



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT**

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ABLE Summit 2023 at AUB:

harnessing tech innovation for enhanced accessibility and inclusion

The 3rd edition of the ABLE Summit, an extraordinary event dedicated to advancing accessibility and inclusivity, took place on September 14-15, 2023, at the American University of Beirut (AUB), Suliman S. Olayan School of Business. ABLE, an acronym for Accessibility for a Bolder Learning Experience, is a groundbreaking initiative pioneered by AUB with a noble mission to foster a more inclusive world by championing accessibility and empowering individuals who confront challenges to realize their full potential.

The ABLE Summit 2023 served as a dynamic convergence of thought leaders, decision-makers, experts, and influential figures from around the globe. Together, they delved into ingenious solutions aimed at enhancing accessibility in the realms of education, employment, and public services. This exceptional event provided attendees with a rich array of offerings, including expert lectures, hands-on workshops, networking opportunities, and a captivating assistive technologies exhibition showcasing disability support services.

This year's ABLE Summit garnered overwhelming interest, with a total of 1,250 registrations hailing from 38 different countries. Among the registrants, 50% were students, while the remaining participants represented a diverse mix of academicians, non-governmental organizations, as well as school and university officials, all united by their commitment to advancing accessibility.

The program featured a stellar lineup of 15 esteemed international speakers, who delivered over 18 engaging sessions. Moreover, the summit's diverse agenda included 11

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do-it-yourself (DIY) workshops, 9 captivating showcase demonstrations, and a host of interactive activities and competitions. Notably, the summit successfully bridged in-person and online audiences and showcased the contributions of 22 exhibitors, providing a comprehensive experience for all participants.

The ABLE Summit enjoyed extensive media coverage, with prominent appearances on television broadcasts and social media platforms, further amplifying its reach and impact.

For more information about the ABLE Summit and its mission to promote accessibility and inclusivity, please visit: sites.aub.edu.lb/able

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 800 full-time faculty members and a student body of over 8000 students. AUB currently offers more than 120 programs leading to bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 365-bed hospital.

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