



CONNECTING REFUGEES AND
LANGUAGE LEARNERS WORLDWIDE

Today's Refugee Crisis

- 65.6 million people forced to flee their homes



- 1/3= Arabic Speakers



- Relying on smartphone = The “era of the connected refugee”

Arabic, E-Learning on the rise



Arab Diaspora (7 million)

Professionals with MENA
focus

Arabic Students in the US
(35,000/year)

Classical vs. Dialect Arabic

A Win-Win Solution

**Kate, PhD student,
Baltimore**



**Noor, Syrian refugee in
Beirut, unable to work in
local economy**

Gets: flexible language practice while
creating cultural connection with
native speakers via skype

Gets: access to income, marketable
skills, professional experience.

A Win-Win Solution



Recruitment

Assessment – Interview &
Training

Matching – Quality Control

Payment

Institutional Users

Universities



BOSTON COLLEGE

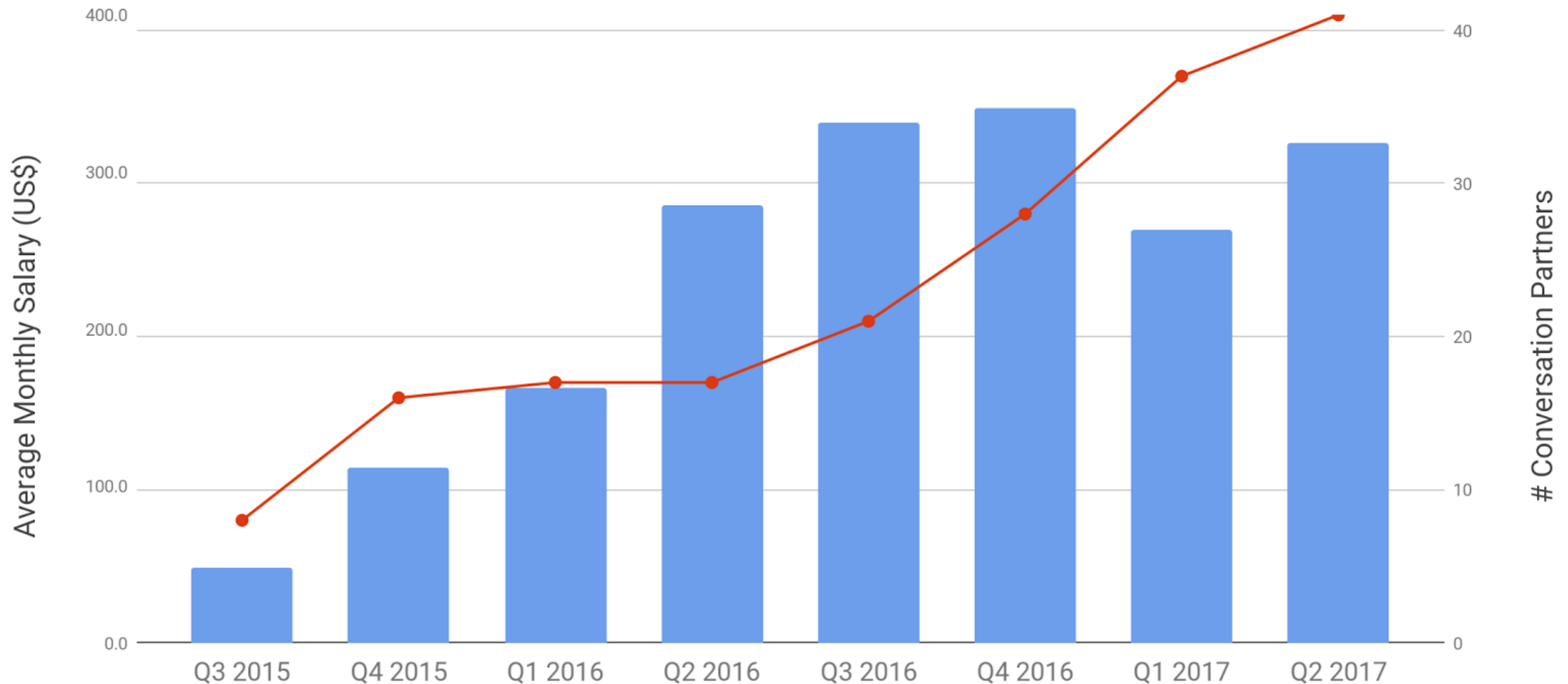


Foundation



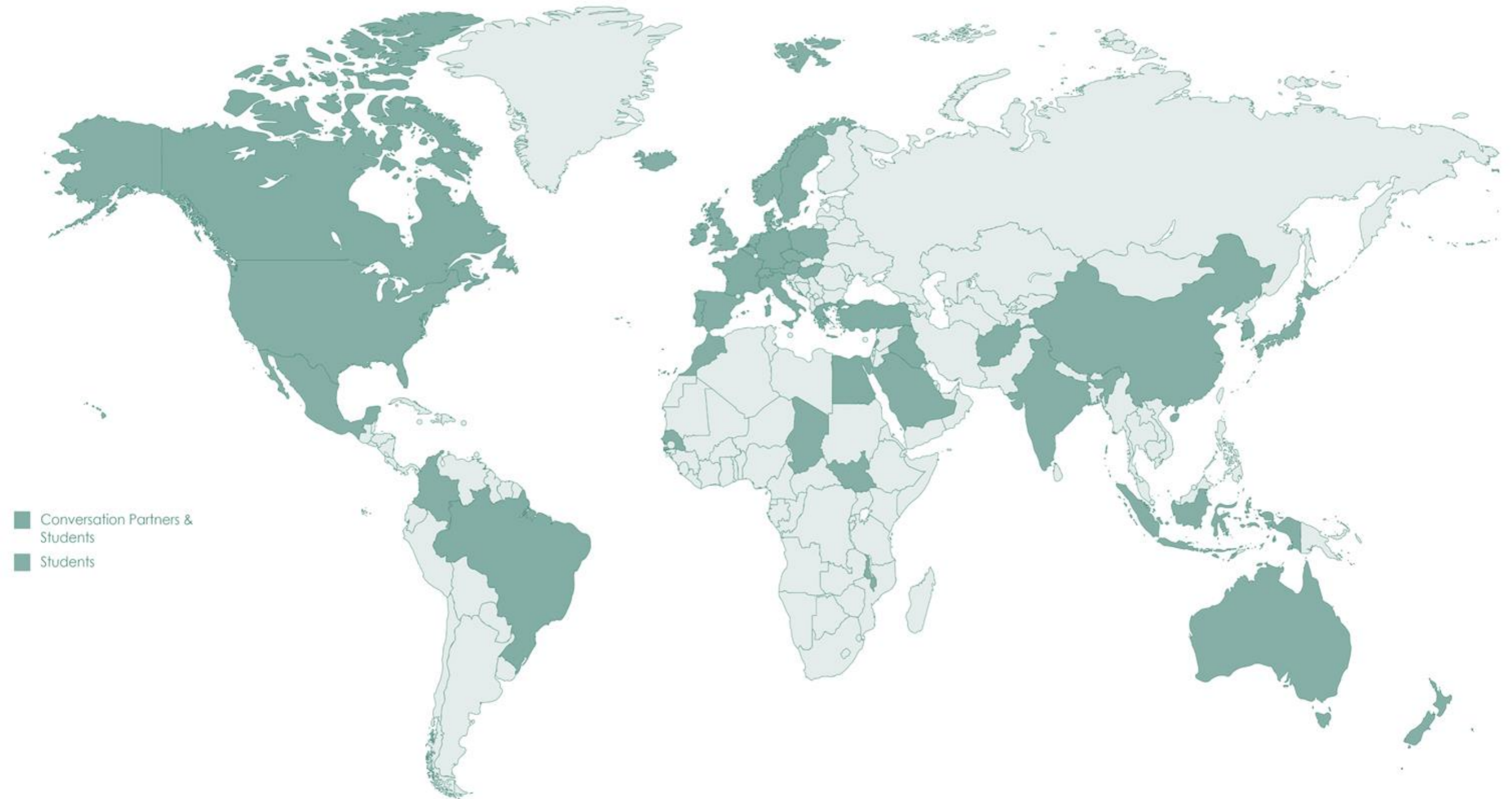
Organizations

Impact to Date



**Refugees have self-generated
over \$170,000+USD
17,000+ NaTakallam hours sold**

A Global Reach



**Over 1400 unique users in 65+ countries
55 refugees in 12 countries**

Difficulties on the ground



Working conditions – Internet,
office space

Training – Professional / soft
skills

Financial barriers

Difficulties on the ground

Balancing professional and personal priorities

On the move

Psycho-social support



Lessons learned



Partnership with local organizations

Adapting training material – Online

Communicating with customers

Lessons learned

Highlighting social contribution

Balancing refugee-centric
approach

Ensuring human connection





NaTakallam
(we•speak)

"I lost any contact with the outside world because I am what they call here 'a Syrian refugee'...NaTakallam gave me an identity again, helped me be part of society."

-Salim, 31, Refugee in Beirut



NaTakallam



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