PHOENIX SPACE   Gulfsands

Syrian Society for Social Development
الجمعية السورية للتنمية الإجتماعية

IMPACT REPORT

SSSD Syria x Phoenix Space
BSD Digital Technologies Course
November 2025

Syria now stands at a critical inflection point after more than a decade of conflict. Traditional reconstruction models centred on infrastructure and trade are constrained by sanctions and economic stagnation. To overcome these barriers, **Gulfsands and Phoenix Space are placing learning capacity-not physical capital-at the centre of Syria's recovery strategy.**

By empowering youth with STEM education alongside foundational skills- critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving- we create a compounding effect: each skill gained accelerates later learning, employability, and national growth.

By investing in the **talent, innovation, and potential of Syria's youth,** we hope to bypass traditional industrial stages of recovery and enable youth to integrate directly into the knowledge and digital economy. **Through STEM education, digital upskilling, and inclusive learning ecosystems, we are building a future-ready generation equipped to lead Syria's economic recovery and secure its long-term prosperity.**

Course Overview

Launched in September 2025, the BSD-Digital Technologies programme equipped **40 young Syrians aged 16-25** with the digital and professional competencies needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving economy. Through **coding, programming, digital design, data tools, digital marketing, and problem-solving**, participants developed invaluable market-relevant skills. The programme prepares youth for higher education, employment, and entrepreneurship - positioning them to contribute actively to Syria's emerging digital economy.
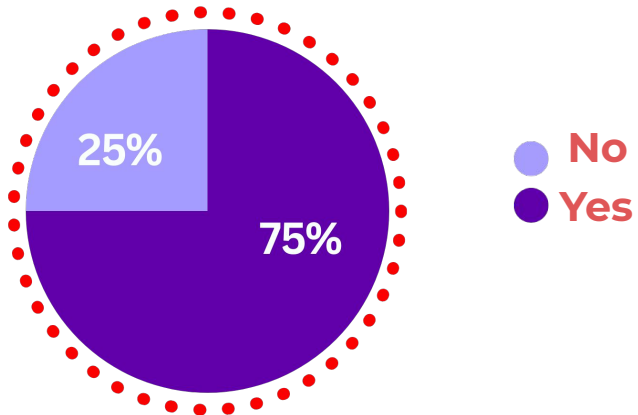

"I now understand how AI and automation can handle repetitive tasks, reducing human error and increasing overall productivity.."
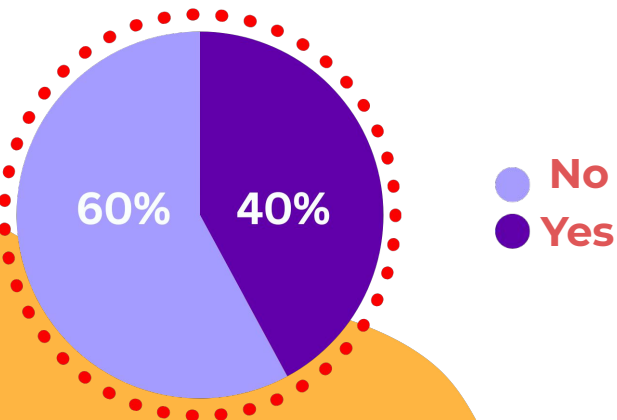
Shahed, F, 24

Student Education Data

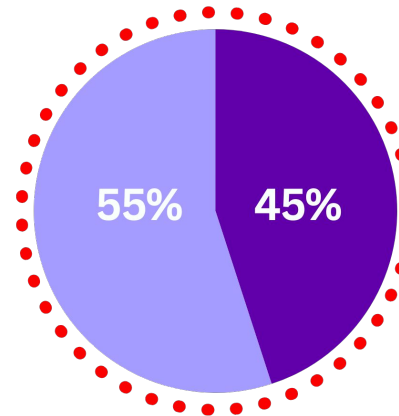Are you currently attending school or university?

25% No
75% Yes

Do you have any gaps in education?

60% No
40% Yes

Student Demographics

40 Students
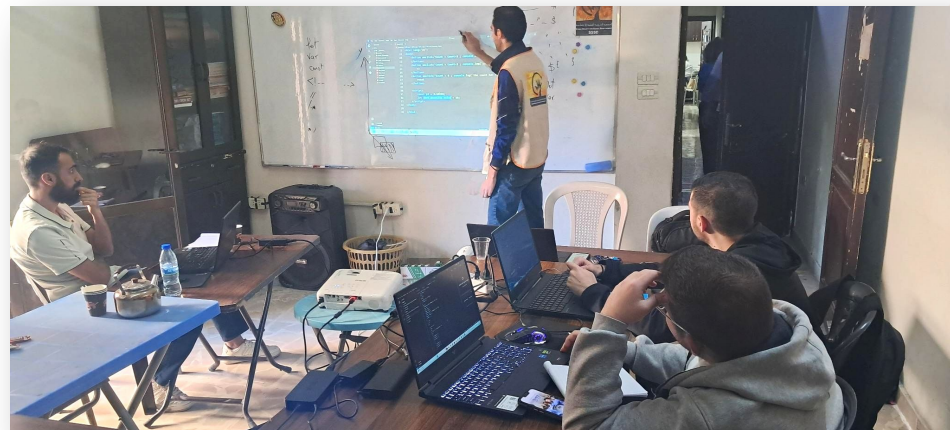22 Average Age

Syria

55% 45%

Aleppo

Course details

A 5-module, 40-hour course

Module 1: Career Opportunities in the Digital Sector
- Understand a range of digital career paths.
- Compare challenges and opportunities.
- Evaluate trends and technologies impacting careers.
- Analyse entrepreneurial opportunities.

Module 2: Core Skills, Knowledge, and Behaviours in the Digital Industry
-Explain core technical skills.
- Analyse professional behaviours like ethics and adaptability.
- Evaluate lifelong learning strategies

Module 3: Understanding Digital Transformation
- Define digital transformation.
- Evaluate its impact on education and healthcare.
- Explain it as an evolving process.
- Summarise methods for innovation.

Module 4: Principles of Design Thinking
-Define Human-Centred Design Thinking.
- Understand its modes: Empathise, Define, Ideate, Prototype, Test.
- Evaluate the benefits and limitations.

Module 5: Professionalism in the Workplace
- Define expected professional behaviours.
- Explain workplace policies (e.g., data protection, cybersecurity)
- Reflect on personal growth.

Hear From Our Partners

"

Syria has endured more than a decade of turmoil and heartbreak, yet today we are beginning to see the first signs of hope. History shows that crises often spur innovation and Syria now stands at a pivotal moment, ready to rebuild, to reimagine its future, and to once again contribute on the international stage. Through Gulfsands' partnership with Phoenix Space, we are investing in Syria's most powerful asset: its youth. By supporting digital upskilling and STEM education, we aim to equip young Syrians with the tools to participate in the modern economy, unlock new opportunities, and drive the innovation needed for long-term recovery. Investing in youth is not just vital for Syria's future- it is essential for sustainable, inclusive growth across the region.

Omar Hamad, Gulfsands GM Syria

Student and Facilitator feedback

98%

of students would recommend this course to their friends

SSSD's Programme Manager acknowledged a strong start to the programme but BSD platform and content issues led to difficulties in implementation. SSSD's facilitator made programme modifications which resulted in positive overall feedback from the students.

"How could the course be improved?"

35%

of students want more practical, hands-on & real-world learning
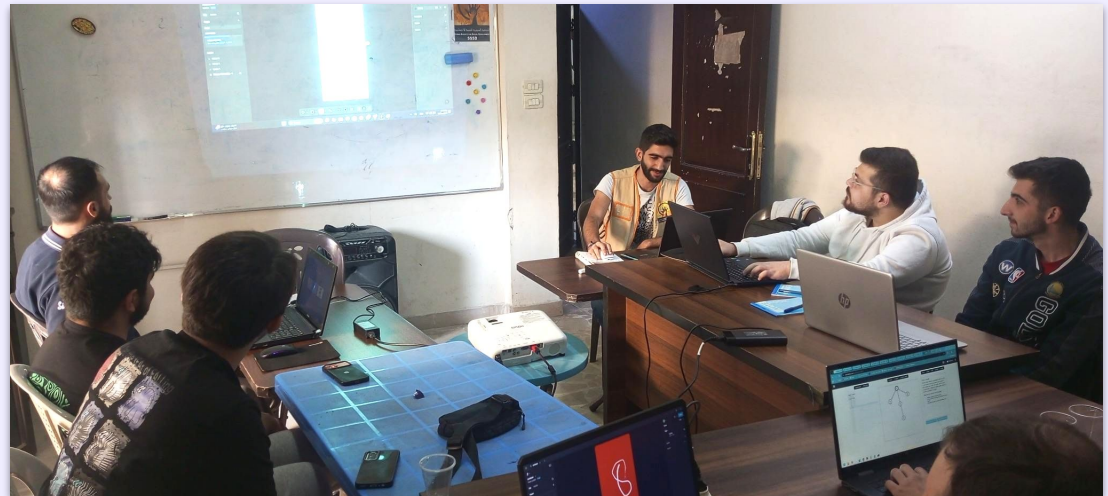
Skills development

77%

Felt that the hands-on learning of digital tools and course structure led to **increased confidence, productivity and digital literacy**.

84%

Are more comfortable learning new digital technologies and **applying them outside the classroom**.

70%

Are more familiar with the **types of professions** available in the digital sector.

85%

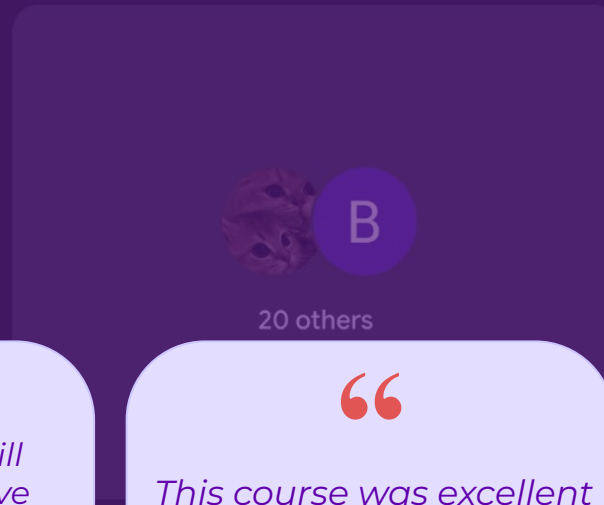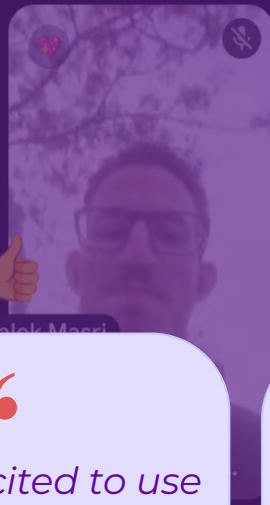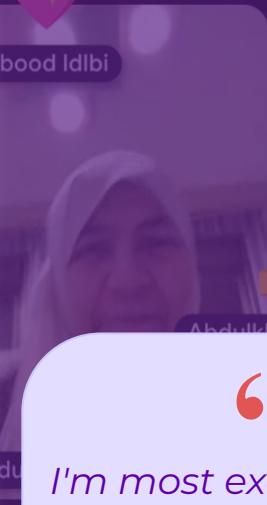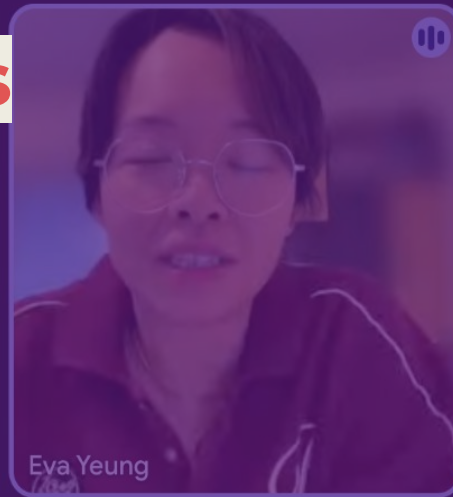Would like to work in a **digital profession** following this course.

84%

Report more or much **more confidence in the use of digital tools** such as Canva, Trello, Miro and Figma.

100%

Understand how and why **digital technologies have an effect on the workplace.**

Our Students' Voices

PHOENIX SPACE

alabkaa

Mauricio Sayegh

Eva Yeung

elias zikra

bood Idlbi

Abdulkhalek Masri

20 others

B

K

"

I'm most excited to use data visualization skills to turn raw data into compelling stories for my team.

Braa, F, 18

"

I hope these skills will give me a competitive edge in the job market and open doors for me to apply for roles in digital product design and innovation.

Bayan, F, 26

"

This course was excellent in terms of both service and technical aspects in the field of information technology.

Mohamad, M, 25

"

I am aiming for a role as a Cybersecurity Analyst to protect organizational assets using the security frameworks I learned.

Ahmad, M, 24

phoenixspace.org

Contact us:
sarah@phoenixspace.org