



5X2 – The Initiative for Excellence in Science Education

Established in 2013, 5X2 – the Initiative for Excellence in Science Education aims to double the number of advanced STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) students in Israel, whose numbers have been in constant decline in recent years. This decline threatens to increase social gaps and hamper Israel's competitiveness in crucial economic sectors where it now has market-leading roles.

5X2's kick-off program, which was fully endorsed by the Ministry of Education, and already being implemented in schools, is Math First, aimed at increasing the number of students taking the matriculation examination in math at the level of five units—the highest level of math exams—to more than 10,000 within one year (an increase of 15 percent).

Another goal of 5X2 is to place Israel among the 15 leading countries in the world in the quality of education for science and technology.

Spearheaded by the Rashi Foundation, the Trump Foundation, and Intel Israel, and joined by SanDisk and the Ministry of Education, some 100 representatives of leading organizations interested in science education have joined the initiative, representing the public sector, industry, academia, and civil society .

The initiative operates on the basis of the Collective Impact model developed in the United States, where organizations and people work together in pursuit of a common goal, recognizing that complex issues are beyond the scope of any one organization or sector to solve. Sheatufim, the Israel Center for Civil Society, which specializes in building and leading complex cross-sector processes, was chosen as the backbone organization to facilitate and run the initiative.