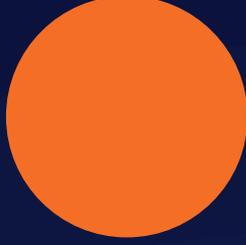
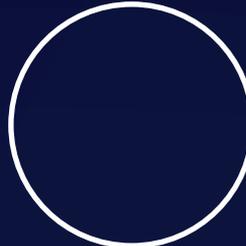


RESILIENT YOUTH FOR BRIGHTER LIBYA



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FOREWORD

Young people in Libya represent not only a demographic majority but a powerful force for positive change. Their energy, innovation, and resilience are shaping the future of their communities and their country, often in the face of considerable challenges.

At UNDP Libya, we see youth not as beneficiaries but as essential partners in building inclusive institutions, advancing peace and development, and tackling the climate crisis. This Youth Catalogue reflects our deep commitment to creating opportunities that empower young Libyans to lead with the tools, skills, and platforms they need to shape decisions that affect their lives.

From entrepreneurship and digital innovation to civic engagement and climate action, these initiatives represent more than programmes; they are building blocks for a more inclusive, resilient, and prosperous Libya.

We thank our partners, governments, donors, civil society, and the young changemakers themselves for walking this journey with us. In particular, we recognize the continued support of the European Union, the African Development Bank, the Government of Norway, the UN Peacebuilding Fund, and our many national and local partners whose contributions have made these initiatives possible.



Sophie Kemkhadze
Resident Representative
UNDP Libya

Together,
we are investing
in Libya's greatest asset

ITS YOUTH.



LIBYA'S YOUTH FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE

Across Libya, young people are driving innovation, building peace, and shaping their communities in bold and creative ways. At UNDP Libya, we work alongside youth, amplifying their voices, strengthening their skills, and connecting them to opportunities that accelerate inclusive and sustainable development.

What sets UNDP apart is our ability to work across systems, connecting national policies with grassroots innovation, bridging the public and private sectors, and aligning short-term recovery with long-term resilience. With a presence in Libya since 1976, UNDP is a trusted partner of national institutions and a leader in inclusive, human-centred development.

This catalogue highlights UNDP's youth-focused initiatives across five thematic areas: economic empowerment, civic engagement, peacebuilding, climate action, and innovation. These areas are deeply interconnected, and youth leadership is vital to progress in each.

By partnering with national and municipal institutions, civil society, and development partners, UNDP is building pathways for young people to thrive. The pages that follow offer concrete examples of how youth are transforming challenges into opportunities and how we are investing in their leadership to build a more resilient Libya.

FOCUS AREA



**ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT**



**ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE ACTION**



**PEACEBUILDING
AND RESILIENCE**



**YOUTH CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT**



**INNOVATION
AND TECHNOLOGY**

UNDP LIBYA HAS DIRECTLY
EMPOWERED OVER

6,498

YOUNG PEOPLE





ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



The **Deraya Entrepreneurship Initiative** for young entrepreneurs seeks to build a dynamic ecosystem of innovative entrepreneurs and startups in Libya.

Young entrepreneurs in Libya face many challenges, including accessing markets and financial resources and navigating regulations and administrative procedures. The Deraya initiative is designed to equip entrepreneurs with the essential know-how to turn innovative ideas into successful startups.



20 webinars delivered to aspiring entrepreneurs



4,200 applications received (47% of them women)



235 participants in startup weekends



Over 1200 youth-targeted webinars



158 Youth participated in hackathons

Targeting youth and vulnerable groups, Deraya was designed as a multi-stage initiative that began with awareness campaigns, delivering more than 20 webinars to aspiring entrepreneurs. This was followed by startup weekends, where participants received hands-on training and strengthened their capacities in entrepreneurship. The journey continued with hackathons, encouraging startups to compete and refine their ideas in a dynamic and supportive environment.

The first Deraya campaign was launched in the municipalities of **Tripoli, Benghazi, Derna, and Sebha**, funded by the EU and AfDB, and culminated with an incubation program and startup grants to help the winning startups bring their ideas to life. Building on this success, Deraya expanded its reach to the **South of Libya, covering Bint Baya, Gurda, Sharguiya, Sebha, Ghat, and Ubari**, with support from the Government of Norway and UNPBF, implementing similar activities tailored to the local context.



160 Young entrepreneurs received business incubation services

AgroLab



Additionally, Deraya introduced a specialised incubation track for agricultural startups, funded by the EU, targeting the municipalities of **Sebha, Brak Alshati, Ubari, Murzuq, and Kufra**. This program combined capacity building with incubation services and business grants, empowering young agripreneurs to launch and scale their ventures. As a critical step towards sustainability, entrepreneurs will be linked to the municipal business incubators being set up with MoLG and UNDP's technical support.





ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



MAHARAH CODING ACADEMY

LibyanSpider

132
YOUTH
graduated

The Maharah Coding School is an educational initiative to equip young people in Libya with coding and technological expertise. Developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and financially supported by the European Union (EU).

91
YOUTH
linked with
employment
opportunities
through the job fair

It aims to support the youth with technical skills in coding and as instruments of social and economic development. By offering a curriculum that addresses challenges like market entry and regulatory navigation, it's a catalyst for sustainable peace and development. This approach prepares a new generation of young Libyans to be peace innovators, contributing to a stable, prosperous future in Libya.



UNDP is establishing Job Competency Centres and a digital Job Bank to address employment challenges for youth, women, and vulnerable groups in Libya. These centres offer training on soft skills, job market competencies, and career counselling across the South, West, and East. Additionally, 42 municipal staff (15 in Tripoli, 15 in Benghazi, and 12 in Sabha) received ToT training to sustain these efforts.



**SMALL
BUSINESS
SUPPORT
THROUGH
ASSET
RECOVERY**

42
**MUNICIPAL
STAFF**
and labour
offices trained
through the
ToT program

15 IN TRIPOLI
15 IN BENGHAZI
12 IN SABHA





ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



FORAS

Foras—meaning "opportunities" in Arabic—is an innovative, user-friendly job-matching platform developed to connect job seekers with employers and support the development of Libya's labour market. Launched by the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) with support from UNDP, the European Union, and the African Development Bank, Foras is part of a broader initiative to establish Job Competency Centres across the country. The platform allows job seekers to create detailed profiles highlighting their education, skills, and experience, while enabling employers to post vacancies free of charge and efficiently identify qualified candidates. It also links with educational and vocational institutions to align workforce capabilities with market needs. By streamlining the recruitment process and offering real-time insights through advanced tools and dashboards, Foras plays a vital role in enhancing employment access and addressing Libya's evolving economic and social challenges.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



THE LIBYAN KOREAN CENTRE (LKC)

14

Departments were rehabilitated at LKC with UNDP support.

20

Instructors received specialized training.

5

New green economy programmes were launched.

31

Entrepreneurs were awarded grants.

120

Young people are expected to be trained annually.

28

New jobs were created, including for women and persons with disabilities.

With UNDP support, LKC rehabilitated 14 departments and launched five new green economy programmes, enabling vocational training for youth in emerging and sustainable sectors. The Green Economy Department, established in 2025, delivers training aligned with global sustainability standards and is expected to train around 120 young people annually. In addition, 20 instructors were trained, and 31 entrepreneurs received grants, creating 28 new jobs including for women and persons with disabilities.





Launched by UNDP in partnership with the Municipality of Tripoli Centre, inspired by the Ministry of Local Government, and supported by the EU and Italy, Libya's first municipality-led business hub will equip start-ups and small businesses to grow, create jobs, and boost economic diversification. Designed by three female municipal engineers, it offers co-working spaces, mentorship, networking, and training in entrepreneurship, start-up development, and digital skills.



COMMUNITY PEACE CAMP

In Sebha, a 10-day camp brought together 70 youth to develop skills in peacebuilding, dialogue, and community leadership. Building on this, four community events across southern Libya engaged over 300 people: a heritage festival in Murzuq, football tournaments in Kufra and Bint Baya, and a heritage celebration in Gurda Ashati that included strong participation from IDPs, people with disabilities, and women's groups.

- **10-DAY**
- **SEBHA**
- **70 YOUTH**
- **4 COMMUNITY EVENTS**
- **ENGAGED OVER 300 PEOPLE**





PEACEBUILDING AND RESILIENCE

AL GREFA RADIO

Serving as a key platform for community engagement in the South, Al Grefa Radio reached over 40,000 (including 21,200 women) beneficiaries many of them youth through informative and peace-promoting broadcasts.

40,000+
BENEFICIARIES REACHED

21,200
WOMEN INCLUDED



YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



YOUTH COUNCILS EMPOWERING LIBYAN YOUTH



62 YOUTH
38 men and 24 women

UNDP trained 62 youth (38 men and 24 women) in local governance and Artificial Intelligence (AI) through a tailored Training of Trainers (ToT) program. The initiative strengthened youth leadership, advocacy capacity, and awareness of governance mechanisms, while introducing the potential of AI as a tool for social innovation.



RA'IDAT INITIATIVE YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

35
YOUNG WOMEN TRAINED

Nationally implemented, this initiative trained 35 young women in leadership, empowering them to challenge societal norms, advocate for inclusive policies, and serve as role models in their communities. By investing in young women's leadership, UNDP is contributing to a more equitable and representative society.

YOUTH-LED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

In Brak Alshati and Kufra, youth-led efforts supported the rehabilitation of local football pitches, benefiting over **5600 young people**. These safe spaces foster social cohesion, physical well-being, and inclusive community development.

Community peace camp established over **10 days** in Sebha with participants from Murzuq, Kufra, Bint Baya, Brak AlShati, Curda, and Sharguiya. The main aim was to promote civic engagement in community activities that promote social cohesion and local peacebuilding.





ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

Youth participation in water resource management is seen as a very important factor in increasing ownership at local levels. However, participation is sometimes reduced to voluntary labour contributions from local communities. A more holistic view, however, sees that the whole process of water resource management, from mapping, design, implementation and management, should involve communities' youth groups who have knowledge of the locally viable methods. Projects designed and run with the full participation of youth, women and men are more sustainable and effective than those that are not.



Effective water governance systems must ensure equitable access to safe drinking water for all individuals. Achieving this equity requires the active participation of all stakeholders, especially youth, in the water management processes. IWRM emphasises the importance of youth being equal partners with women and men in decision-making over the development, use, technology selection, financing and other critical aspects of water management.

Based on the assessment of the status and effectiveness of your participation in water resources management, the project will design and facilitate the community engagement workshops targeting women, men and youth population, including youth-led non-governmental and civil society organisations (NGOs and CSOs), aiming to ensure that the environmental and social needs of youth and future generations are adequately reflected in current policies and practices. The aim of these workshops will be to reshape local water development strategies to eradicate poverty, improve livelihoods, and influence reforms that integrate youth-inclusive approaches into both the public and private sectors. A conflict-sensitive approach should be adopted during the implementation of these workshops.



Finally, this activity will be scaled up and replicated in the Municipalities of Al-Qalaa and Dhafer Al-Jabal in Jabal Nafusa, in perhaps in other water stressed communities of Libya

AGRO-LAB SEED GRANTS

Supporting innovation in agriculture, UNDP awarded seed grants to **45 youth-led** agro-projects in the South, promoting green entrepreneurship and sustainable farming practices.



40 YOUTH-LED

Awarded seed grants

YOUTH-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

YOUTH IN WATER GOVERNANCE

In Al-Qalaa and Dhafer Al-Jabal, youth are participating in local water governance workshops. These workshops address community-led planning, appropriate technologies, and conflict-sensitive resource management. A digital platform will host tools and case studies to support replication.



ECO-ACT PROJECT


9,300

**PEOPLE ACROSS LIBYA WERE
MOBILIZED THROUGH
THE ECO-ACT PROJECT IN
JUST 7 MONTHS**

UNDP Libya supported the ECO-ACT Project to boost climate resilience and environmental sustainability. The project empowered youth, women, civil society, and academic institutions to become champions of climate action, aligning with Libya's national climate strategies.

Over seven months, ECO-ACT reached more than 9,300 people through surveys, workshops, and awareness campaigns. Key achievements included a national climate perception survey engaging 1,681 respondents, vibrant outreach events and focus groups involving over 400 participants, and a stakeholder mapping exercise identifying over 180 key actors across Libya—all contributing to stronger climate advocacy and collaboration.



INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

UNDP Libya's Accelerator Lab is boosting innovation to tackle development challenges in inclusive and collaborative approaches together with diverse groups of community including local and young innovators.



ADDRESSING RISING GROUNDWATER ISSUES IN ZLITEN

leveraging advanced technologies such as IoT sensors and satellite imagery, and combining them with community-driven solutions, the team empowers young professionals, students, and women to actively participate in environmental monitoring, decision-making, and innovative practices. This effort aims to build resilience and protect Libyan communities from the impacts of groundwater flooding.

In a separate initiative, Libya's youth are driving economic transformation through the Accelerator Lab's collaboration with the Ministry of Economy. Using foresight methodologies, the team focuses on six sectors:

Tourism, Technology, Renewable energy, Transit Trade, Food industry, and Finance.

By harnessing collective intelligence, including young perspectives, this initiative envisions a sustainable and diversified economic future for Libya.



ARTS FOR PEACE PLATFORM

12

CSOs received support to implement art

12 CSOs received support to implement arts-based peacebuilding initiatives in education, media, and culture. The projects reached youth, women, and marginalized groups and were featured online via an interactive map.



EBRAZ COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

8

media professionals trained

80

more participants reached

Eight media professionals trained in Communication for Development (C4D) and Media Development (MD) cascaded knowledge to 80 more participants, including UNDP field reporters. The platform emphasizes ethical storytelling and inclusive narratives for peace.



JUSOOR

24
PARTICIPANTS

Empowering Libyan Youth with Disabilities through the Jusoor Programme, leaving no one behind

In collaboration with the National Economic and Social Development Board, UNDP launched a new cohort of the Jusoor (Bridges) training programme, dedicated to empowering youth with disabilities across Libya. This initiative aims to equip young men and women with the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to access employment opportunities and build sustainable livelihoods.

The first cohort includes 24 participants who embody the aspirations of a more inclusive generation. Serving as a pilot for potential national expansion, the programme also engages the private sector as a key partner in advancing inclusive economic growth.

The strong involvement of national institutions, such as the Ministries of Social Affairs, Labour, Higher Education, and Technical and Vocational Education, along with the Social Security Fund and the Human Resources Development Fund, demonstrates a shared national commitment to building a Libya where all young people, regardless of ability, can thrive and contribute meaningfully to the country's development.





LIBYA YOUTH CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

120
YOUNG
PARTICIPANTS

In a significant step forward for youth-led climate action, In collaboration with the LCOY. Libya hosted its first-ever Local Conference of Youth (LCOY) in late July. Bringing together 120 young participants from all regions of the country, the event served as a dynamic platform for climate dialogue, advocacy,

and youth leadership. Organized under the global LCOY framework and YOUNGO—the official youth constituency of the UNFCCC—the conference empowered Libyan youth to engage meaningfully in national and global climate discourse, positioning their voices at the forefront of the climate agenda in the lead-up to upcoming COP conferences

NATIONAL YOUTH NETWORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE:

On the final day of the Libya Youth Conference on Climate Change (LCOY), UNDP proudly launched the Youth Network on Climate Change, marking a significant milestone in youth-led climate action in Libya. This initiative supports the creation of the country's first national youth network on climate change, envisioned as a sustainable platform for ongoing youth engagement, collaboration, and advocacy beyond the conference itself.

The network aims to unify efforts, amplify youth voices, and promote innovative, community-driven climate solutions across Libya. As of today, over 80 youth members have joined the network in its very first steps, reflecting strong momentum and growing national interest in youth-led environmental action.



UNDP LIBYA STUDENT AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME: EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The UNDP Libya Student Ambassadors Programme is a youth-driven initiative that empowers university students across the country to become active agents of change within their communities and academic institutions. Through leadership training, capacity-building, and hands-on engagement, student ambassadors promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and champion key issues such as climate action, women empowerment, innovation, and peacebuilding.

24 AMBASSADORS

In 2025, a cohort of 24 ambassadors from different cities in Libya actively participated in a range of UNDP initiatives, including the first-ever Libya Youth Conference on Climate Change, collaborative sessions with the Tripoli University Conversation Club on SDGs, and activities aligned with national youth strategies and university-led initiatives. The ambassadors also received practical exposure to UNDP's policies, procedures, and programming, deepening their understanding of development work.

As a result, the program contributed to increased youth awareness of development priorities, the creation of scalable youth-led initiatives aligned with UNDP program areas, and the strengthening of youth engagement in community-driven development across Libya.



THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

We thank our partners, donors, and national institutions whose support has made these youth initiatives possible, driving positive change and building a more resilient Libya together.



Libya



European Union



Italy



Germany



France



Netherlands



USAID



Republic of
Korea



Norway



United Nations
Peacebuilding
Fund



United Kingdom



UNDP



AFRICAN
DEVELOPMENT
BANK



United Nations
Support Mission
in Libya



Qatar Fund
for Development