kiron
Open Higher Education for Refugees

NLG Tech Task Force Webinar Series: Higher education opportunities for refugee youth and adolescents
I want to become an engineer. And I will #withRefugees.
Sajida´s Barriers

In order to allow refugee students to attain a university degree, Kiron overcomes the four barriers identified by UNHCR in their Education Strategy 2012-2016.

Costs
Legal
College capacity
Language
Kiron is an EdTech addressing a social challenge through scalable technology.

Vision
A world in which everyone has the equal chance to access and succeed in higher education.

Mission
Kiron enables access to higher education and successful learning for refugees through digital solutions.

Founded in 2015
70 Employees
+ 400 Volunteers

41 Partner universities in 8 Countries
5 Offices in 4 Countries

Status: April 2017
Kiron’s innovative approach to teaching combines digital and traditional learning.

Blended Learning 2.0

Kiron’s innovative approach to teaching combines digital and traditional learning.

- Asynchronous Massive Open Online Courses
- Synchronous live tutorials to accompany MOOCs
- Additional online & offline Student Services
### Direct Academics Program

**WHY?** Synchronous Direct Academics courses and tutorials complement asynchronous MOOCs for a better learning experience.

**HOW?** Instructors provide interactive ‘live’ teaching and give personalized feedback to students in a virtual classroom environment.

**WHEN?** Pilot since December 2015, full roll-out in 2017 with new student cohort. DA courses and tutorials complement modules and MOOCs.

Volunteer lecturers come from all around the world!
Kiron provides supportive services to create the best learning environment and build a strong community.

Kiron’s curriculum is embedded with a variety of Student Services in order to enhance studying success.

- Mentoring Program
- Buddy Program
- Psycho-social Counselling
- University Transfer Guidance
- Student Centers
- Student Forum
- Help Desk
- Study Groups
Scalable digital solutions are key to serving refugees’ needs through technology accessible from anywhere at any time.
Offline Study Centers

- Physical spaces where students meet and interact
- Access to Internet connection, hardware (computer), and quiet study space
- Berlin, Munich, Köln, Lüneburg, Lörrach, Paris
- Offline support strengthens the community and is therefore essential for the students’ motivation.
Since 2015, Kiron has been able to build a vibrant international student community.

2,300 students enrolled

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries of Origin</th>
<th>Countries of Residence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>47%</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
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<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>France</td>
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<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>34%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries of Residence</th>
<th>Chosen Study Tracks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Business &amp; Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>48%</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>8%</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
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<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
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<td>4%</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>34%</td>
<td>48%</td>
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I believe that, as you grow older, you discover that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, the other for helping others. And that's why I'm working on myself: so I can do good in my community.

Chrispus, originally from Kenya, Studying Computer Science in Berlin

Status: April 2017
Ahmad Mobayed is one of the first successful transfers to partner university with 30 CPs recognized

- Ahmad Mobayed, one of the highest performing students in 2015-2016 (23 MOOCs in 6 months)
- Contributed to Oxford Journal of Interrupted Studies
- Received a full scholarship from Bard College Berlin
- “Fast track transfer” already after 2 semesters
- With new Learning Agreement 30 CPs recognized

"Kiron really is a shortcut for integration. I could start studying with them right away without any documents required!"
Challenges

Challenge 1. Raising awareness and reaching the target group effectively
   a) Development of effective recruitment strategy and outreach globally
   b) Attracting female students to Kiron (only 16% female students)

Challenge 2. Obtaining tech investments to increase overall scalability (i.e. localization of Kiron Campus platform)

Challenge 3. MOOCs translation in Arabic
A worldwide network of supporters makes the Kiron idea possible.
Partnership with Coursera for Refugees allows for the customization of our services

- All Coursera courses and certificates free for Kiron students
- Learners analytics: close tracking of students’ progress
- Translation of Coursera MOOCs in Arabic
How to support us

Support us with your [donation for scholarships](betterplace.org) on betterplace.org

Become a DA lecturer

Raise awareness of Kiron’s offer through your network

Become a buddy for Kiron student

Online corporate mentoring
For more information, please reach out to:

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