

PILOT ACTION “PROMOTING WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL COUNCILS IN LUXOR”

COORDINATING ASSOCIATION

National Association for the Deference of Rights and Freedoms - NADRF

TARGET AREA

Luxor Governorate, EGYPT

CONTEXT

This pilot action is framed within the **project "Strengthening the capacities of actors working for gender equality"** led by the IEMed, in partnership with CAWTAR, FLDDF, FFM, RUSEMEG and the French State. It is **funded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development**. The project sets up, each year, **local clusters of gender equality actors** in 7 countries, made up of associations, research and education institutions, local and regional authorities, companies, syndicates and media working in favour of gender equality in a specific territory. Each local cluster elaborates a **diagnosis of the situation** at the local level on a topic of interest related to gender equality and, subsequently, defines a **project** to address the problems previously identified. Each local cluster of gender equality actors[©] is structured around an association that leads all its actions.

NARDF is coordinating the Egyptian local cluster in 2017 (cycle 2) and is leading a mobilization pilot action of gender equality actors in Luxor consisting of consultations and a research on women's access to public life and their participation in local councils.

Although many women are involved in NGOs, in Luxor, only a few of them hold high-level positions. In addition, some men are opposed to the active participation of women in decision making. Therefore, there is a need to enhance women's participation in public life in the light of the rights which are recognised by the Egyptian constitution. For example, through the article 11 of the Constitution, the State commits to taking the necessary measures to ensure appropriate representation of women in the houses of parliament. In the article 180, the Constitution grants women a quarter of the seats in the local councils. However, women are not prepared and they are still under represented in the local councils.

OBJECTIVE

- Analysing the constraints which impede women candidates to having access to local councils.

ACTIVITIES

- Organising a conference to discuss on how to support women's participation in the local councils and in the political life with the media, local authorities, political parties, NGOs and unions.
- Meeting local associations in order to know the obstacles to women's participation in politics as voters and candidates, and the challenges which they face when they become a member in a local council.
- Reinforcing women's capacities of community leaders who will be candidates in the upcoming local councils' elections.
- Writing a diagnosis building on all the information collected through the pilot action.

The Axis 1 "Strengthening the capacity of the actors working for equality" is part of the project "Women of the future in the Mediterranean" funded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, and the project "Developing women's empowerment" labelled by the Union of the Mediterranean

In partnership with:



Funded by:



Labelled by:



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الإتحاد من أجل المتوسط