



FONDATION
USJ



Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth
Saint Joseph University of Beirut
جامعة القديس يوسف في بيروت



CZB

Saint Joseph University of Beirut
Zahle and Bekaa Campus

Call for Support For the
*Installation of a Physicochemical Laboratory at the Zahle
and Beqaa Campus*

More
MODERNITY



USJ
TOUJOURS
plus

USJ
ASPIRE
For more

**FUNDRAISING
CAMPAIGN 150
YEARS OF USJ**



One of the pillars of our new fundraising campaign “USJ, Aspire for More”, launched as part of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut’s (USJ) 150th anniversary celebration in 2025, is to achieve “More Modernity.” This initiative aims to acquire essential equipment or replace faulty or obsolete materials in laboratories, care centers, and classrooms across our faculties.

Equipping these spaces with modern facilities is crucial for maintaining our university’s status as a knowledge generator. This initiative is essential for USJ to continue its mission and remain a center of excellence at the forefront of knowledge and technology.

1. PROJECT TITLE

Installation of a Physicochemical Laboratory at the Zahle and Beqaa Campus (CZB).

2. APPLICANT

Zahle and Beqaa Campus of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut (USJ) and *Fondation USJ*.

3. LOCATION

The Physicochemical Laboratory will be set up in a ground floor room at the Zahle and Beqaa Campus.

4. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The School of Engineering of Beirut (ESIB) of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture (FIA) inaugurated a branch at the Zahle and Beqaa Campus (CZB) of the Saint Joseph University of Beirut (USJ) in September 2015. This branch offers two preparatory classes: First Year Preparatory Class in Mathematics and Second Year Preparatory Class in Mathematics. CZB enables students from the Beqaa region to pursue their studies locally, without having to commute to Beirut immediately upon the completion of their secondary education.

This campus aims to train skilled professionals to meet the primary economic needs of the Beqaa, aligning with specific local job market requirements. It also promotes intellectual engagement in the region, enhancing its Lebanese societal role.

Since its inception, ESIB-Z has seen its students excel within the ESIB framework. Despite following the same program and exams as the main Sciences and Technology Campus (CST) in Mkalles - Beirut, ESIB-Z students benefit from easier communication with instructors and administration due to smaller class sizes. As a result, ESIB-Z students consistently achieve top rankings.

However, a significant challenge affecting the seamless educational experience in Zahle is **the absence of an on-site physics and chemistry practical laboratory**. This lack requires students to commute to CST for practical work, which is crucial to their academic development.

These regular or intensive commutes present several issues:

- Student dissatisfaction arises from fatigue and reduced efficiency during intensified sessions at CST, leading them to prefer completing their entire education in Zahle without needing to commute to Beirut.
- Significant scheduling constraints and time loss for ESIB-Z students, as each round trip takes at least 2.5 hours.
- Increased transportation costs for CZB, comparable to the amortization costs of an on-site laboratory.
- Negative environmental impact from repeated transportation, covering nearly 100 km round trip per commute.

5. OBJECTIVES

This project aims to achieve several objectives through the implementation of an on-site Physicochemical Laboratory:

- **Academic objective:** Provide scientific equipment to ESIB-Z instructors and students and other institutions at the CZB and Taanayel campuses (The School of Mediterranean Agricultural Engineering (ESIAM) of the Faculty of Science in Zahle, etc.) enhancing academic performance and fostering greater scientific productivity.
- **Scientific objective:** Facilitate interdisciplinary research in physics and chemistry, contributing to the advancement of knowledge and effective dissemination of research findings.
- **Industrial objective:** Develop the laboratory to support industry collaboration by offering consulting, training, and testing services, thereby enhancing regional industrial engagement over time.

6. TARGET BENEFICIARIES

- Students from ESIB-Z and other institutions (academic objective).
- Instructors-Researchers from ESIB-Z and other institutions (scientific objective).
- Industry professionals from Zahle and the Beqaa (industrial objective).

7. RESOURCES

A part of this project has been financed through CZB's internal revenues, covering the installation of electrical stations and the acquisition of 4 workbenches.

Given the current challenging economic context, the remaining equipment and materials require substantial funding. Therefore, we seek the solidarity and generosity of donors interested in supporting CZB.

8. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST

33,893.61 USD (thirty-three thousand eight hundred and ninety-three US dollars and sixty-one cents).

9. DETAILED BUDGET AND FUNDING

Description	Price (without VAT)	Costs borne by USJ
Acquisition of necessary equipment for the practical laboratory (equipment and material requisition dossier and quotes)	\$ 977.25 \$ 820 € 19,000 which equals \$ 20,579.36	
Acquisition of workbenches and laboratory furniture		\$ 1,000
Installation of electrical stations		\$ 1,000
Total	\$ 33,893.61	\$ 2,000

These quotes date from February 2024.

1 EUR = 1.08 USD (therefore, the financial aid request and budget are subject to change based on fluctuations in the exchange rate).

Donors will finance 94.4% of the project, and USJ will cover the remaining 5.6%.

10. PROJECT RESULTS AND REPORTING

● Results

The achievement of objectives will be assessed through concrete outcomes such as:

- Frequency of physics and chemistry practical sessions held each semester.
- Participation rates of students in these practical sessions.
- Improvement in student grades from previous year's practical coursework.
- Number of instructors using the laboratory for academic refreshment and research.
- Facilitation of research publications through laboratory utilization.

● Transparency

We will send a detailed narrative report outlining the impact of the generous contribution to establishing the laboratory at CZB, and detailing the specific quantitative results mentioned earlier. This report will explain how these outcomes contribute to CZB's mission and vision for advancing technological and economic development in the region.

Additionally, a financial report on the equipment acquisition will be shared.

Annually, we distribute an impact report to the USJ community, as well as friends and donors.

For your donation: <https://www.usj.edu.lb/donations/>

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