



UNITE
LEBANON
YOUTH
PROJECT

IMPACT REPORT



2021-2022

2021-2022 Impact in Numbers

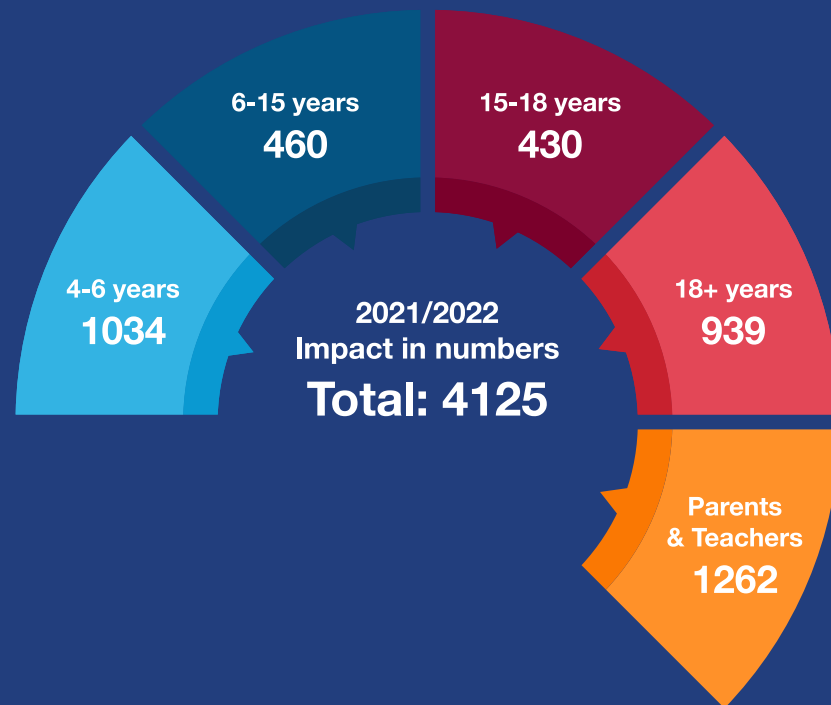


Table of Contents

Welcome Note from the ULYP Founder and Executive Director.....	2
ULYP's Contribution to Achieving the SDGs	3
Chapter 1: ULYP's Impact on Children and Youth (ages 5-15)	4
Bringing Back Childhood HAPPY Program	5
Making Up for Lost Time RAINBOW Program	6
Spreading Hope and Reviving Education SHARE program	7
Chapter 2: ULYP's Impact on Older Youth (ages 15 and over)	8
Change Starts with Education CHANGE Program	9
The ULYP BRIDGE Continues to Grow BRIDGE Program	10
Upskilling Through FLY FLY program	11
Chapter 3: Building the Structure to Sustain the Impact	12
MOMs Program	13
ULYP's Campus is Greener.....	14
2021-2022 Donors, Funders & Partners	15
The ULYP Board and Special Thanks	16



Welcome Note

The onset of our second ULYP decade coincided with what is now being described by the World Bank as “one the most severe crises episodes globally since the mid-nineteenth century.” Alongside the local political unrest, surging inflation, increased poverty and the ongoing consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we set new goals and found alternative ways to continue ensuring that the children, youth and women we serve have access to quality education on which they can build their hopes for a better future again.

The digital transformation of the world inspired our own digital transformation and with the support and understanding of our donors, we adapted our programs and office work to a hybrid model. Online educational tools were provided to the participants in our programs and training on conducting effective online learning sessions was implemented. We launched new programs whilst developing our core ones further. We upgraded our campus’ source of energy, making it more sustainable and environmentally friendly, as part of a wider rekindling of our dedication to the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the last two years (2021-2022), we were able to impact the growth of 4,125 people, from our HAPPY children at 5 years old to the mothers in adulthood. We are thankful to each person and organization who supported, and continues to support, us. We are thankful to each team member, donor and funder who believed in our work and helped us tackle the challenges and turn them into opportunities for development. Our motto for the next period is to thrive, not just survive.

We continue to be committed to our mission, of providing high quality services and achieving success for our learners. Our aim is to scale our impact and equip more children, youth and women with quality education which in turn will lead to hope and change for a better future.

With our gratitude,

Melek El Nimer
Founder

Nicole Eid Abuhaydar
Executive Director

ULYP's Contribution to Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were developed by the United Nations in 2015 as a global call to action on key aspects of human development to be achieved by 2030. It is an opportunity for us to work together to build “The Lebanon We Want”, as coined by the United Nations, and address challenges surrounding poverty, health, education, women’s empowerment, economic growth, inequality and climate change.

Obtaining a quality education underpins a range of fundamental development drivers. ULYP has placed the SDGs in the forefront of its work towards equipping the children, youth and women of today with the skills necessary for a better tomorrow. In the ULYP 2017 Annual Report, we highlighted the alignment of ULYP’s services with the SDGs. The focus on the SDGs is reflected in all the work we do as we lay the foundations for children, scaffold academics for youth, build bridges to higher education and productive employment, and develop active agents of change.

ULYP and its programs contribute to the achievement of several SDGs with the primary one being #4: Quality Education. ULYP’s work provides access to quality early childhood education; supports retention of students in school by developing a love for learning; offers non-formal education and training to marginalized youth and women; develops relevant vocational skills; connects students to opportunities for upskilling and higher education; and works with parents to align the narrative at home with ULYP’s focus on the value of education in changing lives.

Other SDGs that ULYP’s work contribute to achieving include SDGs

1: No Poverty,
#3: Good Health and Well-Being,
#5: Gender Equality,
#8: Decent Work and Economic Growth,
#10: Reduced Inequalities and
#16: Peace Justice and Strong Institutions.

Through the many programs that ULYP implements to develop skills and knowledge; promote public health through targeted awareness sessions on hygiene and sanitation, build resilience and enhance conflict-resolution skills, protect women’s rights and protection from Gender Based Violence (GBV); and foster the belief that everyone has the right to learn, especially Lebanon’s most vulnerable, regardless of ethnicity, gender and any discriminatory factor. Through these interconnected activities and goals, ULYP aims to reduce inequality and build peace and prosperity.



CHAPTER 1: ULYP's Impact on Children and Youth (ages 5-15)

Childhood is Everyone's Right

The value of living one's childhood is without debate. Research on the impact of childhood deprivation is ample and demonstrates that these foundational years shape our perception of ourselves, our potential and sets the foundation for lifelong learning.

ULYP is therefore committed to the right of all children to access quality education, so that the children of today can achieve academic and personal success as the youth of tomorrow.

ULYP implemented three programs in 2021 targeting children ages 5-15, to implement activities that give childhood back to the disenfranchised and the refugee children in Lebanon. These programs fill the growing gap in their educational development, rekindle their joy of learning and contribute to reducing their risk of dropping out of school. The skills of asking questions, making new friends and growing resilience are within the focus of these programs.



Bringing Back Childhood

The Healthy Alternative Program for Preschoolers Yearlong (HAPPY) was first envisaged in 2011 after ULYP observed that the youth it was working with lacked basic skills like creativity, curiosity, critical thinking and language dexterity. The decision to create an early intervention was taken and the program was launched later that year. HAPPY has now been running successfully for over a decade.

Today, HAPPY adheres to its mission of engaging children ages 4-6, and their teachers, in a learner-centered early childhood education program driven by research-based methodology. HAPPY children spend their days on the ULYP campus, working with our teachers and learning through play. The program collaborates with preschools in Palestinian refugee camps and marginalized areas. It has been recognized as a valuable addition to their students' educational preparedness and their teacher's access to alternative child-focused approach to learning.

The program takes place on the ULYP campus where access to a child friendly learning environment and outdoor space are readily available. The program also engages the mothers of the children to further develop their understanding of the children's cognitive, social, physical and emotional needs in order to sustain the long-term impact of this short-term intervention and benefit siblings at home.

The HAPPY program impacted a total of 1,899 beneficiaries in 2021 and 2022

Children
1034

Parents
724

Teachers
141

Supported by Taawon-Lebanon, UNICEF Lebanon, and Beit Jiddi Foundation – Holland





Making Up for Lost Time

A ray of sunlight on a dark and rainy day brings about a Rainbow full of colors, signifying hope and joy. Rainbow is an educational program teaching students, ages 10 to 14, English, math and life skills. The program aims to improve children's success at school, revive their confidence and motivate them to pursue learning and reach their full potential.

The ULYP Rainbow program was relaunched in June 2021 after being put on hold during the Pandemic. The children were thrilled to come back to the ULYP campus and engage in the activities of the program. ULYP immediately observed their high need for personal attention and responded by intensifying the sessions to grow their confidence, resilience and self-image. Additionally, the English and Math sessions resumed, and these had to be rigorously customized to meet the huge learning gap generated by the many missed school days the last two years.

The sessions with the Rainbow parents were also re-launched with the aim to improve parents' capacity to support their children's development and learning at home. This intervention is clearly vital if we are to truly propel the change desired.

TOTAL
510

Children
300

Parents
210

Funded by the Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair Refugee Education Fund



Spreading Hope and Reviving Education

The SHARE program (Spreading Hope and Reviving Education) is a long-running program that builds children's self-esteem, persistence and ability to bounce back from adversity. The program targets high achieving Palestinian middle-school students living in and around the Shatila camp in Beirut. SHARE's activities include intensive English learning, life skills enhancement, and cultural trips. Parent awareness sessions are also a valuable component of this program and contribute directly to their ability to develop skills for building a culture of learning at home.

The overall goal of SHARE is enhancing the English language of the children as well as inspiring pride in their heritage. This is achieved through yearlong curricular and co-curricular activities that take place on the ULYP campus and the Social Support Society center in the Shatila camp. Also, field trips offer the children access to places and activities that are new to them and that compliment, and enrich, the Program's goals.

TOTAL
272

Children
160

Parents
112

Supported by the Beit Jiddi Foundation- Holland



CHAPTER 2: ULYP's Impact on Older Youth (ages 15 and over)

ULYP's first ten years of operation have validated that supporting the youth today and helping them build their skillsets to become effective leaders of tomorrow is, by far the most valuable investment we can make. The youth need us all to join forces and take responsibility for preparing them and cultivating their skills for success, harnessing their leadership potential, and honing their readiness to improve the future.

In this chapter, we report on the programs that cater to youth and adults ages 15 and over. The programs ULYP implements for this age group, just like in all its services, are rooted in the belief that everyone deserves the opportunity to fulfill his or her inherent potential, and to have a voice in the process of getting there. It is also our obligation to ensure that the structure around the youth is ready to sustain the change created through our interventions.

These programs serve participants in a variety of ways, by building skills to prepare for enrollment at university, upskilling for better chances at employment in today's job market, supporting the path to quality education, and enhancing knowledge and skills to create more supportive and tolerant homes, schools and communities.

CHANGE
...starts with education

Change Starts with Education

Vulnerable youth in Lebanon often fail to see a path forward to tertiary education. It is this path that ULYP seeks to pave through its Change program, with the motto "Change starts with education." Change aims to strengthen self-belief and access by providing educational opportunities to vulnerable youth in Lebanon. ULYP launched the Change program in 2017, teaching English and Life Skills to refugee and vulnerable youth (ages 16-19). The program enhances their academic performance and increases their eligibility to enrol in tertiary and vocational programs. So far, there have been three cycles of the Change program.

ULYP's principle is that education is a fundamental right and has the power to change lives. CHANGE does not only target high achievers, but also focusses on those who have the potential to perform well at school yet, for a variety of reasons beyond their control, remain under-performing. CHANGE targets this profile of youth and has found them able to redirect their paths towards university education.

In 2021, Change was selected as a case study by the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI) at AUB. The program was highlighted as a successful initiative supporting vulnerable youth, especially marginalized Lebanese, Palestinian, and Syrian refugees, in the transition between secondary and tertiary education in Lebanon. The study was completed and published on the IFI and ULYP websites showing the findings that "Ultimately, to ease students through the transition from secondary to higher education, practices identified as impactful include developing life skills, improving English language proficiency, assisting with university applications (scholarship opportunities and SAT preparation) as well as holistically preparing students for life at university."

TOTAL
130

Supported by the Asfari Foundation



The ULYP BRIDGE Continues to Grow

The Bridge program provides access to university education for capable underserved youth, especially from, but not limited to, Palestinian refugee communities.

Bridge engages the youth in a multifaceted university preparation program that prepares them to access opportunities for scholarships and university education both in Lebanon and abroad. Bridge is implemented over an intensive two-year cycle and in two main components: The University Preparatory Course (UPC) introduces students to opportunities in higher education and enhances their readiness to sit for entrance exams like the SAT. The Scholarship component aims to create a generation of confident individuals empowered with the necessary skills and knowledge to become active in improving their own lives and their communities.

The Bridge program began in 2010 and is one of ULYP's longest running programs to date. The success of this program is beyond expectations and more than 80% of the close to 800 Bridge graduates, since inception, are now either employed, or pursuing their Masters and/or Doctorate degrees. ULYP's partnership with the Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair Refugee Education Fund also made it possible for ULYP to partner with the American University of Science and Technology (AUST) and serve around 100 students to pursue their Bachelor's degrees. Moreover, this Fund offered the opportunity for around 120 graduates to pursue specialized degrees like a Teaching Diploma and Doctorate in Physical Therapy, increasing their employability.



The Bridge UPC component is supported by Al-Jana, Arab Resources Center for Popular Art (ARCPA) and UNICEF

The Bridge scholarship component is supported by various universities, foundations, governments and individual donors

Upskilling Through FLY

ULYP relaunched its program, For the Livelihood of Youth - FLY - in July 2021, with the goal of closing the gap between the skills and qualifications of the youth and the needs of today's job market. The program targets youth from underprivileged host and refugee communities who have graduated from universities (with a Bachelor's degree) in the last three years and are now either unemployed or underemployed.

FLY enrolls selected youth in online bootcamps that help upskill and grow in areas like Digital Marketing, Data Analysis, Cyber Security, Project Management, Full Stack Web Development, Data Science, Data Engineering, and Cloud Computing. Upon completion of their courses, the participants receive a certificate issued by the service provider SimpliLearn and one of the collaborating universities that include Caltech, Purdue, and MIT Schwarzman College of Computing. FLY also follows up with the participants, supports them in their development of CVs and shares job opportunities.

TOTAL
150

Supported by the Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair Refugee Education Fund



CHAPTER 3: Building the Structure to Sustain the Impact

ULYP recognizes that the alignment between the message it is spreading and the change it is propelling are better sustained if the communities where the children and youth come from, particularly their homes, also value education and are aware of their roles in cultivating it further.

By embedding teacher and parent sessions within every program for children under 15, ULYP aligns the narrative at home and builds a supportive structure around the children. Parents are becoming more active as partners in their children's education by implementing their newly acquired knowledge at home. In parallel, teachers from the communities who accompany the children to the ULYP programs are also gaining access to different teaching methodologies and approaches and are using this to benefit all their students.

ULYP believes that building the skills of teachers and parents has a far-reaching effect on the community and the impact trickles down to siblings at home and students at schools.

Parents
1187

Teachers
141



Amplifying Impact ULYP's work with the Mothers

In 2022, the Most Outstanding Mothers' (MOMs) Program was reactivated, and 60 mothers engaged in an intensive program, working towards safer homes and more nutritious meals. The mothers, after sending their children off to school and finishing their housework, rode the bus together to the ULYP campus to engage in learning sessions focusing on increasing their knowledge and building their skills to provide a safe home for their children where hazardous materials are stored safely at all times, accidents are dealt with properly, and food prepared at home is of the highest nutritional value possible. Additionally, they received a food parcel and a fire extinguisher.

Following this, ULYP ventured into a new program for the mothers focusing on home farming using the hydroponic system. As always, ULYP started small and piloted the program with 15 mothers only. The program proved to be successful and ULYP hopes to take this program to scale after analyzing the full impact and adopting lessons learned and best practices from the pilot.

Supported by the United Palestinian Appeal and 1 for 3 organization

TOTAL
75



ULYP's Campus is Greener

ULYP is getting closer and closer to making its campus fully green and lower its contribution to the global carbon footprint. The beautiful space that the Nimer family made available to ULYP at inception, in memory of the late Rifaat Nimer, an esteemed role model and caring philanthropist, now runs on solar energy in most of its spaces. Solar panels were installed in 2021 and these lowered our need for power from generators in the three studios and the two preschools. Our next step is to install a similar set up for the main house on campus where we also conduct programs that require overnight stay. When not in use by ULYP, we rent out this space to other organizations and generate income that contributes to ULYP's sustainability and covering the maintenance charges of the campus.

3186 ULYP beneficiaries used the campus during this period and 600 people from outside ULYP rented the premises for their programs.

The campus upgrading was made possible through the support of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency - TIKA



A Heartfelt **THANK YOU** To The ULYP 2021-22 Donors, Funders & Partners

- Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair Refugee Education Fund
- Abir & Usama Tuqan
- Aboul Jabine Family
- Abu Ghazaleh Family
- Acibadem University
- Ahliyah School
- Ahmad Al Sari
- Al Jana Arab Resource Center for Popular Arts
- Ali & Lama Kolaghassi
- Ali Hassan Jamal Hussein
- Ali Yassir
- American University of Beirut (AUB)
- American University of Science & Technology (AUST)
- American University of Sharjah (AUS)
- Americans for Children of the Middle East (ACME)
- Ankara Yildirim Beyazit University
- Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development
- Asfari Foundation
- Ayman Abu Ghazaleh
- Bassam Aburdene
- Bebw'shebbek
- Beit Jiddi Foundation
- Bilkent University
- Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMUQ)
- Dalal Hoballah
- Dar Al-Handasah
- Dina Chammah
- Dina Mehio
- Dr. Ghassan Alami
- Dr. Ruba Dajani
- Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU)
- Farag & Salwa Siyam
- Fatima Abu Ghazaleh
- Fawzi & Lili Farah
- First National Bank S.A.L. (FNB)
- Hagazian University
- Haidar Ataya Family
- Hamad bin Khalifa University
- Hamid & Sawsan Jafar
- Hana Alami
- Hani & Syma Qattan
- Huda Kitmitto
- Huson Halabi Yassir Foundation
- IE University
- Iffet Ozgonul
- Istanbul Medipol University
- Khaled B. Alami
- Khaled Miqdadi
- Kiblawi Foundation
- Koc University
- Lama Koubrouly
- Lana Dajani & Hatten Shehabi
- Lebanese American University (LAU)
- Leila Straus
- Lina Audi
- Maher Abu Ghazaleh
- Majeda & Saera Yassin
- Maya Bsat
- Maysa Jalbout
- Medgulf
- Middle East Technical University
- Mohammad Abu Assi
- Mohammad Amir Abu Ghazaleh
- Mohammed Abdul Jalil Al Fahim
- Muna Al Gurg
- Muna Ibrahim Mohammed Al Mousa
- Muna Taryam
- Munib & Angela Masri Development Foundation
- Munir Kaloti
- Munira Yabroudi
- Nakkash Family
- Nazniyeh Abdulrahman Mahmoud Dawod
- Near East University (NEU)
- Nimat & Omar Bizri
- Omar & Ghalia Qattan
- Oussama Abu Ghazaleh
- Palestine Association for Children's Encouragement of Sports (PACES)
- Palestinian Students Fund (PSF)
- Qatar Fund for Development
- Raed Shami
- Rafik Hariri University (RHU)
- Ramez Sawabini
- Rami & Rajaa Aslan
- Rami El Nimer
- Rana Koubrouly
- Reema Chehabi
- Riad Kamal
- Rifaat Nimer Foundation
- Salwa & Hassan Jabri
- Salwa Khoury
- Samia Hourani
- Samir Adel Aweida
- Samira & Mohammad Fakieh
- Social Support Society (SSS)
- Sorbonne University
- Soumaya Abu Ghazaleh
- Spark of Hope
- Suha & Nader Qaddumi
- Suheir Abu Issa
- Suheir Assi
- Suzan Atari
- Taawon | Lebanon
- TAKREEM
- Tamim & Lamis Sahli Endowed Scholarship
- Tayseer Barakat
- Texas A&M University (TAMUQ)
- The Big Heart Foundation
- The Creative Union
- The Jerusalem Fund for Education & Community Development
- The National Institution of Social Care & Vocational Training (Beyt Atfal Assumoud)
- The Samih Alami Memorial Scholarship Fund for Students of Medicine at AUB
- Turkish Cooperation & Coordination Agency (TIKA)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Relief & Works Agency (UNRWA)
- United Palestinian Appeal (UPA)
- United World Colleges Lebanese National Committee (UWC)
- Université de Toulouse
- Université de Bretagne Occidentale (UBO)
- University of Balamand
- University of Malta
- VIP Fund
- WAAAU Dubai Chapter
- Wajih & Adalat Nakkash
- Worldwide Travel & Tourism S.A.L.
- Yafa Foundation
- Yayasan Khazanah
- Yeditepe University
- Zafer & Tonia Chaouy
- Ziyad Alami

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO










All our donors who opted to remain anonymous; for your continuous support.
All the donors to our sister organization; Americans for Children of the Middle East - ACME
The ULYP Alumni; for your contribution towards the scholarship fund for new students.
The Mattar Law Firm; for all the work and legal advice offered to ULYP pro-bono.
The Nimer Family; for offering the unique opportunity to host ULYP on the campus.
The ULYP Board of Trustees; for the countless hours and amazing expertise you invest in supporting ULYP.

The ULYP Board

ULYP's Board of Trustees serves as the legislative body of the organization responsible for the safekeeping of its mission and purpose. The nine volunteer board members meet regularly and support ULYP in many ways including making decisions on policies, approving the budget, supporting fund-raising efforts and events, and guiding ULYP in legal and safety issues.

We are appreciative of their time, counsel and effort.

The ULYP board members are:

 Adalat Nakkash	 Rana Hadid
 Elias Baz	 Rula Alami
 Hanna Nassar	 Youssef El Zein
 Melek El Nimer	 Yusuf Kan'an
 Mohammad Mattar	



ULYP Office | Beirut

Beirut Building Company Bldg, Makdessi Street, Hamra Beirut

Phone: +961 1 346 422 | +961 1 745 887

Fax: +961 1 745 657

Mobile: +961 03 042 200

ULYP Campus | Dibbiyeh

Dibbiyeh Main Road, Facing the Chehab Gas Company

Phone: +961 07 985 210 | +961 07 985 906

Mobile: +961 03 042 200

