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حوار المتوسط للحقوق والمساواة | المرحلة الثانية  
Med Dialogue for Rights and Equality II



## THE YOUNG CIVIL SOCIETY LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (YCSLP) PROMOTING JUST TRANSITION

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/PARTICIPATION - DEADLINE: 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (23:59 CET)**

The **Young Civil Society Leadership Programme (YCSLP)**, part of the Med Dialogue for Rights and Equality II, funded by the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), led by DAI Global Belgium, and implemented by the Anna Lindh Foundation, is launching a call to engage **26** young Mediterranean leaders for its second cohort. The Programme focuses on improving the skills of civil society leaders who show potential in policymaking, policy dialogue and advocacy. Thematic focus of this second cycle will be **“Promoting Just Transition”**

The ultimate goal is identifying, building the capacity, and nurturing the establishment of a network of highly skilled and empowered youth leaders in ten EU Southern Neighbourhood countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Israel, and Syria).

### The selected participants will benefit from

- A tailored youth empowerment programme that will run over 9 months, and includes interactive physical and online activities
- Connecting to a network of young civil society leaders and clustering with peers and experts from the Southern Mediterranean region
- Appropriate financial<sup>1</sup> and technical assistance to implement concrete community-based actions on promoting Just Transition
- Exemplary participants will have the opportunity to participate in relevant platforms and events within the Euro-Med region
- The most outstanding participants with innovative community-based actions will be invited, all expenses covered, to demonstrate their actions at the ALForum in 2025. The event will allow young leaders to exchange knowledge on transnational level with peers from across the Euro-Med region

### Participants will commit to

- Actively participate in comprehensive capacity enhancement and technical assistance programme including online trainings, mentoring sessions and interactive work groups clusters in a physical bootcamp
- Propose, develop and implement a community-based action related to the Programme’s thematic focus
- Actively contribute to the programme’s value chain networking and peer to peer exchange of knowledge
- Properly deliver the proofs of implementation and any other elements as per the contract which will be signed with ALF<sup>2</sup>.

### Relevancy of the thematic focus **Promoting Just Transition**<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Financial support amount is 1400 euros for each community-based action selected

<sup>2</sup> Participant’s lack of commitment, absence and unjustified withdrawal will result in banning from participating in future cycle of this programme as well as other relevant ALF Programmes and opportunities

<sup>3</sup> According to the International [Labour Organization \(ILO\)](#), Just transition, means greening the economy in a way that is as fair and inclusive as possible to everyone concerned, creating decent work opportunities and leaving no one behind



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The South Mediterranean region faces tough challenges in transitioning to green and sustainable economies. These challenges include limited data availability, inadequate stakeholder engagement, social exclusion, inequality, lack of regulations and enforcement, limited financial resources, economic restructuring leading to worker displacement and job losses, economic vulnerability, access to suitable food and water, and climate migration.

With these challenges in mind, this 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the Programme will focus on supporting young environmental leaders to introduce participatory solutions for the social challenges that resulted from the incomprehensive management of the environmental problems in the Southern Neighbourhood region.

This can be done, for instance, through sensitising environmental decision-making bodies to foster actions for inclusive and just environmental transition, while evoking the citizens' sense of ownership; raising awareness on their rights, roles and responsibilities toward achieving the aspired transition and activating actionable initiatives at local level in a complementary or synergetic manner to the previous key actions.

### Proposed areas of intervention

Applicants are encouraged to think creatively and propose actions in the following preliminary areas of intervention:

#### **Key action 1: Foster young leaders' rule in influencing environmental polices**

Possible areas of interventions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Advocate environmental policy makers/local administrations on actions that support climate change affected communities and promote local sustainable development<sup>4</sup>
- Introduce community-based solutions that support local administrations in designing participatory community-serving programmes that facilitate a fair environmental transition
- Advocate environmental policy makers/local administrations to introduce fair regulations toward combating violations in wastewater treatment, industrial waste management or emissions

**Target groups:** Environmental policy makers/local authorities

**Final beneficiaries:** Local communities/vulnerable communities

#### **Key action 2: Raise locals' awareness on topics that support just transition**

Possible areas of interventions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Produce and disseminate pedagogical materials (visual and/or written) to educate and raise awareness on topics of energy transition, water management or recycling
- Develop outreach social media campaigns in fields related to just transition targeting local communities
- Host online, hands on sessions, to raise capacities on rules, rights and responsibilities of environmentally responsible citizens toward values of just transition

**Target groups:** Local communities/young citizens

**Final beneficiaries:** Environmental policy makers/local authorities

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<sup>4</sup>Young leaders are encouraged to approach/target local Municipalities, national ministries, EU Delegations, climate change parliament member's advocates, The UN Climate Change Conference of Youth (COY), United Nations Climate Change Conference, The Middle East and North Africa Climate Week (MENACW)...etc



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### **Key action 3: Introducing actions for cohesive and more resilient local communities**

Possible areas of interventions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Engaging civil societies in field actions that are meant with spotting and elevating the damage caused by the improper water management and/or waste recycling
- Advocating business operators on transitioning to green solutions and accompanying them in demonstration visits to peers who switched to green alternatives

**Target groups:** MSMEs and civic actors

**Final beneficiaries:** Local communities

#### **Programme phases**

##### **1. Capacity enhancement**

The selected CS young leaders will benefit from the organization of capacity enhancement capsules to provide participants with the knowledge and the skills needed to improve the proposed concepts in terms of plan, frame, and implement their community-based actions. This phase will be conducted through the tuition of 4 training modules, organized in the form of online sessions, with a duration of 3 hours each.

##### **2. Ideation/project design**

Following the capacity enhancement, the objective of this phase is to trigger the inspiration of young leaders and provide them with the mentorship and the assistance they need to fine-tuning their ideas for community-based actions to ensure that they are pertinent, contextualised and feasible. The ideation also aims at supporting young leaders to identify potential networking synergies.

##### **3. Community building bootcamp**

With the guidance of facilitators, mentors and key experts this 4-day face-to-face cluster will provide a shared space to support finalising the formulation of the community-based actions and to identify joint plans with the aim to promote synergies and complementarities between them. Upon the completion of this phase, ALF will formalize a written agreement with the young leaders to regulate the terms for the deliverance of their community-based actions.

##### **4. Implementing of community-based actions**

In this phase, the participants will have the opportunity to apply in practice the elements learned so far by implementing community-based actions. It will allow participants take further the knowledge, skills, and ideas developed during the Programme and drive meaningful change. The community-based actions<sup>5</sup> that were agreed should be implemented within a specific timeframe (from 1 to 3 months).

#### **Who can apply**

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<sup>5</sup> The Programme will provide financial lumpsums to support young leaders delivering their community-based actions. Each young leader will take the responsibility of the implementation, visibility, and communication of the proposed community-based actions in compliance with DG NEAR, DAI, and ALF communication rules



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Candidates submitting their application through this call must be:

- Nationals of: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Syria
- Between 18 and 35 years old
- Actively involved in civil society organizations and volunteering work with demonstrated commitment to their community
- Fluency in writing and speaking in English language

Candidates should meet the following criteria:

- Have a good record of civic engagement, advocacy and policy dialogue
- Deem relevant expertise in one or more of the focused areas of intervention<sup>6</sup>
- Be able to conceive a proposal for a community-based action to be carried out in their territories
- Being part of a formal or informal civil society organization (CSO), as a volunteer, intern, staff, or any other type of engagement, will be considered an advantage. Please state it clearly, when applying.

Through this open call, up to **26** candidates will be selected. During the selection, the Programme will consider the following aspects:

- Fulfilment of the criteria listed above
- Balanced representation of all the target countries
- Gender balance
- Indication of the commitment and capacity to assume responsibility for the community-based action proposed

The Programme reserves the right to eventually directly identify up to 26 highly qualified participants.

### Selection process

**Preselection:** The applications will be screened based on a set of pre-established criteria such as relevance, feasibility, originality, and potential impact. **52 applicants** will be shortlisted and will be invited to an *Orientation and bilateral meetings*.

**Orientation and bilateral meetings:** The shortlisted applicants will participate in two guiding sessions that should help them to fine tune their initially submitted applications. Following the orientation, a 15 minutes bilateral meeting will take place as a result of which participants would have the opportunity to elaborate further their suitability in the context of the (YSCLP). The 52 participants should resubmit their refined applications in view of the information they are going to receive during the orientation.

**Final Selection:** Based on the quality and originality of the submitted applications, a final selection of **26 applicants** will be made by the Programme's evaluation committee.

### How to apply

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<sup>6</sup> climate change, just transition, waste management, environmental advocacy, nature restoration, and green energy in the south Mediterranean region



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Interested applicants with innovative ideas for community-based actions relevant to the Programme's thematic focus and who are meeting the criteria detailed in the 'Who can apply' section are encouraged to submit their applications via the [following online link](#) before 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at midnight Central European Time (CET)

Only complete applications, submitted in English before the deadline will be considered. Due to the high volume of applications only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. In case of technical problems or questions related to the call, please contact:

[ycslp@alfsecretariat.org](mailto:ycslp@alfsecretariat.org)

#### INDICATIVE TIMELINE

Time	Activity/Phase
7 October 2024	Launch of the call.
20 October 2024	Online information session
7 November 2024	Deadline to receive applications
25 November 2024	Notification of 52 pre-selected applicants
2 December 2024	Orientation (Guidance to support refining initially submitted concepts)
2-4 December 2024	Bilateral meetings with participants
22 December 2024	Deadline for submitting the revised concept notes
4 January 2025	Publication of the final selection results (26 applicants)
January 2025	Capacity enhancement
February 2025	Ideation
April 2025	Community building Bootcamp (Location TBD)
May – July 2025	Rollout of Community-based actions
June 2025	Mobilisation of distinguished young leaders to ALForum
August 2025	Closure