



United Nations Development Programme

Support to Civic Engagement in Libya's Transition (SCELT)

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DONORS



Government of Libya



Government of Norway



United Nations Peace Building Fund



United Nations Development Programme

ACRONYMS

CSO	Civil society organization
BRIDGE	Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections
DGTTF	Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund
HNEC	High National Electoral Commission
LEAP	Libya Electoral Assistance Project
MoCCS	Ministry of Culture and Civil Society ⁱ
MoHE	Ministry of Higher Education
MoHESR	Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research
MoP	Ministry of Planning
NCDD	National Centre on Democratic Dialogue
NGO	Non governmental organization
NTC	National Transitional Council
SCELT	Support to Civic Engagement in Libya's Transition
TFM	Temporary Finance Mechanism
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNSMIL	United Nations Support Mission in Libya

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I. INTRODUCTION

During the period covered by this report Libya underwent its first democratic election since 1964 and in the twelve months since the establishment of UNDP's SCELТ project, much was achieved by Libyans, which permits continued optimism over the direction the country is headed. In November 2011, following four weeks of negotiations, the National Transitional Council announced a new transitional government with twenty five ministries, some of which were new, including the Ministry of Culture & Civil Society [now renamed The Ministry of Culture] , while others were based in Benghazi during the revolution.

The electoral process for a National General Congress [GNC], which replaced the NTC in July of 2012, and which would oversee the development of a new constitution also provided encouraging signs, driven by the willingness of Libyans to engage with the political forces shaping their country. Voter registration in May 2012 saw 2.8 million voters registered and candidate nomination, which ran in parallel, resulted in 2,051 candidates [84 of whom were women] in the majoritarian race and 1,207 candidates in the proportional representation election process of which 545 were women (45%).

In October 2012, some eleven months after the formation of the transitional government, Prime Minister Ali Zaidan presented a 27- member cabinet list to the GNC for approval. This government is a coalition, which includes the two largest political parties in Libya, The National Forces Alliance, led by Mahmoud Jibril, and the Justice and Construction Party, launched by Libya's Muslim Brotherhood. As late as the end of December 2012 therefore, as new ministers began to take up their posts, in many cases the necessary budgets, structures, staffing, and capacities were not yet in place to allow many of these ministries to function optimally, and it will take some time before the capacity exists to address key challenges.

Deeply ingrained attitudes and practices built up over forty-two years do not change with the violent overthrow of a regime, the holding of an election and the adoption of a new constitutional framework. Libya had no experience of organizing and participating in electoral and constitution-making processes, which makes its achievements to date even more impressive. Citizens had not participated in any similar events since 1964 and had little knowledge and understanding of such processes. There is as yet no constitutional committee formed, few established political



parties, an embryonic civil society and independent media and no previous experience of freedom of expression or access to information based on professional or international standards. Reporters Without Borders place Libya 131st on the Press freedom Index 2012 a jump of more than 20 places on 2011. On the other hand they state that this jump was due to the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi's 42-year regime and its positive impact on freedom of information and that Libya's ranking the year before was affected by all the violations in 2011, when Gaddafi was still clinging to power.

improvements nonetheless need to be confirmed by the inclusion of freedom of information in the constitution and the adoption of laws guaranteeing this freedom and providing real protection for journalists and safeguards for media pluralism and independence¹

The current roadmap for the political transition in Libya includes the drafting of a new constitution by a Constitution Commission [the 'committee of 60'], which in all likelihood will be elected by the people. The new constitutional draft developed by this committee will also have to be approved by popular referendum. Then, another round of general elections and also local elections will take place afterwards before a fully fledged and constitutionally-based government can be established. In parallel with this the newly established Ministry of Culture has initiated a process for the development of an NGO law in response to spontaneous emergence of many fledgling CSOs, not allowed under the previous regime. The MoCCS [recently renamed the Ministry of Culture] also established by decree, Civil Society Support Centres in Benghazi, Tripoli and Misrata for the registration, regulation and support of CSOs in Libya.. Since their establishment, over 2,500 CSOs have been registered with a further 1500 supplying partial data for registration. Its estimated that there are in the region of 4,500 CSOs in Libya as of end of 2012. For a population of approximately 6.5m people who have had little if any experience of civic engagement, this is a very significant number indeed, although it should be noted that a sizable proportion of these consist of 2-3 founders with a small number of volunteers. A number of these have already formed 'coalitions' which in other countries might be considered single NGOs. There are as yet no regional or national representative bodies for CSOs.

Transforming the Political Culture in Libya

This is the most difficult aspect of any post-conflict transition as it can only be managed with long-term strategies. To contribute to fulfilling this role, UNDP has developed a program titled "Support to Civic Engagement in Libya's Transition" (SCELT). Working in coordination with its partners, the UNDP has identified a number of areas for promoting civic engagement in Libya. The project strategy is multi-pronged and its essential components are:

¹ <http://en.rsf.org/press-freedom-index-2013,1054.html?dolist=ok/press-freedom-index-2013,1054.html>

Strengthening the capacity of civil society for civic education: Civil society organisations have a central role to play in facilitating civic engagement and voice, engaging state institutions in responding to this voice, preparing citizens for transitional constitution building processes and developing ownership of the new Libyan social contract.

Enabling youth participation in the transformation of Libya: Many young people have idealistic expectations of rapid transformation of the country and expect marked and immediate improvements in political and economic inclusion. Their participation and innovation is vital to the transition process and on their other hand their marginalization in the transitional process may threaten the legitimacy of the process itself.

Advocating for women's equal participation in the transition: It is essential to build on the active role women played as activists in the revolution, and now as peace-builders, politicians and activists, as women of all ages have been an integral part of both the uprising and the transition to democracy.

Developing a stronger culture of dialogue: Dialogues helps reinforce the legitimacy of state institutions by building social consensus around them. Developing and modelling dialogue processes which include all stakeholders are considered vital in helping to broker inclusive agreements which reflect the aspirations of all sections of Libyan society.

The 12 month period which this report covers was therefore characterised for the SCELТ project by an emphasis on providing proactive and responsive support to the electoral process [electoral support, voter education, political participation of women and youth etc] in the first half of the year followed by an emphasis on broader mechanisms and processes underpinning the development of democratic institutions [civic voice, inclusive dialogue, women's empowerment and CSO development] in the second six months.

Despite the overall positivity surrounding Libya's current political direction, a significant number of challenges remain which underscore the original rationale for the development of SCELТ in early 2012. A generation of Libyans has grown up without any rational model of civic participation or democratic governance, and knowledge of contemporary forms of state organisation including the separation of powers and the rule of law, the responsibilities and accountability of the government, political organization, effective administration, and the international regime of human and group rights is extremely limited. The practice of national debate on public affairs and policies has been almost non-existent and not many Libyans are familiar with the modern trends in constitution making, the purposes of a constitution or the concept of the social contract between and among citizens and the state. It is therefore imperative that support to the development of the new Libyan constitution is augmented with extensive awareness raising, civic education, and national consultative and dialogue processes.



Social capital² among the general Libyan population of 6.5 million citizens is low, if it is analysed from a national perspective, with widespread mistrust among the regional and tribal divisions very deep across the country. Within regions, tribal identities often prevail and within such tribal groups such as Tibu or Zuwayya, social capital [trust, solidarity, networks of mutual support etc] can often be very high indeed, although it should also be remembered that such identities do not essentially equate with national or even regional identities as they often span national boundary lines into neighboring countries.

The nature of the conflict and destruction during the revolution has also served to fragment the national security architecture, disrupted key social, justice and administrative services, deeply affected the local economy and opened up divisions between communities and individuals that must now be reconciled at both the national and local levels. Under the previous regime, Ghadafi's Green Book served as a de facto constitution and legal disputes were settled in tribal talks rather than through the judicial system. Post-revolution, restoring order and enforcing a new political system is particularly daunting in southern areas such as Sabha or Al Kufra where central authority is viewed as remote, if considered at all.

If we had the power we could manage to solve the problem from the beginning," said Ayub Azarouq, who heads Sabha's local council. "Power means we should have a police, an army. As long as there is no official army, we can still be weak. We should have an official army to solve the problems³.

Widespread civic education and engagement to promote basic knowledge of the issues, develop social capital and facilitate a culture of dialogue are therefore needed to prevent these tensions and suspicions from boiling over into confrontations and violence, and potentially destabilizing the transition process. With widespread access to arms and munitions, and a fragile peace being maintained by several heavily armed and competing

² While social capital is an 'essentially contested' concept, it is most commonly viewed as being about the value of social networks, bonding similar people and bridging between diverse people, with norms of reciprocity (Dekker and Uslaner [2001] and the process by which social actors create and mobilize their network connections within and between organizations to gain access to other social actors' resources' (Knocke 1999) resulting in a culture of trust and tolerance, in which extensive networks of voluntary associations emerge' (Inglehart 1997)

³ <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/08/us-libya-violence-idUSBRE83702Z20120408>

militias, there remains the very real danger that the gains of the last 12 months could unravel. There is therefore an acute need to see clear progress and clear evidence of the peace and democracy dividends in the lives of ordinary Libyans in terms of democratic governance, the delivery of basic services and economic development which significantly impacts on sustainable livelihoods at local level.

At the same time, there remains a tremendous desire on the part of many Libyans to actively contribute to the dialogue about the future of their country and the immediate willingness of many citizens to shift from conflict to civic collaboration took many observers by surprise. Endogenous yet nascent civil society groups, political alliances, local councils, and media are quickly inventing or reinventing themselves in order to provide conduits for citizens' enthusiasm for political dialogue and action. Driven by feelings of solidarity and newfound freedom, Libyans are eager to engage in political discourse. While the vast majority of the public still has little first hand knowledge of democratic institutions, processes or actors, including publically accountable institutions, political parties, civil society organizations, and independent media, there is a hunger for knowledge, a pride in the achievements of the revolution and a burning desire to engage in the development of a democratic Libya.

While the endogenous development of civil society organisations, unions, associations and grass roots groups, has been dynamic and inspiring, it also provides international actors with a significant challenge. Across the country there are a wide range of CSOs emerging and collaborating on everything from service delivery to the poor, advocacy, democratic dialogue, human rights, women's empowerment and civic engagement more generally. And yet capacity among these emergent CSOs in terms of internal governance, policy development, strategic planning and financial management remains extremely limited. With a limited understanding of the role of civil society in a democratic state, CSOs also risk being captured for political purposes, or losing credibility and legitimacy when they fail to deliver on the expectations of either donors or the local people they aim to serve. Where expectations are high and capacities are low, the international community will need to support these CSOs with patience and discretion as well as with targeted and coordinated capacity development and support.

For UNDP, supporting the enabling environment for a vibrant and effective civil society is therefore a key priority and this will include support to the capacity development of CSOs and working with the Government of Libya [on the draft Law on Associations or supporting the capacity development of the Civil society Support Centres for example] and in particular the Ministry for Culture [formerly the Ministry of Culture & Civil Society] and the Ministries of Planning, Education, Higher Education and Al Awqaf [Religious Affairs] in ensuring an enabling institutional environment within which civil society can flourish. UNDP SCELTE is also a member of the coordinating group of international agencies working on civil society development.

Prior to and during the election process in July and afterwards as the GNC began to consider the initial structures, mechanisms and processes for a new constitution, UNDP's SCELТ project has been a highly valued and sought after partner. Project staff worked collaboratively with a wide swath of actors actively engaged in the political process, including civil society, political candidates, electoral authorities, and international organizations. Efforts were focused in four broad areas: (1) increasing capacities of civil society actors to nurture civic engagement; (2) supporting youth in spearheading the spread of a democratic culture in Libya; (3) enhancing the role of women in bringing about a peaceful transition; and (4) fostering inclusive spaces to engage in dialogue about the transition process. More detail is provided below.

Part of the value of the SCELТ project lies in its ability to stimulate political discourse at the level of emerging civil society organizations while simultaneously working with transitional and government institutions to encourage engagement. This is particularly important in ensuring that the climate of trust and transparency that exists in Libya today is sustained and strengthened.

Although the first hurdle in the transition process – the General National Congress election – was completed, there remain several more obstacles, which must be successfully cleared before the transition process is complete. The Constitutional Declaration calls for a constitutional referendum and subsequent national legislative elections. In addition, it now looks likely that the Constitutional Declaration will be amended in order to make the constitutional drafting committee [the “Committee of 60”] into a directly elected body. Civic engagement and the development of a capacitated and coherent Civil Society, which is inclusive and empowering particularly for women, will be critical to ensuring that it is built in a manner that accurately reflects the wishes and aspirations of the Libyan people.

II. PROGRESS

OUTPUT 1: Strengthened Civil Society Capacities to Undertake Civic Education

The development of a legal electoral framework in the first quarter and the scheduling of the National General Congress election just after the close of the second quarter meant that the majority of activities in the first two quarters were necessarily conducted with the goal of enabling civil society groups to build awareness of the electoral process, provide civic education amongst their constituents and promote dialogue on critical issues that came to the fore during the build up to the election. This focus shifted after the election to a renewed focus on developing the capacity of civil society both as an end in itself and as means to develop longer term and more strategic approaches to undertake civic education and promote engagement.

Baseline Civic Knowledge

A key challenge in delivering on this output was the establishment of a baseline in terms of Libyans' information needs in the transition to democracy. To help CSOs design both immediate and longer term programming therefore, SCELТ worked with Altai Consulting and The Benghazi Research and Consultation Centre /BRCC in conducting a knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) study. The KAP study which will be completed in late January 2013 will be disseminated and used to support Libyan efforts to develop civic education curricula, civic engagement and awareness strategies and efforts to promote widespread participation in the forthcoming constitution-building process.

Regulatory Framework for Civil Society

As mentioned earlier, civil society is nascent although also emerging at a rapid rate in this transition period and the weak capacity of the transitional government has also provided space for CSOs to take on roles and initiate activities which, in a traditional development environment, might not be possible. However, to develop an enabling environment for such civil society groups to operate it is also necessary as a first step to fill the legal and regulatory vacuum that existed following the overthrow of the previous regime.

A new legal framework for associations [The Law on Associations] will offer a regulatory framework within which civil society can operate, protect the fundamental rights to freedom of expression and association and also prevent a return to arbitrary rule and control of the State on collective citizen action. The SCELТ project therefore partnered with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law [ICNL] to ensure that the proposed draft Law on Associations followed international best practices in this regard and responded to the actual needs of Libya's emerging civil society. An international legal consultant was provided to support the drafting of the NGO Law, in partnership with ICNL, providing three sets of comments on the draft law as well as responses to some of the Drafting Committee's⁴ initial questions about international best practices. The SCELТ project also organized and facilitated consultative workshops for CSOs on the new legal framework in order to establish dialogue between civil society representatives, the interim government, and the drafting committee members, and to reinforce the need for an enabling legal environment for associations. The workshops, held in Tripoli (13-14 February) and Benghazi (20-21 February), attracted nearly 400 representatives from Libyan associations, government officials, legal experts, academics and the drafting committee to discuss various aspects of the draft law and make suggestions for improvement. The main themes tackled were:

- i. The formation and internal governance of associations;
- ii. The funding of associations;
- iii. Government supervision over associations and applicable sanctions.

Through dialogue, participants developed a list of recommendations subsequently presented to the Ministry of Culture and Civil Society, which was established by the

⁴ Headed by prominent Lawyers Ms. Azza Almaghur and Mr. Salah Margani, the current Minister of Justice

transition authorities as part of the interim government apparatus. This enabled the further development of the Draft Law on Associations which is now in its third draft and with the Prime Minister's Office, for eventual submission to the GNC. Prior to this submission, SCELТ will work with ICNL and the Network of Democrats in the Arab World [NDAW] in the first quarter of 2013 to provide civil society with another opportunity to shape the draft law. SCELТ will also work with the GNC, the MoC and the Prime Minister's office to develop a clear, consultative transparent process and pathway for the law, which incorporates as many CSO recommendations as possible.

UNDP also supported dialogue between government and international NGOs in Libya (as they will be under the same Law on Associations) in order that their interests and potential for participating in Libya's development was also acknowledged and allowed for in the law. There are proponents in Libya's interim government, as with many countries in the region, for tougher regulations on international NGOs than on national NGOs. SCELТ/UNDP provided technical advice papers to the Ministry & the Libyan CSO Law Committee, held a closed-door dialogue session on this and shared information with other international NGOs who had not been consulted previously.

Civil Society Support Centres

The Ministry's mandate is, broadly, to facilitate the building of a constructive relationship between government and civil society and to ensure that civil society's contribution to Libya's reconstruction and transition is maximized. To achieve this goal, the Ministry has taken the lead in setting up a Civil Society Support Centre (CSSC) headquartered in Benghazi, with branches in Tripoli and Misrata (with plans for further local branches). The CSSC has now been officially appointed by Cabinet decree. It has a board of 9 members, independent from the Ministry of Culture. The CSSC developed a draft strategic plan (mission, vision, strategy) in August 2012 and the executive team of the CSSC in Benghazi and Tripoli, have already been in place for several months.

At this early stage of its development the initially envisaged role of the CSSCs [described in the decree] in providing for the registration, regulation, funding and capacity development of civil society has proved to be a significant challenge, not least because of CSOs understandable wariness of any form of regulation or control, because of concerns that funding opportunities may become [unintentionally or otherwise] a means of coercion on the behalf of the state and because of the absence to date, of any overall national representative and coordinating body acting on behalf of CSOs. There are also currently a plethora of CSO unions, associations and committees in Libya, with overlapping membership and claims and counter-claims to legitimacy and credibility. Although this is understandable at this early stage in CSO development in Libya and evidence of the huge surge in civic engagement around the country, it presents significant challenges for GNC in designing an effective pathway towards a nationally owned constitutional development process and for government ministries in developing coherent and consensual development strategies. Furthermore, in order to support

networking and coalition-building among CSOs, guidelines on networking and coalition building were translated and disseminated by the project to a wide range of international and national organizations.

Against this background, under Output 1, the SCELТ project is assisting in building capacities of the Civil Society Support Centers so that Libyan CSOs can access more easily knowledge, skills and materials they need to develop and implement civic awareness and engagement projects and can help foster CS coordination and coherence. Based on a request from MoC & The CSSC, UNDP provided an international expert who is assisting the CSSC in developing further its organizational structure, work plan, external relations strategy and capacity-building plan of the CSSC. Following the identification of the level of effort and technical assistance from both international and national consultants in Capacity Development and the development of a first draft of a strategic plan to support the CSSC, two key priorities have been identified:

- i. Organizational assessment and development including analysis of the mandate, role, governance structures, policies, processes and work plans of the Centres as well as an external relations strategy and a capacity development plan.
- ii. Support to the establishment of a CSO database [already over 4,000 CSOs have provided some level of detail needed for registration with the Centres] and develop a plan to establish a public interface and web portal for the CSO database, accessible to all.

An international expert [for priority 1] and international firm [for priority 2] were recruited and are currently undertaking missions, with final reports due in the first quarter of 2013.



Government & Civil Society Grant Funds

The Government of Libya set aside \$20 million to finance NGO activities in support of recovery and transition through a grant funding mechanism. The Ministry of Culture and Civil Society (MoCCS) is responsible for registering CSOs, managing grants from this fund, and strengthening the capacity of civil society members that are working for civic

engagement during the transition period, a daunting task for a ministry that is itself only newly established and in a country where civil society was actively dissuaded over the course of a generation. To support their efforts SCELТ developed a concept note which was presented as a model, which would deliver both capacity strengthening and funding support to Libyan CSOs but would disaggregate the two. The project will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Culture and Civil Society to ensure that its ability to manage grants is strengthened.

As well as working with national authorities, UNDP is also itself supporting CSOs directly through the establishment of an advisory and funding facility that would support CSOs in capacity development and facilitate CSOs in accessing knowledge and funding to develop and implement civic awareness and engagement projects.

An initial assessment of grant fund options was conducted by the project and 3 initial options were discussed with the MoC in order to inform their own deliberations on appropriate funding mechanisms for GoL funding to civil society.

- i. Working through an international organization;
- ii. Sub granting directly through a national NGO (although there were risks to be considered with regard to management capacity and transparency)
- iii. Fund directly through the Civil Society Support Centres which would recruit a grant Fund manager.

After careful consideration, SCELТ decided to develop a hybrid model wherein it would contract a service provider to set up a Civil Society Grant Fund Facility, in which the CSSC would participate [as observers] and where their capacity would be developed to develop a model suitable for GoL funding to civil society. A Request for proposals [RFP] was published in the 4th quarter 2012 for a contractor to manage a CS Grant Fund with a minimum of 20 sub-grants (\$10,000 - \$45,000, with a total value including management and capacity development of \$700,000) to local CSOs for civic education, engagement and constitutional dialogue activities. The implementation of these sub-grant projects is expected from first quarter 2013.

Civic & Voter Education

The development of a legal electoral framework in the first quarter and the scheduling of the National General Congress election just after the close of the second quarter meant that the majority of activities in the first two quarters were conducted with the goal of enabling civil society groups to build awareness of the electoral process amongst their constituents and promote dialogue on critical issues that came to the fore during this national political undertaking. The dearth of knowledge on electoral processes - electoral laws, voter registration, candidate

District	No. Of CSOs
1	39
2	36
3	25
4	9
5	15
6	68
7	28
8	24
9	10
10	15
11	20
12	14
13	97
Total	400

nomination, campaigns, polling, results - was a recurrent concern over the first two quarters of 2012 as preparations for the National General Congress were ongoing. Although a KAP study is required to more closely align civic engagement programming to needs, the urgent and overwhelming need for civic and voter education was identified by interlocutors at all levels. SCELТ helped fill this gap through designing and implementing voter engagement activities targeting Civil society organizations' around the country, youth groups and women candidates.

Two workshops on Voter registration Training for CSOs were held in Tripoli to assist the HNEC to distribute voter registration materials. (2&3/05/2012). 34 coordinators from different NGOs (Misurata, Zawia, Azizia, Tripoli) attended the 2-day events on voter registration. The coordinators carried out voter registration activities to raise the level awareness to public at large on "How & importance of registration"

108 Voter Education training workshops were also held in all 13 districts from June 17th to the 5th of July. In each district, a number of workshops were conducted by 11 National BRIDGE facilitators trained during the first quarter of the SCELТ. The workshops targeted Libyan Civil Society organizations trainers. The total number whom benefited from the Voter Education training included 400 Organizations based in the 13 districts and 16,539 participants [7,078 Female 9,461 male]. In addition to the training, the participants received voter outreach materials for their use and further distribution as part of a Voter Awareness Campaign.



Religious Leaders & Civic Education

As part of SCELТ Project strategy aimed at enabling religious leaders to disseminate a culture of democracy and reconciliation, the project developed a training & dissemination strategy with the Min. of Awqaf, including support to the conduct of training workshops for religious leaders on political transition. A concept note on a Program to enable religious leaders to carry out civic education was also developed, and the Ministry was positive about the need to develop this. However activity was delayed by the support the

project provided to the election process and its aftermath and the fact that this a sensitive area for religious leaders and Imams, particularly around the idea of importing perceived 'western' models of thought, morality or democracy into the Libyan context. Considerable consultation and a second draft of the concept note enabled a further meeting with Al Awqaf in Benghazi in the 4th Quarter of 2012 and has resulted in a new concept note for a TOT for Imams which will be finalized with MOA for implementation between March-April 2013. This model will seek to build on a model developed in Yemen which proved to be successful and which can be used as a bridge towards the development of Libyan model. Al Awqaf in Benghazi would like to target 150 Imams as initial civic educators [with more to follow] if funding allows.

OUTPUT 2: Youth Civic Engagement Facilitated

Youth have made a contribution to Libya's political transformation and are today intensely interested in seizing the opportunities presented by the start of a new political era in Libya. Youth activism can be a positive or negative force in the establishment of the new Libya and youth groups can help ensure transparency and accountability on the part of new authorities.

There is a huge demand among young people for the freedoms and rights that come with a democratic political system. Youth activism – both civil and military – has been at the heart of the revolution and many young people now have idealistic expectations of a rapid transformation of the country and expect marked and immediate improvements in political and economic inclusion. For example, thousands of young men have been on the front-line in the fighting and are experienced fighters and providers of security. If they were now to be marginalized in the transition process this could lead to some becoming spoilers and threaten the legitimacy of the process itself.

Misinterpretation and misunderstandings among youth about rights and responsibilities, expectations and entitlements, and freedoms and limitations also has the potential to generate tension, confrontation and conflict at a critical time in a sensitive transition process. Such conflict can and should be mitigated by a common understanding among youth of the basic principles of democratic governance and the opportunity to be heard as part of the different national dialogue processes that make up a transition to democracy. It was therefore essential during 2012, to provide civic knowledge and opportunities for civic engagement to the Libyan youth population and nurture the role of youth as change agents in their communities.

There exist several base capacities in the youth sector, which the project could draw on in designing and implementing activities under this output. Youth in Libya have, generally speaking, been able to attend school and receive an education. Some 375,000 students are registered at Libya's network of thirteen universities and a further 180,000 are enrolled in vocational training courses in eleven national institutes. Although the

education system was previously not allowed to develop the skills required by young people to help build and participate in modern democratic societies, a post-revolutionary sense of solidarity and newfound openness meant that youth groups are now extremely open and enthusiastic about engaging in civil discourse, however much they lack knowledge and know-how. The activities of SCELТ in 2012 therefore focus on facilitating the constructive participation of youth groups in the political transition and in 2012 implemented the following

Training of Civic Education

Instructors [TCEI] 1 & 2

To contribute to capacitating a new generation of engaged youth, UNDP invested its efforts, from January to May 2012, in training and accrediting a group of 23 young Libyans, men and women, as Civic Education Instructors, using the BRIDGE [Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections] methodology and accreditation program. This was achieved through a program of face-to-face training & home assignment and conducting civic awareness workshops attended by Libyan citizens,



jointly facilitated by fellow Libyans with international mentoring and coaching by two international BRIDGE facilitators who mentored and assessed the trainees throughout their training period. Since they have been certified, several civic education instructors have been involved in national & local education initiatives as facilitators, consolidating their skills and contributing directly to developing a civic culture in Libya.

TCEI includes a 2-week training of trainers [TTF] workshop. Specific workshops focused on democracy and electoral cycles and systems, after which participants are assessed on their facilitation of workshops 7-8 workshops in small teams. The training programme also included a baseline survey to identify target groups needs as well as a mapping exercise to identify potential partners and local civil society groups. Trainers proceeded to use their knowledge to conduct trainings and awareness campaigns concerning the democratic transition, either with the High National Electoral Commission (HNEC) as master trainers, within their respective organizations, or conducting civic education classes for Tripoli university students.

Given the success of TCEI-1 and the huge need and demand for trained Libyan facilitators and instructors in civic education, and professionals capable of planning and implementing civic education programs, UNDP began to conduct in October 2012, the second round of TCEI for another 28 young Libyans. This new TCEI (TCEI-2) took three

months and incorporated key lessons learned during the TCEI-1. It was also designed to further develop the skills of the first cohort of civic education instructors from TCEI-1 as several of them were contracted as co-facilitators for the workshops to be conducted under TCEI-2. A key objective of the capacity development approach adopted by SCELТ in TCEI is that facilitators will over time be able to manage and facilitate future civic education and TCEI events with minimal involvement from international experts. In TCEI-2 therefore a second cohort (50% women) of participants also underwent an intensive training and mentoring process consisting of:

1. Three BRIDGE workshops (Introduction to Democracy & Governance, Civic Education & Train-the-Facilitator) followed by
2. A mentored practice period where they facilitate workshops for local CSOs in the locations listed below, under the supervision of senior BRIDGE facilitators.

	Workshop	Dates	Location
1	Introduction to DG workshop	22 - 27 Sep 2012	Tripoli
2	BRIDGE TtF workshop	14 - 25 Oct 2012	Tripoli
3	Civic Ed / Voter Ed Workshop	18 - 21 Nov 2012	Tripoli
4	Application Workshop 1	25 - 29 Nov 2012	Zawiya
5	Application Workshop 2	25 - 29 Nov 2012	Tripoli
6	Application Workshop 3	2 - 6 Dec 2012	Baida
7	Application Workshop 4	8 - 12 Dec 2012	Tripoli
8	Application Workshop 5	8 - 12 Dec 2012	Tripoli
9	Application Workshop 6	8 - 12 Dec 2012	Ubari
10	Application Workshop 7	14-19 Dec 2012	Sabha

A notable aspect of both TCEI 1&2 is that the national facilitators, as well as designing the curriculum and facilitating the workshops at local level, also arranged for some level of matched funding from local CSOs for the initiative. For many it was their first attempt at preparing a Workshop Plan and budget and writing a formal report on the workshop. The vast majority of the 52 Civic Education & BRIDGE facilitators in Libya will be assisted by the project to develop their own online and face-to-face community of practice in 2013 and are already assisting a wide range dialogue and democratic learning initiatives in Libya. <https://www.facebook.com/BridgeLibya>

Civic Education Academy in 10 Universities

This activity was implemented in partnership with Ministry of Higher Education targeting students in 10 universities around the country. The activity included training for 163[approx. 15 per University] selected students by 13 BRIDGE trainers on the National Elections and Voter Participation. The training utilized the materials



developed by HNEC. Following this the 163 participants in turn conducted educational session during Open Day meetings with students to educate them on the electoral process. Posters, flyers and banners were distributed from temporary booths explaining the details of how, when and where to vote. More than 500 students in each university were reached.

Scouts of Libya – Voter Education & Civic Participation Campaign

SCELT partnered with the Scouts of Libya to conduct a national voter education and civic participation campaign. The scouts implemented face-to-face education sessions to raise the level of awareness among youth groups and local communities regarding the National Elections.

The activity involved training 500 scouts leaders trainers in 24 Scouts Commissions throughout all 13 districts in the country on the electoral process and voter education. The Commissions developed action plans at the district level to cover the two weeks prior to election day. The Scouts were able to reach 48,000 people around the country with voter education activities and distribute over 30,000 items on the print materials produced by the HNEC. The last activity conducted between the 10th and 16th July 2012 was in partnership with



the Scouts Tripoli Commission and involved the design and implementation of two training workshops on civic education during the Scouts camp “Scouting for Brotherhood and Peace “Up to 60 Libyans scouts members trained as Senior Civic Educators. Almost 3000 Libyan scouts’ members trained as civic educators who then went on to reach almost half a million Libyan youth through Face-to-Face civic education activities.

Students for Democracy Program

In response to the need for equipping youth with impartial and actionable civic knowledge to sustain their civic engagement, the Project Document envisaged that UNDP and the Ministry of Higher Education, would run an educational program targeting university students [*Students for Democracy Program*] in late 2012. This program was to consist of curricular and extra-curricular activities taking place on all University campuses aimed at increasing the knowledge and understanding of Libyan students in the fields of civic culture, democracy and human rights in line with the values and principles governing the political and social project of the new Libya as well as in giving them opportunities to

engage in debates and practical activities during which they will be able to develop their civic skills.

The Students for Democracy Program (SDP) was designed in collaboration with the MOHE and consists in class-based activities (curricular) as well as other non-academic activities that can include debates, seminars, trainings, film projections, model constitution-writing exercises, fairs, concerts, etc. During two continuous weeks in each participating university, an academic course will be given to selected students during mornings while afternoons and evenings will be reserved for non-curricular events organized by UNDP, Academic Institutions, CSOs and other interested parties. This activity had been agreed with the MOHE, but was on hold at its request, while a Minister for Higher Education was appointed, however the MOHE have now advised that based on its severe lack of operational capacity it would prefer to focus on youth Engagement in Democracy Assessment and Modeling [below] and developing a strategy for capacity development support to Third-Level Institutions in civic education curricula and Training of Trainers for their lecturers in 2013 and therefore wishes to postpone the SDP activity indefinitely

Youth Engagement In Democracy Assessment, Observation, Modeling

There is a currently no independent monitoring of governance processes in Libya, and capacities for governance assessments and evidence-based planning in governance and democracy-building need to be developed. At a time when Libya has to define its new social contract and revise so many of its core social and economic policies, it is crucial to inform dialogue processes that will carry these efforts with reliable and multi-dimensional data so that choices are made on the basis of evidence.

Furthermore, youth and their growing social, economic and political exclusion in Libya and in the region at large, have been the source of revolutionary thrust in the country and it is paramount that their voices be heard in the transition and that their needs be given attention in the new national social contract and policy framework, if the peace is to be sustainable .

This initiative pursues three main objectives:

- To foster youth-led initiatives advocating on youth rights & needs
- To strengthen the national framework for independent assessment of the political transition process
- To develop the use of evidence-based planning in governance and policy-making

The expected outputs of this initiative are:

1. A Libyan Youth Observatory of the Democratic Transition is established by a joint venture of leading Libyan youth organizations whose capacities are developed
2. Reliable data on key indicators of the inclusiveness and transparency of the transition process, and in particular on the mainstreaming of youth priorities, are disseminated to policy-makers and the public at large.
3. Awareness on and capacities for youth empowerment are developed among civil society and policy-making actors.

This activity, funded through the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust fund [DGTTF] did not take place in 2012, due to the reluctance of Ministry of Higher Education to coordinate this activity as it waited for a new Minister and Deputy Ministers to be appointed and financial and human resources to be made available for the Ministry to function. UNDP was also awaiting confirmation of DGTTF funding. The MOHE in particular suffered more than most ministries from the effects of a new regime emerging and the demise of the previous system of funding third-level education. The MOHE approached SCEL in early February 2013 in order to pursue this initiative again and it is hoped that this initiative will be funded under the DGTTF in early 2013.

OUTPUT 3: Increased Women's Participation in the Democratic Transition Process

The participation of women in the election of mid-2012 was viewed by many as a key indicator of the degree to which Libya had been transformed by a revolution, which began in February of 2011. From the outset in 2011, women emerged as instrumental in shaping and supporting the protests that sparked national defiance of an authoritarian regime and later joined efforts to provide humanitarian relief, re-supply the revolutionaries, and supported local communities in crisis.

In the National Election, voter turnout was at 62% [with 2.85m registered to vote] with a 55% -45% male-female ratio. Such a high turnout by women is particularly impressive taking into consideration that this was the first election in which women could either stand or vote in Libya, and the dearth of civic knowledge provided over the preceding 40 years.

Having participated as individual and party list candidates, women experienced the challenges and opportunities faced by their colleagues around the world. A total of 3,708 candidates stood for the first democratic elections in Libya, 629 were women (almost 17%). By far the highest number of women candidates competed in proportional representation (PR) party list seats (80 seats in total). The total number of candidates in the PR constituencies was 1,207 and 545 were women (45%). Whereas in the 120 seat majoritarian constituencies, 2,501 candidates participated, and only 84 were women (almost 3.5%)⁵.

The much higher proportion of women on the PR lists can no doubt be attributed to the requirement for political parties and groups to include women on their PR lists. In fact in the end, 40% of the party entity seats went to elected women (32 seats /80 seats total), which is in sharp contrast to the 1 elected in the 120 seats under the majoritarian individual candidate system. Overall, 33 women (16.5%) were elected to the 200 seat General National Congress (GNC). Although these figures for women candidates is relatively modest, it should be recognized that, considering its starting point and that this was the first election in which women could stand as candidates and indeed vote, it is

⁵ Source HNEC, Libya

something of a milestone and a significant achievement. Of 13 countries in the MENA region, only Iraq [25%] Tunisia and UAE [both 23%] have a higher percentage of women in parliament.

Lessons from other transitional countries shows us that while women can be a catalyst for change, changing the nature of women's participation is also a gradual process. The revolution in Libya presented an opportunity for women to occupy newly-created political space and the enduring image of strength carved out during the revolution gives them additional credibility.

Yet women had a representation of less than six percent in Libya's first post-revolution government and very few individual women – only 3% - chose to run as individual candidates in the election. The work of the SCELТ project encourages women to participate fully in the electoral and constitution-making processes by promoting the role of women in the transition, strengthening the capacity of women's CSOs to conduct civic education, organizing national consultations on the role of women in the transition process, and creating an on-line training course on women and civic participation. The project also deployed a Gender Specialist who provided technical assistance to the government and civil society as part of a wider awareness-building initiative to ensure women participate fully in the transition.

Women's CSO Training & Networking

As part of UNDP's commitment to provide training for women's NGOs in key aspects of the political transition process, the SCELТ project organized, during the period from 10th to 12th to 17th of May, 2012, three introductory workshops on women participation in politics were organized in Benghazi, Sebha and Tripoli. A total of 150 women were trained on Libyan electoral system and introduction to women's participation in election as candidates, the women participants also exchanged and shared experience and knowledge with women candidates from Tunisia.

Two Workshops on Campaign Strategies, Communications and Public Speaking were held in Benghazi and Tripoli in June 2012 and two further training workshops on Election Campaign Management and Media and Public Speaking were also organized. Women candidates and media and public speaking. A total of 120 women candidates from Tripoli, Misrata, Alzawia, Gerian, Al Zantan, Benghazi, Drna, Agdabia, Tubrug, Al bayda received training on key aspects of election campaign management. As a result of this activity, women were empowered to take informed decisions' about their candidacy and the election process and women candidates provided with educative materials on how to campaign.

'My Voice for Her' Campaign

With the official launch of the awareness support Campaign (My voice for her) on the 25th of June, 2012, SCELТ in collaboration with its national Libyan CSO partners The Women's Union and "Maaa Nabneeha" Movements organized a national campaign for supporting women candidates who were running for the Libyan National General

Congress. The campaign was organized under “My Voice for her “as a national slogan. The campaign provided an opportunity for the women candidates’ public and media exposure. As a result of the campaign, women candidates were supported and encouraged to take a lead role on the National General Congress election. Women also received necessary technical materials which assisted them in their electoral campaigns. A total of 283 women candidates participated.

The various workshops culminated in the nation-wide campaign to empower women candidates, with the main aim to offer support and awareness for these women candidates and their importance in active participation in the social and political scene. Around 500 people attended the launch of the “my voice for her” awareness campaign and more than 10 local and regional TV channels and 5 daily newspapers covered the event, in addition to most of the popular Libyan websites.



The launch was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Libya, the Chairman of the High National Elections Commission and the Vice President of the National Transitional Council, as well as the Special Representative of the United Nations in Libya. 20,000 awareness leaflets were printed and distributed to increase women voter participation and each of the candidates received a handbag of awareness materials and modules to support them in the electoral process.

During the launch event, a short film on Libyan women’s roles throughout Libya’s history was showcased, which was a source of inspiration to all attending. The film was met by thunderous applause by the women candidates and was awarded a standing ovation.



One of the woman participants commented:

Thanks to UNDP we feel empowered as women candidates, with practical skills training and so much attention. We also feel encouraged by today's event with so much media coverage. It is a good opportunity to test the skills we learned in the workshop.

SCELT's efforts to empower women to participate in civil and political life continued, with a Women Rights & Constitution Workshop in partnership with the Libyan Women Union and the Maán Nabniha Movement held in Tripoli in September for 50 participants from various areas who went on to develop action plans and tools to increase women's participation in constitution-making process.

Participation of Women in The Political Process

During October 2012, UNDP in collaboration with the National Democratic Institute NDI organized a Lessons Learned Workshop on the Participation of Women in the Political Process – The GNC Elections. The main issues discussed in the workshop included:

- i. The electoral legal framework and its implications for women's participation;
- ii. The electoral campaign environment;
- iii. The role played by civil society and the international community, including UN's role in supporting women's participation.

The workshop was attended by 50 women participants who represented women members to the GNC, women candidates in the General National Congress elections and women from civil society organizations and academia. After intensive three-day discussions the participants arrived at a set of conclusions, recommendations and actions which will be included in a forthcoming joint UNDP/NDI report on the Workshops proceedings. The also formed a Working Group on Women's Participation in the Political Process which will receive on going support from UNDP and NDI.

Support to UNSCR 1325

As part of it is continuing support for the empowerment of women in Libya and particularly its awareness raising around United Nations Security Council resolution 1325, [2000] which calls for a gender perspective that includes the special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction, SCELT supported a Libyan women NGO (Libyan International Women's Organization) to carry events as part of the International "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence".



This consisted of an awareness campaign [‘Who protects me...?’] to publicize the dangers and consequences of violence against women. Libyan women and civil society organizations took part in the campaign which was launched from Martyrs Square, where related documentaries and video message were also displayed on a screen, leaflets, publications and hats were distributed and Interviews, radio and television covered the event during the three-days from 25 – 27th of November, followed by a series of lectures and further publicity events from 26th – 28th. The project funded all the publicity materials needed for this campaign.



OUTPUT 4: National Capacity Established to Undertake Public Consultations and Dialogue

The transitional process in Libya is based on the premise that Libyans will be at liberty to choose their political system and the process for this will lay the political and economic foundation of the future Libya. However to be secure, this foundation must be closely aligned with the rights, wishes and aspirations of the Libyan people. Libyan authorities, therefore, engaged the wider public in a consultation on the electoral system and the first major milestone came with the election of the National General Congress and the appointment of the ministers of an interim government. The Libyan people are now impatient to move forward to the next major step: developing a national constitution. This Constitution will be the legal foundation that reflects the social contract agreed upon by Libyan citizens and organizes their social relations, political life and model of governance.

However, as stated earlier, for most Libyans, a social contract based on the rights of all citizens and which places a wide range of obligations on ‘duty bearers’ to ensure that contract is honoured and their rights protected and upheld, is a new concept which they have little if any first-hand experience of. A widely recognized precursor of any social contract and indeed of the development of social capital itself, is public consultation and dialogue, among citizens and between citizens and the state. Such dialogue is now

recognized as being essential to the development of a robust democracy, which requires not just the consent but the participation of citizens to be considered both legitimate and credible. Democratic dialogue is also being increasingly viewed as essential to effective civic education for democracy, with a growing recognition that people learn far more effectively *about* democracy if they learn *through* democracy. Consultation and dialogue therefore are also increasingly considered to be core to any effective civic education strategy.

In order to support Libya's transition towards democracy therefore, SCELТ aims to support the engagement of citizens in public consultation and dialogue and in particular to develop the capacity of Libyans and Libyan CSOs to facilitate inclusive dialogue and consultation among the many stakeholders in the transition process. In the period following the election the focus for Libyans of such dialogue and consultation has inevitably been on the impending drafting process for the Libyan constitution, although it is also true that the capacities, experiences and learning which emerge from this period can serve to enhance democratic development in Libya for many years to come.

Having said that its also important to recognise that there has been some disquiet and a growing frustration among CSOs with the time it is taking for the GNC to establish the 'committee of 60' and initiate a public consultation and constitution drafting process. In part this frustration is a reflection of the energy and optimism generated by the revolutionary spirit and the relative speed and success of the national election which followed. Since July 2012 however, the GNC has also had to face the many challenges and complexities of a transition process, which, due in no small part to the range of stakeholders and interests involved, has at times, required a patient and consultative approach.



However, there is now a danger that in the absence of clear evidence of progress towards a constitution in addition to a 'peace dividend' of increased security, economic development and better services at local level, ordinary citizens are becoming frustrated at a perceived lack of progress and that armed factions and other political entities will

take advantage of such frustrations. A clear roadmap for the development of the new constitution is therefore now essential and it is hoped that this will be unveiled shortly.

Public Consultation & Dialogue Capacities

In preparation for this roadmap and in order to help develop capacities for public consultations and dialogue, SCELТ's initial steps were to work with civil society organizations to identify the broad contours of such processes and better understand their role. In March 2012, UNDP fielded a mission of two world-renowned constitution experts, Professors Yash Ghai and Jill Cottrel, to appraise civil society partners on lessons learned from constitutional drafting processes and to support them in preparing for the Libyan process. Three workshops were organized for CSOs (26th March with 40 participants), women's CSOs (28th March with 25 participants), and academia and youth CSOs (28th March with 30 participants), which aimed to increase knowledge and understanding of the drafting and public consultations necessary in democratic constitution making.

As a follow on from this, UNDP organized on the 3rd of July 2012 a consultative workshop on women participation in the constitution making process. The participants at the workshop were from different parts of Libya and the outcomes were that the emerging women's movement and groups would be capable of identifying priority areas, developing action plan and using tools for addressing participation in the constitution making process. 50 women representing 50 different women's groups and CSOs participated.

The Lessons learned workshop on Women's Participation in the Political process [covered under Output 3 above], while looking back at the electoral process also looked forward to the coming consultative process around the constitution and facilitated participants in making recommendations on what such a process should include and how women could be empowered to be part of that. This has been true of many other SCELТ activities given that in many ways the consultative process around the constitution is a cross-cutting priority for those promoting civic education, women's empowerment and civil society development.

In late 2012 SCELТ also developed a partnership with The Forum for Democratic Libya [FDL] a national NGO working to promote transparency, civic engagement, and accountability in order to facilitate a nation-wide consultation process on the development of the new constitution. The aim of this learning and dialogue process is to increase the participation of citizens in the constitutional development process, providing a platform for dialogue and encouraging interface between citizens and the Committee of 60.



Citizens, policy makers, civil society and political activists are being facilitated in joining an open nation-wide dialogue process to ensure that Libya’s New Constitution provides for inclusion, freedom, and a united Libyan identity. This initiative builds on SCLT civic education initiatives in earlier 2012, particularly in the development of national capacities to develop civic and democratic knowledge at local level and among civil society. It also builds on previous work by the Forum for Democratic Libya in Tripoli, Benghazi, Misurata, Beyda, and Darnah with over 700 civil society and political activists, intellectuals, and lawyers who have participated in workshops and dialogue sessions since June 2011.

This initiative which runs from December 2012 to April 2013 will set the stage for arriving at recommendations and policy briefs which are inclusive of citizens’ voices and addressing decision-makers in the GNC and the proposed Committee of 60. It has the following key outputs:

i. Increased capacities to facilitate and opportunities for dialogue among citizens on constitutional issues

- A group of 15 facilitators are being trained on facilitating the constitutional process in Libya in terms of both technical content and method.
- The development of tailored research and documentation tools as templates to facilitators record feedback and recommendations;
- Civic Education & Dialogue workshops [1.5 days each] will take place in 12 locations across Libya with stakeholders including heads of tribes, civilian and military councils, NTC members, political and social activists and CSOs. There will be three core topic headings at each workshop: minorities and the role of women, new system of governance, and natural resource management
- The locations for the Dialogues are as follows:

Western Region	Eastern Region	Southern Region
Tripoli	Benghazi	Sabha
Misrata	Darna	Merzoq
Sirte	Toubrek	Ubari
Bani Walid	Kufrah	
Jado		

- There will also be coordination with local media outlets to guarantee the coverage of the events and participants at each dialogue workshop are being provided with pamphlets and information on key messages to raise their awareness. This material will also be posted on a social media platform including a website dedicated to the initiative, and open for feedback and input from citizens across the country. This social media platform is envisioned as a dynamic website with regular updates, videos, and publications during the initiative.

ii. Interface between citizens and civil society actors and constitutional committee facilitated

- Following the documentation of dialogue proceedings and outcomes, the FDL team with the assistance of UNDP will develop three policy briefs on the three topics of dialogue. These briefs will be concise and addressed to the committee of 60, GNC and decision-makers in Libya enabling them to understand the options, expectations, and concerns expressed by citizens.
- A final closing event will be organised by FDL and UNDP in April 2013 bringing together the Facilitation team to present these policy briefs to decision-makers. Participants will include civil society and political activists, media representatives, lawyers, constitutional experts, GNC members, constitutional committee members, and decision-makers from across different regions and political factions in Libya. The closing event will be an open call for continuing this dialogue in the post-referendum phase to transform the constitution into a living social contract inclusive of Libyans needs and priorities.

III. RISKS/ISSUES

Looking forward, while project priorities for 2013 are covered under V. below the following risks need to be taken into account:

- The decision to elect the Committee of 60 through a national poll may affect the progression of project activities. Based on this decision the balance of focus of activity 4 must be re-evaluated in order to ensure it is in line with existing needs and capacity limitations.
- Other Changes to the legislative landscape, [for example the NGO law] may require additional activities;
- Appointments of new ministers or ministry staff, which may undermine partnerships or capacity developed to date. If for example the ministries are reorganised and interlocutors disappear or are replaced.
- Decisions taken on the mandate, role and ministerial location of the Civil Society Support Centres.
- Although optimism remains, the halo-effect from the revolution is fading, and with it much of the goodwill and patience of the early days of the NTC. Discontent amongst youth is already brewing in areas, which may negatively affect their willingness or ability to engage in constructive advocacy;
- Priorities of civil society partners may swerve away from issues highlighted in SCELТ work plans, for instance if some civil society groups adopt a more adversarial approach to the GNC or Ministries. There is already a rumoured call for a 'white revolution' protest in Benghazi and other locations on the 15th February to express frustration at a perceived lack of progress;
- Emerging priorities in voter/civic education, as a result the decision to elect the Constitutional Assembly [Committee of 60] may require additional resources/budgets. The need for immediate support to civic and voter education

surrounding the election of the constitutional committee may affect delivery of planned activities;

- Security/transportation restrictions meant that mobility was limited, affecting project activities at the district level which occurred in 2012.

IV. LESSONS LEARNED

- There is significant regional, as well as urban-rural divergence within Libya in terms of both civil society and citizen perspectives on the transition. This also reflects a wide range of actual and perceived differences in ownership of the transition process between different cities, areas and groups. A 'one size fits all' approach will therefore not deliver the necessary social consensus and tailored contextualised approaches are therefore necessary within each region as well as specific targeted interventions to address the previous exclusion of specific groups. The political context remains fragile, especially in the East.
- The level of capacity of CSOs varies widely and significant time is needed to develop capacity both prior to and during delivery. This affects the reach and effectiveness of broader civic education initiatives.
- The need for the development of context-specific materials and learning resources [and their translation into Arabic] required significantly more project capacity and resources than anticipated in 2012, distracting from the project goals and slowing implementation. This will now be built into activity planning for 2013
- While a small section of educated women have entered the political mainstream, the level of political knowledge amongst a majority of women is still very limited and there is little evidence of concrete commitment among policy makers to change the status quo dramatically;
- There is a significant need to establish a national [or regional] Women's Coalition for supporting women's political participation;
- There is a significant need for an effective representative organisation for CSOs and efforts should be mobilised to help CSOs develop mechanisms and structures which would enhance their own networking, which would enhance advocacy, and dialogue processes with government and GNC. Currently there are a wide range of CS unions and associations occasionally competing with each other and sometimes not accepting of the others legitimacy. This makes CS advocacy and policy development work extremely challenging and means that ministries and the GNC with limited resources and capacity are often unable to cope with the wide range of groups, which demand their attention and response. Public service resources and capacity would help address this, as would effective inter-CSO representation and coordination.
- There is still very limited understanding of the role of civil society among CSOs, and CSO organisational governance and management need a huge investment in the coming 3-5 years. Having said that, CSO absorptive capacity also remains

very limited and donors and Development Partners need to be careful of over-investment and over-expectation and focus on the long-term development of organisational capacities in addition to short term results. Given the limited capacity of Ministries, there is a significant danger of DPs adopting a *hydroponic*⁶ rather than *organic* approach to civil society development which results in a mutated civil society environment , dominated by donor-lead activities developed by organisations which are not emerging from and based within the spontaneous civic life of local people. Such activities and organisations are at best unsustainable and at worst in danger of

- More work will be needed on the participation of women in political parties, political party capacity development and party finance monitoring
- For youth activities it is necessary to refine the target age for civic education initiatives from 16-24 to 15- 30 due to the inclusion of students doing their post graduate degrees;
- Activities should continue to focus on major urban centres, given that 80% of the population is based in large towns and cities but more emphasis must be placed on areas outside the major urban centres;
- Government ministries are often preoccupied and limited by timelines/leadership /administration/funding, and therefore often have limited capacity to devote resources to areas outlined in the SCELТ project document;
- The first and second cohort of BRIDGE [TCEI 1 & 2] trainees was a great success, and BRIDGE-trained people provided great support for the election commission and in subsequent civic education activities. However there is a need to focus on CS [rather than individual] capacities, moving forward;
- The Scouts commission are widespread in Libya and their members are highly committed to support their local communities, which make it a valuable partner for disseminating civic awareness and encouraging dialogue.

V. FUTURE PLANS

The project continues to be impressed by the motivation and commitment of civil society to building an inclusive, pluralistic discourse that includes groups from all regions of the country as well as vulnerable segments of society. Meetings with civil society have continued to make clear their determination to engage closely with the process of drawing up a new constitution, and in efforts to promote women’s empowerment, civic awareness and engagement. The logic model developed for the year 1 will continue to apply in year 2, although with some activities completed and new activities developed SCELТ intends to pursue a work plan as listed below.

⁶ Hydroponics: Accelerated growth through hyper-fertilization in a soil-less environment

Output 1: Capacities of Libyan civil society actors to nurture civic engagement in Libya are increased
1.1 Support the Regulatory Framework for Civil Society [Law on Associations]
- Consultation with GNC CSO subcommittee, Ministry of Planning and Ministry of Culture
- Consultation with CSSC and CSO Networks
- Workshop for CSO's to discuss and propose final NGO law draft in various locations
1.2 Support to CSSC capacity development
- Scoping of CSO's in Libya
- Meeting with GNC, MOC, CSSC & UNDP on future role of CSSC
- Preparation of a Capacity Development plan (CDP) for CSSC
- External Relations Workshop for CSSC
1.3 Improving the NGO database & web portal of CSSC
- Agree on database purpose, concept & hardware required
- Set up of database & web portal
1.4 Civic Engagement Grant fund for Libyan CSO's
- Selection of NGO after RFP
- Call for expression of interest from CSO's
- Capacity development of CSO's
- Grant Funding (project implementation)
1.5 Enable religious leaders to disseminate culture of democracy
- Preparation of plan in consultation with MoA.
- Training Of Trainers (TOT) for Imams & religious Leaders
- Training Of Imams.
Output 2: Youth Civic Engagement Facilitated
2.1 DG BRIDGE
- Development of a DG BRIDGE Showcase event on Democratic Governance Dialogue
- Identification of Local Partners / Implementers & International Partners
- Design, Contextualize and Deliver a DG BRIDGE Dialogue Workshop
- Embedding FDL activities results, outputs and findings into curriculum
- Conducting a Training of Facilitators Workshop for 12 Senior National Facilitators from three Regions
- Development of DG BRIDGE [DG Dialogue] Strategy (involving Local Partners)
2.2 Development Of Community Of Practice on Dialogue & Civic Education
- Lessons learned workshop for TCEI 2012 (50 participants)
- Launch of the Democratic Dialogue & Civic Education Community of Practice
2.3 Students For Democracy [Dependent on Funding]
- - Agree on a strategy with MoHE [Sign MoU]
- - Pilot Activity in 1 University

- - Lessons Learned and Review Workshop
- - Expansion to 3 more Universities [if Funded by MOHE]
2.4 Civic Education Material Development Dissemination & TOT
- Resource Mobilisation
- Consultation with MoE and MOHE
- Civic Ed Curricula & Textbook Review and Editing A. Primary, B. Secondary & C. Third levels] Democratic Dialogue Curricula & D. Textbook Review and Editing
- Civic Ed and Democratic Dialogue Textbooks Layout design and Printing & Dissemination
- E. TCEI Training Manuals Review and Design, Printing
- TOT for Civic Education Providers
- TOT For Dialogue Facilitators
2.5 Civic Ed Activities At The Local Level
- Design a civic education outreach plan with national partners & Regional Civic Ed. Teams
- Conduct Civic Ed TOT for local level practitioners using alumni from 2012 TCEI as trainers
- Youth Engagement In Democracy Assessment, Observation, Modeling
- Development of Youth Dem. Monitoring/ assessment initiative using “V 4 Democracy” methodology <u>This activity is subject to the DGTTF funds</u>
Output 3: Strengthen Women’s Participation In The Democratic Transition
3.1 Support implementation of UNSCR 1325
- Learning Workshop on the implications of UNCR 1325 for the role of women in Libya's Transition for Women CSOs. Followed by ½ day roundtable discussion (women CSOs leaders and women caucus in GNC)
3.2 Strengthen Female Leadership
- Three local workshops in advocacy & campaigning for women CS organisations (Tripoli/Al Zawia,, Benghazi and Sabha) followed by national launch to present campaign results (Tripoli)
3.3 Promote Women Leaders Learning On Democracy And Politics
- Scoping/feasibility study of organizations/models/ training & mentoring programs to promote women’s learning on democracy and politics and leadership for women CSO Leaders
- Design & Pilot Learning initiative using selected model
- Ongoing Mentoring/ community of Practice & south to south exchange visit [Dependent on further funding]
3.4 Support the inclusion of women in the Transition Process
- Development & Dissemination of technical papers on the position of Libyan women and gender equality in the transition process and Libyan society in general [in all regions of Libya]
- Consultative meetings on Technical Papers between women led CSOs and gender

equality advocates
Output 4: National Capacities established to undertake Public Consultations & Dialogue
4.1 Develop Civil Society Capacities On Constitutional Dialogue Processes
- National Civil Society & GNC Dialogue Committee Workshop - Supporting Multi-stakeholder Dialogue in Libya's Transition - Models & Approaches [Preparation/Delivery/Report]
- Development & Publication of Democratic Dialogue Toolkit & Manual for CSOs & GNC Committee
- Workshops on Best Practices in Dialogue & Civic Engagement in Constitution through 1.2 Grant Fund
4.2 Support Libyan-Lead Dialogue Processes
- Develop curricula and TOT for DG Dialogue [Ref. Activities 2.1 & 2.3]
- Support Further Dialogue Initiatives using Ruwad and DG BRIDGE Facilitators under 1.2 Grant fund Initiative
- Establish Community of Practice on Democratic Dialogue under 2.2

VI. CONCLUSIONS

At the end of the first year of the SCELТ Project the focus is on consolidation and further development. The development of the CS Grant Fund Facility will be vital, but challenging considering current CSO capacity levels. The development of high school and university level civic education curriculum, the support of the Civil Society Support Centres in Tripoli, Misrata and Benghazi and the development of the Law on Associations are all considered essential to the development of an enabling environment for civic engagement in Libya. Working with the Ministry of Awqaf (MOA) in particular has the potential be a highly innovative activity with potential for wider regional learning. Developing partnerships with Women's CSOs for the inclusion of women in dialogue processes and ensuring that gender is mainstreamed across all activities is considered paramount and developing national level capacity for facilitating dialogue and consultation will be essential for the wide range of consensus seeking and multi-stakeholder dialogue processes which will be required over the next few years in order to build a lasting peace in Libya..

At the same time, discussions are on going between the MOCCS, Ministry of Planning, MOA and UNDP SCELТ leadership to ensure that support efforts continue to be aligned with the needs of the Ministries and the Civil Society sector during the transitional phase and are consistent with the existing mandate of the UNDP in Libya.

At the core of a peace-building, conflict sensitive approach to democratic governance capacity in Libya lies a strategic approach to civic education for effective dialogue and engagement, which moves social partners away from the all too familiar territory of violence, 'zero sum' or 'winner takes all' approaches to resolving social and political

tensions in Libya. Capacities for structuring and facilitating *inclusive* multi-stakeholder dialogue around each of the key transitional challenges must be therefore the key focus of the project at this critical time. As emphasized throughout this document therefore, SCLT is emphasising consolidating the individual capacities built over 2012 while at the same time placing a renewed emphasis in 2013 on institutional capacities which facilitate learning and dialogue among all Libyans, and with their elected representatives, through CSOs and Academia. We believe that this groundwork will provide the essential foundation for vibrant and effective citizenship in a peaceful Libya.

