

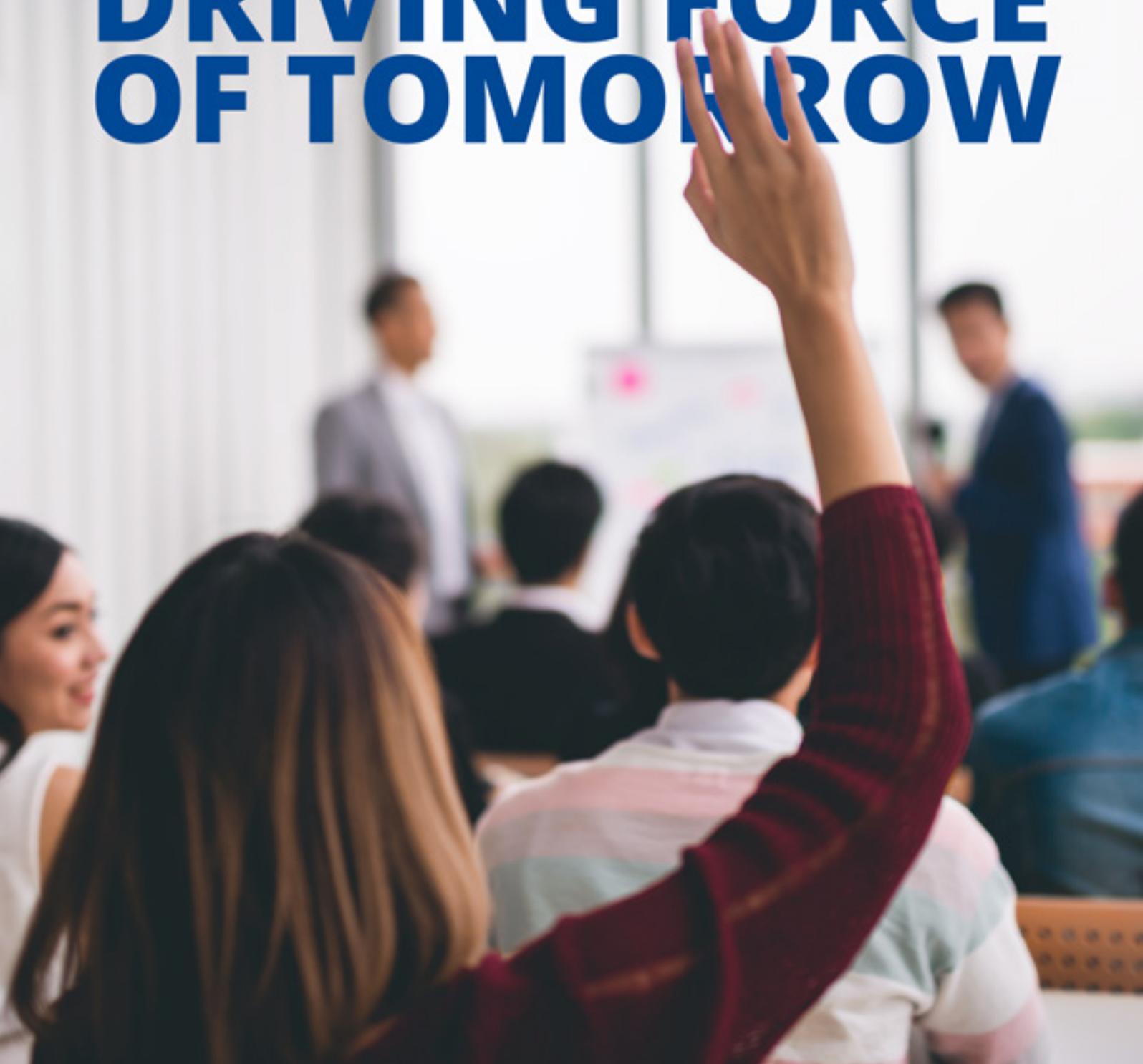
European Union support to
Youth and Education in Libya



بعثة الاتحاد الأوروبي لدى ليبيا

DELEGATION OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION TO LIBYA

THE YOUTH OF TODAY IS THE DRIVING FORCE OF TOMORROW





Why does the European Union support Youth and Education in Libya?

Promoting active citizenship, participation in political and social affairs and socioeconomic integration of the young population is one of the priorities of the European Union in Libya.

Youth can play a fundamental role in the stabilisation of the country and then in any process of national reconciliation and democratic transition. That is why the young people must be engaged with and supported through better education and programmes designed to give them all the tools to be the future citizens Libya needs.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- More than half of the Libyan population is under 30 years old.
- Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations is 'ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all', stressing on the importance of education for sustainable development.
- The Erasmus programme, a European student exchange programme, was established by the European Commission in 1987, more than three decades ago. It shaped the new generations of Europeans.
- Since 2015, Erasmus+ has also allowed short-term mobility to Europe from other parts of the world for students, researchers, and staff, including from Libya.



What are the axis of EU support to Youth and Education in Libya?

In order to translate its principals and objectives into reality on the ground, and to effectively support the Libyan youth, the European Union's action in Libya is focusing on 3 key areas:



1. PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF LIBYAN YOUTH

Social and economic integration of Libyan youth is a key priority for the Libyan authorities and the country as a whole. The EU is supporting this effort through programs promoting small and medium enterprises and providing consultancy services to young aspiring entrepreneurs, capable of creating employment and livelihoods for Libyan, in particular the youth.



2. SUPPORTING A BETTER ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION FOR LIBYAN CHILDREN

The EU is committed to the right of all children to better education. For this reason, the EU is funding rehabilitation of school facilities by the United Nations Development Programme in Benghazi and Tripoli. In addition to the support on providing suitable infrastructures, the EU is also promoting higher education and academic cooperation through the Erasmus+ Programme and several partnerships with European universities.



3. PROMOTING UNFORMAL EDUCATION AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE LIBYAN CITIZENS OF TOMORROW

The EU believes that the youth can play an essential part in building a peaceful and democratic future for Libya. The EU-financed pilot project "Toward Resilience and Social Inclusion of Adolescents and Young People in Libya" implemented by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) aims at expanding adolescents and young people's active role in society through access to non-formal education, livelihood programmes, recreational and cultural services and to increase resilience and social inclusion of young people through peacebuilding dialogue in selected areas across Libya. The project also addresses current and urgent issues such as the provision of psychosocial support or the revitalisation of network of support through the activation of "Youth Centres", "Citizens Clubs" and other community based facilities.



Europe opens up to Libyan students

Dr Rania Elemam, 38, was granted an Erasmus Mundus scholarship, one of the fortunate ones to be given fully funded PhD scholarships for three years. she said : "I gained a lot of knowledge, excelled academically and was able to travel many different countries where I participated with my articles and published eight scientific papers." Thanks to the support from her supervisors, professors and the scholarship team, Dr. Elemam gained her



doctoral degree in a surprisingly short period of time, which is why she encourages everyone to apply for these scholarships and not let the political conflicts hinder their willingness to try these opportunities.



Rehabilitation of a school in Tripoli



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) rehabilitated the Omar al Mukhtar elementary school in Tripoli. Financed under the EU-Trust fund, this operation aimed at providing good facilities to Libyan pupils and 'citizens of tomorrow' to pursue their education in optimum conditions, in spite of the conflicts which impact their daily life. The 373 students of the school have now access to clean and well-functioning washrooms renovated by UNDP's Stabilization Facility for Libya.

Supporting youth integration in labor market



In Al Bayda province, UNICEF conducted a series of workshop in different fields, such as montage and photography, computer maintenance, cybersecurity, programming and soft skills. These courses were identified through focus group discussion to identify gaps, market demand and potential labor opportunities in selected municipalities (Sabha, Zintan, Al-Bayda and Zuwara). More than 200 young Libyans from Al Bayda (in majority women) participated in the workshops. It showed that investing in young people makes them ready to learn, to engage in their communities and to integrate more efficiently the labor market.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Overview of EU-funded projects supporting the Libyan youth

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TITLE	BUDGET	PERIOD	PARTNER
Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) delivery and development ➔	6.5 M EUR	2012-2020	British Council
Support to Libya economic integration, diversification and sustainable employment ➔	7.6 M EUR	2014-2020	Expertise France
Towards resilience and social inclusion of adolescents and young people in Libya ➔	3 M EUR	2016-2019	UNICEF
EuNIT: European project design and management in the south of the Mediterranean region ➔	1 M EUR	2016-2019	University of Aix Marseille
INSTART: Euro-African Network of Excellence for Entrepreneurship and Innovation ➔	704,491 EUR	2016-2019	University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Resilience building programme for vulnerable children in Libya, including host communities, migrant and refugee children ➔	11 M EUR	2017-2020	UNICEF
ENBRAIN: Building Capacity in Renewable and Sustainable Energy for Libya ➔	1743,136 EUR	2017-2020	Polytechnic University of Turin
Recovery, stability and socio-economic development in Libya ➔	50 M EUR	2018-2021	UNDP, UNICEF, Italian Cooperation



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