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FOR AWARENESS & MEDIA



**Strengthening livelihood opportunities for  
vulnerable population through support to CSOs**  
in Tripoli, Benghazi, Zuwara, Kikla, Tawerga, Sebha, Ubari

June 2023 to June 2024



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project worked on supporting local economic recovery, new economic activities and strengthening local livelihoods in seven targeted municipalities by supporting 15 local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to provide local beneficiaries from vulnerable populations (including women, youth, migrant communities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees, and ethnic/linguistic minorities) with new skills and tools to sustain their livelihoods in fields relevant to each context. To establish connections with local civil society actors, Moomken leveraged its extensive national network and connections to CSOs across the country and its local coordinator network, stationed throughout Libya, to directly engage with local CSOs and communities. The supported activities of these CSOs collectively reached over 600 beneficiaries during the 12-month period of the project.

Through engagement with local CSOs, the development of toolkits and other materials to support their operations, and the conducting of trainings, Moomken worked on providing necessary assistance to ensure that beneficiaries and vulnerable populations could receive livelihood assistance relevant to the contexts that they are living in and improve the economic opportunities in their communities that can be sustained into the future.

Following the selection of the 15 CSOs and their administering of the trainings and assets to selected beneficiaries, Moomken conducted an impact assessment to understand the project's reach. The assessment determined that there is a significant need to continue conducting skills trainings and providing assets to local communities. The demand for such activities exceeded any targets that were previously set, which is exemplary in the number of applicants and beneficiaries reached overall.

Though the project's impact cannot be understated, several challenges were still present in the project's implementation. As with previous livelihood assistance projects, financial difficulties in the payment of local suppliers' dues remain.

Additionally, developing amicable relationships with government ministries, such as the Ministry of Labor, remain important to ensure that implementation of training programmes can happen effectively. These challenges worked on extending the project's timeline, creating difficulties when maintaining contact with beneficiaries and ensuring that they could continue receiving proper training and assistance.

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## CONTEXT

Throughout its history, employment in Libya has heavily relied on the public sector, including sectors such as health and education, with the private sector making up a small percentage of the job market. Critical to moving the country forward is a more robust private sector to increase employment potentials for Libyans, notably youth who suffer from high rates of unemployment, and vulnerable and marginalized groups such as IDPs and former fighters. Taking note of the importance of private sector development, much of the international community has responded by implementing a series of vocational and technical training and livelihood assistance programs.

Historically, the South has been the least economically developed region of the country, with many cities lacking basic services. This lack of development has only been exacerbated following long periods of conflict in the post-2011 context. In the South, the agricultural sector remains a promising sector for development. As it currently exists, the Southern agricultural sector cannot satisfy the rising demand for food or contribute to the desired economic development in the region. Poor water and market infrastructure, shortages of quality agricultural inputs, tools and materials, limited engagement of farmers and agricultural actors in processing and other value-added activities, are further aggravated by price increases, the absence of loans and credit available and the lack of extension services limit agricultural production. Certain groups in this region, and indeed throughout the country, face further legal, cultural, and physical barriers to accessing livelihoods opportunities. For example, the youth (18-24 years) unemployment rate in Libya has been steadily increasing for the last twenty years, with the last International Labour Organisation estimates of 2020 being at 51.5%, the third highest in the world. REACH Labour Market Assessments in Sebha and Ubari found the Libyan youth labor force participation rate is very low, with 56% of Libyan youth respondents in Sebha and 64% in Ubari being economically inactive. This is considerably higher among Libyan youth female respondents (76% and 78% respectively) than male respondents (40% and 51%).

Indeed, gender related barriers also exist, for example, women are often barred from shopping alone in more conservative areas of southern Libya. While women can work, the jobs available are limited to informal work on farms, or as nurses or teachers. Most must drop out of school and their access to employment depends on family acceptance. Furthermore, despite the high migrants' labor force participation rate (70% and 67%) and employment rate (77% and 88%) in Ubari and Sebha, migrant employment is characterized by a high degree of informality in their contractual arrangements, considerably increasing their vulnerability to abuse and exploitation in the workplace such as long working hours and low wages. There is evidence of a labor market slack in Ubari, characterized by long-term unemployment and considerable labor force underutilization due to the mismatch between the high volume of labor supplied and the saturated labor demand; 53% of surveyed Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Sebha reported not having hired any new employees in the 18 months prior to data collection as there were adequate numbers of workers.

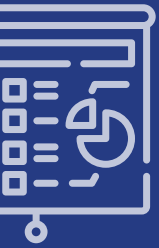
The agricultural sector and blue economy are also promising industries in Zuwara, an Amazigh town close to the western border with Libya.

Historically politically marginalized and cut off from participating in the border economy, Zuwara is taking steps to strengthen its local economy taking advantage of its coastal location. The 2022 Zuwara Maritime Expo highlighted challenges facing the local blue economy, most notably a fish exports ban that bar the city from exporting seafood products abroad.

Additionally, the Expo noted that the Marine Wealth Ministry Libyan Ports Authority and Technical/Vocational Training Department have not acted in a unified manner, contributing to lack of appropriate skills and overall negative impacts on the blue economy.

Tawerga, Kikla and Benghazi face unique challenges due to high populations of IDPs due to conflict to different degrees. The REACH Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (MSNA) reported that two of three of IDPs' most reported areas of origin were Benghazi (40%) and Tawerga (6%). As the country's capital, Tripoli also hosts a great number of IDPs who have moved to the city in search of stability and economic opportunities. Post-conflict, Kikla and Tawerga were left nearly completely depopulated, with many IDPs moving to major population centers such as Tripoli. While conditions in the last few years have allowed for families to return, Moomken's Rapid Livelihoods Assessment in Kikla conducted in 2022 found that many have not returned due to the lack of economic opportunities, directly resulting from population loss due to conflict. Kikla residents also noted that one of the biggest barriers to regenerating economic activity also included a lack of capital and increased costs of inputs for sectors such as agriculture, which has seen an increase in prices for animal feed and medicines. In both Kikla and Tawerga, many essential services are not present or are unreliable, including electricity, gas, transportation, healthcare, and access to safe water due to poor infrastructure.

Local civil society organisations (CSOs) are pivotal in supporting livelihoods in their communities. They have specific knowledge of the economic challenges that their communities face. They understand the knowledge that vulnerable populations need to implement effective businesses. Above all, they are overtly aware of the social dynamics and barriers present in their communities that need to be considered when implementing livelihood assistance programmes. The valuable ties and access that local CSOs have to vulnerable populations makes them ideal for implementing livelihood assistance programmes in municipalities that face issues such as those mentioned previously. In many cases, however, they lack the capacity necessary to implement such livelihood assistance programmes. In communities such as Kikla and Tawerga, for example, TVET institutes that train individuals with the skills necessary to establish businesses and other forms of economic development are non-existent. While TVET institutes and similar training centers are available in bigger communities, many of them do not provide the skills necessary to address specific problems in their communities. While international efforts have been made to develop such resources, local CSOs, who have direct knowledge of their community's needs, should be supported to develop livelihood assistance activities that directly cater to the local contexts they operate in. With proper technical support and oversight, the capacity of local CSOs may be improved upon to sustain livelihood support for the vulnerable populations in their communities in the long-term.



## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Ta'azur's objective is to strengthen livelihoods and economic opportunities in Tripoli, Benghazi, Zuwara, Kikla, Tawerga, Sebha, and Ubari through enhanced support to local CSOs. This approach aims to leverage community-based organizations' insights and capabilities to better address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of the local populations.

To achieve this objective, Ta'azur selected 15 CSOs across the municipalities who received support to conduct livelihood generating activities. The selected CSOs collectively targeted over 600 local community beneficiaries. CSOs were provided with trainings and toolkits that outlined the activities necessary to support vulnerable populations and strengthen local economic sectors. By doing so, Ta'azur worked in building the capacity of local CSOs in the target municipalities to provide TVET sessions for skills that were relevant to the contexts they were working in. Additionally, the CSOs were provided with support grants that would allow them to provide necessary assets to the beneficiaries of TVET sessions. As a result, CSOs were able to train vulnerable populations in their communities on skills that are relevant to their local context and provide them with the assets needed to create new businesses.

Selected CSOs, through the aforementioned activities, were able to gain the necessary skills and expertise to conduct similar projects in the future. Additionally, CSOs worked to generate new economic opportunities in their communities through the provision of support grants and economic assets. Aside from CSOs implementing and benefiting from the experience provided by the project, local community groups representing various societal components, particularly migrants, displaced individuals, youth, women, refugees, and persons with disabilities, were all beneficiaries of the project.



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Effective Collaboration with CSOs, Ministry of Labor, Municipal Leaders**

Moomken was able to establish quality relationships with the 15 CSOs that they worked with throughout the project. Through direct collaboration and support, it guaranteed that projects could be implemented effectively. By working with the Ministry of Labor to gain authorisation for conducting trainings, Moomken guaranteed that it could continue to implement projects such as this in the future. Moomken established amicable relations with municipal leaders, allowing for the use of their resources and networks to ensure that beneficiaries could be reached throughout their areas of jurisdiction. This presents an opportunity for Moomken to continue implementing projects within those municipalities in the future.

- **Exceeding the Target of Beneficiaries Reached**

The original target for the number of beneficiaries reached was 500. Moomken, through its work with CSOs, was able to reach over 600 beneficiaries throughout the 7 municipalities. Along with this, the number of applicants for each training course provided by the individual CSOs was much larger than originally anticipated. This shows that there is a significant desire for these trainings and assistance programmes to continue being administered.

- **Women's empowerment through CSO collaboration**

Women accounted for 42% of the total beneficiaries. Additionally, 4 out of the 15 chosen CSOs that received grants were led by women. This reflects that Moomken was able to reach a significant number of women through the trainings conducted by CSOs and that implementing partners for each programme in the respective municipalities were represented by female led CSOs.

- **Diverse Range of Industries Covered by CSOs**

CSO trainings centred around many topics, including entrepreneurship, mechanic, engineering, electrician, photography, plumbing, fishing, skincare, and women's beauty courses, among others. This wide range of subjects guaranteed that courses could reach a diverse audience and target many sectors across the municipalities. They also helped to incorporate sectors such as manual labour, which are growing in the Libyan economy and are necessary to the continued economic development of the country.



## METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

To develop the call for proposals period for CSOs to be involved in the project, an effective methodology was required to establish proper communications and advertisement of the project. Additionally, it was necessary to assess CSOs on their capacity to implement targeted livelihood assistance programmes in their communities. Developing selection criteria for project proposals from interested CSOs also aided in selecting organisations who were best suited to implement livelihood assistance projects in their municipalities.



### Collection of Data

#### CSO Registration and Skills Needs Assessment:

The gathering of data and information for CSOs interested in Ta'azur was done through a registration form. The registration form collected data such as:

- Which municipality the CSO works in
- The number of employees and their roles
- The thematic areas of focus
- Previous experience in implementing projects and community engagement
- Previous experience in TVET programmes
- Legal registrations
- Financial management procedures/controls
- Skills needs and training requirements
- Main economic sectors in their municipalities

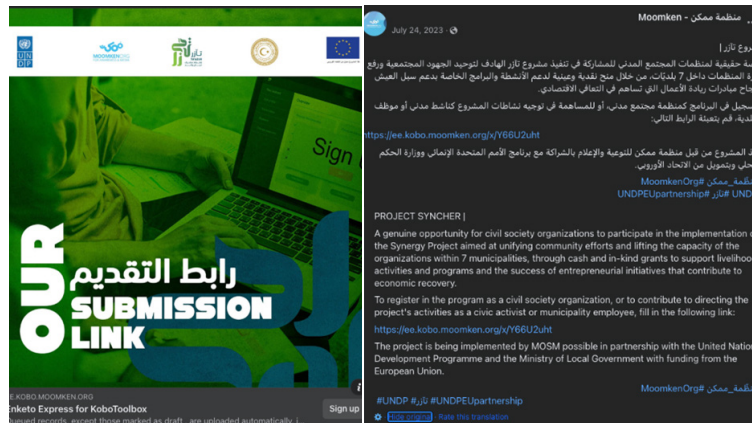
The registration form gathered relevant information related to the CSOs and their skills and helped to understand their capacity to implement livelihood assistance programmes in their communities.

It additionally gathered information that would provide overviews of the main economic sectors of each municipality and understand what skills would be needed for their development, acting as a rapid CSO and municipality needs assessment.



## Communication and Outreach Campaign:

CSO participation in submitting proposals and rapid assessment forms occurred through multiple means. Communications with the targeted municipalities allowed for local events to take place in each municipality to launch the project and encourage local CSO participation. From the 13th of July to the 12th of August 2023, local events took place and were all able to successfully engage with CSOs. A total of 86 CSO representatives attended the local events throughout the seven municipalities. Additional outreach took place through various social media platforms. Social media posts covered local events and provided links to registration forms for interested CSOs. Numerous CSOs were directly contacted to participate in the projects and submit registration forms.



Sample of Social Media Posts



## CSO Selection Criteria:

A total of 380 registration forms were filled out as they were initially administered. Along with basic screening and validation of the registration forms, CSOs were additionally screened based on the CSO selection criteria which would ensure that they met the agreed upon conditions of participation. The selection criteria outlined that CSOs to be considered for project selection should:

- Be a non-profit, non-governmental organization.  
Must be a currently active organization implementing projects.
- Be registered with the Civil Society Commission and authorized to work in their municipality, or in process of registering.
- Have completed at least three (3) projects, activities, or events in the past two years.
  - Previous experience working with vulnerable populations will be a strong asset
  - Previous experience working on livelihood strengthening will be a strong asset

**Note:** CSOs without such previous experience will not be automatically disqualified from receiving grants.

- Have at least (5) people in the organization (with balanced gender representation).
- Based in Libya and active in the targeted Municipalities.
- Willing to comply and work with other organizations for their future projects.
- Must have the following to receive funding:
  - Active bank account in Libya to receive local currency.
  - Authorization by the Central Bank of Libya.
  - Explicit financial management procedures.

Out of the total number of registrants, 107 CSOs were selected as meeting all the main criteria. Data for the chosen CSOs and their answers to the registration form questions were compiled in an Excel sheet to provide an initial rapid assessment regarding their capabilities and the skills needs of the targeted municipalities.

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## Proposal Template and Toolkit Development:

To publish the call for proposals and begin to review and score them for selection, a local livelihoods assistance toolkit and proposal template were created.

### Local Livelihoods Assistance Toolkit:

Finalized on the 16th of July 2023, the toolkit was designed for CSOs with the mission to enrich local livelihoods and bridge service gaps in their communities.

It provides strategic methodologies and practical tools to evaluate project shortages, identify labour market needs, develop tailored exercises for increasing economic opportunity, select and train individuals, and ultimately integrate them into the labour market effectively.

The toolkit emphasizes the importance of sustainability, follow-up, participatory approaches and evaluation in fostering long-lasting benefits and impacts. A Sector-based overview is highlighted within the toolkit to help readers define specific approaches that match local contexts and economic sectors. In addition, example and templates as part of the processes described in the toolkit were created on the 15th of August 2023 and provided additional resources to interested CSOs as part of the call for proposals.

## Proposal Template:

The proposal template was administered to CSOs as part of the call for proposals. The contents of the proposal template included the:

- **Project name and area of implementation**
- **Project goal**
- **Project objectives**
- **How will the objectives contribute to the project's goal?**
- **Project activities**
- **What are the expected outputs of each activity?**
- **Background and logical basis**
- **Project methodology**
- **How will activity outputs address the problem identified?**
- **Budget and resources needed**
- **Technical capabilities of organization**
- **Timeline**
- **M&E plan**



## Proposal Supporting Events and Outreach:

To advertise the proposals to participating CSOs, proposal supporting events acted as webinars to workshop proposals and help CSOs to materialize the ideas they had for livelihoods assistance projects.

Local coordinators from the seven municipalities facilitated workshop events in-person. Further workshop events were conducted online following the in-person sessions.

The call for proposals was additionally administered online through various social media platforms. Making social media posts, as well as using websites, such as NGOs.ly, helped to reach those organisations that were outside of traditional networks in the targeted municipalities.



## Proposal Selection Criteria:

**Proposals were reviewed by a team of 3 individuals with experience in project management, local economics and subgrant processes. The proposals were scored under three main categories:**

1. The proposal itself;
2. The CSOs experience and capacity (data from the registration form; and
3. The CSOs administrative and financial structure and capacity (data from accompanying proposal documents)

### **The proposal selection criteria were:**

- **The project time frame is three months.**
- **The value of the financial grant is, at maximum, 60,000 Libyan Dinars.**
- **The applicant must provide market research along with their project as well as have a clear, understandable, and feasible work plan.**
- **The project must be implemented in the target municipalities.**
- **The project must support the local economy by:**
  - Training local community members to acquire skills that allow them to work in the private sector.
  - Train local community members on business skills such as accounting, marketing, and legal procedures.
  - Provide grants to and support local community members to launch small scale start-ups and provide in-kind assistance to receive job opportunities.

**Along with the proposal selection criteria, projects and participating CSOs were scored on the three main categories as follows:**

- Project Idea: 15%
- Commitment to the Reference Framework: 15%
- Proposal Professionalism: 10%
- Budget: 10%
- Management Efficiency: 15%
- Financial Capability: 15%
- Independent Execution: 5%
- Key Staff: 5%
- Administrative and Financial Structures: 5%
- Financial Capacities: 5%

**Total Weight: 100%**

A total of **60** CSOs expressed interest in participating in the project across the seven municipalities and submitted proposals.

The Sabha, Ubari and Benghazi municipalities received the highest number of applications. Based on the selection criteria, **15** Civil Society Organizations were selected out of the total to work across the seven municipalities.



## OVERVIEW OF TARGET MUNICIPALITIES AND PROJECTS

Overviews of municipalities were informed by local coordinators and CSOs implementing projects in each municipality. In cases where information was not readily available on the municipalities from CSOs, desk research assisted in supplementing the municipality descriptions. Projects were chosen according to their ability to address the challenges in each municipality along with their ability to meet the selection criteria outlined in the methodology section.

### Benghazi

Benghazi, located in the East of Libya, is the second largest municipality in the country and plays an important role in the Libyan economy. Its economy is heavily dependent on oil and related industries. It is home to many of Libya's major oil refineries and petroleum facilities. Along with oil, many manufacturing industries are also present in Benghazi, such as food, textiles and engineering facilities. The service sector in Benghazi is also important to its economy, where banking, insurance, transportation, communications and tourism services make up its economy. Benghazi has had a well-developed industrial sector, but it has been significantly affected by past conflicts and political events.

Though Benghazi can be considered one of the most well-developed municipalities in Libya, many challenges remain for local entrepreneurs. The unstable security situation has led to a decline in domestic and foreign investment, preventing new job opportunities from becoming available. Along with many other municipalities across Libya, Benghazi faces high youth unemployment rates. Most of its labour market is made up of informal jobs, leading to instability and low wages.

This is due to complex bureaucracy, registration and licensing procedures that make it difficult to start private businesses. A lack of TVET programmes in Benghazi present additional challenges for youth when attempting to enter the job market.

Benghazi's demographic composition is diverse and comprised of an Arab majority with many ethnic minorities such as Amazigh, Tabu and Tuareg groups. Similar to the rest of Libya, a majority of its population are youth.

In Benghazi, projects were chosen according to their ability to target the addressed needs of the community. Selected CSOs, along with their ability to submit well-structured proposals, conducted needs assessments with local community members to understand Out of 11 CSOs who applied in Benghazi, two were selected to implement projects, primarily focusing their trainings on agriculture sectors, handicrafts and food services. Overall, 96 individuals were trained by the selected CSOs. 81 of those trained received assets related to their needs. Assets granted ranged from 200 – 1650 LYD.

As a result of the distributed assets covering a vast range of materials and equipment, graphing of assets will not present relevant data. For visualization, it is necessary to outline the projects that the selected CSOs implemented to understand the trainings and in-kind assistance provided.



## **Tafaroud Organization for Empowerment:**

Tafaroud Organization for The Tafaroud Organization for Empowerment was established in 2020 as a development organization focused on empowering women and youth in Benghazi to foster change in their communities. By focusing on processes that empower women and youth to participate and strengthen their control through shared decision-making, and conducting trainings, workshops, and advocacy campaigns for women and youth issues, Tafaroud believes that it can create opportunities for skills development and engage women and youth in meaningful community activities.

The Tafaroud Organisation has previously been involved in several projects implemented in collaboration with international partners.

These included initiatives to support young artists to implement technology into their work, develop photography skills, and support digital marketing training projects to help young entrepreneurs compete in the labor market. This experience in developing projects covering many economic sectors in Benghazi, specifically focusing on developing youth skills, showed that they would be effective in project implementation as part of Ta'azur.

Tafaroud, through consultations with local and municipality leaders, along with meetings with community members, determined that trainings on enhancing the agriculture sector in Benghazi would be the most beneficial to the community.

They sought to increase the knowledge of beneficiaries on agriculture and how to establish and develop agricultural projects, in turn strengthening the local economy by creating job opportunities for young people. On January 13, 2024, Tafaroud began trainings on beekeeping, gardening and pruning. 45 beneficiaries were split into 3 groups depending on their interests in the training topics. The trainings were conducted over a 14-day period. After trainings were completed, all 45 beneficiaries were given assets depending on the topics they received trainings on.

In gardening training, beneficiaries received gardenining tools and safety equipment. As part of the beekeeping training, beneficiaries were given hive frames, suits and other beekeeping tools. As part of the pruning trainings, beneficiaries were given pruning shears, safety materials and other pruning tools. Assets from the implemented trainings ranged from 200 – 400 LYD.

## Athr Platform for Supporting Community Ideas

Established in 2020, Athr Platform for Supporting Community Ideas is an organization focused on empowering communities in Benghazi through awareness and sustainable development. By developing economic, social and cultural sectors of their lives, Athr Platform hopes to contribute to strengthening rule of law, enhancing municipal services and promoting citizens' awareness of cultural heritage. Its specific focus is on women and low-income youth in Benghazi.

Prior to Athr Platform's involvement in Ta'azur, it worked on several advocacy projects on the topics mentioned above, empowering their beneficiaries to engage in civil society and improve their access to skills trainings and municipal services. Through surveys and consultations with prospective entrepreneur communities in Benghazi, Athr Platform sought to implement trainings that would provide entrepreneurship skills development to low-income youth who intended to implement handicrafts projects. Athr Platform was chosen to implement a livelihoods assistance project in Benghazi as it intended to provide needed skills to low-income and unemployed youth.

As part of Ta'azur, they conducted trainings for individuals who were attempting to open small, individual shops selling goods such as glassware, candles and gift decoration stores. Starting on the 30th of December 2023, Athr administered entrepreneurship skills trainings to 51 targeted beneficiaries over a 5-day period. They were taught skills such as marketing, sales, developing business models and enhancing leadership abilities. 36 beneficiaries who attended the trainings were given assets according to the businesses they intended to start. Assets such as sewing machines, carpentry tools, artificial flowers and accessories, and candle-making and baking materials helped to provide beneficiaries with the specific assets they needed to begin their businesses in Benghazi.

## Tripoli

**Tripoli** is the largest municipality in Libya and is home to approximately 1.2 million people (as of 2023) (Statista 2024). As the main population center and economic hub in Libya, it is home to a wide variety of different communities. Many people affected by Libya's previous conflicts were displaced from their municipalities and relocated to Tripoli. As a result, Tripoli's demographics are diverse, where a variety of ethnic groups, such as Amazigh, Arab, Tebu, Tuareg, and immigrants from different regions inside and outside of Libya live. Tripoli has been a large commercial hub in Libya, where international trade through its port assists in boosting such commercial activity in the municipality. It is also well known as a prominent industrial center, with food production, textile and electrical industries generating economic activity in the municipality and across Libya. In recent years, however, the city has been affected by significant economic challenges, leading to a decline in the industrial sectors. As is the case in all of Libya, high unemployment, especially

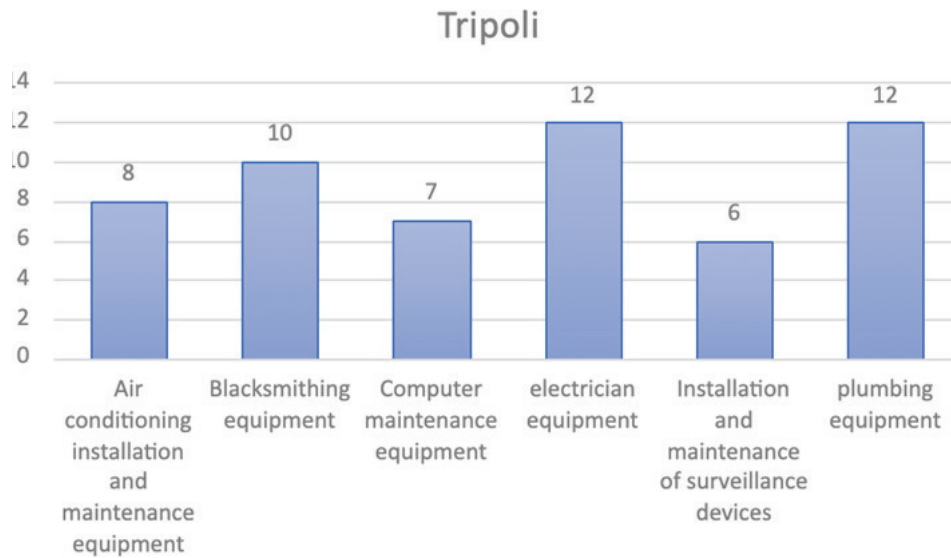
among youth, affects economic growth and industry development in Tripoli. Though private sector growth can present opportunities for employment, the market mainly consists of informal business, with estimates reaching as high as 60% of the market being informal (UNDP 2023). Additionally, lack of investment in Libya due to political instability and security challenges affects most municipalities, but particularly hinders economic growth and reduces opportunities for new businesses in Tripoli.

Skills development in the form of TVET programmes and education centers hinder personal development and increase the social pressures on vulnerable groups in Tripoli. Along with political and security challenges, a number of barriers exist that make it difficult to start new businesses in Tripoli. It is difficult to find reliable sources of funding for businesses, where private investments and concessional loans from banks are difficult to obtain. Complex bureaucratic procedures and legal requirements present additional obstacles for entrepreneurs. Obtaining licenses and permits for businesses are a long and difficult process. In Tripoli, there is a substantial need for developing skills and experience among new entrepreneurs, where training professional development and investment can help local communities overcome these challenges.

Out of 6 CSOs who applied in Tripoli, 2 were selected to provide skills covering relevant industries and economic sectors in Tripoli. A total of 110 beneficiaries were trained in various topics including electrician, blacksmithing, plumbing, computer, carpentry and air conditioning repair skills. From the 110 beneficiaries who received trainings, 55 received assets related to their needs.







Assets granted ranged from 735 – 810 LYD. The following sections will outline the selected CSOs and their livelihoods assistance projects.

## Seed Foundation for Economic Development and Social Empowerment

Established in 2022, the Seed Foundation was created with the main objective of providing sustainable economic development opportunities in Tripoli by reducing unemployment rates and empowering youth through skills development. By conducting training programmes and workshops that contribute to skill enhancement of young people, Seed Foundation equips them with the necessary capabilities for employment and effective participation in the local economy. In addition, Seed Foundation provides consulting services for prospective entrepreneurs who intend to start new personal and professional projects, thereby helping them to start their own businesses.

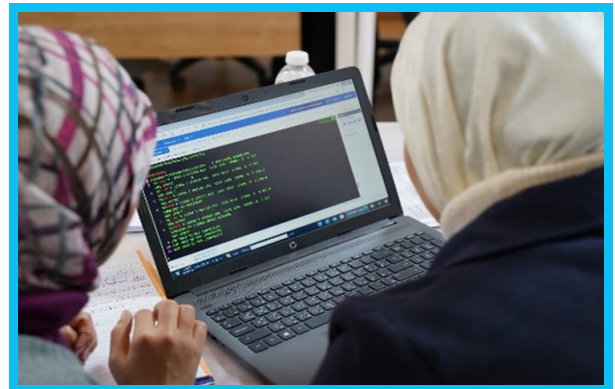
Seed Foundation has been involved in a number of projects that it has personally implemented and completed in collaboration with international partners prior to its role in Ta'azur. Programmes that they have conducted in the past focused on providing training for environmental and technology awareness, as well as creating workshops that aimed to empower women by developing their skills in business management, market and small business development. Further, they have focused on a number of psychological well-being projects, where they aimed to assist youth in Tripoli on mental health awareness through expressive art programmes and discussions with mental health professionals. As part of Ta'azur, the Seed Foundation implemented a project that was done in close consultation with targeted youth groups. Through FGDs and informal discussion, they understood the needs of their beneficiaries and implemented trainings accordingly. Along with equipping their targeted beneficiaries with basic skills such as financial management,

marketing, leadership and communication skills, the Seed Foundation gathered trainers to educate beneficiaries on specialized topics such as computer maintenance, Air-conditioning repair and surveillance camera installation.

Beginning on January 14, 2024, the Seed Foundation provided trainings to 64 beneficiaries over an 11-day period. 21 of the total beneficiaries received assets related to the skills that they were trained on, such as computer maintenance equipment, air conditioning installation and maintenance tools and other equipment needed for the installation and maintenance of surveillance devices.

The Seed Foundation primarily focused on targeting youth, with students and young entrepreneurs being the main beneficiaries of their livelihood assistance project.

By offering these training courses in Tripoli, the Seed Foundation improved the skills of young people, enhanced their employment opportunities and supported small projects that could contribute to their livelihoods.



## Al-Tanweer Organisation for Social Culture

Established in 2018, Al-Tanweer organization is focused on promoting awareness amongst youth about the importance of skills development. The organization is focused on education, youth culture, improving social conditions and increasing the capacity for youth to engage themselves in freelance work.

Previous projects it has conducted have not been done in collaboration with international partners, but centered around organizing awareness sessions and trainings discussing their aforementioned focus areas.

Al-Tanweer's projects have targeted beneficiaries in Tripoli and surrounding municipalities and were specifically concerned with capacity-building initiatives for women, youth, teachers and members of civil society.

Al-Tanweer's focus on conducting initiatives on youth development and skills training presented them as a good candidate for Ta'azur, where they could receive the ability to implement a livelihoods assistance project in collaboration with their target beneficiaries. As part of Ta'azur, Al-Tanweer conducted trainings on plumbing, electrical work, blacksmithing and carpentry for the purposes of providing beneficiaries with the skills to acquire self-sustained professions in those industries. Beginning on February 5, 2024, Al-Tanweer Organisation administered its trainings to 46 beneficiaries over a 5-day period. Following the trainings, 34 participants received assets relating to their needs, such as plumbing, blacksmithing and electrician equipment. Assets given amounted to 735 LYD each and provided beneficiaries with the equipment needed to sustain their employment opportunities.

# Tawergha

**Tawergha** is a municipality in northwest Libya which faced significant violence and displacement as a result of the 2011 conflict in Libya. In 2011, approximately 40,000 people were displaced from the municipality. Significant damage to the city's infrastructure also occurred during this period (IOM 2021). As of 2021, 6,900 individuals have returned to Tawergha, with the number of returnees steadily rising in recent years.

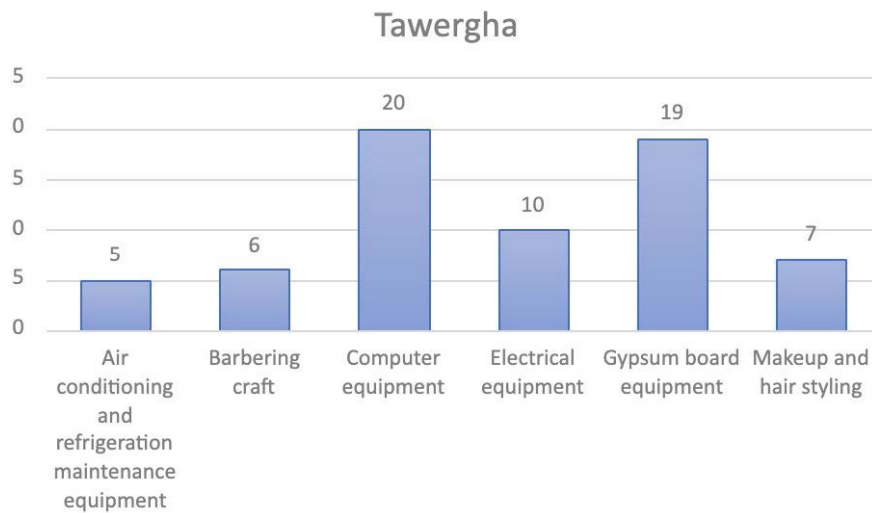


In Tawergha, the economic sectors with the highest levels of employment are public sector jobs working with the local government. Through labour market assessments conducted in Tawergha, along with insights from local leaders and CSOs, the main economic sectors that are required so that returnees may meet their needs are construction, food services, agriculture, and small shops (UNDP 2023).

The main challenges that Tawerghans face when trying to generate new economic activities are the lack of infrastructure, resulting in limited electricity and opportunities.

As there are limited income-generating activities in the municipality and an overreliance on public sector salaries, many citizens face difficulties covering their basic needs (UNDP 2023). Overall financial support and skills development are necessary to develop new businesses in Tawergha and generate further economic activity for improving their community.

Out of 8 CSOs who applied in Tawergha, two were selected and primarily focused on developing skills needs related to technology, engineering and electricity infrastructure, along with providing the proper tools to open small shops. In total, 102 individuals were trained on these topics, with 67 of them receiving various assets related to their needs. Asset grants in Tawergha ranged from 500 – 1000 LYD. The following sections will outline the projects implemented by the selected CSOs in Tawergha.



## Engineering Organisation for Development and Growth

The Engineering Organisation for Development and Growth is a Libyan CSO created in 2018 that conducts projects related to skills development, social integration and using art to spread a culture of peace and reconciliation.

It has implemented projects with numerous international partners in the past, specifically related to engineering and IT, but with an added artistic focus, such as trainings on hand-crafts and other forms of artistic expression.

The Engineering Organisation was chosen as a partner to implement livelihoods assistance projects in Tawergha as their trainings targeted many of the necessary skills needed in the local community. Engineering and electrical infrastructure skills would assist individuals to open shops that would provide necessary services to Tawerghan citizens. Through its previous experience, the Engineering Organization showed its impact and ability to implement similar initiatives in Tawergha.

Through Ta'azur, they had a specific focus on conducting trainings related to developing computer skills, educating trainees on the basics of installing gypsum boards and providing further skills related to installing electrical networks. Trainings began on January 21, 2024, and took place over a 10-day period and specifically targeted low-income youth. Through the 10-day period, 53 beneficiaries received trainings, with a balanced group of men and women attending.

Following the trainings, 49 beneficiaries were given various assets amounting to 500 LYD each, such as computer, electrical and gypsum board installation equipment. These assets helped them to open their own small shops focusing on providing services in areas such as engineering, computer maintenance and gypsum board installation. Trainings effectively covered the needs from the identified economic sectors in Tawergha.

## Al-Montha Foundation for Education and Innovation

The Al-Montha Foundation was established in 2018. Its primary focus is on conducting training initiatives to empower community development. Various projects the organization has conducted range from the recycling of books for university students, empowering youth and women activism, and craftsmanship trainings, such as makeup and hairdressing. Through such projects and further work with international partners, the Al-Montha Foundation has considerable experience in implementing livelihoods assistance projects. As part of Ta'azur, Al-Montha was chosen for its focus on targeting skills for Tawergha residents to open shops for goods and services.

Specifically, Al-Montha implemented trainings related to make-up, hairdressing and fixing Air Conditioning units. Training contents were determined by surveys given to community members, along with further case study analysis conducted by Al-Montha.

Over a 10-day period starting on the 28th of January 2024, the organization trained 49 individuals, with a primary focus on targeting youth and women. Following the training period, 18 individuals were given assets, ranging from makeup and hair styling equipment to air conditioning and refrigeration maintenance tools. Assets given amounted to 1,000 LYD each. These helped to give beneficiaries the ability to start new businesses and administer goods and services to other community members.

# Sebha

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Sebha is located in the South-western Fezzan region of Libya and is considered its biggest municipality. It experienced intense violence during the 2011 conflict due to the presence of important military bases in the municipality (UNHabitat 2018).

Recent population estimates forecast Sebha's population at approximately 147,000 (UN-Habitat 2018). Its population is comprised of, like many municipalities across Libya, Arabs and ethnic minorities such as Amazigh, Tabu and Twareg

The most prevalent economic sectors in Sebha are small shops selling goods and services, and manufacturing industries producing fruits, sweets, embroidery and knitted goods.

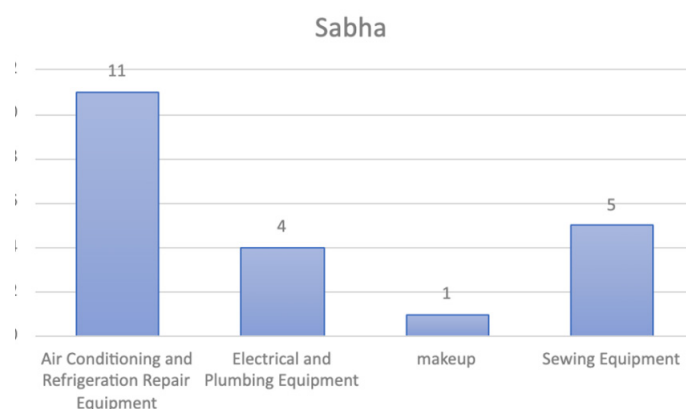
According to local leaders and organisations, however, many factories producing these goods are not operating. Agricultural sectors continue to operate effectively in Sebha, where animal products hold significant importance to the local economy.

Many challenges currently exist in Sebha. According to women-led CSOs and community leaders, women's representation in municipal activities is low.

This lack of representation diminishes their role in local governance and contributes to the lack of visibility and trust in municipal work, creating a disconnect between municipal authorities and the local population. CSOs providing required skills trainings to individuals entering the job market face considerable difficulty in operating due to municipal and legal barriers. Selected CSOs who implemented projects in Sebha were selected for their ability to administer skills trainings and improve business opportunities in economic sectors that were not traditionally present in Sebha.

Out of the 11 CSOs who applied in Sebha, 3 were chosen and primarily conducted trainings on cosmetology, sewing, and air conditioning installation, along with developing computer, electrician and plumbing skills. In total, 126 beneficiaries were trained on such topics, where 21 of those received assets related to the trainings they took.





Assets granted through the projects in Sabha ranged from 1,375 – 18,500 LYD. The following section will outline the selected CSOs and detail the livelihoods assistance projects they implemented.

## The National Assembly in Fezzan

Established in 2012, The National Assembly in Fezzan focuses on promoting awareness related to civil society participation in Sebha.

By contributing to activities such as strengthening the role of local authorities to achieve their goals, empowering youth and women in social, political and economic participation and engaging in capacity building initiatives for emerging CSOs, it aims to promote social harmony, peace and contribute to civil democracy.

Previous projects that the National Assembly in Fezzan has worked on include trust-building initiatives between municipal leadership and Sebha citizens, trainings for civil society participation, awareness and activism, promoting dialogues on sustainable economic development and urban planning and providing skills to vulnerable groups such as women and youth to begin new business opportunities.

As part of Ta'azur, the National Assembly in Fezzan implemented trainings on commercial marketing skills, promotional photography, and social engagement skills necessary for starting businesses. Additional trainings were aimed at building the capacity of women in the field of professional cosmetology, where women received skills necessary to start cosmetic businesses. Both training sessions started on the 20th of January 2024 and occurred over a period of 5 days.

Trainings were administered to a group of 51 beneficiaries, a large majority of which were women. A grant of 18,500 LYD was given to the winner of a cosmetology competition, who could use their grant to start a cosmetology business in Sabha. The trainings administered by the National Assembly in Fezzan were able to provide necessary business skills to beneficiaries while additionally targeting women to receive trainings on industries where they would have the best opportunity to start new businesses, promoting sustainability and increasing their contribution to the private sector.



## Women's Light Organisation

Women's Light Organisation was established in 2020 and has the mission of empowering women, youth and Sebha's community through social support and advocacy trainings.

Their mandate focuses on enhancing political participation among women and youth and fostering their empowerment in politics and peacebuilding by advancing gender equality, promoting active civic engagement amongst youth and contributing to initiatives that support social development.

Women's Light has been involved in numerous projects and initiatives since its inception, specifically targeting women, youth, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and ethnic minority groups such as Tabu and Twareg. Their thematic focuses were promoting political participation amongst targeted groups, legal awareness for business and civic engagement, promoting the rights of PWDs, preventing child marriage, promoting gender equality and providing psychosocial support to vulnerable groups.

The Women's Light organization was selected to be part of this project as they have delivered similar livelihoods assistance trainings in support of vulnerable groups in Sebha in the past. Their trainings were relevant to the economic and employment needs of Sebha and supported their targeted groups to promote increased economic activity.

As part of Ta'azur, starting on December 31st, 2023, 26 beneficiaries received trainings on air conditioner maintenance, sewing and computer skills over a 24-day period. The project had a particular focus on providing assets to PWDs where, out of the 14 assets provided, 9 were administered to such persons. Assets such as sewing equipment and air conditioning and refrigeration repair equipment provided beneficiaries with the tools necessary to continue providing their skills to the local community. Grants ranged from 1,375 – 2,600 LYD and successfully accommodated the needs of beneficiaries.

## Future Generations Organisation for Development and Charitable Activities

The Future Generations organization was created in 2021 with the mission of implementing projects to forge partnerships between political and civil institutions in southern Libya to foster local governance, empower youth and enhance municipal services. Women's and girls' empowerment, peacebuilding, local governance and youth empowerment, and civil and municipality partnerships are at the forefront of their objectives as an organization.

The Future Generations Organisation has implemented several projects in the short period since its inception, namely surrounding youth leadership and community peacebuilding, economic support and governance and advocacy for Law 59 compliance, which outlines the structure of municipalities and their leadership in Libyan law.

The Future Generations Organisation was chosen because of their commitment to promoting civil society capacity building, municipal collaboration and economic empowerment of local communities.

As part of Ta'azur, they administered trainings on sewing, electrician and plumbing skills. Starting on February 3rd, 2024, the Future Generations Organisation provided their trainings to 49 beneficiaries over a 5-day period. Electrical, plumbing and sewing equipment were provided to 6 beneficiaries amounting to 5,000 LYD each.

These grants provided assets for the purpose of beneficiaries starting businesses in the field targeted by the trainings. They covered necessary skills for the development of the local community and promoted the start of new businesses amongst local youth and those who lost their means of livelihood as a result of previous conflict.

## Ubari

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Ubari is a small municipality in the southwest of Libya located on the border of a major desert area in the country. The most recent data suggests that its population is approximately 31,600 people, primarily made up of an Arab majority with a Amazigh minority (UNHabitat 2018).

Ubari's economy is primarily made up of agriculture, food trade and general commerce. Local residents engage in various trades within these main economic sectors. Institutions such as the Labor and Training Office in Ubari are key to supporting economic activities by the local community but lack the proper capacity to implement skills trainings in the municipality.

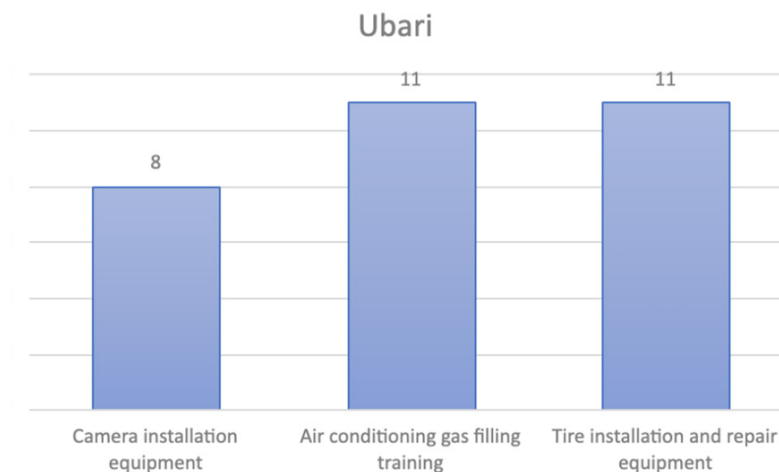
Additionally, many residents are not aware of private sector opportunities and focus on public sector employment and income. Along with this, infrastructure related to health and fuel are not well developed, contributing to political and civil division. Out of the 14 CSOs that applied in Ubari, 1 organisation was chosen for its ability to administer skills trainings for entrepreneurs to develop private businesses and generate economic opportunities in the small municipality

## I am a Volunteer Association

Established in 2018, the I am a Volunteer Association was created to foster community engagement through volunteering, for the preservation of sustainable development of Ubari environmentally and economically. They encourage volunteerism as a means of inspiring participation in the community to enhance local opportunities amongst youth. By developing skills and targeting unemployed youth, they seek to create avenues for community involvement, economic growth and environmental preservation.

Since its inception, the I am a Volunteer Association has been involved in numerous projects related to its mission, such as environmental and active citizenship initiatives, reforestation projects, youth and energy awareness, and encouraging civil society participation amongst local community members. As many Ubari citizens were not engaged in local community initiatives and there was a lack of capacity to develop private businesses, the I am a Volunteer Association was chosen to participate in Ta'azur to implement such projects.

Starting on January 16th, 2024, The Volunteer Association administered mechanics, air conditioning and surveillance camera installation skills to 39 beneficiaries over a 5-day period. These trainings primarily targeted local youth who wanted to develop skills in the aforementioned areas and provided grants to cover assets necessary to start such businesses.



Grants were administered to 29 beneficiaries in total and ranged from 1,050 – 1,400 LYD. By providing these assets, targeted beneficiaries were able to open private businesses and provide services to the local community, generating economic activity and promoting business development in Ubari.

# Kikla

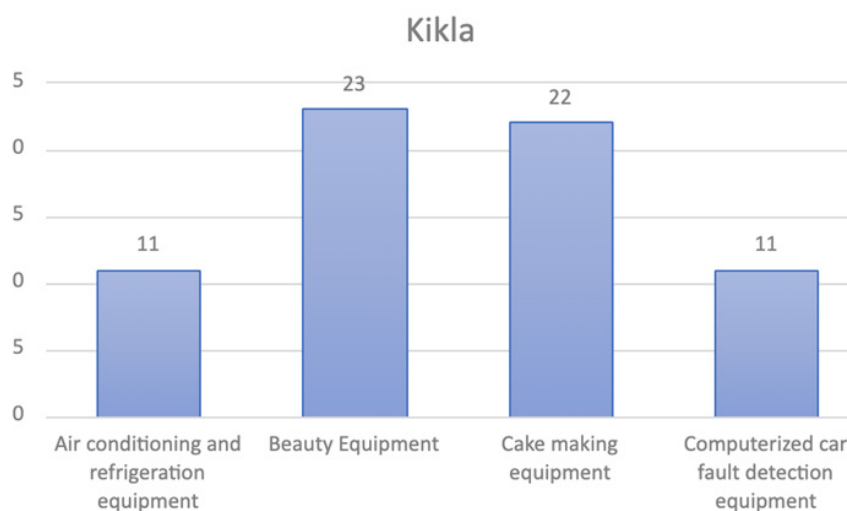
**Kikla** Municipality has a population of approximately 33,000 and is made up of 21 tribes. The ethnic groups comprising Kikla are Arab and Amazigh. The labor market in the municipality is split between government employment and agriculture, with each sector accounting for half of the labour market respectively. Most of the youth in Kikla is unemployed, which poses a significant challenge to developing the economy.

Recent improvements have been made to the increase of private businesses in Kikla, but limited opportunities for entrepreneurship are still present due to a lack of time, money, and necessary skills among young people.

Initiatives by the international community and local organisations have been implemented which provided basic skills trainings in many areas (i.e., mechanics, hairdressing, phone repair) with the goal of equipping youth with the skills needed to generate income and support themselves.

The focus in Kikla was to promote skills development in entrepreneurship and allow youth to apply their newfound skills to industries that were agreed to be developed on in consultation with municipal leaders and CSOs.

Out of 4 CSOs who applied in Kikla, 2 were selected to participate in the Ta'azur programme and were able to reach a total number of 97 trainees. From those, 67 received in-kind assistance related to the trainings they received.



Assets granted in Kikla amounted to 500 LYD each. The following sections will outline the projects implemented by the selected CSOs in Kikla.

## Alamal and Wafaa Foundation

Established in 2021, the Alamal and Wafaa Foundation focuses on providing support to residents of Kikla through charity and other community initiatives.

The Foundation focuses on two charity projects that they conduct every year for Ramadan and Eid Aladha. They provide food for vulnerable families during Ramadan and sheep for Eid Aladha. Through such initiatives, the Foundation intends to promote social cohesion.

The Foundation has a good standing in Kikla and is well known for its charitable initiatives, presenting itself as a good candidate to implement livelihoods assistance projects as part of Ta'azur.

The Alamal and Wafaa foundation conducted meetings with local community leaders to inform the types of trainings and assets necessary for the community. Through these, they determined that training in beekeeping would be the most beneficial and sustainable for its beneficiaries.

To support prospective beekeepers in Kikla, the Foundation would provide them with the necessary tools to sustain their beekeeping business in a collaborative manner. All beneficiaries of the project would work together to manage the production of honey for the local community, providing them with a sustainable income and allowing for the Foundation to continue supporting the beehives and their maintenance.

On January 8, 2024, 30 beneficiaries were provided trainings over a 5-day period. These trainings provided entrepreneurship skills such as marketing and financial management to prospective beekeepers in Kikla. Further, trainings were given on practical skills related to beekeeping, such as the selection and transportation of beehives, safety inspections and beehive management. Such tools allowed beekeepers to successfully gain the skills needed to produce honey. The Alamal and Wafaa Foundation, through the assets given, set up a beekeeping facility in Kikla where they would purchase beehive squares for the 30 beneficiaries.

Each square would be allocated to those who received trainings and, through a collaborative approach, the Foundation would maintain the facility while beneficiaries of trainings would gather and sell the honey they received. To ensure that the facilities could be sustained, Beneficiaries were asked to provide a fee of .

50 LYD for each hive square which they could pay from the profits they made through honey production. The fee was small and did not affect their profits but allowed the beekeeping facility to be easily managed by the Foundation. Through the fees, they could

pay for renovations, cleaning supplies and other maintenance utilities for the facility.

Establishing a collaborative approach to beekeeping between new beekeepers and the Alamal and Wafaa Foundation allowed for a sustainable approach to creating a new economic opportunity in Kikla. Both groups would work together to manage the beekeeping facility, while beekeepers would sell honey and be able to make profits from their business. As the beekeeping community grows, the union would allow the project to continue expanding, providing continued economic benefits.

## **Nana Marin Organisation**

Established in 2012, Nana Marin organization for Awareness has a focus on providing skills trainings and development initiatives to women and youth.

Through such activities, they aim to provide necessary skills to vulnerable groups that do not have the opportunity to develop such knowledge otherwise.

Nana Marin has been involved in several projects in collaboration with international partners including: supporting peace and national reconciliation, developing and enhancing the capacities of women and youth, providing psychological support for children and women, engaging in charitable and humanitarian work, aiding those affected by crises, promoting entrepreneurship, offering services to citizens in collaboration with municipal councils, providing health services and assistance in medical centers, contributing to election support, and supporting the media.

Their skills in implementing projects with international partners and focus on providing skills trainings covering various topics to vulnerable groups presented them as important partners for Ta'azur. In consultation with local community members and municipal leaders, they informed the trainings that they would provide to their targeted beneficiaries.

On the 17th of January 2024, Nana Marin provided a trainings covering cosmetology, maintenance and installation of air conditioners, computer skills for mechanics, and cake decoration skills. Each type of training occurred over a 3-day period targeting 67 beneficiaries.

67 assets, such as cosmetology, cake making, computerized car fault detection and air conditioning and refrigeration repair equipment, were provided to all beneficiaries.

Each asset amounted to a total of 500 LYD. Assets and trainings were able to identify the specific needs of each beneficiary and provide them with the tools necessary to implement new business projects.



# Zuwara

**Zuwara** is a municipality located in the western coast of Libya. It is primarily considered an Amazigh-speaking community, with increasing groups of IDPs and migrants living in Zuwara. Population estimates for Zuwara municipality are approximately 360,800 people as of 2020, with ~36,000 living in Zuwara City (UNDP 2022). Zuwara is most well-known for its coastal tourism, where many Libyans travel to the municipality to experience its beaches and eat the seafood caught by the large number of fisheries in Zuwara. Prior to the conflicts in Libya, Zuwara was well known for its agriculture, grazing and fishing, and tourism (UNDP 2022).

Zuwara is central to Libya's blue economy, where the marine studies and services are important industries in the community. In Zuwara, a number of challenges hinder economic growth and reduce opportunities for employment. Domestic consumption has been replaced by imports that have a lower cost of production as skills development related to effective business practices and the use of efficient fishing tools is not present.

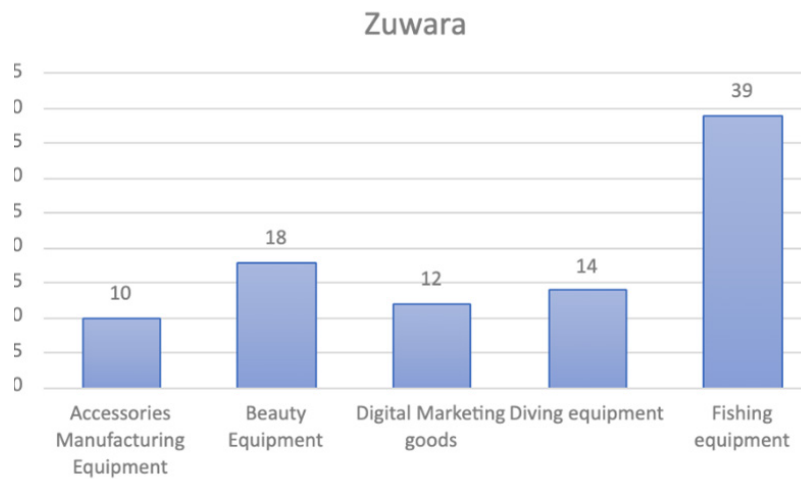
The absence of financial support and reduction in opportunities in Zuwara prevent new businesses from being created. When starting private businesses in the municipality, community members are not aware of the practices necessary to begin new economic initiatives.

By providing productive assets relevant to the needs of this coastal municipality and engaging in specialized training that can improve upon current opportunities and generate new businesses, CSOs can implement projects that benefit the residents effectively.

From the six CSOs that applied to participate in Ta'azur in Zuwara, three were selected. 93 beneficiaries received trainings on sustainable fishing practices, scuba diving, snorkelling, digital marketing and the accessories industry. 93 different types of assets were provided to the beneficiaries of trainings.







Assets granted by the CSOs ranged from 625 – 2,200 LYD. The following section will outline the CSOs who implemented livelihoods assistance projects in Zuwara.

## **Badu Environmental Association for the Protection**

Established in 2013, the Badu Environmental Association focuses on contributing to environmental preservation and biodiversity in Zuwara. Its specific goals are to assist local animal populations, such as migratory birds and turtles, raise awareness on environmental preservation in the local community, and preserve and contribute to the protection of marine species in Zuwara.

Previous projects that Badu Environmental Association has implemented have centered around several different activities. In the past, they have conducted environmental assessments of pollution in Zuwara to understand its impacts on the local ecology.

They have additionally worked on projects to create turtle nesting sites. Badu Environmental Association has also established regional partnerships with organisations in Tunisia to conserve endangered marine populations in the areas in and surrounding Zuwara municipality.

As part of Ta'azur, Badu Environmental Association was selected for its focus on environmental preservation and developing local industries such as fishing and coastal tourism through scuba diving. Through the project they conducted, fishermen and scuba diving instructors were targeted to receive trainings. These included courses on scuba diving and fishing. By ensuring their skills trainings were engaging beneficiaries on environmentally sustainable methods to engage in the targeted businesses, they promoted economic growth coinciding with their organisation's mission.

## Besida Environmental Association for the Protection of Farwa Island and Lake

Established in 2020, the Besida Environmental Association has the main goal of promoting environmental protection and raising awareness about the importance of the fishing industry in Zuwara.

It helps the local community understand the risks of un-sustainable fishing practices and implementing environmentally friendly knowledge in their day-to-day activities.

By organising community events, promoting environmental cleanliness and raising community awareness in sustainable practices, it has worked to achieve its main goals.

The Besida Environmental Association has implemented a number of projects related to the protection and rehabilitation of turtles and migratory birds in the municipality, which has been ongoing since its inception. These projects have been done without support from the international community and have contributed to increasing community awareness in the ecological intricacies of Zuwara along with promoting this focus on sustainability in the fishing industry.

As part of Ta'azur, the Besida Environmental Association worked to promote these same practices and skills through its livelihoods assistance project. In many cases, people living in Zuwara don't have the resources to maintain fishing businesses. This causes many traders and fishermen to stop working, causing increased prices of fish. Besida, therefore, focused their trainings on providing relevant fishing skills to fishermen and prospective entrepreneurs in the fishing industry. By providing general fishing skills that focused on sustainable fishing practices for Zuwara's environmental preservation, they promoted sustainable growth in a local industry that is important to the municipality. Along with these trainings, the Besida Environmental Association conducted workshops with the aim of raising awareness on how to keep the Mediterranean Sea in Zuwara clean.

Beginning on the 10th of January 2024, The Besida Environmental Association provided trainings to 34 fishermen and prospective entrepreneurs in the fishing industry over a 5-day period. Following the trainings, 34 assets were given to the trainees, which ranged from fishing equipment such as rods and storage units to diving equipment that was additionally necessary for gathering their goods.

Assets given ranged from 625 – 2,200 LYD By promoting sustainable practices in a prominent industry in Zuwara and providing fishermen with the assets they needed, beneficiaries were given the proper tools necessary in promoting further economic activity.

## Together for the Advancement of Women's Rights and Development Organisation

Established in 2020, Together for the Advancement of Women's Rights and Development Organisation is focused on promoting women's rights, awareness, education and developing their skills and capabilities. The Women's Rights and Development Organisation works to raise awareness among the community in Zuwara on issues related to women's employment and participation in the private sector.

The Women's Rights and Development Organisation, as part of past initiatives, focused on conducting awareness campaigns on women in peacebuilding and environmental protection in Zuwara. By targeting environmental agencies, research offices and municipal leaders in Zuwara, they effectively staged dialogues that would discuss pertinent environmental issues and women's roles in promoting sustainable practices in Zuwara.

As part of Ta'azur, the Women's Rights and Development Organisation intended to provide economic activities to women in Zuwara. In close consultation with community leaders and women intending to start new businesses in the municipality, they determined that it would be most necessary to provide skills trainings on cosmetology and accessory-making.

As there are no training facilities for such activities in Zuwara, it would be necessary for the organisation to obtain the proper resources to facilitate their livelihoods assistance project.

Beginning on January 10, 2024, the Women's Rights and Development Organisation conducted trainings for 40 prospective women entrepreneurs over a 5-day period. Along with practical skills, beneficiaries were additionally trained in relevant business skills.

Following trainings, beneficiaries were provided with 40 beauty equipment assets that would allow them to start their business in Zuwara. Assets provided amounted to 785 LYD each. The Women's Rights and Development Organisation's project promoted women's business opportunities and expanded their employment options in Zuwara, contributing to the livelihoods of the targeted beneficiaries.

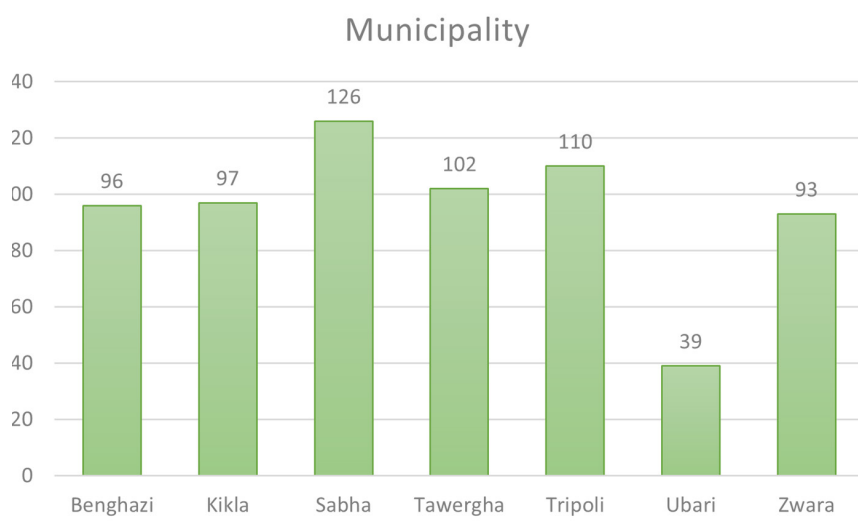


## COLLECTIVE RESULTS

Moomken, through its work with the 15 CSOs in the seven targeted municipalities, was able to successfully reach 663 beneficiaries.

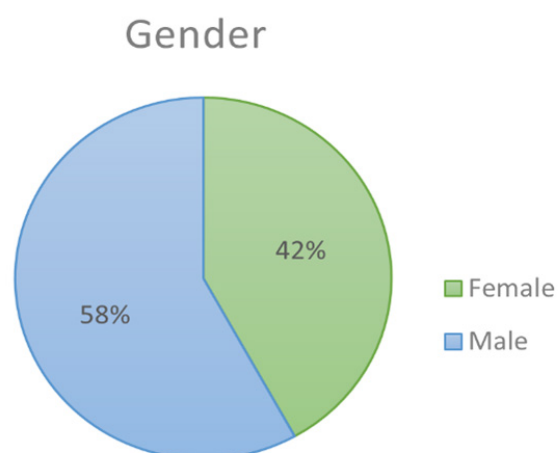
### Alamal and Wafaa Foundation

Ta'azur successfully engaged a diverse group of participants across the targeted municipalities. The distribution of participants included 19% from Sebha, 17% from Tripoli and 15% from Tawergha, which encompassed the majority of beneficiaries. The remaining municipalities represented 49% of participants.



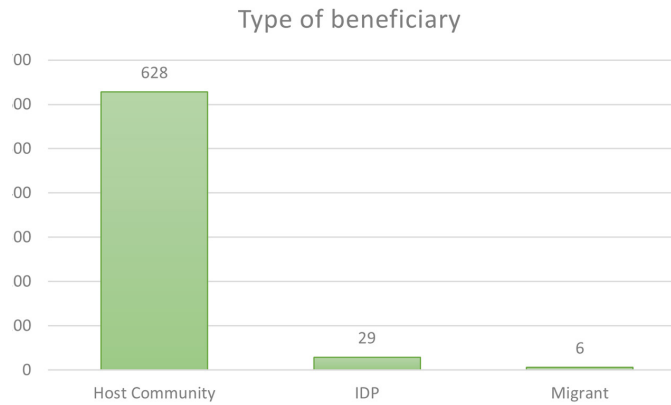
### Gender Distribution of Targeted Beneficiaries

Women accounted for 42% of the total beneficiaries. Additionally, 4 out of the 15 chosen CSOs that received grants were led by women. As a result of Ta'azur, women in the targeted municipalities were given trainings and assets that they previously would not have access to. Additionally, Ta'azur built the capacity of female-led CSOs to continue administering livelihoods assistance project to local community members.



## Beneficiary Demographics

A significant majority, 95%, were from host communities. Additionally, though their participation was not equal to that of individuals from host communities, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrants made up 5% of the beneficiaries. 1.4% of the beneficiaries targeted through the implemented livelihoods assistance projects were PWDs.



## IMPACT ASSESSMENT

As part of the Monitoring and Evaluation strategy for the “Strengthening Livelihood Opportunities for Vulnerable Populations Through Support to CSOs” project, Moomken conducted a collective impact assessment to gather and analyse data that was relevant to understanding the project’s ability to provide livelihood assistance and support to local beneficiaries present in each municipality.

Following the administering of trainings by CSOs and the distribution of assets to selected beneficiaries, Moomken compiled the lists of beneficiaries to gather information necessary in rolling out the collective impact assessment survey. Moomken carried out surveys by calling individuals who participated in the trainings.

Responses were received from 56 beneficiaries, representing all 7 municipalities (Ubari, Benghazi, Tawargha, Zuwarah, Sebha, Tripoli and Kikla). A total of 8 questions were asked that assisted in gauging the enhanced livelihood opportunities implemented by the CSOs and their contribution to economic recovery within the selected municipalities.

### Do you think the training has given you the ability to pursue the field you are interested in?

96% of respondents answered “Yes” to this question, highlighting the trainings and their ability to provide beneficiaries with the ability to work in fields that they desire.

## **Would you like to offer this training to other individuals in your community?**

82% of respondents felt comfortable in helping to train other community members in the topics that they learned about during their trainings.

This presents the ability for courses to provide beneficiaries with sufficient knowledge that may be administered by themselves to other community members.

## **Did you receive any equipment/tools from the organization that provided the training?**

48% of respondents received some form of in-kind support because of the trainings that were provided to them.

Though representing close to half of all respondents, this question outlined that more work should be put towards providing beneficiaries with the proper assets to sustain their livelihoods post-project implementation.

## **On a scale of 1-5, how beneficial was it for you after receiving the equipment/tools?**

Out of the 48% of individuals who received equipment/tools, a large majority of them believed that the tools were beneficial to them. 72% of these beneficiaries answered at either 4 or 5 on the scale.

## **Have you started any new business or expanded your current one as a result of this training?**

45% of respondents were able to start new business and/or expand their current one as a result of the training, indicating that a considerable number of beneficiaries were able to stimulate business development in their communities.

Though the remaining 55% were not able to, many of the trainings conducted focused on skills development and increasing knowledge of topics that were not necessarily focused on increasing their ability to develop businesses. We can infer, however, that those respondents were able to gain relevant knowledge in the training courses they chose to attend from the respective CSOs from other analysis done.

## **On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate the training?**

88% of respondents rated the trainings at 4 or 5 on the scale. This indicates that there was considerable satisfaction with the trainings and their ability to meet the needs of the beneficiaries.

## Since attending the training, has anyone in your local network shown interest in attending similar training sessions?

91% of respondents noted that individuals in their network have shown interest in attending similar courses. CSOs noted that the number of applicants for each training course far exceeded the target

### Challenges:

With regards to the collective impact assessment survey, Moomken experienced challenges relating to contacting beneficiaries to conduct the survey over telephone.

In many cases, calls were not answered by the beneficiaries.

In other cases, the numbers listed were not active at the time that calls were made. Additionally, many beneficiaries were from rural areas that did not have access to stable telephone service necessary to conduct the surveys.

These limited the number of calls that were able to take place throughout the surveying stage.

Moomken was able to gather a sample of individuals from the total number of beneficiaries that represented all demographics of the beneficiaries involved in each training course with CSOs. By ensuring that the available sample was representative of the population, Moomken was able to combat the issues presented by the inability to contact a larger number of people.



## SUCCESS STORIES

### • **Fatima's Beauty Centre:**

In Tawergha, many displaced individuals have returned to their city to rebuild their lives. Among them is Ms. Fatima Isweisi Mohamed, a 33-year-old woman who, despite living with a physical disability, has a passion for art and makeup and has always dreamed of opening her own beauty centre.

Determined to turn her dream into reality, Fatima decided to participate in the makeup training provided by Al-Montha Foundation for Education and Innovation to become a professional makeup artist. She aimed to support her family financially through this endeavour.

Fatima did not let her disability hinder her aspirations; she remained dedicated to improving her skills and was one of the top trainees, receiving a professional makeup kit as part of the program.

Today, Fatima's dream is taking shape. She has opened a beauty salon in her home and started welcoming customers. This achievement has not only provided her with a source of income but also significantly boosted her confidence. Fatima's story is a testament to resilience and determination, inspiring many in her community.

### • **Mohamed's Success Story**

One of the standout success stories from the project is that of Mohamed Amer Obeid, a 29-year-old participant in the air conditioning maintenance and installation training provided by Seed Foundation for Economic Development and Social Empowerment in Tripoli. Mohamed was one of the most dedicated trainees throughout the training period.

Before joining the training, Mohamed tried to learn air conditioning maintenance on his own by fixing broken units at home and was searching for a job that would allow him to acquire a sustainable source of income.

Mohamed's keen interest in learning made him an ideal candidate for the training program. During the training, Mohamed's knowledge significantly increased, particularly regarding potential air conditioning malfunctions and their maintenance.

He learned how to diagnose and fix issues and became familiar with all parts of air conditioning units.



Driven by his strong desire to acquire a skill that would provide a good income, Mohamed immediately began applying what he learned after the training period ended. Proudly, Mohamed opened a small shop in the Souq Al Jumaa area, where he applies all the skills he acquired during the training. This workshop has helped to create a stable source of income for Mohamed, reflecting his success in turning the knowledge and skills he gained into a tangible and sustainable business.

## • **How Rosana Built Rosalinda**

Rosana is a 25-year-old young woman from Egypt with a passion for nature and art. She created the “Rosalinda” project in Benghazi, which aims to offer high-quality floral arches and wreaths with exclusive designs.

Rosana shares her experience below:

“I benefited greatly from the training I received through the Athar platform. The program provided me with the opportunity to learn many things, including how to create a business model for my project. It also enhanced my skills in accurately calculating profits and losses.

Additionally, I learned new marketing techniques from experts with extensive experience in the Libyan market, which helped me develop my marketing strategies and attract more customers. Moreover, Athar platform funded some of my raw materials. This support was both financial and moral as it boosted my confidence in my ability to deliver high-quality products. Thanks to this experience, I was able to improve my administrative and financial skills and increase my efficiency in managing my project. The program also inspired me to expand my project from offering floral arches and wreaths to designing flower bouquets, which I managed to sell quickly.”

## • **Blending Art and Opportunity**

Fatima Abu Salah is a young 25-year-old woman who aspired to expand her henna art business into a makeup start-up in Sabha.

She began her journey as a talented henna artist, using her artistic skills to create unique designs. Fatima decided to broaden her scope of work and offer makeup services as well. Fatima enrolled in the makeup training program offered by the Fezzan National Assembly. Through these trainings, she learned various makeup techniques and how to use products correctly. She started providing makeup services and greatly benefited from the training she received. Fatima successfully expanded her business. She now offers both henna and makeup services, leading to an increased customer base and higher revenues



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