



Call for Expression of Interest for Civil Society Organisations, Community-Based Organisations, and Local Initiative Groups Working in Poti, Khobi and Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Region to Participate in the UNDP Green Leadership Programme

Empowering Local Communities for a Sustainable and Green Future

- Are you interested in exploring topics such as the green transition, climate change, and local development, and enhancing your project management and advocacy skills?
- Are you passionate about creating a greener future for your community?
- Are you ready to lead positive change in your community?
- Would you like to collaborate with your peer civil society actors for greater impact?

The **UNDP Green Leadership Programme** offers a unique opportunity for civil society organisations (CSOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), and local initiative groups from Poti, Khobi and the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region to build and strengthen their community for a sustainable and green future.

This programme is designed to equip you with the knowledge, skills, and funding to drive local green initiatives, engage in environmental advocacy, and actively contribute to sustainability efforts. Participation in the programme is free of charge.

How it works:

Under the Programme, Green Academy and Green School will equip nominated representatives of CSOs, CBOs, and local initiative groups with the knowledge and skills to drive climate action and advocacy.

After completing the program, successful participants will join the Green Leadership Alumni Network and receive ongoing support for collaboration, learning, and mentorship to facilitate joint actions with their peer civic society actors. Most outstanding participants will gain hands-on experience working with leading Georgian organisations in the green transition.

Low-value grants will support the best grassroots initiatives to drive green and just transition within Khobi and Poti communities.

Briefly about the Programme

UNDP implements the Green Leadership Programme under the regional project "Greening the Future" (GFP), funded by the Government of Denmark. In Georgia, the project aims to promote a green and just transition in the municipalities of Khobi and Poti, actively engaging citizens, businesses, and civil society organisations in local climate action and sustainable economic development.

Based on the evaluation of the Green Leadership Programme's results, it is expected to be implemented annually throughout the Greening the Future project until 2027.

Programme Outline: What Will You Learn?

The **Green Leadership Programme** is structured around four key components:

1. Green Academy:

The Green Academy curriculum covers technical and soft skills essential for driving sustainable change at the local level. A 4-month hybrid learning model, combining online and in-person training sessions, provides insights into key topics, including environmental governance, climate policy, circular economy, energy efficiency, sustainable urban planning, project management, fundraising, crowdfunding, advocacy, public policy analysis, and more. Programme participants will gain practical experience through workshops, expert-led sessions, case studies, and both individual and group assignments. **On-site and online training sessions are scheduled to take place once a week, followed by 4 to 5 days of intensive training sessions and workshops at the Green School in September 2025.**

Participation in the programme is free of charge. UNDP will cover the costs of meals, accommodation, and transportation for all participants.

2. Green Leadership Programme Alumni Network:

Upon completing the training sessions, participants will be required to complete quizzes or submit assignments. Upon successfully completing these tasks, participants will receive a certificate of achievement and become part of the **Green Leadership Alumni Network**.

The network will enable participants to continue collaborating, sharing knowledge, and accessing ongoing learning opportunities, as well as funding resources and mentorship.

3. Green Fellowship:

Up to three outstanding alumni will be selected for a fellowship opportunity, which allows them to spend 2 to 3 weeks with a leading CSO to gain firsthand experience in green transition efforts.

4. Low-Value Grant Programme:

Through a specialised Low-Value Grant Programme for alumni, participants will have the opportunity to receive low-value grants to strengthen collaboration with the Green Leadership

Alumni Network and support grassroots initiatives that drive green transitions within Poti and Khobi municipalities.

These grants will provide both financial and technical support for citizen-led projects that drive sustainable change in the Khobi and Poti communities, and prioritise the active involvement of local citizens, crowdfunding campaigns and community engagement.

Eligibility Criteria: Who Can Apply?

The UNDP Green Leadership Programme is seeking committed individuals and representatives from the following groups:

- **Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs):** Representatives of CSOs working in the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region with a demonstrated track record in local development and a dedication to fostering positive environmental and sustainable change. Priority will be given to organisations: a) registered in the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region, working in or willing to work in Poti or Khobi municipalities; b) willing to support a green and just transition and contribute to positive environmental change.

CSO and CBO organisations shall nominate a representative(s) of the organisation to participate in the competition for the selection section of the Green Leadership Program. A respective nomination letter shall explain how the participation of the nominated representative(s) will contribute to the organisation's development and its engagement in the green transition. The nomination letter shall also confirm that the organisation will provide institutional support to their representative by ensuring both a suitable time commitment and general support for their participation in the programme. No financial support is requested from the organisation. UNDP will cover the costs of meals, accommodation, and transportation for all participants. **Each organisation can suggest up to 2 representatives, however, UNDP reserves the right to select only one representative.**

The selected CSOs/CBOs and their respective representatives are expected to actively and fully engage in the entire programme, and support community-led green initiatives in Poti and Khobi municipalities.

- **Local Initiative Groups** from Poti and Khobi municipalities who are passionate about sustainability and eager to implement green transition projects within their communities.

Local Initiative Groups shall nominate their representative(s) to participate in the competition for the selection of the Green Leadership Program. A respective nomination letter shall explain how the participation of the nominated representative(s) will contribute to the development of the Local Activity Group's capacities and its engagement in the green transition. Each Local Initiative group can suggest up to 2 representatives; however, **UNDP reserves the right to select only one representative.**

Local Initiative Groups that will be selected for participation in the Program are expected to establish CSOs/CBOs to institutionalise and develop their community engagement for local sustainable development. They are also expected to actively and fully engage in the entire

programme and support community-led green initiatives in the Poti and Khobi municipalities. This shall be confirmed by 2/3 of the members of the Local Initiative Group.

Selection Process & Criteria: How Are Participants Chosen?

20 CSO/CBO and 10 Local Initiative Groups are expected to be selected for the Green Leadership Program.

Participants will be selected through a competitive process and evaluated based on various criteria.

1. **Commitment to Green Transition:** Demonstrated passion and commitment to driving sustainability at the local level, supporting green and just transition, positive environmental change – **25 points**
2. **Previous Experience:** Involvement in local development projects or community-based efforts – **25 points**
3. **Impact Potential of the CSO/CBO/Local Initiative Group (LIG) – 35 points:**
 - a) The ability of the organisation/LIG to apply the knowledge gained from the programme to influence and implement green policies, projects, or initiatives within the community - 20 points
 - b) Relevance of the nominated representative and its ability to contribute to strengthening organisation capacity and impact - 15 points
4. **Geographic Focus - 15 points:**
 - a) CSO/CBOs working in the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Region (minimum requirement). Preference will be given to those registered in Samegrelo –Zemo Svaneti region and/or working in Poti and Khobi municipalities – 15 points;
or
 - b) Local Initiative Groups (LIG) working in Poti and Khobi municipalities (minimum requirement). Preference will be given to LIGs comprised of individuals registered in Poti and Khobi municipalities - 15 points.

How to Apply?

Interested applicants should submit their applications consisting of:

1. Filled out application form completed by official representatives of Civil Society Organisations, Community-Based Organisations, or Local Initiative Groups describing their motivation, previous organisational/LIG experience and capacities, commitment to green transition and related projects/initiatives, implemented projects and initiatives, and how participation in the Green Leadership Program will contribute to the organisational/LIG development and its engagement in green transition in Poti and Khobi municipalities;
2. Resumes / CVs of the nominated representatives of Civil Society Organisations, Community-Based Organisations, or Local Initiative Groups (including personal information, education, experience, and accomplishments)
3. The nomination letter confirming CSO/CBO/LIG institutional support of the participant.
4. The confirmation letter of LIG confirming readiness to establish CSO/CBO if selected for participation in the Green Leadership Program.

The application shall be submitted to the following [link](#) until **May 5, 2025**. Applications sent after this date will not be considered.

Selection Timeline (tentative dates):

- **Application Deadline:** 5 May 2025
- **Invitation to Online Interview:** 12 May 2025
- **Selection Notification:** 23 May 2025
- **Programme Launch:** 29 May 2025

Contact information for any inquiries or clarification:

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GREEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Empowering Local Communities for a Sustainable and Green Future

The **Green Leadership Programme** is a transformative initiative designed to empower civil society representatives (CSOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), and Local Initiative Groups from the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region with the essential knowledge, skills, tools, and resources required to drive local green transition efforts as well as actively and substantively engage in environmental decision-making and implementation monitoring.

The programme aims to foster sustainability in the next generation of regional leaders, equipping them to address pressing environmental challenges while promoting sustainable, green practices at the local level.

The Green Leadership programme consists of four key components:

1. **Green Academy**
2. **Alumni Network**
3. **Green Fellowship**
4. **Low-Value Grant Programme**

GREEN ACADEMY: BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR GREEN LEADERSHIP

The Green Academy serves as a key educational component of the Green Leadership Programme, providing participants with basic and deeper insights into essential fields of environmental governance, sustainability, and the green transition. The Academy is structured to provide a holistic

learning experience, combining theoretical insights with practical skills to equip individuals with the tools to lead local change.

Key Learning Methods of the Green Academy:

- **Duration:** 4-month hybrid learning model, combining online and in-person sessions and workshops.
- **Training Modules:** The Green Academy provides comprehensive training modules that cover a wide range of critical topics related to the green transition. These include environmental governance, environmental rule of law, climate policy, energy efficiency, circular economy, sustainable urban planning, and the pivotal role of community participation in shaping a greener future.
- **Workshops & Practical Learning:** Participants will gain hands-on experience through interactive workshops, case studies, and problem-solving exercises. These practical sessions will focus on municipal best practices, helping participants translate theory into actionable strategies within their communities.
- **Expert-Led Sessions:** Through collaborations with leading experts in climate change, sustainability, and municipal governance, participants will engage in sessions led by environmental experts. These sessions will provide invaluable insights, offering participants direct access to cutting-edge knowledge and best practices.
- **Networking Opportunities:** The Green Academy fosters a collaborative environment that facilitates networking opportunities for participants to connect with key stakeholders in green initiatives. Building relationships with other leaders and organisations will help increase the impact of each participant's work.

Green Academy Programme and Themes:

The Green Academy curriculum covers technical and soft skills essential for driving sustainable change at the local level.

Core modules include topics such as:

- ✓ Introduction to Just and Green Transition & Sustainability
- ✓ Municipal Climate Action & Local Governance
- ✓ Right to a Healthy Environment and Citizen Participation
- ✓ Circular Economy & Waste Management
- ✓ Sustainable Transport & Urban Mobility

- ✓ Green Buildings and Energy Efficiency
- ✓ Urban Planning & Nature-Based Solutions

Soft Skills Development Module include topics such as:

- ✓ Policy Drafting and Cycle
- ✓ Project Proposal Writing, Planning, Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation
- ✓ Crowdfunding and Diversifying Fundraising Strategies
- ✓ Advocacy and Effective Communications
- ✓ Climate and Sustainability Data Analysis and Visualization

GREEN LEADERSHIP ALUMNI NETWORK: CONTINUING THE JOURNEY OF IMPACT

Upon successful completion of the Green Academy, participants will become members of the **Green Leadership Programme Alumni Network**. This network provides an active community of like-minded individuals committed to driving local green transitions.

GREEN FELLOWSHIP: EXPERIENCE SHARING FOR GREEN TRANSITION

Up to three outstanding alumni will be selected for a fellowship opportunity, which allows them to spend 2 to 3 weeks with a leading CSO to gain firsthand experience in green transition efforts.

LOW-VALUE GRANT PROGRAMME: ACCELERATING LOCAL GREEN TRANSITIONS

Through a competitive process, alumni will have the opportunity to apply for Low-Value Grants to implement grassroots initiatives that advance green transitions in their communities, with a strong focus on actively engaging local citizens in these initiatives. These grants will provide both financial and technical assistance to the programme participants for citizen-led sustainability projects, awareness campaigns, and advocacy efforts.

ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALUMNI NETWORK MEMBERS

Networking and Experience Sharing - The Alumni Network will serve as a platform for continuous collaboration, where members are encouraged to actively engage and contribute to the network's growth. By sharing their experiences, lessons learned, and successes, alumni will play a vital role in

strengthening the collective knowledge base. Furthermore, network members will have unique opportunities to apply their knowledge and expertise by leading capacity-building sessions, workshops, and other collaborative learning activities for programme participants next year. This will ensure the sustainable exchange of ideas and innovation, fostering a sense of community and mutual support. It will enable alumni to collaborate on common goals, build lasting partnerships, and continue advancing green transition efforts together.

Briefly about the Programme - The Green Leadership Programme is a holistic programme designed to create a network of empowered leaders who will drive local green transitions and contribute to a sustainable future. By providing comprehensive education, hands-on experience, mentorship, and financial support, the programme equips organisations and individuals with the tools to not only understand the complexities of sustainability but to lead impactful change within their communities. Based on the evaluation of the Green Leadership Programme's results, it is expected to be implemented annually throughout the *Greening the Future* project until 2027.

UNDP implements the Green Leadership Programme under the regional project "Greening the Future" (GFP), funded by the Government of Denmark. In Georgia, the project aims to promote a green and just transition in the municipalities of Khobi and Poti, actively engaging citizens, businesses, and civil society organisations in local climate action and sustainable economic development. Spanning from 2024 to 2027, the project aims to empower local communities and civil society sectors through the Green Leadership Programme by providing new skills, as well as financial and technical support, to drive local green initiatives and mobilise and engage citizens in fostering sustainable development at the local level.

Programme Activity Phase	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. Kick-off meeting and launching of the programme								
2. Online and onsite training sessions								

3. Onsite intensive training sessions								
4. Call for proposals for Green Fellowships								
5. Selection of Green Fellows								
6. Call for proposals for micro-grants								
7. Online sessions mentorships on project writing and crowdfunding strategies								
8. Selection of micro-grant winners								