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Empowering Girls and Young Women Across Europe and the MENA Region

Project ID 101186010

Partners' accomplishments and lesson learned

BOOSTING YOUNG WOMEN EMPOWERMENT WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT



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The project

The Challenge: In many communities across Europe and the Middle East & North Africa (MENA), socio-economic status, educational gaps, and traditional gender norms severely limit young women's civic and economic participation. Youth workers often lack access to updated, high-quality non-formal education methods needed to address these complex, intersecting barriers.

ENHANCE strengthens the capacity of partner organisationsto provide more inclusive, participatory and effective support to girls and young women facing educational, social and economic barriers. The capacity-building pathway combines practical resources, international training, local replication and community-based application so that new knowledge is converted into lasting improvements in youth work.

OUTCOMES

- Strengthened NGO Capacity: Local organisations gain the strategic tools needed to mobilize community stakeholders and lead multi-actor initiatives.
- Innovative Youth Work Methodologies: Educators deploy updated, interactive non-formal training frameworks tailored to young women's economic and social empowerment.
- Targeted Community Impact: Directly tackles gender stereotypes and opens doors for girls and young women facing cultural and structural marginalisation.



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Key activities

PRODUCTION

Development and adaptation of practical English–Arabic resources translating tested European methodologies into tailored local formats.
Key outputs include comprehensive toolkits on sustainable NGO planning, restorative community circles, and non-formal education (NFE) for young women's empowerment, complete with micro-learning modules and supporting audiovisual materials.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROCESS

- **Torino Training Camp (about Strategic Planning):** Intensive capacity-building focused on strengthening project management, team leadership, budget efficiency, and long-term organizational sustainability for NGO managers and directors.
- **Tiznit Training Camp (about Restorative Dialogue)**: Practical instruction for educators, youth operators, and community leaders on deploying restorative community circles, the RJiNEAR resilience model, and inclusive dialogue frameworks.
- **Jordan Training Camp (about Youth Empowerment)**: Interactive training equipping youth workers with innovative NFE methodologies centered on advocacy, facilitation, mental well-being, intergenerational learning, and social inclusion.

LOCAL IMPACT

- Cascading Train-the-Trainer Model: Following each international camp, non-EU partners replicated the core modules with their internal teams, utilizing the newly produced toolkits alongside ongoing mentorship from European partners.
- Internal Knowledge Retention: Embeds advanced youth work practices directly within partner institutions, upskilling broader teams of staff and volunteers while reducing reliance on external facilitators.
- Local Pilot Testing & Stakeholder Engagement: Direct application of new NFE methodologies and community circles through locally designed pilot activities involving educators, civil society actors, families, and community leaders across all partner regions.

BENEFIT FOR THE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED

- Enhanced Professional Competence: Elevates youth operators' and educators' technical skills, intercultural expertise, and confidence to design safe, participatory, and empowering spaces for young women.
- Institutional Resilience & Sustainability: Builds a self-sustaining internal learning culture within partner organizations, improving overall management performance and long-term program delivery.
- Stronger Local Ecosystems & Inclusion: Fosters cross-sectoral collaboration among local stakeholders to dismantle gender stereotypes, resolve community conflicts through dialogue, and deliver higher-quality, accessible services tailored to girls and young women.

Aim of the capacity building process

The ENHANCE training program is designed to deliver immediate and long-term strategic benefits to partner organisations and their local communities across the EU and MENA regions. By strengthening organisational capacity, expanding stakeholder networks, and advancing youth work methodologies, the program ensures sustainable, community-wide impact.

Key Strategic Outcomes

- Strengthens internal capacities in project management, team leadership, and budget allocation. This professionalisation helps partners build organizational trust, attract dedicated volunteers, and secure long-term stakeholder support.
- Equips local teams to identify, map, and actively involve key actors—including donors, government agencies, civil society, and community leaders—ensuring financial backing, shared ownership, and long-term project sustainability.
- Adapts and deploys the coordinator's proven restorative justice and dialogue methodologies to non-EU contexts. This fosters stronger, more cohesive communities that are better equipped to resolve conflicts, address marginalisation, and promote social inclusion.
- Integrates updated non-formal education (NFE) tools to create safe, accessible learning spaces. These methods help young women and girls develop critical competencies, leadership skills, and the practical capabilities needed for long-term employability.

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During the project, partners organised three intensive international training camps to strengthen institutional capacity and equip youth workers with practical, high-impact skills. Each camp was replicated at the local level to maximise its reach and share the knowledge gained with local partners.
The camps each focused on a specific area of expertise:

1

Project Management & Organisational Resilience

Mastering team leadership, budget efficiency, risk management, and strategic planning to build trust, attract volunteers, and ensure organizational stability.

2

Inclusive Dialogue & Restorative Methodologies

Applying proven community-building and restorative justice techniques alongside innovative Non-Formal Education (NFE) methods.

3

Stakeholder Mapping & Community Sustainability

Developing frameworks to identify, engage, and mobilize key actors to secure active participation and long-term financial backing.





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Expected Impact

The ENHANCE capacity-building process directly elevates key community actors, creating a ripple effect that ultimately empowers girls and young women across the EU and MENA regions.

- **Women's, Youth, & Cultural Associations:** Community-based associations across all focus areas gain access to updated inclusion tools and collaborative frameworks. This strengthens their operational capacity, expands their outreach, and enables them to embed gender-equality practices within their daily community work.
- **Educational Organizations & Schools:** Schools and training institutions can adopt the project's innovative methodologies and non-formal insights directly into their curricula. This enhances student learning outcomes and builds safer, less discriminatory environments during girls' and young women's formative years.
- **Non-Profit Organizations & Civil Society:** Local NGOs enhance their service delivery by integrating proven community development and participatory methods. Furthermore, formal certification mechanisms provide strong motivation and professional validation for their staff and volunteers.
- **Local Businesses & Private Sector Actors:** Local enterprises benefit from a newly skilled, empowered pool of young talent. Businesses can also collaborate on cross-sector initiatives that drive local economic development while fostering a more inclusive community.



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Primary Beneficiaries

While the project directly builds the capacity of youth workers, educators, NGO management staff, and community leaders, the **ultimate beneficiaries are girls and young women facing socio-economic barriers.**

By upskilling the practitioners who serve them, the project delivers:

- Safe & Empowering Spaces: Access to protective, non-formal learning environments designed to build critical life and soft skills essential for personal development and future employability.
- Upgraded Support Services: Higher-quality, tailored youth services that directly address the cultural, educational, and economic challenges young women face.
- Professional Recognition & European Multiplier Effect
- Continuous Professional Development (CPD): Project participants receive formal CPD certification for completing the educational and capacity-building programs, establishing clear pathways for ongoing professional growth.
- Elevating Youth Work Standards: By validating and certifying the newly developed training tools, the consortium elevates the quality and recognition of youth work across Europe and the Southern Mediterranean.
- Pan-European Impact: Piloting these certified materials across consortium networks creates a powerful multiplier effect, promoting long-term sustainability and systemic improvement in youth participation methodologies.

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International camps

PROJECT MANAGEMENT, AND SUSTAINABILITY

May 22nd-23rd 2025
Torino, Italy





COOPERATING WITH THE COMMUNITY

10th-13th October 2025
Tiznit, Marocco

NON FORMAL EDUCATION METHODS

23rd-25th January, 2026
Amman, Jordan





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Torino, May 22nd and 23rd 2025

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Workshop to equip NGOs managers and operators with project management skills and ability to work in multicultural team, to boost ability to plan and monitor project's activities and motivate and engage with stakeholders.

Knowledge areas

Project lifecycle, monitoring and evaluation, plan for sustainability, team-work and cooperation, communication and international networking.

Results

The workshop strengthened partners' capacity to manage transnational projects efficiently and operate in international, multicultural environments. Participants improved their project management, teamwork, budgeting, resource allocation, quality monitoring and evaluation skills.

The workshop also enhanced organisational resilience and professionalism, helping partners motivate volunteers, engage stakeholders, build participants' trust and develop follow-up initiatives.

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Torino, May 22nd and 23rd 2025







Seminars about project management



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Tiznit, 10th-13th October 2025

COOPERATION WITH THE COMMUNITY

Learning how to apply the “community circle method” to allow the community to share their views in an equal manner. The aim is to restore trust and building stronger and resilient communities cannot be treated through quick-fix solutions.
They are long-term ambitions that require participation and the dissemination of power through community dialogue.

Knowledge areas

- Restorative Justice Community Forums,
- RJiNEAR model of resilience,

Results

The program strengthened partners’ capacity to apply community-based techniques, facilitate dialogue, and deliver shared, inclusive solutions to local social challenges. Participants improved their service quality, integrated new Non-Formal Education methodologies, and expanded their technical expertise by testing innovative ideas collaboratively across diverse international environments.

The program also enhanced cross-border networking and knowledge transferability, boosting long-term organizational performance and helping partners design, fund, and deliver sustainable community programs.



Tiznit, 10th-13th October 2025







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Seminars about project management

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Amman, 23-25th January 2026

NON FORMAL EDUCATION TECHNICHES FOR INCLUSION

Youth work involves supporting young people in their personal and social development through various programs and activities, to empower young women, enhance their skills, and encourage active participation in society. Non-formal education and youth work are closely linked and play a crucial role in the development of young people.

Knowledge areas

- Understanding Empowerment and Inclusion.
- Building Skills for Empowerment,
- Inclusive Practices and Advocacy,
- Training and Facilitation Skills

Results

The program boosted educators' ability to deploy innovative non-formal education techniques, generating specialized skills to deliver tailored support for girls and young women. Participants gained advanced competencies through international exchange, strengthening their capacity to offer updated methodologies that drive female socio-economic empowerment and inclusion.

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Amman, 23-25th January 2026







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جمعية العون الأردنية
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Ambition & Long-Term Impact

By equipping educators with advanced Non-Formal Education tools and restorative community-circle practices, the project establishes a sustainable framework for female empowerment across the EU and MENA regions.

The long-term impact unfolds across three core levels:

- Empowered Girls & Young Women: Delivers higher-quality, tailored support that enhances critical skills, personal autonomy, and social inclusion. This foundation paves the way for greater economic integration, healthier lives, and active community participation for young women facing socio-economic barriers.
- Sustained Ecosystems of Support: Mobilizes key local stakeholders—including training providers, social services, prospective employers, and families—to build a lasting, multi-actor safety net that ensures the long-term sustainability of project outcomes.
- Resilient Organisations & Cohesive Communities: Transforms partner workflows and educator practices, strengthening their capacity to address systemic gender barriers, resolve local conflicts through dialogue, and foster inclusive, cohesive communities.

PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

As the project reached its conclusion, the consortium celebrates their common transformative journey.

Across the MENA region, partner organisations moved away from short-term, reactive interventions toward structured, transparent, and resilient project management. Internal governance was upgraded through enhanced skills in budget efficiency, risk mitigation, task allocation, and strategic stakeholder mapping.

Central to this transformation was the integration of Community Circles and restorative practices—shifting the paradigm from punitive rules to relationship-building. By prioritizing active listening, shared responsibility, and youth-centered learning, partners built protective environments where young women facing socio-economic, educational, and cultural barriers can build confidence, gain employable skills, and lead local change.

Overarching Consortium Plan: Bridges regional efforts by standardizing CPD-certified training materials, maintaining open-access trilingual resources (English–Arabic), and expanding cross-border networking between European and Southern Mediterranean youth sectors.

The Action Plans

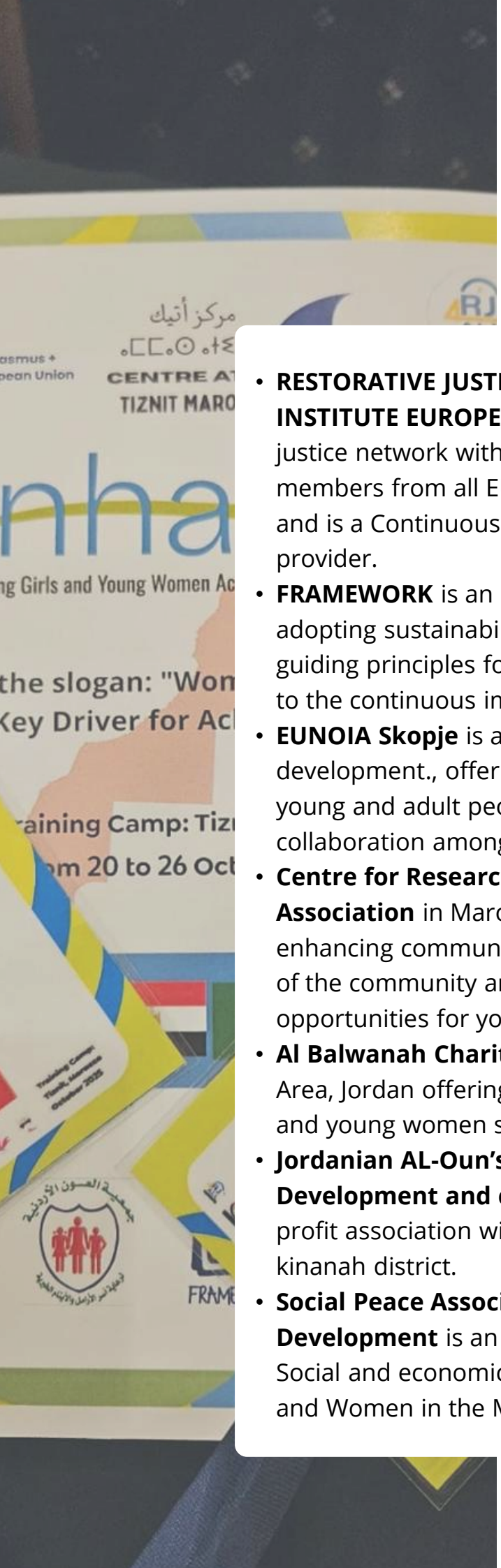
To ensure that project benefits extend long past the formal funding period, the non-EU partner organisations developed concrete, localized sustainability plans tailored to their operating environments:

- **Egypt Country Plan**: Focuses on institutionalizing NFE toolkits within organizational work plans, activating youth ambassadors in vulnerable communities such as Manshiet Nasser, and leveraging local volunteers to ensure cost-effective, long-term program delivery.
- **Jordan Country Plan**: Centers on embedding restorative justice frameworks into annual strategic planning, organizing multi-stakeholder dialogue sessions with parents and local authorities, and signing formal Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with schools and municipalities.
- **Morocco Country Plan**: Emphasizes evidence-based project co-creation, maintaining digital learning platforms and open-access toolkits for a minimum of three years, and providing organizational premises for community-led follow-up projects

Building a Lasting Legacy

The ENHANCE project demonstrates that sustainable social change grows from equal cooperation, local ownership, and flexible methodologies that respond directly to real community needs. By combining organizational capacity building with field-tested youth work tools, the project concludes with stronger institutions, highly skilled youth workers, and a durable commitment to gender equality.

ENHANCE ends not as a closed chapter, but as an active catalyst for regional inclusion. The capacities built, methodologies perfected, and cross-border networks established stand ready to inspire new initiatives, inform policy dialogue, and unlock opportunities for young women long into the future.



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The partners

- **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FOR ALL INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE EUROPE** is the leading international restorative justice network with 2 offices in Cyprus and UK having members from all EU States and over 60 other countries and is a Continuous Professional Development course provider.
- **FRAMEWORK** is an Italian non-profit cultural association adopting sustainability, inclusion and empowerment as guiding principles for planning with the aim of contributing to the continuous improvement of people and society.
- **EUNOIA Skopje** is a prominent player in the field of youth development., offering training and international mobility to young and adult people promoting understanding and collaboration among diverse backgrounds.
- **Centre for Research, Studies, Training and Media Association** in Marocco organizes events and activities for enhancing communication and interaction among members of the community and delivers educational and training opportunities for youth.
- **Al Balwanah Charitable Association** is serving the Blauna Area, Jordan offering courses and programs to foster girls and young women socio-economic empowerment.
- **Jordanian AL-Oun's Society for Sustainable Community Development and care of widows and orphans** is a Non-profit association with multiple activities in the Bani-kinanah district.
- **Social Peace Association for Environment and Development** is an Egyptian NGO aiming at uplifting the Social and economic Living standard of the children, youth and Women in the Manshiet Nasser area.



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Open Educational Resources

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