah University (MU), Yarmouk University (YU) & Zarqa Private University (ZU), considered further coordination with governmental entities such as the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) to access, in addition to private and public universities, public with possible reduction tuition fees to maximize the number of scholarships that could be granted & Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation (MOPIC), the relevant authority of international project, to provide required documentation, reached out to employment-related organizations such as Jordan Chamber of Industry, Amman Chamber of Industry, and Amman Chamber of Commerce to identify the needed jobs and skills to design the proper educational program that addresses the market needs, and finally, in order to reach out to disadvantaged Jordanians, EDU-SYRIA has closely collaborated with the Jordanian aid organizations (National Aid Fund, Tkiyet Um Ali, Aman Fund and Zakat Fund).

Students Graduates from Creative Design Course by Nuffic

EDU-JORDAN Programme, through its component “EDU-TRANS” managed by Nuffic, graduated a group of young Jordanian entrepreneurs from the Creative Design Course.



The course was conducted through the project “Career Acceleration Project for Creative Designers” by the American Centre of Research (Acor), which is one of EDU-TRANS projects.

This course goal is to equip a group of creative professionals with the needed tools and skills that will provide them with the chance to practice freelancing in creative design, where the course covered various design software such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Premiere, computer-aided design [CAD], and portfolio design.



This course also includes a thematic internship, in which each student is placed in a different internship. This phase will give them additional perspectives on how to use their skills in new and in-demand fields, such as ecotourism, the development of digital educational tools, and interpretation and visualization for heritage sites.

EDU-MARKET Round Tables at LTUC

EDU-MARKET managed by (LTUC), has conducted three round table discussions with employers and experts from the Jordanian labor market to present the findings of the “Jordanian Labour Market Needs” study that was conducted by the programme and published on the 25th November, 2021.

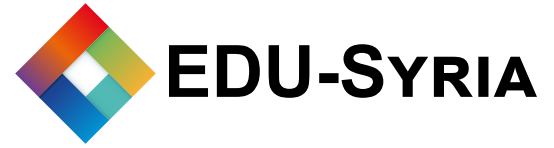
More than 15 companies from different sectors in Jordan have participated in the round tables besides EDU-SYRIA, Luminus Technical University College & German Jordanian University.



These roundtables also discussed the completeness of the study plans for the selected training programs (HVAC [Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems], Electrical installation, Industrial fashion design, Computerized Decoration and Carpentry) and to take the feedback and suggestions into consideration when redesigning and delivering the training, to make training’s output more effective and matching the market needs.



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EDU-MARKET Training Scholarships

EDU-SYRIA / EDU-JORDAN Scholarships Program announced that the door is open to apply for EDU-MARKET -6month-training scholarships, the call had been published in early February for the following courses:

- ◆ Computerized Decoration and Carpentry.
- ◆ Electro-mechanical maintenance + HVAC.
- ◆ Industrial Fashion Design.



The training addressed Syrian refugees and the underprivileged Jordanian will be held at LTUC.

The study plan for these courses was designed based on the labour market study launched by the project, and the discussion panels held with employers and experts from the Jordanian Labour Market.

4th Cohort of EDU-SYRIA III

EDU-SYRIA/EDU-JORDAN Scholarship Programme awarded 70 fully-funded scholarships for EDU-TECH, the vocational training diploma project at LTUC, and EDU-JUNIOR, the Bachelor's project at Zarqa University, for Syrian refugees for the second semester of the academic year 2022/2021.



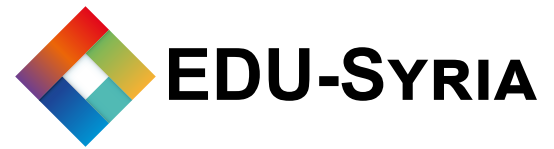
After evaluating the total of 820 applications for EDU-SENIOR scholarships and 296 for EDU-TECH scholarships, and filtering out the applications that comply with the announced conditions, 54 applicants were interviewed at Zarqa University for the bachelor's scholarships on the 5th & 10th, February 2022. All applicants for the vocational training diploma scholarships were interviewed once they submitted a completed application at LTUC.



A total of 40 Syrian students were accepted for the bachelor's degree and 30 Syrian students were accepted into the Vocational Training Diploma.



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EDU-SYRIA II Closing Ceremony

Under the patronage of the European Union ambassador to Jordan, her excellency, Maria Hadjitheodosiou, EDU-SYRIA / EDU-JORDAN program held the closing ceremony of EDU-SYRIA II.

The ceremony was attended by the president of GJU, representatives of partner institutes and students. The ceremony started with a musical performance by the students.



H.E. Maria, noted that education has been a priority sector of support for the EU in Jordan for more than a decade because it is essential to the development of a country and its people, especially after the Syrian refugee crisis. Her Excellency added about EDU-SYRIA / EDU-JORDAN program:

"We are very proud of our longstanding & fruitful collaboration with EDU-Syria consortium."

The Ambassador continues: «Under the EU Syria response in Jordan, this is the only consortium led by a local partner, the German Jordanian University. All members of the consortium demonstrated a very high degree of enthusiasm and commitment for the project and I would like to applaud them for this today.»

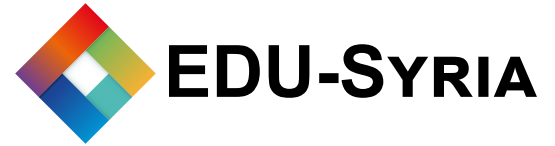


The President of the GJU, Prof. Ala'aldeen Al-Halhouli, highlighted that the university had previously completed a number of humanitarian projects within the framework of community service, yet the most important and largest of these projects is the EDU-SYRIA / EDU-JORDAN program. Al-Halhouli also pointed out the university's continuous endeavor to support the community by establishing the Deanship of Innovation, Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship and the plan to establish a humanitarian projects cluster.





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The manager of EDU-SYRIA / EDU-JORDAN program, Dr. Dhiah Abu Tair, stressed the importance of the EDU-SYRIA II project. He also stated that the program's work was not limited to selecting eligible students and providing scholarships, but also, over the years, it has monitored the students' academic performance and conducted a number of training and qualification courses to empower them with various skills.



Among the guests, the ceremony hosted students who benefited from the scholarship, who talked about their study experience, and how it helped them to enhance and get them closer to their hopes and ambitions.



The students also touched on the difficulties they faced during and after studying, which were represented in obtaining job opportunities after graduation, in addition to social difficulties.

At the end of the ceremony, H.E. Hadjitheodosiou, Prof. Al-Halhouli, and Dr. Abu Tair awarded certificates of excellence to more than 25 outstanding students who had master's, bachelor's EDU-SYRIA / EDU-JORDAN Program implemented



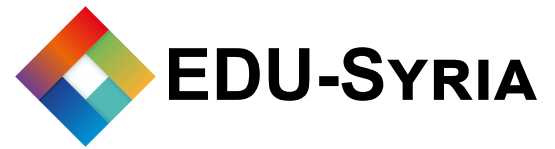
EDU-SYRIA II, which started in 2016 and was funded with €11 million, to provide 1,000 higher education scholarships for Syrian refugees and underprivileged Jordanians through a consortium of 9 local and international partners: German Jordanian University (consortium leader), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Dutch Organization for Internationalisation in Education (Nuffic), Queen Rania Teacher Academy, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Yarmouk University, Mutah University, Zarqa University & Luminus Technical University College.

The consortium also includes four local aid funds: National Aid Fund, Al-Aman Fund, Zakat Fund and Tkiyet Um Ali.





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Ramadan Iftar

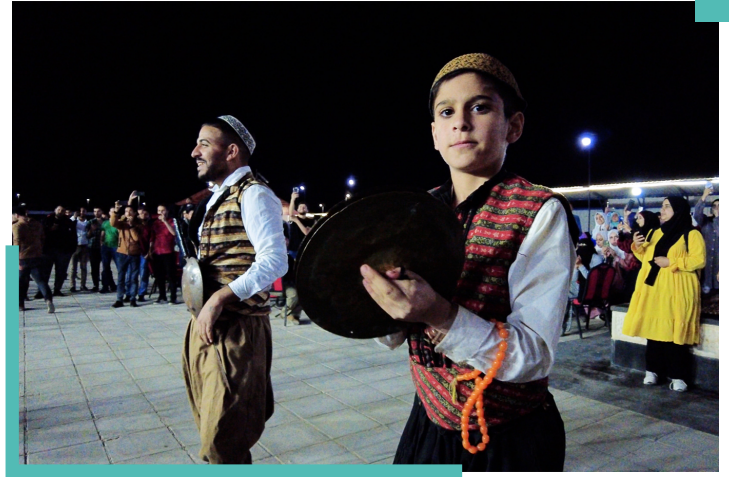
EDU-SYRIA Programme organized an Iftar banquet for 250 students affiliated with the program from Zarqa University and Luminus Technical University College (LTUC).



The Iftar took place at Zarqa University in the presence of the German Jordanian University President Prof. Ala'aldeen Al-Halhouli, representatives of the EU Delegation to Jordan, representatives from partners institutions such as Zarqa University, LTUC, Queen Rania Teacher Academy, Nuffic & DAAD.



The banquet, which aimed at bringing together students who benefitted from EDU-SYRIA and all those involved in the program implementation, included a variety of music and cultural activities by the Program's students.



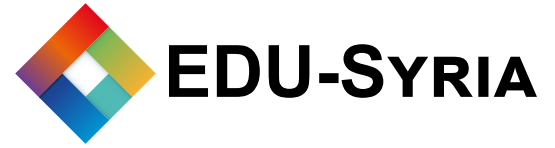
Ramdan Iftar came after the sixth consortium meeting for the EDU-SYRIA III project. The meeting, which is held each quarter, aims at reviewing the project's progress and discussing the implementation of the actions.



The meeting was held at Zarqa University and the project partners presented the progress of their actions and their plans for the next quarter. The meeting concluded with an open discussion that addressed the different matters and issues of the projects.



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EDU-PRENEUR info sessions by ShamaStart

ShamaStart, the implementing partner of the EDU-PRENEUR, entrepreneurship grants project from EDU-SYRIA, has conducted several induction tours of the program in Irbid, Mafrq and Ajloun. Where ShamaStart had met more than 170 young



individuals, and introduced them to the conditions and guided them to apply for entrepreneurship grants.



EDU-PRENEUR works on supporting startups, which consist of Syrians and Jordanians by funding them. In addition, by providing many training courses that qualify them to develop their business and maintain its continuity.

EDU-TEACH Scholarships

EDU-SYRIA \ EDU-JORDAN Scholarships Program, funded by the EU and managed by the German Jordanian University, announced the call to apply for EDU-TEACH scholarships for studying the "Teacher Education Professional Diploma" at Queen Rania Teacher Academy.



The scholarships are provided for Jordanian beneficiaries of one of the following organizations: National Aid Fund, Tkiyet Um Ali, Al-Zakat Fund and Al-Aman Fund.

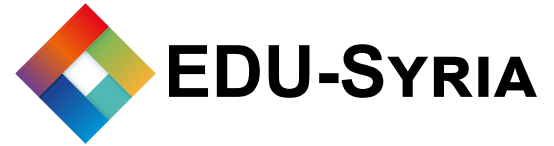
Side-event to the Brussels VI Conference: "Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region"

Higher Education for refugees: A necessity, not a luxury!

In the context of the 6th Brussels Conference on supporting the future of Syria and the Region, EDU-SYRIA together with its partners DAAD, Campus France, Nuffic, and SPARK, organized a side event on the importance of higher education during and post-conflict.



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Higher Education for refugees: A necessity, not a luxury!

28 April 2022, 03:00 - 04:30pm CEST
Online side-event

nuffic



spark



A film produced by EDU-SYRIA was shown at the event, in which Syrian high school students from Za'atari camp were interviewed, where they spoke about their suffering and challenges, in addition to their hopes for higher education.



During the event, The Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Jordan H.E Minister Wajih Owais explained that currently, 115,000 Syrian students are in the education system of Jordan. 5,800 are enrolled in higher education and the government of Jordan strive to provide them with the best education.

The opening of the alumnae inspired Mr. Stefan Delfs, Head of Section Higher Education and Research from the German Federal Foreign Office:

“We should present such voices more often.”

Mr. Axel Weisenberg, EU Policy Officer and International Cooperation from the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, referred to the ministerial conference in Marseille in March 2022, organized under the French Presidency of the EU, and to its resulting Declaration, according to which the Member States have “underlined the importance of international cooperation in research and innovation and higher education and wish to base this international cooperation on shared values and principles.”

Ms. Corinne André, Head of Cooperation in Delegation of the European Union to Jordan, explained that the EU is committed to further supporting higher education for refugees and disadvantaged Jordanians.

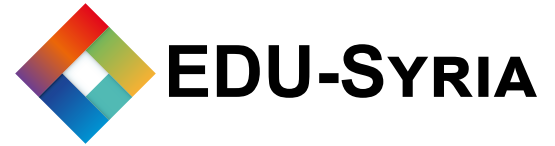
The main outcome of the webinar was to confirm the strategic importance of higher education in emergencies. The great impact reached by the consortium in the neighborhood countries afflicted by the conflict in Syria showed the added value of international partnerships between European organizations and local partners, in light of Team Europe initiatives.

This collaboration organizes the side-event (NUFFIC, Campus France, DAAD, GJU, SPARK) works since 2016 in Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq, and Jordan on higher education and vocational education in different EU-funded programs for Syrian refugees. These organizations are regularly advocating at the International Community for more attention to higher education in emergencies/conflict settings / fragile states. Since conflicts tend to become more and more protracted, these organizations believe that the international community should not limit its interventions in these countries in crisis to acute humanitarian emergencies, but work more and more on higher education.

These organizations underline that higher education is a necessity and not a luxury. They believe that through higher education, refugees learn to cope with the challenges they encounter and become self-reliant.



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EDU-SENIOR Graduates and Students Meeting

the German Academic Exchange Service in Jordan (DAAD) and EDU-SYRIA \ EDU-JORDAN Scholarships Program held a meeting with students and graduates of the Master's project (EDU-SENIOR).

The meeting came to inform the beneficiaries of future opportunities, such as Ph.D. scholarships in Germany, which was presented by Dr. Abdel Nasser from DAAD.

EDU-SYRIA has always been in constant contact with students during their studies, and even after they graduate. The program considers this as part of its mission and responsibility towards the beneficiaries.



The project manager, Dr. Dhiah Abu Tair, presented opportunities currently offered by the Program, such as EDU-PRENURE, the Entrepreneurship Grant Program, in addition to EDU-TEACH and the Teacher Training and Qualification Scholarships.

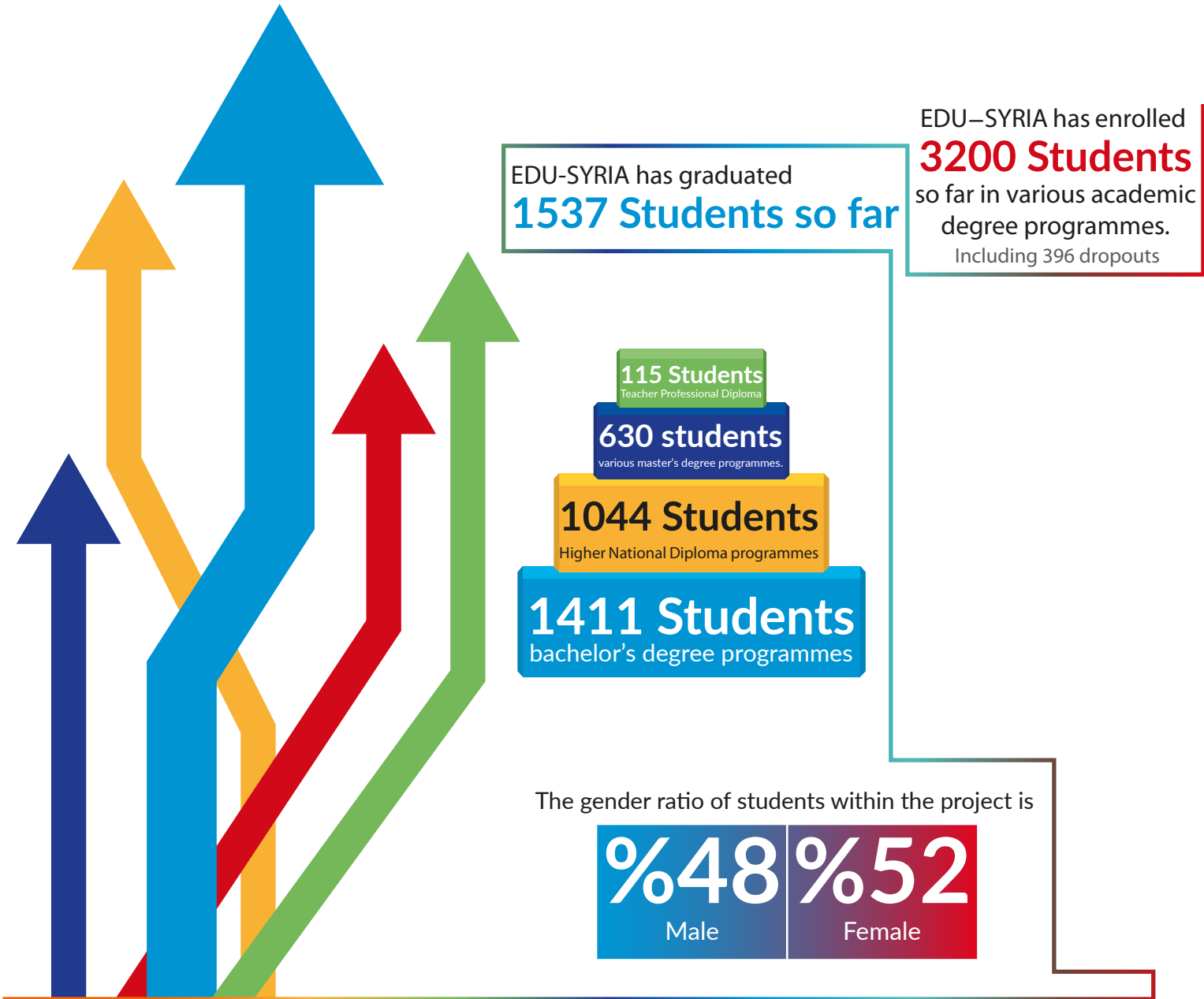




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EDU-SYRIA



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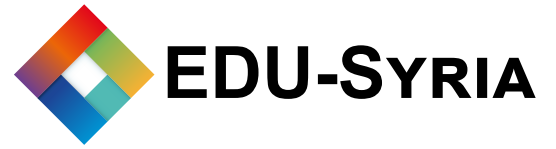
Contact Us:

info@edu-syria.eu

+962 6 429 4144 / 4145



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EDU - TIMES

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