



Dear Friends,

As the country grapples with the present complicated set of challenges and as the Lebanese crisis pushes young people away from school and robs them of their right to education, Teach For Lebanon's role is crucial to reverse those existing trends. According to UNICEF, 30% of young people dropped out of secondary school in 2021. This alarming rate is further pushing TFL to provide its student beneficiaries with quality education as well as psychological support and reintegration through recreational activities.

The crisis that hit the education sector resulted in rolling strikes since the beginning of 2022 due to several reasons including the lack of wage rises, transport allowance, and fuel to heat the classrooms during the cold weather. Wages in Lebanon's public sector have not been changed to reflect the pound's more than 90% depreciation and the country's skyrocketing inflation rate.

On the bright side, we were successful in preparing the organization for a period of growth and expansion by fostering a learning and personal development culture inside TFL and its activities. Despite the ongoing strikes, our Fellows were not held back and continued to push forward and fulfill their mission through hybrid teaching (in-person and online) in a tough climate. We must guarantee that Lebanese children have access to quality education because they are the key to safeguarding Lebanon's future.

**42 Fellows are placed
in 31 schools in many
districts and regions
across Lebanon,
impacting the lives
of 3,681 students
and 822 refugees.**

2021-2022



Updates from the Fellowship Program

Fellows' Retreat

A Fellow's retreat was held on March 9th at the Lancaster Hotel Tamar to celebrate teachers' day and their work as they returned to in-person classes and to reinforce the Fellow and TFL staff's partnership dynamics. The event was an opportunity to deeply thank them for shaping the leaders of the future. TFL staff and the Fellows were invited to reflect on the Fellowship framework.

During the retreat, the Fellows were given a space to provide feedback regarding their Fellowship experience and its framework. Overall, the conversations were open, honest, and appreciative, with a high sense of responsibility and engagement, and the activities done were all centered on team-building and reflection. Future meetings, reflection sessions, and Focus group sessions were scheduled as a follow-up to dig deeper and ensure alignment and effectiveness.



A Sneak Peek Inside the Classrooms

Fellows at the Sahaguan school are implementing a yearlong ECA (Extracurricular Activities) that tackles the issue of global warming and climate change while introducing different types of renewable energy sources. The Fellows used their personal knowledge in the engineering field and gave the students some information about renewable energy sources and different applications that people can use to reduce emissions such as building management systems. Students were so engaged and interested in this topic that they stayed after the presentation to share their ideas and their own knowledge.

Students at Al Laylaki Public School in Beirut have been learning conflict resolution skills. One of the groups suggested developing a ministry called "The Ministry of Peace and Respect". Fellow Marwa El Youssef reported that one of her grade four students, who always relied on violence, noticed the importance of acknowledging his own feelings, apologizing, and forgiving others. Students were able to come up with bright alternatives to solve their problems without violence through videos, group discussions, and drawings.



Projects Updates

Announcing the 2022 Access Alumni Mini-Grants Awards

The English Microscholarship Program ([Access](#)) is a two-year global scholarship program funded by the U.S. Department of State.

Five of the project proposals submitted by alumni of the Access program in Lebanon were selected. The winners' names are as follows: Fatima Katrib and Amal Akoumi of Access Cohort 8, Rasha Shalha of Access Cohort 8, Ziwar Moulky of Access Cohort 8, Yasmine Zeineddine of Access Cohort 10, and Maryam and Jana Soussi of Access Cohort 10 and 12. Congratulations to the winners, and a special thanks to the US Embassy in Beirut for supporting this effort and assisting us in selecting the winning projects.

Read more about the projects [here](#)!



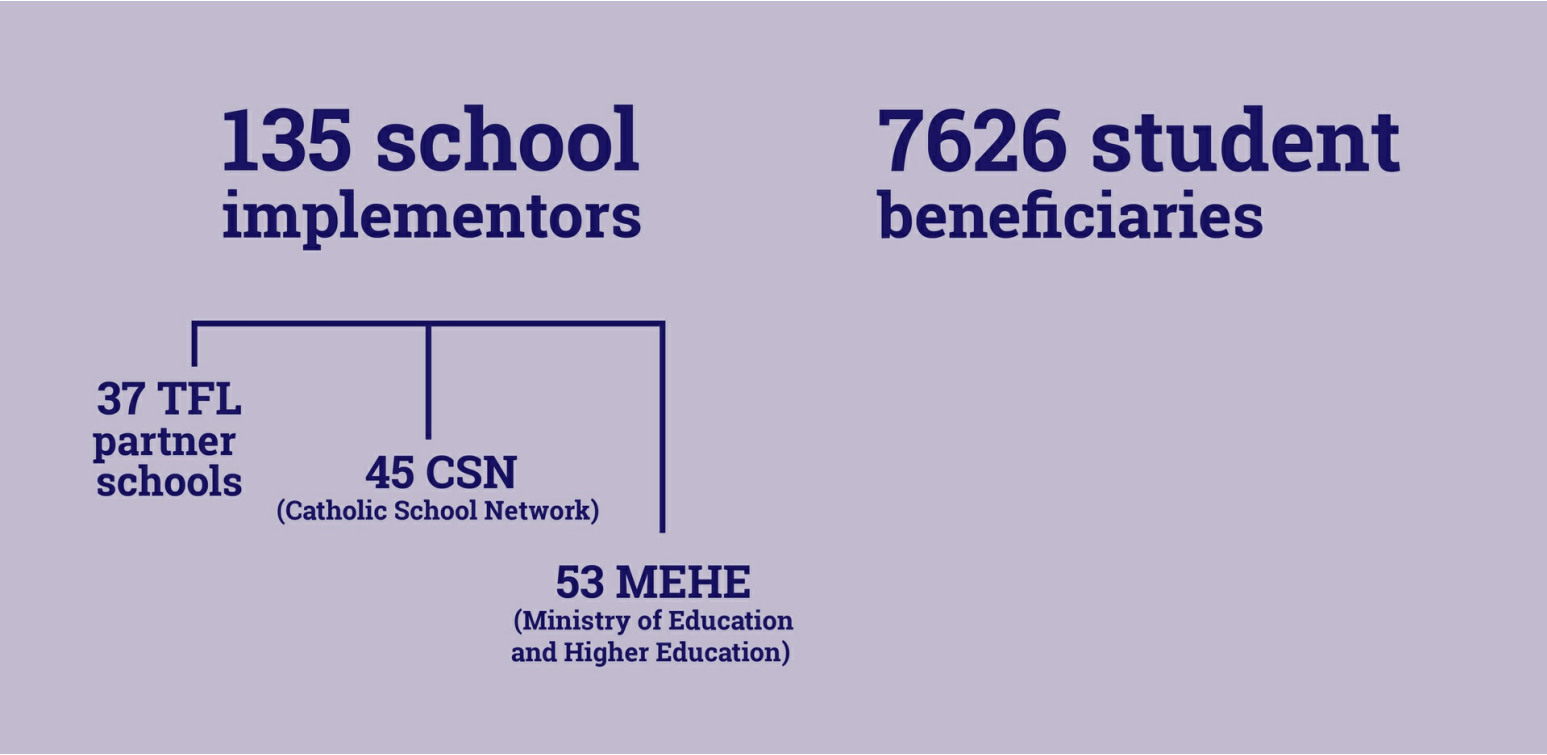
1001 Nights Program

As of today, we are proud that a total of 135 schools have endorsed and are implementing the 1001 Night program in their schools. In addition, this past January, around 180 teachers in Teach for Lebanon MEHE partner schools and 114 teachers from the Catholic School Network (CSN) received five training sessions during which teachers were introduced to the 1001 Nights program curriculum and supported to better implement the program in their classrooms. This training, titled: “Improve Your Lesson Plan” was fully conducted by TFL’s 1001 Nights team and current TFL Fellows.

TFL is very thankful for the participating teachers who are keen on improving students’ education in Lebanon and instilling the noblest values in them.

[Watch this video](#) summarizing the implementation of the 1001 Nights program in TFL’s partner schools in the 2021 academic year.

[Watch](#) a clip from one of the program’s sessions in the Saida Generation School classroom.



Testimonials about the 1001 Nights program
Bilal El Hussein- Principal at New Education School, Beirut

“The impact is excellent. The students love the project, and their parents believe in its end goal as well. The teachers are doing an excellent job with the implementation, and we collectively believe it will leave a positive impression on the students and the school.”

TFL x Storyvoice

Last year, we launched a story-writing competition through our Storyvoice project. Students from grades 3 to 9 were invited to submit their stories; Despite the difficult socio-economic conditions, this initiative turned out to be a huge success and a great escape for our students, as they unleashed their imagination and freely expressed themselves. After a thorough evaluation, we announced the two first-place winners: Vanig Malijian (Sahagian College) and Sobhi Sabbagh (New Educational School). Vanig and Sobhi both received prizes, and they had the chance to read their stories live on Storyvoice. We are deeply thankful to our school partners for supporting this competition and to DPDHL for sponsoring this initiative by providing gifts to everyone that participated in it.

Storyvoice continues to expand its collaborations across the TFALL network as well as with key players and organizations. For instance, during March we collaborated with [Recycler](#) to raise awareness about the importance of being environmentally responsible citizens and actively defending the environment.

[Watch](#) some of our recorded sessions on the TFL's Storyvoice channel on YouTube.

[Tune in](#) to join our channel every Thursday at 6 pm, Beirut Time.

STORY WRITING COMPETITION



storyvoice



News & Events

Principals' Meeting

A principals' meeting attended by 20 school principals from various regions of Lebanon was held on February 19, 2022. The main discussion revolved around the work that TFL undertakes through the Fellowship program, the principals' feedback, as well as the schools' needs, and potential concerns.

“The quality of education has improved, and the students' attitudes and behavior towards each other and the teaching cadre have changed”, the principals explained, adding that the program is “energizing, rejuvenating, and useful in the transfer and exchange of expertise.” In fact, several principals expressed a wish to prolong the Fellowship for at least three years and to look into strategies to retain teachers after the Fellowship ended.

Click [here](#) to read more about this event.



Alumni Spotlight: Karim Chebli

After completing his Fellowship eight years ago, Karim did not quit teaching. He is currently balancing that and acting since he enjoys practicing both. He is an IB drama teacher at the Wellspring Learning Community for students in grades 11 and 12 and also an actor who publicly performs plays on stage. He performed his play "flee" at L'ACT (Théâtre Monot) in January 2022, which was chosen by Zoukak Theatre Company and the UNESCO Office in Beirut to conclude the TERDAD Youth Initiative on Global Citizenship Education through the Arts. Furthermore, in February, he performed his second play alongside artists like Fouad Yammine, Sara Felula Abdo, and Cynthia Karam.

A Fellow's Influence, A Decade Later

Ten years later, Celine, one of the former students of Karim, reached out to him on Instagram after seeing his picture in one of the sessions during an Access class. On January 18, 2022, Celine and three other students hopped on a Zoom meeting with Karim to reconnect.

[Read](#) about their first encounter eight years later.





TFL-US page on Facebook

Our page on Facebook is dedicated to keep our friends and followers in the US updated with Teach For Lebanon's fundraising projects and activities.

If you're in the US or one of the countries listed [here](#), you can now donate through our TFL-US Facebook page with a simple click on the Donate button!



> **Anny Moufarrej**

Development Manager, TFL-US

E: anny.moufarrej@teachforlebanon.org



Donate Now

www.teachforlebanon.org

CONTACT US:

LEBANON

salyne.elsamarani@teachforlebanon.org

USA

ctagher@stifirestop.com

[TFL-US, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501\(c\)3 public charity and all donations are tax deductible](#)



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST



FORWARD TO A FRIEND