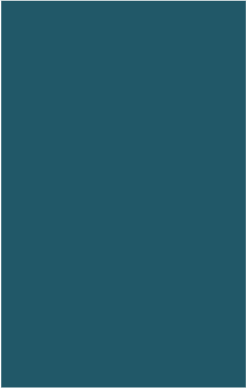


## Youth Councils Calendar

December 2012	The idea was born to launch Youth Councils in Tunisia as a mechanism of involving young people in democratic process and teach them how to be an active and responsible citizen.
19-14 April 2013	A <b>'Young leaders of local communities of Sousse and neighboring towns'</b> project was launched: partners kick-off meetings were held to work out project agenda and mode of cooperation.
20-22 June 2013	<b>Training for youth leaders:</b> 25 young people from Sousse, Hammam Sousse, Kalaa Kebira, M'saken and Monastir participated in a three-days training on: participative democracy, civil rights and duties, motivation and involvement, leadership, roles in a group, negotiations and communications, participative planning. The idea of Youth Councils in Tunisia was worked out basing on model and experiences from Poland. The training was preceded by a thorough recruitment procedure.
24-28 July 2013	<b>Travelling Workshop for Youth Leaders:</b> five-days workshop aimed at delivering participative methods of planning and implementing local actions. Each workshop was held in a different locality to address the local problem and need: Future City Games (M'saken), Civix Journalism (Kalaa Kebira), Projects for the Environment (Sousse), Placemaking workshop - Projects for Public Spaces (Monastir), Oxford Debate and the Art of Dialogue (Hammam Sousse).
July – August 2013	<b>Artistic competition: 'Future of my town':</b> young people from seven localities prepared art pieces (paintings, sculptures, collages etc.), showing their vision of development of their localities. Five works of art were awarded, selected by a jury including professional artists.
26 August – 15 November 2013	<b>'Youth Initiative' Competition</b> of mini-projects for Youth Councils. The Competition was announced at the end of August. Eight mini-projects were submitted to the Competition, of which the mini-project committee selected 5 initiatives to be implemented: YC Sousse: 'The Urban Book Box', YC Hammam Sousse: 'Greening an abandoned park', YC Monastir: 'Project for Public Space Monastir', YC M'saken: 'Learning Space', YC Kalaa Kebira: 'Making schools more beautiful'. Mini-projects were implemented until 15 November and their results were presented during the Final Conference.
27 September – 2 October 2013	<b>Study visit to Poland:</b> a group of 15 members of Youth Councils participated in the study visit to Poland that was aimed at get the knowledge about youth Councils in Poland, democratic participative mechanism on a local level as well as learn about initiatives undertaken by various NGOs in Poland. It was a good opportunity not only to learn but also to inspire and exchange of

	experiences.
April – November 2013	<b>Youth Council newspaper ‘Youth in Action’:</b> during the project there was emitted a newspaper that was delivering news concerning activities of Youth Councils as well as useful information and knowledge for active and involved young people. <b>Webpage:</b> at the same time a Youth Council webpage was launched as well as FB group and fanpage.
23 November 2013	<b>Final Conference:</b> one-day conference was organized in Sousse in order to present the project assumptions and results to Youth Council member and a wider spectrum of audience. It was also opportunity to sum-up and evaluate the project and make plans for future.
2014	<b>Continuation of Youth Councils operation:</b> young people undertook some initiatives, some Youth Councils were more others less active. Most of mini-projects were maintained: Research Club for children in M’saken was active all 2014, there were some painting activities in different places in Sousse and Monastir, schools in Kalaa Kebira were supported and also more actions were implemented to improve the conditions for kids to learn.
29 April – 3 May 2015	<b>‘Youth Councils in Tunisia’</b> project was launched by organizing kick-off meetings to work out project agenda and mode of cooperation.
19-21 June 2015	<b>Training for young leaders:</b> focused on how to introduce participative democratic mechanism to everyday practice of local municipalities as well as development of knowledge and skills useful in being an active member in Youth Council. The important experience for participants was Oxford debate on thesis ‘Youth Councils could be a serious partner in the dialogue with local government’ as it evoked plenty of discussions and emotions. The additional value of the training was the opportunity for exchange information and experiences among representatives of seven Youth Councils and integration. It was attended by 25 young people selected from over 170 candidates.
21-23 July 2015	<b>Workshops on project management:</b> it was aimed at learning how to turn ideas of local actions into a well-tailored, fit to be implemented project to be submitted in the ‘Youth Initiative’ Competition. Over 70 people took part in the workshops and they worked on projects addressing various local problems and needs, e.g. management of green spaces for recreation (Ksibet El Madyouni, Monastir, Hammam Sousse), creation of clubs for young people with cultural and educational offer (Monastir, M’saken, Ksibet El Madyouni), organization of festivals and cultural events, launching a library and a meeting place for young people (Hay Riadh), improvement of esthetics and information system of a railway station (Kalaa Kebira), organization of support for people suffering from autism and their families in M’saken or turning the hospital wards for children afflicted with cancer into a

	more friendly places as well as organizing animations for them (Sousse).
23 August 2015	<b>Workshop on civic journalism:</b> it was focused on preparing young people to better promote Youth Councils as well as be more effective in convincing sponsors to support their actions. Participants not only were provided with the theoretical bases but also had opportunity to practice, while preparing press releases, interviews, defining the best communication channel, working out slogans and short information. Youth Councils were discussing the promotion strategies for future.
21 July – 25 November 2015	<p><b>‘Youth Initiative’ Competition:</b> it evoked a great interest and 21 mini-projects were submitted. They concern different issues important for young people and local communities: creating green spaces, popularizing readership, waste management, including recycling, launching spaces for activeness of young people, support a school for retarded people, improving the esthetics and functionality of a railway station.</p> <p>After a stormy discussion that lasted six hours the Committee, consisting of 12 people made the decision and the winning projects were appointed by voting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Youth Council in Sousse: <b>Green School</b></li> <li>2. Youth Council Kalaa Kebira: <b>New Angle</b></li> <li>3. Youth Council Ksibet El Madyouni: <b>Green Ksibet</b></li> <li>4. Youth Council M’saken: <b>Evolving in Green</b></li> <li>5. Youth Council Hammam Sousse: <b>House of Art</b></li> <li>6. Youth Council Monastir: <b>Recycle It! Win It!</b></li> <li>7. Youth Council Hay Riadh: <b>Let’s Play Football! and Read a Moment.</b></li> </ol> <p>Projects were implemented in the period of 25 August – 25 November 2015. Their implementation and results were presented during the Final Conference.</p>
17-22 October 2015	<b>Study visit to Poland:</b> Young Tunisians participated in a study visit that was aimed at gaining new knowledge about how the third sector operates in Poland esp. in the field of local development initiatives, exchanging experiences with Youth Councils from Poland as well as searching for inspiration for actions in their localities, that can involve young people in the implementation of innovative projects that use the potential of a place and based on democratic mechanisms and participation.
29 November 2015	<b>Final Conference of the ‘Youth Councils in Tunisia’ project:</b> it was attended by over 100 participants, including both representatives of Youth Councils and other organization and institutions sympathizing and supporting Youth Councils. It was aimed at presenting the idea of Youth Councils, project implementation results, especially the implementation and outcomes of mini-projects. People of merit that supported Youth Council were awarded with occasional plates to thanks for their involvement. Additionally a voting was held to reward the best



mini-project in 2015. The winner was Youth Council in Sousse for a project 'Green School', that was aimed at improving the conditions for learning of retarded people in a special school in Sousse: management of school court, making some decorations, delivering some new equipment, animating special classes for kids. Additionally young people got involved in marketing products that are manufactured in the school carpentry workshop to earn extra funds for the school. The Conference was also a good opportunity to sum-up the project and make plans for Youth Councils in 2016.