Rethinking the campus:
Partnerships and pathways into HE for refugees and displaced persons

Dr Michael Gallagher, Centre for Research in Digital Education
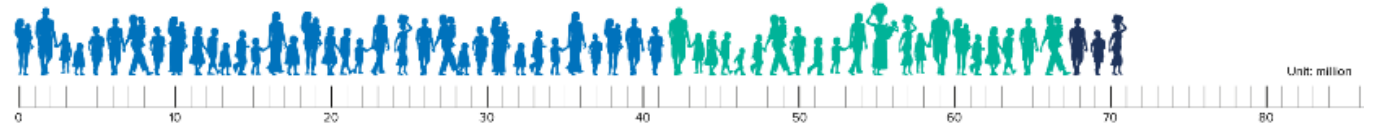
What does this have to do with the hackathon?

- The online hackathon will bring together the University of Edinburgh community to design practices, applications, or digital spaces that might potentially enhance **our distributed campus** in a way that **draws together our cohorts** and **surfaces our diversity.**

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Refugee education

- Refugee and displacement are increasingly permanent features of host countries
- Repatriation is small or non-existent
- Great strain on host countries
- Less than 3% globally enter HE
- Mixture of policy, capacity, languages, lack of psychosocial support, etc.

Refugee education (2): what works

- Scholarship programmes in the first country of asylum
- a blended learning approach in partnership with a network of accredited universities
- (TVET): education, training and skills development relating to a wide range of occupations
- Advocacy with ministries, universities and academia to expand access for refugee students and to mitigate barriers that prevent refugees from enrolling in university
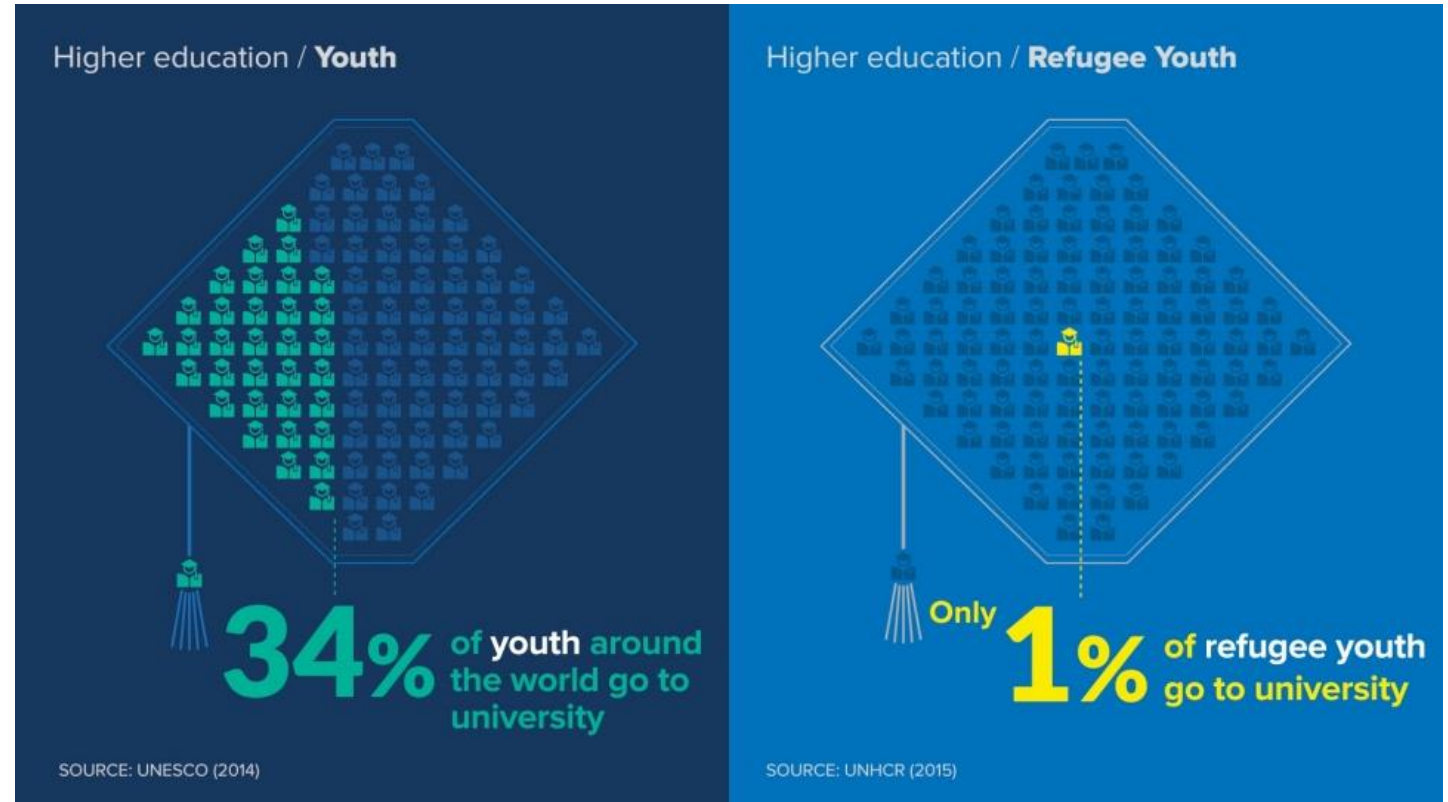
Foundations for All (FFA) - objectives

This project will provide insights on how to effectively facilitate access to and future success in higher education for displaced and refugee young people in resource-poor environments through contextualised bridging programmes.

Foundations for All (FFA): partner-driven

The MasterCard Foundation — SCHOLARS PROGRAM

THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

1866 AUB — American University of Beirut

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

funder

preparing new round of Africa scholarships (new priority = refugees and online)

MCF programme +

+ SPS, MHE

+ COL, ISG

+ Maths, Vet School

MCF programme +

AUB CCECS

MCF programme +

REFUGEE LAW PROJECT

University of Edinburgh

- School of Social and Political Science
- Centre for Research in Digital Education
- Centre for Open Learning
- School of Mathematics
- The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies
- Learning, Teaching and the Web, Information Services Group

PHASE 1:
Learning from
current experiences

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Collaborative field research
with PADILEA in Lebanon
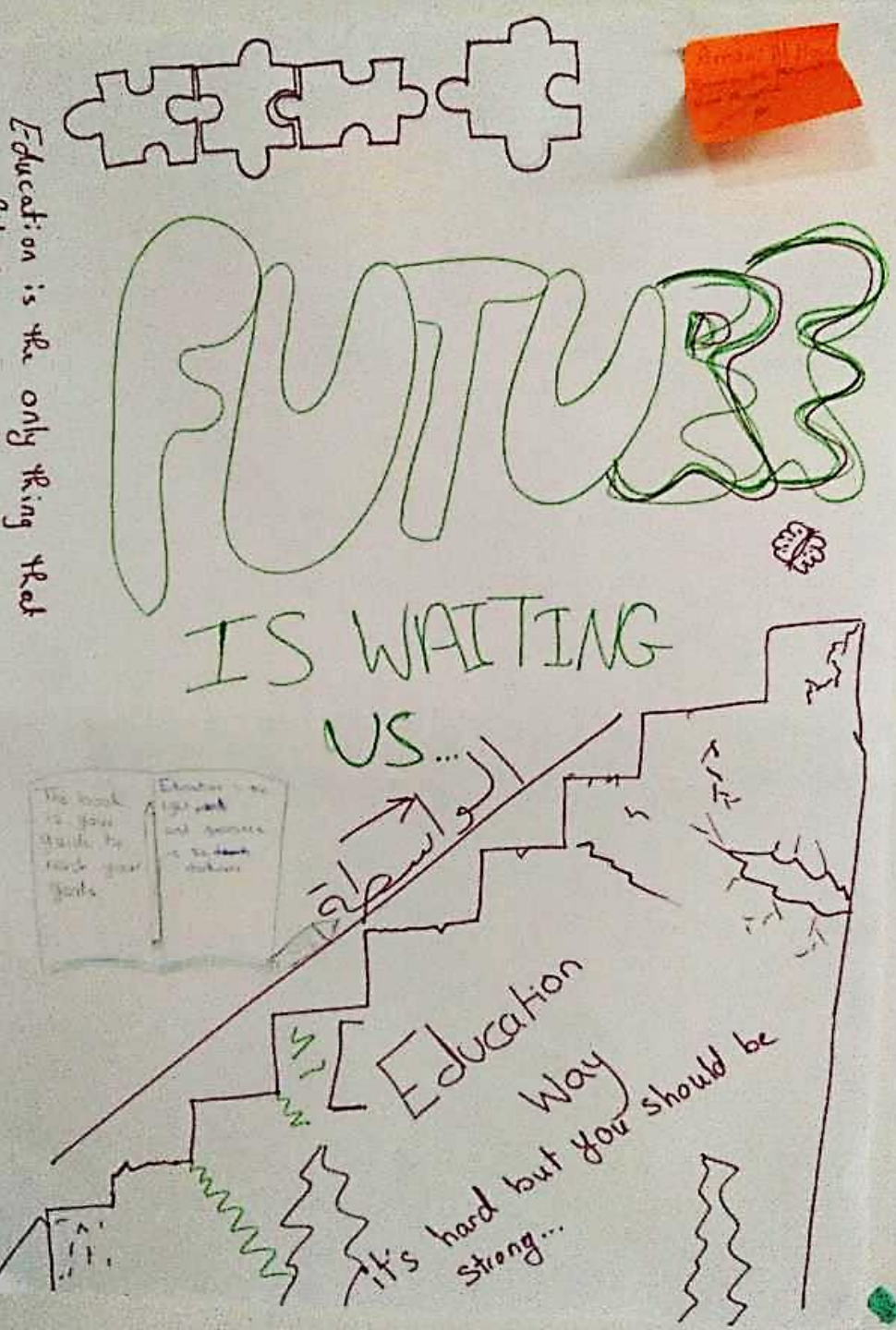
August 2019 fieldwork with MCF scholars

1A: Beirut

- Research trip to Lebanon with Mastercard Foundation Scholars from Uganda, Lebanon, and Edinburgh

  - training on fieldwork and field methodologies

  - Scoping Tool and Design Framework

1B: Beqaa Valley

- Fieldwork in settlement running PADILEA programme
- Interviews, Focus Groups, Participatory mapping (barriers and journeys)

PHASE 2:
Developing a Scoping Tool

- Finalising the Lebanon/PADILEA analysis, testing the analysis elsewhere
- Three institutions, and MCF scholars, analysing the data
  - Scoping Tool and Design Framework
  - Blended learning design

PHASE 3A:
designing a new programme

- In partnership with Makerere University:

  - 60 credit blended learning programme

  - Workshop in Kampala in February

  - Student voices: co-designers and critical friends

  - Tutor training programme

  - Exploring possible pathways to qualifications

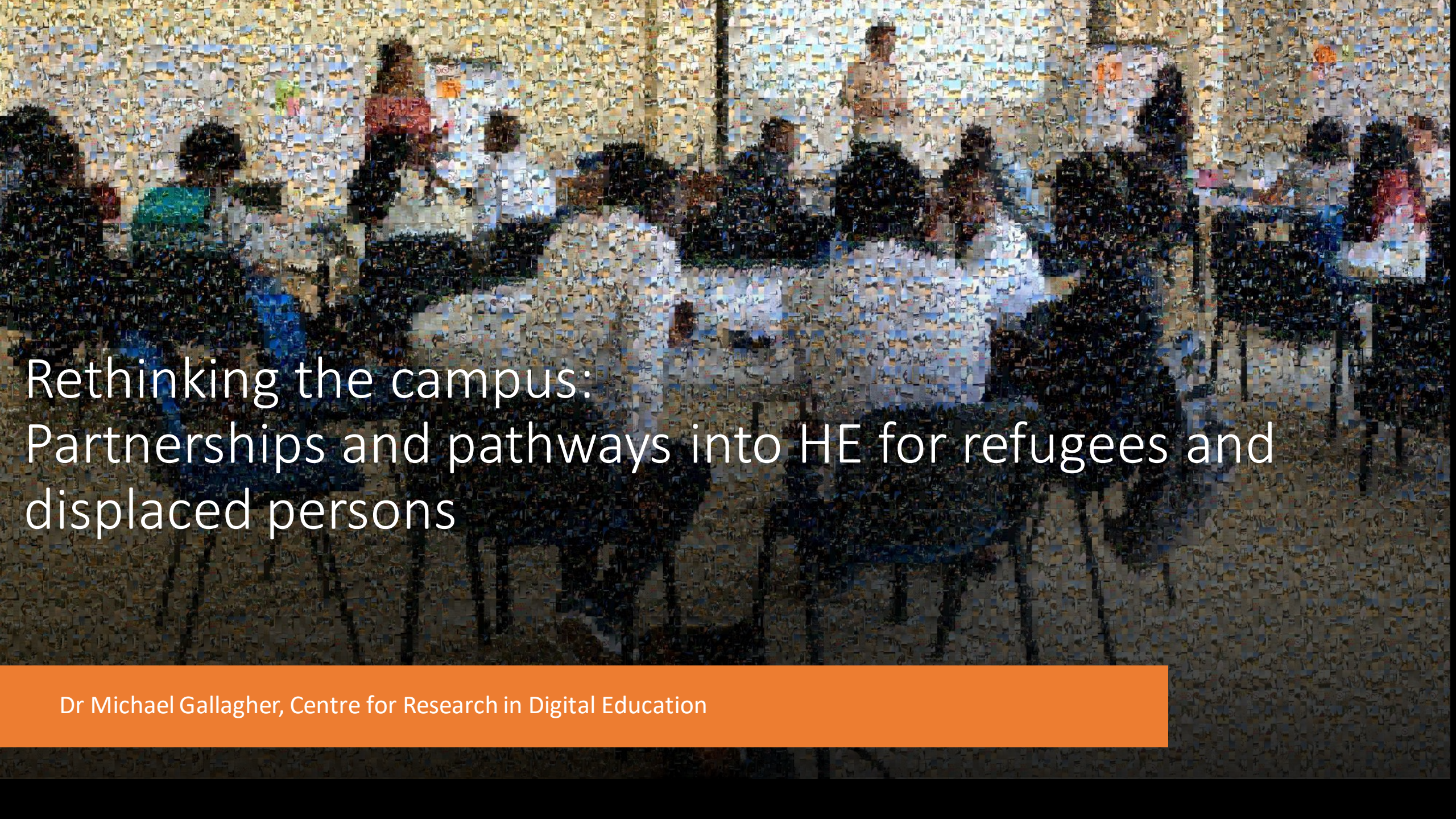 - Design constraints: tech, accessibility, appetite

PHASE 3B: piloting a new programme

- 60 credit blended learning programme
- **Psychosocial Support**
- English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
- Mathematics
- Digital skills
- Study skills
- Critical Thinking using Literature and Philosophy *
- Social Sciences through the Study of Migration and Displacement *

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