

## "طموح" Aspiration - Team Palestine - Executive Summary

Palestinian students are not like other students in the world. Almost 500 miles of 8 meter concrete walls surround the West Bank and Gaza creating walls in their minds. They face unique challenges in their education due to limited resources, crowded classes, and movement restrictions. These challenges deprive them of engaging in STEM education and limit their perspectives. Our mobile application project will drop the walls in our students' minds and inspire them to learn and explore the world with a vision to build and develop their communities.

Our mission is to create a STEM mobile application that enhances Palestinian education and inspires our 6-12 year old students to explore, wonder, and actively learn STEM subjects. Given the relatively high smartphone usage penetration within the Palestinian community (86%), the students will have easy access to our mobile application, allowing them to explore its features.

Our team includes two STEM educators who have already prototyped and tested educational games for their students. We will launch the application with these interactive games that are aligned to the Palestinian curriculum educational standards. These games will enable students to virtually implement the STEM experiments. As a reward, the students will have access to the world beyond the walls with virtual tours of scientific museums, STEM exhibitions, and other virtual trips. Content will be in both Arabic and English and the interface will be easy for students and teachers to interact with at school or at home.

We are already in collaboration with the Palestinian Ministry of Education, and Gaza Sky Geeks (Mercy Corps) and plan to collaborate with Khan Academy and Presentation High School in the USA. As we grow, we will scale up to add non-STEM subjects and higher grade levels with the ultimate intention of expanding to other Arab countries outside Palestine.

We've been through a lot, and our country is at war. Our application will allow our students to continue learning during the crisis. We don't want our children to live our heartbreaking experience, that's why we named our Project "طموح" which means aspiration to show the world that even in our darkest moments, we still have a glimmer of hope!