

Strengthening Civil Engagement in Kairouan

After the Tunisian revolution in 2011 and the beginning of the democratic transition of the country, civil society organisations started to take on a more visible and central role in the development of the country. The aim of the political transition to build a stable and thriving democracy depends on civil society organisations – especially youth – being competent in their engagement in and contribution to the country’s improved governance.

CLI is collaborating with We love Kairouan (WLK), a youth civil society organisation in Kairouan, Tunisia, to strengthen civil engagement, local good governance, and the decentralisation of the democratic process in Kairouan. WLK supports local identity, culture, and environmental awareness in the city and region of Kairouan. In a workshop for key members of the organisation, prepared jointly by WLK and CLI, capacity building and the sharpening of WLK’s mission and strategy for engagement was combined using CLI’s proven approach of integrated capacity building. In the workshop’s tailored design, the Dialogic Change Model was complemented by the Collective Leadership Compass to address both organisational challenges on a strategic level, and develop next steps in the process of engaging more young people. As a result, several new activities promoting the engagement of more youth in local civil engagement were developed, and a new vision of WLK as a more strategic actor in local good governance took form.

In the coming months, CLI will continue to work with WLK to support the organisation in launching a process to foment more strategic collaboration with Kairouan’s key stakeholders in governance and development in order to provide a more sustainable, and thus successful, perspective for youth civil engagement in Kairouan.



Some training impressions from our work with “We love Kairouan”

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