



DAFI ANNUAL REPORT

2019

Refugee students in higher education

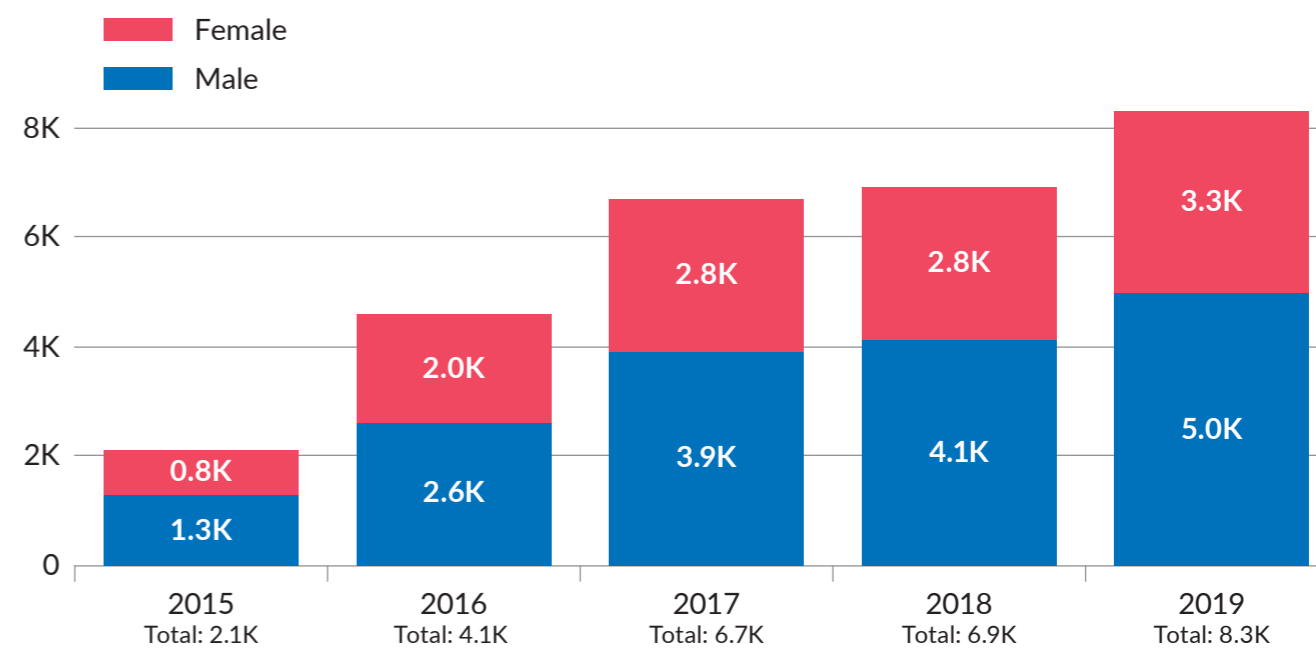
© UNHCR / Antoine Tardy

Lebanon.
Fidaa is a Masters student of Arabic literature on a DAFI/HOPES scholarship.

UNHCR's Higher Education Scholarship Programme – DAFI

Over the last 28 years, UNHCR's higher education scholarship programme has supported more than 18,000 young refugee women and men to pursue undergraduate qualifications in their country of asylum. Since 2015, the programme has more than tripled in size and expanded to 14 additional countries. In 2019, a record number of 8,347 students participated in the programme at some 925 higher education institutions in 54 countries representing 45 countries of origin; 40% of all DAFI students were women, and the programme is committed to achieving gender parity.

Scholarships Over Time



Germany.
Natalia is a DAFI graduate of Social
Communication and is now in charge
of developing award-winning ad
content for a multinational advertising
company.

Scholarship Components

The programme is committed to developing the leadership potential and employability of students; the scholarship provides support for students to undertake internships, skill development, and career readiness training.

UNHCR's higher education scholarship programme has served as an incubator for student coordination and mobilization. In 2019, DAFI students took the lead in higher education for refugees as never before, founding of the global Tertiary Refugee Student Network (TRSN). Refugee higher education students, many of them DAFI scholars, participated in 'The Other 1%' international conference on refugees in higher education in Berlin, and at the first Global Refugee Forum convened in Geneva. The Education sessions at the GRF generated significant international support including over 200 pledges to expand and improve education for refugees.

Issued in 2019, *Refugee Education 2030: a strategy for refugee inclusion* sets a bold target to increase the enrolment of young refugee women and men from the current 3% to 15% by 2030. The road to 15% - 15by30 - will required dedicated effort, innovation, and sustained contributions in the form of partnership, expertise, funds, and advocacy over the next ten years. As a core pillar of the 15by30 roadmap, DAFI will serve as a model for other student-centered tertiary scholarship programmes that recognize students as a powerful force for improving social cohesion and addressing the root causes of displacement in the long run.

3262

DAFI Students volunteered
in their communities



Volunteers

652

DAFI Students participated in
an internship as after or part
of their degree programme



Internships

1063

Graduating DAFI Scholars
were hired by international
organizations, started their own
businesses, and were awarded
post-graduate scholarships and
earned positions working in their
field

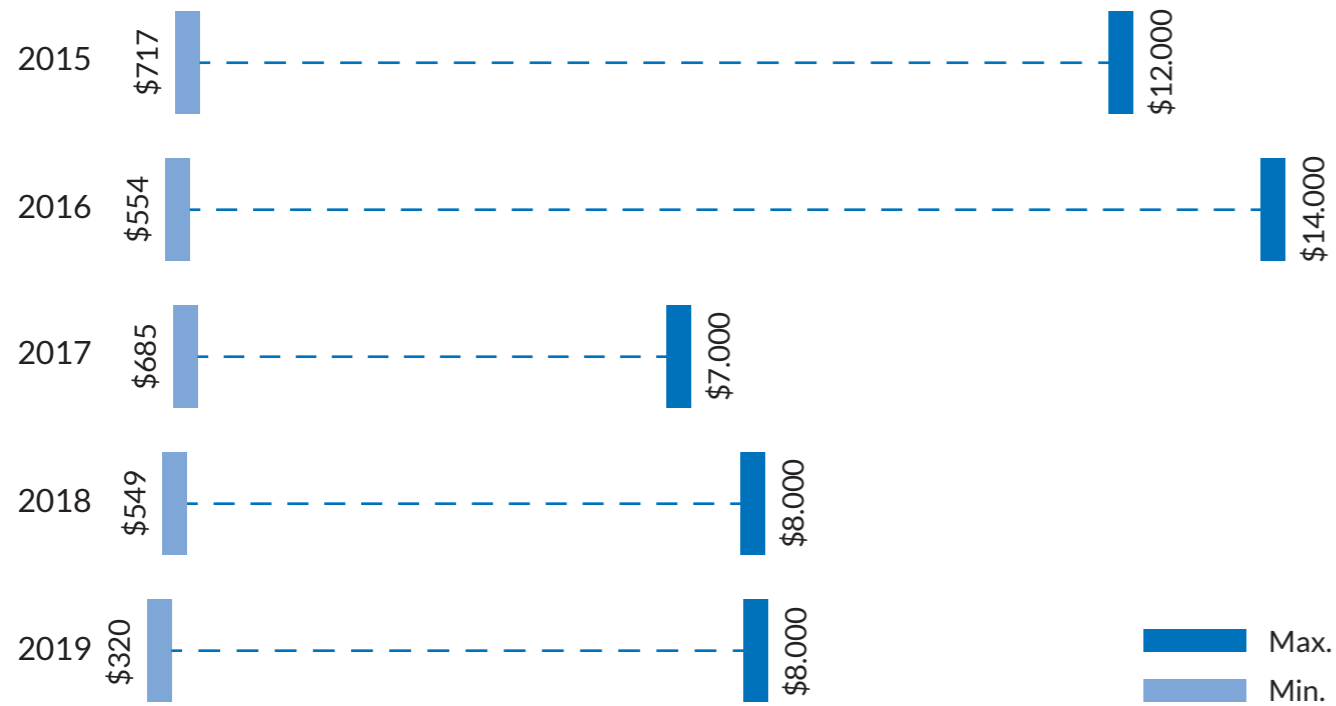


Graduates

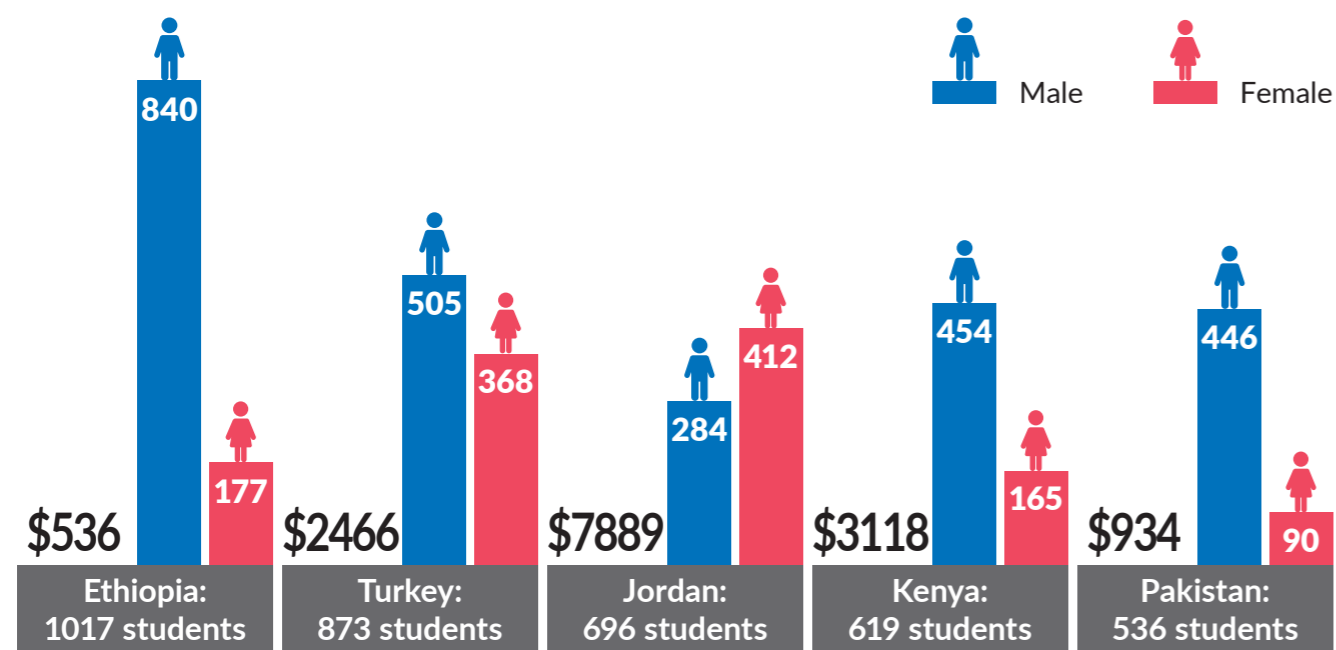
UNHCR's tertiary scholarship programme was founded with support from the German government and has been largely funded by Germany since. In recent years, foundations such as Saïd, Asfari, and Hands Up for Syria as well as the Danish German government, have joined the partnership committing vital support for the programme. In 2019, the average scholarship provided \$2,827 USD in funding per student.

Range of Average Scholarship Funding per Student Over Time (in USD)

This chart illustrates the minimum and maximum average scholarship funding per student across all DAFI country programmes over the last five years.



Top 5 DAFI Countries by Total Enrolment



Values in USD (\$) reflect each country's average scholarship per student



Uganda. Dramani, who dreamt of becoming a doctor when he was young, is a DAFI scholar in medical laboratory science at Clarke International University in Kampala.