



Call for Expression of Interest for Civil Society Organisations, Community-Based Organisations, and Local Initiative Groups to Participate in UNDP's Green Leadership Programme

Empowering Local Communities for a Sustainable and Green Future

- Are you interested in learning more about topics such as green and digital transition, climate change, and local development?
- Are you passionate about creating a greener future for your community?
- Are you ready to work with local communities and implement green initiatives in Poti and/or Khobi?
- Would you like to be a member of the Green Leadership Programme network?

UNDP's Green Leadership Programme continues to accept new members and offers an opportunity for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), and local initiative groups from the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region to strengthen their capacities and expand their activities for a sustainable and green future in Poti and Khobi.

In 2026, the programme focuses on:

- **Engaging new member organisations/initiative groups** interested in green transition issues;

- **Engaging additional representatives from network member organisations** to expand their capacities and impact at the local level.

The programme aims to strengthen local organisations and initiative groups, equipping them with knowledge, skills, and other technical support to implement local green initiatives and information campaigns, and to actively engage in activities oriented toward sustainable development. Participation in the programme is free of charge.

How the Programme Works:

Under the programme, participants will receive:

1. **Training on green and digital transition topics** - practical and theoretical sessions covering climate change, sustainable development, waste management, energy efficiency, environmental governance, local development, and other issues related to green and digital transition.
2. **Training of trainers** - skills development on working with different groups, facilitation, and community mobilisation to promote green and digital transition.
3. **Working sessions** - joint working sessions for current and new network members to plan and discuss joint activities and initiatives for the green and digital transition of Poti and Khobi municipalities.
4. **Competitions** - financial and technical support for implementing local green initiatives that will contribute to sustainable changes in Khobi and Poti communities.

Selected programme participants will join the Green Leadership Programme alumni network and receive support through collaboration, learning, and consultation opportunities.

About the Programme

UNDP implements the Green Leadership Programme within the framework of the regional project "Green Future, Rights and Stability Strengthening" (GFP), funded by the Government of Denmark. In Georgia, the project aims to support green and just transition in Khobi and Poti, as well as the active engagement of citizens, businesses, and civil society organisations in local activities related to climate change and sustainable economic development.

The Green Leadership Programme (GLP) was first implemented in 2025. The programme was completed by approximately 30 representatives from 22 organisations operating in the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region, who joined the programme's alumni network upon completion.

Eligibility Criteria: Who Can Apply?

1. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs):

a) **Organisations** - civil society representatives who are not Green Leadership Programme alumni, have experience working on local development issues in Poti, Khobi and/or the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region, and are committed to contributing to environmental and sustainable development changes. Priority will be given to organisations that:

- Work in Poti or Khobi municipalities, the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region, or have experience working in Poti, Khobi, or the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region;
- Are ready to contribute to the green and just transition process and support positive environmental changes.

b) **Additional representatives from organisations selected in 2025 for the Green Leadership Programme** - organisations that already participated in the 2025 Green Leadership Programme and wish to expand their engagement by involving an additional representative/member in the programme.

CSO and CBO organisations must nominate their representative(s) as candidates for programme participation. The respective nomination letter should explain how the participation of the nominated representative(s) in the programme will contribute to the organisation's development and its engagement in the green transition process. The nomination letter should confirm that the organisation is ready to provide institutional support to its representative by allocating necessary time for programme participation and providing general assistance. No financial support is required from the organisation. UNDP will cover the costs of meals, accommodation, and transportation for participants in programme events.

Each organisation may nominate up to 2 representatives; however, UNDP reserves the right to select only one representative.

It is important that the selected CSO/CBO organisations and their representatives are actively and fully engaged in all stages of the programme and are interested in initiating civic green initiatives in Poti and Khobi municipalities.

2. Local Initiative Groups:

Local initiative groups from the Samegrelo region, particularly from the Poti and Khobi municipalities, interested in sustainable development and ready to implement green transition projects in local communities.

An initiative group is defined as an informal association of several people united by a common goal, who have experience in joint activities or have recently launched a joint initiative, particularly on green transition and local development topics.

Local initiative groups must nominate their representative(s) (18+ years old) for programme participation. The respective nomination letter should explain how the participation of the nominated representative(s) will contribute to the development of the initiative group's

capacities and its engagement in the green transition process. Each initiative group may nominate up to 2 representatives; however, UNDP reserves the right to select only one.

For selected local initiative groups, it is important to be actively and fully engaged in all stages of the programme and to be interested in initiating civic green initiatives in Poti and Khobi municipalities. This readiness should be confirmed by 2/3 of the local initiative group members.

Selection Process and Criteria: How Are Participants Selected?

For the Green Leadership Programme in 2026, approximately 10-15 new CSO/CBO organisations and local initiative groups, as well as additional representatives from organisations selected in 2025, are planned to be selected.

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

1. **Interest in green transition issues:** Clear motivation and commitment to lead sustainability-oriented local initiatives, contribute to green and just transition, and achieve positive environmental changes – **25 points**
2. **Previous experience:** Participation in local development projects or community-based initiatives – **25 points**
3. **Impact potential of CSO/CBO/Local Initiative Group (LIG) activities:** a) The organisation's/LIG's ability to use knowledge gained from the programme to positively influence green, digital, and just transition processes, implement projects and initiatives in their communities, including initiatives that impact various vulnerable and diverse needs groups, as well as women – **20 points** b) Relevance of the nominated representative and their ability to strengthen the organisation's experience and impact – **15 points**
4. **Geographic focus – 15 points:** a) Organisations working in the Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti region and willing to expand their activities to Poti and/or Khobi (minimum requirement). Priority will be given to organisations working in Poti and Khobi municipalities – **15 points**; or b) Local Initiative Groups (LIG) working in Poti and Khobi municipalities (minimum requirement). Priority will be given to LIGs comprised of individuals registered in Poti and Khobi municipalities – **15 points**

How to Apply?

Interested organisations/groups should submit an application that includes the following details/documents:

- **Application form** completed by official representatives of Civil Society Organisations, Community-Based Organisations, or Local Initiative Groups, showing their motivation, previous organisational experience and capacities, interest in green transition issues, implemented projects/initiatives, and views on how programme participation will contribute to organisational development and engagement in green transition initiatives in Poti and Khobi municipalities;
- **Resumes/CVs** of nominated representatives of Civil Society Organisations, Community-Based Organisations, or Local Initiative Groups (including personal information, education, experience, and achievements);
- **Nomination letter** confirming CSO/CBO/LIG institutional support for the candidate(s);
- **For organisations selected in 2025:** Confirmation letter stating that the organisation participated in the 2025 programme and wishes to engage an additional representative.

Applications must be submitted at the [following link](#) by March 9, 2026. Late applications will not be considered.

Selection Timeline (tentative dates):

- Application deadline: **March 9, 2026**
- Invitation to online interview: **March 16, 2026**
- Selection notification: **April 3, 2026**
- Programme launch: **April 2026**

For additional questions, please contact: Teona Turashvili, Civic Engagement Coordinator, United Nations Development Programme, teona.turashvili@undp.org