



Annual Review
2022

Saïd
Foundation



Saïd
Foundation



Mr and Mrs Wafic Saïd at the Saïd Foundation Annual Lunch.

Cover: 2021 / 22 Saïd Foundation scholars with the Chairman, Mr Wafic Saïd, and the CEO, Ms Catherine Thomé.

Image credits: Greg Hammond.

Welcome

The 2021/22 academic year saw a welcome return to face-to-face teaching and we were delighted to bring another exceptional cohort of scholars from the Levant region to study at top universities across the UK. Our focus in the Foundation's scholarships programme has always been on academic excellence and we are pleased to welcome Imperial College London - world-renowned for its exceptional quality in STEM education and research - as a new university partner.

The Saïd Business School programmes continued to be highly ranked globally and attracted more diverse cohorts from around the world. I would like to extend a warm welcome to Professor Soumitra Dutta and wish him every success in his new role as Dean of the School. I also would like to express my gratitude to Professor Sue Dopson and the entire interim leadership team for their incredible efforts during the transition period.

In 2022, we held the second Saïd Rhodes Forum on Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine which brought together scholars and renowned experts to discuss the challenges facing the Levant region. This biennial event, which we hold with our valued partner, The Rhodes Trust, at the University of Oxford, is an intellectual space for Rhodes and Saïd scholars and alumni communities to engage in thoughtful discussions about the future of their countries.

I take great pride in our alumni's unwavering dedication to their countries. This year's review features a few of our alumni's remarkable achievements in their respective fields and countries, including our 2022 Alumni Achievement Prize winner Dr Kinda Alshaikhahmed who works at AstraZeneca developing vaccines and medications for serious human diseases. Our alumni's work serves as a shining example of the power of education to transform lives and communities.

For the tenth year, we have continued our support of the DAFI scholarships programme, enabling talented Syrian refugees to access university in their host country. We also expanded our humanitarian programme and funded an innovative vocational training programme in Jordan with our long-standing partner, the UNHCR. The programme provided vocational training, mentoring and funding to Syrian refugees so that they can rebuild their lives with dignity and become self-sufficient. Our four-year programme with the IRC in Lebanon concluded, having reached tens of thousands of refugee children with educational opportunities and life skills, thereby creating better futures for them and their families.

I would like to thank the Foundation's trustees, staff, and partners for their hard work and commitment, and for making all of this possible.

Wafic Rida Saïd
Chairman, Saïd Foundation

Our Scholarships Programme



*Saïd Foundation scholars attended the Foundation's Annual Lunch
Image credit: Greg Hammond*

The Foundation has awarded scholarships to outstanding individuals from Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine since 1984. Scholarships are aimed at candidates with the potential to become leaders and drivers of change within their countries and the Levant region. Through their time in the UK, scholars develop skills and knowledge needed to contribute towards lasting change in their region.

In 2021/22 the Foundation supported 30 scholars for postgraduate studies at our UK partner universities. Scholars studied a wide range of subject areas, including computational biology, filmmaking, innovation management, development, psychology and fashion design.

Our Scholarships Programme

The 2021/22 academic year saw a welcome return to in-person learning and events. After a two-year break due to the pandemic, the Foundation was delighted to be able to welcome scholars to the UK and introduce them to each other, as well as to trustees and staff, in person. Our scholarships programme manager was pleased to be able to resume pastoral visits to students around the country. In May 2022, scholars attended the Foundation's annual lunch and prizegiving ceremony hosted by Mr and Mrs Säid, coming together with trustees and partners of the Foundation as well as scholarship alumni. As students reached

the end of the academic year, an informal event was held to celebrate their achievements, with alumni joining to provide advice and support as scholars transitioned to becoming alumni and planned their next steps.

In 2022 the Foundation was pleased to welcome Imperial College London as a new university partner. Candidates will have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to support their postgraduate studies at Imperial College London from the 2023/24 academic year.



2021/22 scholars at an event to celebrate the end of the academic year

Our Scholarships Programme

Our Alumni

We are proud of the diversity of our alumni and of their contributions to their communities and respective professions. Our growing body of alumni boasts leading policymakers, health and development professionals, educators, international business consultants, entrepreneurs, lawyers, engineers, environmentalists, artists and architects.



Image credit: Greg Hammond

The Saïd Foundation Alumni Achievement Prize is an annual prize awarded to an individual judged by the Foundation trustees to have contributed significantly to the development of the region and to have shown the positive impact of their studies as a Saïd Foundation scholar. The Saïd Foundation was delighted to award the prize in 2022 to our Palestinian/Syrian alumna Dr Kinda Alshaikhahmed.

Dr Alshaikhahmed was supported by the Foundation to study for a master's degree in molecular microbiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) in 2010. She then completed her doctoral studies at LSHTM in 2015 where she developed a vaccine for an animal virus that has significant economic and agricultural impact on animals particularly in Palestine and Jordan. Clinical trials to investigate the efficacy and safety of the vaccine are currently being carried out in the US and the UK.

Upon completion of her PhD, Dr Alshaikhahmed worked as a Postdoctoral Scientist at the University of Oxford. She then worked as a Research Associate in Gene Therapy at UCL's Cancer Institute, before moving to work as a Research Fellow in Molecular Virology at LSHTM. She has lectured, supervised, tutored, and mentored a number of students from LSHTM and the Saïd Foundation. Much of her work has been presented at international conferences and published in top-ranking scientific journals.

Dr Alshaikhahmed joined the multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology company AstraZeneca as a Senior Research Scientist in March 2021. Her current work is focused on developing a treatment for an inherited brain disease called Huntington's disease which causes the brain to function improperly, resulting in uncontrolled movements, emotional problems, and cognitive impairment.

Spotlight on our Alumni

Wesam Al Asali, Syria alumnus 2015-21

“The Saïd Foundation Scholarship has brought me back to academia after years of interruption from teaching and research. It supported my master’s degree and my doctoral studies at the University of Cambridge, and I was able to move forward as an educator and scholar in architecture and sustainable construction in Europe and the Middle East.”



Image credit: Robert Arribas

Wesam Al Asali is an architect, educator, researcher, and enthusiast for combining digital and manual fabrication technologies with local building crafts and natural materials. His work spans construction history, building technology, and craft studies to explore the role of culture and society in rethinking architectural practice in the context of climate challenges.

Wesam received his PhD in 2021 from the University of Cambridge, where he worked on design strategies for thin-tile vaults for low-carbon ceiling systems. Following his PhD, Wesam was the 2021-2022 Global Fung fellow at Princeton University before joining IE School of Architecture and Design. His research received the RIBA President’s Awards for Research in Architecture (2021) and the Salje Medal for Best Doctoral Research in Arts and Humanities at Clare Hall, Cambridge University (2022). He received research funds and commissions

from the Arab Council for the Social Sciences, Instituto de Tecnología Cerámica, and Princeton University. His current projects include the use of natural materials in Spanish building crafts, scarcity-driven informal and vernacular architecture in the Middle East, and the relationship between domestic spaces and food production in Syria during the crisis.

Wesam is a design and innovation lead at his co-founded architectural practice (IWlab) and founder of the social enterprise CERCAA, a centre for learning and innovation in building crafts and natural materials in Valencia (Spain). His practice engages with heritage knowledge for contemporary environmental design. Wesam is also the founder of Urbegony, an educational platform for architectural students in Syria. Urbegony links tutoring, supervision and workshop formats to provide extracurricular education in architecture.



Nour Al Rasheed, Jordan

alumna 2004/05

“Obtaining a master’s degree in international development from the University of Bristol has been a key milestone in my personal growth and career advancement. I will forever be grateful for the precious opportunity I was granted by the Saïd Foundation.”

Nour Al Rasheed has over 20 years of experience in piloting, managing, and assessing social, educational, health and, economic empowerment programmes in Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen in both humanitarian and development settings. Throughout her work experience she has had the opportunity to manage complex USAID, DFID, and EU funded projects through working with different types of organisations; NGOs, INGOs, UN organisations, government, and for-profit organisations.

Currently, she is the Country Director of the Amideast Jordan office where she is leading on the implementation and development of Amideast’s portfolio in Jordan in the areas

of Community Integration, Violent extremism and GBV, Employability and Skills Development, Career Counselling, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Coding, Community Mobilisation, Civic Activism, and Women Empowerment.

Nour was supported by a joint Saïd Foundation/Chevening scholarship to study for an MSc in International Development at the University of Bristol during the years 2004 and 2005. Nour was celebrated as Saïd Foundation Student of the Year during the annual ceremony that was held in 2006. In 2016, Nour won another scholarship from the University of Oxford to study for a postgraduate Diploma in Strategy and Innovation from the Saïd Business School.

Mahmoud Natout, Lebanon

alumnus 2005/06

“Receiving the Saïd Foundation scholarship was a true game changer for me. It provided me with an invaluable opportunity to develop intellectually and build confidence in my ability to make a difference in this world. I can only hope to carry this spirit of giving that I had received from the Saïd Foundation into everything I do.”



Mahmoud Natout is an entrepreneur, consultant, trainer, and university lecturer working in the fields of education and organisational development.

In 2017, Mahmoud co-founded L3b (Arabic for Play) with a mission to transform the way people work together using the power of play. Since then, he and his team have innovated play-based approaches and strategies to support organisations and education institutions in developing more collaborative and innovative work cultures.

As a consultant and trainer, he has worked with several local and international organisations including UNESCO, UNICEF, USAID, World Learning, RTI, ILO, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Social Affairs, among others.

In 2018, he was tasked as a UNESCO consultant with drafting

Lebanon's 2030 Education Strategy. Prior to that, Mahmoud worked as a trainer with the British Council in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education where he supported and trained over 200 public school principals and administrators on school improvement planning and development.

Mahmoud also teaches at the Departments of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences at the Lebanese American University in Beirut.

He was supported by the Saïd Foundation to study for the master's degree in Science and Religion at the University of Oxford in 2005. Mahmoud later went on to complete his DPhil in Education at the University of Oxford.



Dr Alaa Tartir, Palestine

- alumnus 2008/09

“It is truly not an exaggeration to argue that the Saïd Foundation scholarship in 2008 has changed the course of my life. It equipped me with a valuable set of skills and knowledge that I will always cherish and benefit from. It empowered me with a world class education, and it allowed me to pursue a prosperous professional avenue and lead important initiatives that otherwise I would not have been able to.”

Dr Alaa Tartir is a Senior Researcher and the Director of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Programme at Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Alaa is also a Research Associate at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding and Academic Coordinator for Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices (MENA Region) at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, a Global Fellow at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), and a Program and Policy Advisor to Al-Shabaka: The Palestinian Policy Network. Alaa is a Governing Board Member of The Arab Reform Initiative (ARI) and Member of the Governance Committee of The Britain Palestine Media Centre (BPMC). Amongst other positions, Alaa was a Senior Researcher and Project Lead at the Small Arms Survey (SAS) in Geneva, Visiting Professor at Sciences Po's Paris School of International Affairs, a Fellow at The Geneva Centre for Security Policy, and a

Researcher in International Development Studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where he earned his PhD.

Alaa was supported by the Saïd Foundation to study for an MSc in International Development Studies at the University of Manchester in 2008.

Alaa is the co-editor of *Palestine and Rule of Power: Local Dissent vs. International Governance* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), *Political Economy of Palestine: Critical, Interdisciplinary, and Decolonial Perspectives* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2021), and *Resisting Domination in Palestine: New Techniques of Control, Coloniality and Settler Colonialism* (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023). Alaa can be followed on Twitter (@alaatartir), and his publications can be accessed at www.alaatartir.com

The Rhodes Trust Partnership

Since 2016, two scholars are selected for the Rhodes Scholarship for Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine every year.



The second Saïd Rhodes Forum on Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine (SJLP) took place in May 2022 at the Saïd Business School, University of Oxford. The one-day hybrid forum was jointly organised by Rhodes SJLP scholars, Saïd scholars and alumni, and convened over 120 participants. It explored the past, present, and future of the Levant region under the themes of governance, economy, and culture.

The Forum brought together some of the most respected voices and experts from the Levant region, including Palestinian academic and poet Tamim Al Barghouti, Syrian American business leader Rania Succar, and Lebanese researcher and Saïd Foundation alumna Dr Maha Shuayb. Video recordings of the Forum panels and speeches are available to the public on the Foundation's website.

The Saïd Rhodes Forum is a biennial event held at the University of Oxford that brings together the Rhodes and Saïd scholar communities, as well as renowned experts, to discuss the current realities of the Levant region. The next Saïd Rhodes Forum will take place in Spring 2024.

Saïd Foundation and Rhodes scholars at the 2022 Saïd Rhodes Forum, hosted by the Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford
Image credit: Lee Atherton



Panel discussion moderated by Saïd Foundation scholars Melanie Cremona and Oudai Tozan
Image credit: Lee Atherton

Saïd Business School

The Saïd Business School was founded 26 years ago thanks to the generous support of our Chairman, Wafic Saïd. It has evolved to become a world-class business school, fully integrated into one of the world's top universities.



Professor Peter Tufano stepped down as the fourth Dean of the Saïd Business School on 30 June 2021 after ten years of dedicated service. Professor Soumitra Dutta started as the new Dean of the Saïd Business School on 1st June 2022, replacing the interim acting Dean, Professor Sue Dopson. The Foundation is immensely grateful to the interim leadership team.

Professor Dutta brings an incredible breadth of leadership experience from across academia and business. His highly distinguished three-decade academic career includes his most recent role as Professor of Management at the Cornell SC Johnson College of Business at Cornell University in New York, where he was also the founding Dean. Before that he spent 13 years in various leadership roles at INSEAD in France. He is also the Chair of the Global Business School Network.

Alongside this, he is a member of the 'Davos Circle', a group that has been invited to the World Economic Forum in Davos for more than ten years and has co-chaired the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Innovation Ecosystems. He has also founded successful start-ups and major global technology and innovation indices, serves on the boards of listed international corporations, and acted as a senior advisor to governments on technology and innovation policies.

Professor Dutta brings a truly global perspective and a wealth of wide-ranging experience. Under his leadership the School will continue to flourish and move towards ever higher levels of excellence and impact.

Saïd Business School

In 2008, our Chairman Wafic Saïd established an endowment to provide annual funding to the Saïd Business School to support initiatives that will have strategic value to the development of the School, largely in the areas of research, faculty development, scholarships and institution-building.

This Strategic Development Fund does not only support the development of the School, but also enables talented and more diverse students to join the School's worldclass business education community.

The 2021/22 MBA class remains internationally diverse with students of 64 nationalities, and female representation has increased to 48%. The School's commitment to achieve gender parity remains strong.

Since 2008, the Foundation has supported over 500 MBA and DPhil scholars from around the world.



*Saïd Business School scholars at the Foundation's annual lunch
Image credit: Greg Hammond*

The Saïd MBA prize is awarded annually to a student who has excelled academically, made an exceptional contribution to the classroom and contributed to the wider social and intellectual life of the School.

Sowan Hong
wins the 2022 Saïd MBA prize

The 2022 Saïd MBA the prize was awarded to Sowan Hong. Sowan started her career as a consultant at KPMG where she qualified as a chartered accountant and worked across Sydney, Edinburgh and London offices. Subsequently, she worked at Legal & General Investment Management delivering financial planning and management for workplace pensions business.

After working for nine years, Sowan took a career break to pursue an MBA at Oxford Saïd Business School to learn and explore opportunities in investment, strategy and organisational management. During this period Sowan also worked for a health technology start up as an interim Head of Finance. In the last term of her MBA studies, Sowan completed an internship at a private equity firm, Hermes GPE, which led to a full-time position at the firm after graduation. At Hermes GPE, Sowan focuses on investment strategy, co-investments and fund investments across Europe. She is an Australian national and speaks fluent Korean.





The proposed new entrance to the Global Leadership Centre.

Image credit: John McAslan + Partners

In August 2018, The Saïd Foundation committed a gift of £15 million to fund the School's redevelopment of Osney Power Station into a new Global Leadership Centre.

The Global Leadership Centre was commissioned to support high level business and leadership education, with a range of formal and informal teaching spaces. It will also include hotel-style bedrooms for executive accommodation, plus high-quality teaching spaces alongside leisure and dining facilities.

The teaching and residential facility will welcome leaders of global business, government and civil society and give them

access to the University's leading academics and brightest minds.

The building won the Chicago Athenaeum International Architecture Award for 2022. The design, by John McAslan + Partners, was praised for repurposing the former Victorian power station into a world-leading complex for executive education by harnessing the building's industrial character and existing fabric, while retaining the old turbine hall as a collaborative, vibrant meeting place. The building's sustainable performance will be greatly improved through employing Passivhaus principles, the installation of 229 photovoltaic panels on the roof and an air source heat pump which will put the building on course to run on zero-carbon in the future following its completion in 2024.

Our Humanitarian Programme

In 2022, the war in Syria entered its 11th year. Over 6.6 million people have fled Syria since 2011, seeking refuge in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and beyond, and 6.7 million are internally displaced within Syria. When the conflict in Syria began in 2011, the Foundation provided emergency humanitarian assistance to victims. In 2016 we shifted our focus to educational programming with international NGOs such as the International Rescue Committee, Save the Children, and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). Thanks to the generous donations from the Chairmen and friends of the Saïd Foundation and Asfari Foundation, we directly reached over 110,000 Syrians in need in Lebanon and Jordan between 2016 and 2018.



At the centre run by LebRelief in Tripoli, five children aged between 8 and 15 years old drew pictures of their future professions: maths teacher, a paediatric doctor, a dentist, a pilot and a professional swimmer.

Image credit: Pascale Feghali/IRC



The Saïd Foundation, Asfari Foundation and the donors of the 2018 Appeal have enabled the IRC to implement the Building a Better Tomorrow programme in Lebanon over four years. This programme is focused on protection and access to education for Syrian children and young people. Over 40,000 children, young people and their families were reached directly with education and support services. Another 238,000 people were reached through community outreach and support activities.

Since 2014, thanks to its partnership with the UNHCR, the Foundation has enabled over 400 Syrian students to access undergraduate studies in Lebanon and in Jordan through the DAFI Scholarship Programme. We are currently supporting 41 scholars in Jordan and Lebanon. In 2021 and 2022, we also funded a new vocational training programme in Jordan with UNHCR, implemented by the Jordan River Foundation, to help Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians rebuild their livelihoods and futures.

Our Humanitarian Programme

UNHCR DAFI Programme in Lebanon and Jordan

The DAFI scholarship programme and the Foundation share the same ethos of community service and commitment to helping others. They are selected not only for their academic excellence and potential, but also for their passion to make a positive impact on their home or host community. DAFI students report that volunteering during their studies increases their self-confidence and opens up work opportunities.

In Jordan, refugees struggle to access university due to the high tuition fees at public universities and the lack of scholarship opportunities. In Lebanon, Syrian refugees are required to pay the high foreign student fees. The DAFI Programme is highly competitive and in 2022, the success rate for applicants was only 2% in both Jordan and Lebanon.

In Beirut, DAFI scholars demonstrated resilience and

determination having studied remotely through the pandemic, mostly on a household smartphone, and despite the currency collapse and the need for many to work as well as study. In Lebanon, refugee communities have been particularly affected by the steady degradation of the economic situation in the country, and especially by the increased tensions on the labour market due to the rise of unemployment.

In Jordan, a 2021 DAFI alumni survey with 428 respondents showed that an impressive 57% were gainfully employed and revealed that a staggering 95% of graduates hoped to receive another scholarship to continue postgraduate studies either in Jordan or overseas due to the scarcity of work opportunities. In Jordan, refugees have restricted access to the labour market, and whilst home businesses are popular, few can afford to start their own businesses without assistance.



Dr Rasha Saïd, Catherine Thomé and Emma Cherniarsky (UK for UNHCR) met current DAFI scholars, students' committee members and DAFI alumni in Beirut, together with UNHCR focal points and implementing partners from Semeurs d'Avenir and Kiron
Image credit: UNHCR Lebanon.



In Amman, they attended the Virtual Reality training certificate ceremony with Hana Shabin and Ruba abu Yonnes of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation.
Image credit: Mr Mohammad Debajab.

UNHCR Livelihoods Programme in Jordan

*Salem proudly shows Dr Rasha Saïd and Catherine Thomé his home hydroponics business.
Image credit: UNHCR*



In 2021 and 2022, the Foundation supported a vocational training project led by UNHCR and implemented by local partner Jordan River Foundation (JRF) in five Jordanian governorates. It provides accredited vocational and micro-business training for Syrian urban refugees and vulnerable Jordanians. It also supports beneficiaries with employer networking opportunities, seed funding, mentoring, and coaching.

In addition to soft skills training, beneficiaries are enrolled in various programmes depending on their background and potential. Further to intensive market assessment research, training courses were provided in cyber security, programming, graphic design, photo and video editing, computer skills, customer service, dairy food processing, solar energy, and hydroponic agriculture.

In May, deputy Chair, Dr Rasha Saïd and the CEO met with JRF beneficiaries who had either received seed funding for various businesses or had attended advanced technical training enabling them to enter the job market. They met a Syrian beneficiary who had completed vocational training in hydroponic agriculture, a new technique which yields higher production with lower water consumption. This technique has proven to be a successful solution to the water scarcity prevalent across the country and especially the Mafraq region. After completing such training, beneficiaries receive seed funding and technical support through mentors to help them start their own home business. This source of income enables them to cover their daily needs.

Our Humanitarian Programme

International Rescue Committee in Lebanon

According to UNICEF, almost 80% of Lebanese live in poverty and about 90% of Syrian refugees are living in extreme poverty. As a result, increasing numbers of children are dropping out of school to work on the streets and there are more cases of gender-based violence and of early marriage.

In 2022 we helped over one hundred working children off the streets through case management services and providing psychosocial support to almost 250 street working children. The rate of child labour is highest among adolescents aged 15 to 17 who are unable to access or return to formal education. Vocational training was provided to almost one hundred working children in North Bekaa and Arsal; they received startup kits to support their own initiatives in safer forms of work such as chocolate making, tailoring and electronic maintenance.

In addition, close to a thousand households received Emergency Cash Assistance to address protection threats in instances of gender-based violence survivors needing to leave their home or in cases of loss of shelter and non-food items due to extreme weather, or to prevent evictions often resulting from tensions between refugees and host communities.

Life Skills' sessions improve adolescent girls' self-confidence, develop their awareness of gender roles and importantly, how they could advocate for their needs within their households and communities. Girls who showed leadership skills took on mentorship roles after engaging in a set of trainings to share key messaging - around protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, first aid, and cholera prevention - within their communities.



*At the vocational training centre run by Jousour Al Nour in Arsal, boys aged 14 to 17 attend a workshop about electronic maintenance.
Image credit: Pascale Feghali/ IRC*

Amal

The Foundation founded its Amal Programme in 2017, taking an arts approach to increasing understanding of Britain's Muslim communities among others and their sense of belonging in the UK. Since 2020 we have supported Amal's development as an independent charity.

Amal's purpose is to help shift the dominant narrative around Muslims in the UK to one that is confident, diverse and just. It does so by growing opportunities for Muslims to realise, express and share their creative potential. It is the only initiative using a multiple-arts approach focusing specifically on Muslims.

Amal launched its Amal Connects programme in September 2021. This is designed to create systemic change by enabling Amal's stakeholders - Muslim communities, Muslim artists and arts organisations - to model and grow a community of practice in the arts that fully represents and includes Muslims. It currently works in Birmingham and Bradford, home to the largest communities of Muslims outside London, around 30% of each city's population.



Growing a community of practice in the arts that fully includes Muslims.



*Quranic Illumination project, Bradford.
Image credit: Amal*



*Sight and Sound project, Saatbi House
Community Centre, Birmingham
Image credit: Salsabil Khalifa*

Amal Connects has six integrated workstreams. These aggregate different ways of growing creative opportunities for Muslims. Co-created arts projects lie at the heart of this work but Amal's other workstreams – consulting, connecting, convening, capacity building and providing creative visualisation workshops – meet other needs.



By the end of 2022, Amal Connects had:

met with

84 community groups 143 times to understand what their interests, needs and concerns were.

75 artists 146 times to think about how Amal could help them to sustain successful careers.

57 arts organisations 109 times to discuss how Amal could support them to include Muslim communities.

connected

community groups, artists and arts organisations to each other
51 times so they could develop creative work together.

held

2 convenings of community organisations in Bradford and Birmingham.

delivered

29 workshops in the community, working with 17 artists.

developed and launched

9 co-created projects with another four expected to be added early in 2023. 40 artists are expected to work on these projects.

Overall, the first phase of Amal Connects has been tremendously encouraging. Received warmly by all stakeholders, Amal's purpose and mission have been met with great enthusiasm – from organisations eager to meet the appetite of their communities for creative engagement, artists who feel freed to be themselves and arts leaders excited to see the scope and ambition of the co-created projects that have emerged.

About Us

Vision

Our vision is of a world where people from all backgrounds can realise their full potential.

Mission

Our mission is to bring positive and lasting change to the lives of children, young people and the wider community through carefully selected investments in themes and geographies with which the Saïd family and the Saïd Foundation have developed strong links and expertise.

The Foundation's guiding principles are:

1. A conviction that education is a powerful tool to change lives for the better and that higher education in particular plays a valuable role in creating enlightened and effective leadership which benefits the broader community.
2. An approach that is non-sectarian and non-political.
3. Recognition of the need to build capacity and capability across the region we work in.
4. An understanding of the importance of bridge building, communication and respect across cultures.
5. A desire to enhance and learn from our thematic and regional experience and to benefit from synergy between programmes.
6. The potential to promote philanthropy and to maximise the impact of specific projects through partnerships with organisations that share our objectives.

Saïd Foundation Trustees



Mr Wafic Saïd
Chairman



Mrs Rosemary Saïd



Dr Rasha Saïd
Deputy Chair



Mr Khaled Saïd



Reverend
Jonathan Aitken



Mrs Sirine Idilby



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Bayswater KCMG



Mrs Nadine
Zakaria

Saïd Foundation Team



Left to right: Nicole D'Angelo, Yolanda Geach, Hani Jesri, Catherine Thomé, Madani Khiyami, Foz Iqbal and Rebekah Palmer.

In 2021/22 the Foundation's charitable expenditure was £3.54 million.

£ millions	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	5 year average	
Saïd Business School	16.1	1.3	1.35	1.50	1.65	4.4	62%
Humanitarian Programme	3.2	1.5	0.95	0.46	0.13	1.2	18%
Scholarship Programme	1.0	0.8	1.05	1.10	1.77	1.1	16%
Amal	0.1	0.5	0.45	0.66	-	0.3	5%
Total	20.4	4.1	3.80	3.75	3.54	7.1	100%

£ millions	2021/22	
Saïd Business School	1.65	46%
Humanitarian Programme	0.13	4%
Scholarship Programme	1.77	50%
Total	3.54	100%



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