



Goal #4: Quality Education

Target

4.b) By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programs, in developed countries and other developing countries

4.c) By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States



Qalaa Holdings is an African leader in energy and infrastructure. Qalaa builds businesses in core industries that will define our region's future. The 15,161 employees of Qalaa core subsidiaries and other investments work each day to deliver energy to consumers and businesses alike; to provide reliable, fuel-efficient transportation solutions; to grow or manufacture safe, healthy food; to add value to natural resources; and to help build critical national infrastructure. Qalaa prizes innovation, value creation and sustainability in all of its investments.

[Read more about Qalaa Holdings' sustainable business practices](#)

A Steadfast Commitment to Education

Qalaa Holdings has been playing a leading role in helping address educational inequalities in Egypt by providing a broad spectrum educational support initiatives for Egyptian youth, males and females. From teacher training and vocational education, to school refurbishments and the provision of more than 163 full scholarships for graduate studies abroad, Qalaa has worked for more than a decade to put "quality education" at the heart of its social responsibility programs.

The Qalaa Holdings Financial Services Center (technical training, financial services)

In 2006, we took our first step to provide quality education in Egypt by collaborating with The American University in Cairo (AUC) to establish the Qalaa Holdings Financial Service Center (QHFSC), the first institution in the MENA region dedicated to helping students develop the skills and qualifications needed to pursue careers in securities trading, risk management, and asset allocation. Since its inception, the QHFSC has benefitted over 3,000 students and hosted more than 300 workshops for university students and the public. In addition to contributing USD 250,000 as an initial contribution to create the center, Qalaa donates USD 30,000 every year to cover operating costs and has invested USD 180 million in databases and software to ensure that the center continues to operate seamlessly.

The Qalaa Holdings Scholarship Foundation (for study abroad, multi-discipline)

To further our commitment to providing Egyptian students with access to quality higher education, in 2007, the Company has established the Qalaa Holdings Scholarship Foundation (QHSF) – Egypt’s largest private-sector-funded scholarship—that has been awarding Egyptian students with post graduate scholarships to study at leading universities across the globe on the condition that they return to Egypt to work in their chosen field following the completion of their studies.

In order to guarantee the Foundation’s sustainability regardless of economic challenges, an endowment was established to fund its uninterrupted operations. It is through this endowment and the exceptional management of the Foundation that is guided by an experienced board of trustees and managed by a full-time director, that QHSF has been able to maintain the volume and frequency of its scholarship program throughout the years. The Foundation has thus far awarded 163 scholarships in a number of well-known highly recognized universities, including but not limited to, Harvard, Standford, Oxford, Cambridge, Columbia, Wharton and others. Investing in the education of Egyptian youth provides a unique opportunity to amplify our impact by empowering students with the skills and understanding needed to address the most challenging problems that our world faces today. The QHSF scholarship program covers a wide extended geographical scope throughout Egypt.

Recognizing the crucial link between diversity and innovation, we have sought out talented young men and women from across the country, with equal opportunities given to female and male scholarship recipients. In our most recent class of scholarship recipients (2017-2018) we were exceptionally proud to see the number of female students in our program exceed the number of males. Traditionally the scholarship recipients have been 55% male and 45% female.

[Watch Qalaa Holdings Scholarship Foundation documentary](#)

Vocational and Technical Education

Qalaa Holdings has also invested extensively in local educational opportunities in Egypt. ASEC Engineering, the engineering consultancy branch of Qalaa cement sector subsidiary ASEC Holding, partnered with the Engineering and Science Services Departments at AUC to develop the syllabus used at ASEC Academy, which has provided more than 15,300 beneficiaries with specialized training in the field cement engineering. The company also partnered with AUC to offer the ASEC Engineering Cement Professional Diploma, a professional degree program in the field of cement engineering and management. To date, this program has enrolled 60 students who have completed a Cement Professional Diploma.

Egyptian Refining Company (ERC) Mostakbaly Scholarship Program

Late 2016, the Egyptian Refining Company (ERC), which was developed by Qalaa Holdings, a state-of-the-art USD 3.7 billion refinery, took its commitment to reducing educational inequalities in underserved communities one step further by launching the **Mostakbaly Scholarship Program**. **Mostakbaly** is a new initiative, targeting students, teachers and university graduates, aims to address educational inequalities amongst students in its surrounding community by granting them access to higher education at the American University in Cairo (AUC) and the Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST).

[Read More about Mostakbaly Scholarship Program](#)