



مبادرات
IUCN MUBADARAT



What is Mubadarat?



Mubadarat is IUCN Med's civil society platform in the Mediterranean, with a focus on North Africa. It strengthens, connects and gives visibility to civil society organisations (CSOs) that protect biodiversity and promote sustainable development in the region.

Mubadarat provides:

- **Access to grant programmes**, such as PPI OSCAN and TransCap, managed by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation to support local initiatives on the ground.
- **Capacity building** that enhances governance and technical skills.
- **Networking and visibility opportunities** to connect CSOs with partners and decision-makers.

The objectives of Mubadarat



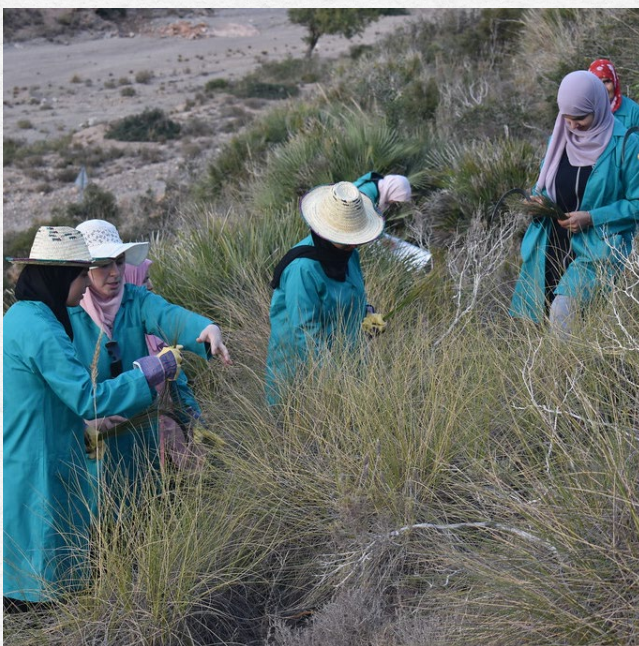
To foster the emergence of a strong, structured, influential and sustainably engaged civil society in biodiversity conservation and local socio-economic development in the Mediterranean through:

1. **Professionalization of CSOs** through sustainable enhancement of their capacities.
2. **Financial empowerment** by accessing appropriate funding and diversifying resources.
3. **Strengthening the fabric of civil society** by fostering collaboration among CSOs and with strategic partners.
4. **Increased participation in environmental governance** with better institutional integration of CSOs in national and regional decision-making processes.
5. **Capitalization and dissemination of knowledge** to structure learning, improve practices and showcase good experiences.

Why it matters?

The Mediterranean region is a biodiversity hotspot. It hosts a wide variety of plant life and is home to numerous endemic and marine species. But this unique diversity is under threat. The Mediterranean is known as a climate hotspot as well, warming 20% faster than the global average.

North Africa lies at the crossroads of the Mediterranean and African regions. It is home to unique biodiversity, rich cultural heritage and communities that are on the frontline of climate change and environmental degradation. Local CSOs, often youth- and women-led, emerge directly from local communities to tackle urgent issues such as water scarcity, habitat loss or sustainable livelihoods. Mubadarat helps them grow from bold ideas into lasting impact, ensuring that locally driven solutions have the chance to thrive, creating long-lasting impact for both people and nature in this vital region.



10 years of Mubadarat



Scope and Funding

120 projects funded since 2014 through IUCN Med subgrant programmes as PPI OSCAN and TransCap.

€3.8M in grants and €1.27M mobilized by CSOs.

110 CSOs received their first-ever grant (30% led by women and 45% coordinated by youth under 35).



Trainings and capacity building

Around **35,000** direct and indirect beneficiaries, including **13,800** women and **16,500** youth.

Over **16,200** people trained or sensitized specifically on climate change mitigation/adaptation and nature conservation.



Inclusion and economic empowerment

Over **100** income-generating activities created in beekeeping, ecotourism, local crafts and the valorization of natural products, while promoting traditional knowledge and cultural heritage.



Ecosystem conservation and restoration

Conservation, restoration and reforestation activities have been implemented across **517,600** hectares of land.



Protected biodiversity

238 species monitored and benefiting from targeted conservation actions.



Environmental education and awareness

Sensitized over **25,000** children and youth through green clubs, school caravans, workshops and nature outings.



Ecotourism and educational infrastructure

Creation or improvement of **50+** km of marked trails (terrestrial and underwater).



Sustainable natural resource management

Rehabilitation or development of **20+** water points and wells, installation of retention basins and restoration of oases.

Who makes Mubadarat?



IUCN Med connects and empowers civil society in North Africa, thanks to the generous support of donors, institutional partners and key collaborators.

Donors

The French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM)
The MAVA Foundation
The Sigrid Rausing Trust Foundation (SRT)
The General Directorate for Cooperation of the Balearic Islands
The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)
The Audemars-Watkins Foundation (FAW)

Institutional partners

Algerian Ministry of Environment and Quality of Life
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
Ministry of Environment Libya
Ministry of Environment Tunisia
National Agency for Water and Forests Morocco

Stories of change



1. Building Climate Resilience in Ait M'Hamed (Morocco) – ASKA Association for Women and Children

In Morocco's Central High Atlas, ASKA is an association composed entirely of women. It is helping farmers face harsher seasons and water scarcity by combining agroecology with biochar. With the support of the PPI OSCAN, a semi-automatic unit was installed that transforms local biomass into soil improver, while 17,000 seedlings have been distributed to 120 farmers. On 12 pilot plots, crops enriched with biochar are thriving, and 150 people, mostly women, have been trained. What began with a small grant has sparked a long-term vision for climate resilience rooted in local knowledge and community strength.



2. From Salt Marsh to Nature Reserve (Libya) – *Edama for Nature Conservation*

On Libya's coast, the wetlands of Zuwara long sustained communities and migratory birds but faced growing threats from construction, pollution and resource use. In 2023, the young organisation Edama mobilised with local residents to map the area, restore degraded zones and advocate for protection. Their persistence paid off: in 2024, and as a direct result of the project, the wetland was declared a 110-hectare nature reserve. For Libya's emerging civil society, this victory shows how determined local action can shape national environmental policy.

3. Saving Vultures, Boosting Ecotourism (Morocco) – *AMPOVIS*

At the Strait of Gibraltar, the Jbel Moussa site is a crossroads for migrating raptors, including the Critically Endangered Rüppell's vulture. With PPI OSCAN grant, AMPOVIS created Morocco's first vulture rehabilitation centre, treating and tracking over 150 birds. They also developed birdwatching hides and photography spots, attracting more than 200 visitors from ten countries. Today, Jbel Moussa is a growing hub for eco-tourism and research, showing that protecting an emblematic species can also bring new livelihoods and opportunities to local communities.





4. Cross-Border Alliance for Oasis Sustainability (Tunisia, Morocco, Libya) – *Irada Tozeur*

Oases are lifelines in North Africa’s arid landscapes, but climate change and water scarcity are threatening their survival. In 2024, Irada Tozeur gathered ten CSOs from Tunisia, Morocco and Libya for the first regional camp on oasis sustainability. They shared water-saving techniques, restored palm groves, and explored stronger policy advocacy. The meeting concluded with a partnership for Oasis Durables et Solidaires, a shared commitment to protect these fragile ecosystems. What began as a workshop has evolved into a regional movement for the future of the oases.





5. Civil Society Response to the Derna Floods (Libya) – Al-Hayat, Libyan Wildlife Trust, and Edama CSOs

In September 2023, Storm Daniel devastated eastern Libya, breaking dams and destroying entire neighbourhoods in Derna. Within days, three small environmental organisations—Al-Hayat, Libyan Wildlife Trust and Edama—mobilised to assess damage, deliver aid and raise funds for recovery. Their swift action highlighted both the vulnerability of coastal cities to climate-driven disasters and the crucial role of local actors in emergency response. In the face of tragedy, these CSOs proved that grassroots organisations are often the first, and sometimes the only, responders.

6. Carob Corridor for Climate & Carbon (Tunisia) – Les Amis de CAPTE

In Tunisia's Kef and Bizerte regions, the carob tree is being revived as a climate-smart ally in agroforestry systems alongside olives and almonds. Since first receiving PPI OSCAN support in 2017, Les Amis de CAPTE has become a national reference for Nature-based Solutions. Through the country's first carob grafting trials, four nurseries and farmer training, the association is building a sustainable carob value chain. The initiative restores ecosystems while boosting rural incomes, showing how a humble tree can drive climate resilience and opportunity.





Be part of Mubadarat

These stories show the power of small, local actions to spark lasting change for nature and communities in North Africa. But their impact grows when more people know about them, connect with them and help them thrive.

- **Stay informed & share** – Subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on social media. Help spread the word. Every new reader is another voice amplifying the work of these committed grassroots organisations: [Newsletter - MUBADARAT](#)
- **Join the IUCN network** – Civil society organisations can also apply to become official Members of IUCN. Being part of the Union connects you to a global community of conservation actors, strengthens your voice in regional and international fora and links your work in North Africa to global agendas such as Nature 2030.
- **Get involved** – If you are a student or researcher in a relevant field, consider offering your skills through an internship or academic collaboration with IUCN or one of our partner CSOs. If you are a CSO, reach out to us to either benefit from the programme or support us as a mentor or expert.
- **Invest in impact** – If you are a donor, explore opportunities to fund on-the-ground initiatives, training programmes or exchanges that strengthen civil society in the Mediterranean.

Contact us: contact@mubadarat-uicn.org



مبادرات
UICN MUBADARAT