



The Youth Leaders Foundation

"An Impactful Journey"

Arab Republic of Egypt
2025

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Introducing the Youth Leaders Foundation

The Youth Leaders Foundation (YLF) is a non-profit civil society organization established in 2017.

YLF believes in the potential and capabilities of young leaders in various fields and the importance of empowering them to attain achievements on both personal and social levels. YLF has a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), since 2020.

VISION

YLF envisions a future where all young Egyptians have equal access to quality education, leadership opportunities, and technical and vocational education and training (TVET), enabling them to reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to their communities and society.

Mission

To empower and inspire youth to drive socio-economic growth and environmental stewardship through entrepreneurship, leadership development, and education, fostering a generation of self-reliant, skilled, and environmentally conscious leaders.

Target Groups

YLF directly targets various groups across Egypt, tailoring its programs to their specific needs and contexts. Namely:

• **Age:** Primarily focused on youth aged **13 - 30**, encompassing secondary and high school students, university students, and young professionals. This age group is at a critical juncture in their personal and professional development, making them receptive to leadership training, educational opportunities, and vocational skills.

• **Young Women and Girls:** We prioritise girls and young women to address disparities in these areas and empower them to overcome traditional barriers.



• **Socioeconomic Background:** We target all communities, including youth from across the governorates and rural areas, to ensure equitable access to opportunities.

• **Interests and Aspirations:** We support young people with specific interests and aspirations (e.g., STEM enthusiasts, climate change, aspiring entrepreneurs, community leaders).

Key Focus Areas

- Quality Trainings and Skills Development
- Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for Women and Girls
- Entrepreneurship
- Youth Leadership in Universities and Schools
- Incorporating Climate Change and the Environment



• Recognizing the transformative power of youth, YLF works hand-in-hand with young people to achieve all the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



• Through its programs, it equips young people with the skills and knowledge to become responsible leaders.

• This empowers them to tackle challenges like climate change (SDG 13) and build a more sustainable future (SDG 12), while fostering economic growth and decent work opportunities (SDG 8) through their entrepreneurial ventures.

• By nurturing youth leadership (SDG 4), YLF empowers young people to be active participants in shaping a better world, aligning perfectly with the core principles of the SDGs – leaving no one behind.

• YLF's approach to youth leadership development cultivates a generation of environmentally conscious young people who are empowered to take action and collaborate with relevant organizations to achieve SDG 13 (Climate Action).

YLF's Theory of Change: Empowering Egypt's Next Generation.

In full alignment with Egypt's updated Vision 2030, this section sheds light on YLF's Theory of Change (ToC).

It highlights its path towards empowering youth in driving positive change in their communities.

It articulates our vision, values, and strategies cultivating the leadership talents and capabilities of youth.



Building a more prosperous and engaged Egyptian society through youth development.

The ToC views young people as active agents, not just passive recipients of help. Programs and activities are designed to nurture their confidence, amplify their voices, and make them feel empowered to tackle challenges. By placing youth at the center, this ToC acknowledges their potential and encourages communities to involve them in finding solutions.

Intervention Pathway One:

Egyptian youth are equipped with employability and entrepreneurship skills.

Main Focus:

- Quality Training
- Technical and Transferable Skills
- Financial Literacy
- Self-reliance
- Adaptability

Examples of Interventions:

• **Youth** have access to quality training opportunities to better capitalize on their skills and capabilities for their own advancement and integration in the economy.

• **Parents** are supporting their children's choices and encouraging them to pursue their education and professional careers.



• **Governmental entities** are developing and implementing youth-centered employment and entrepreneurship policies and strategies.

• **Education facilities** are adopting approaches and mechanisms to support youth engagement in a new learning environment.

• **Private sector entities** are supporting youth-led businesses through creating opportunities for youth to access funding and also apprenticeship programs.

Intervention Pathway Two:

Egyptian youth's civic engagement and leadership are fostered.

Main Focus:

- Social Impact
- Sustainable Development
- Volunteerism
- Social Entrepreneurship

Examples of Interventions:

• **Youth** have diverse ways to connect with civic engagement activities that are catered to different personalities and skills, from volunteering, social media activism, to policy debates and youth councils.

• **Parents** are encouraging their children's involvement in the community and building their confidence through positive reinforcement.

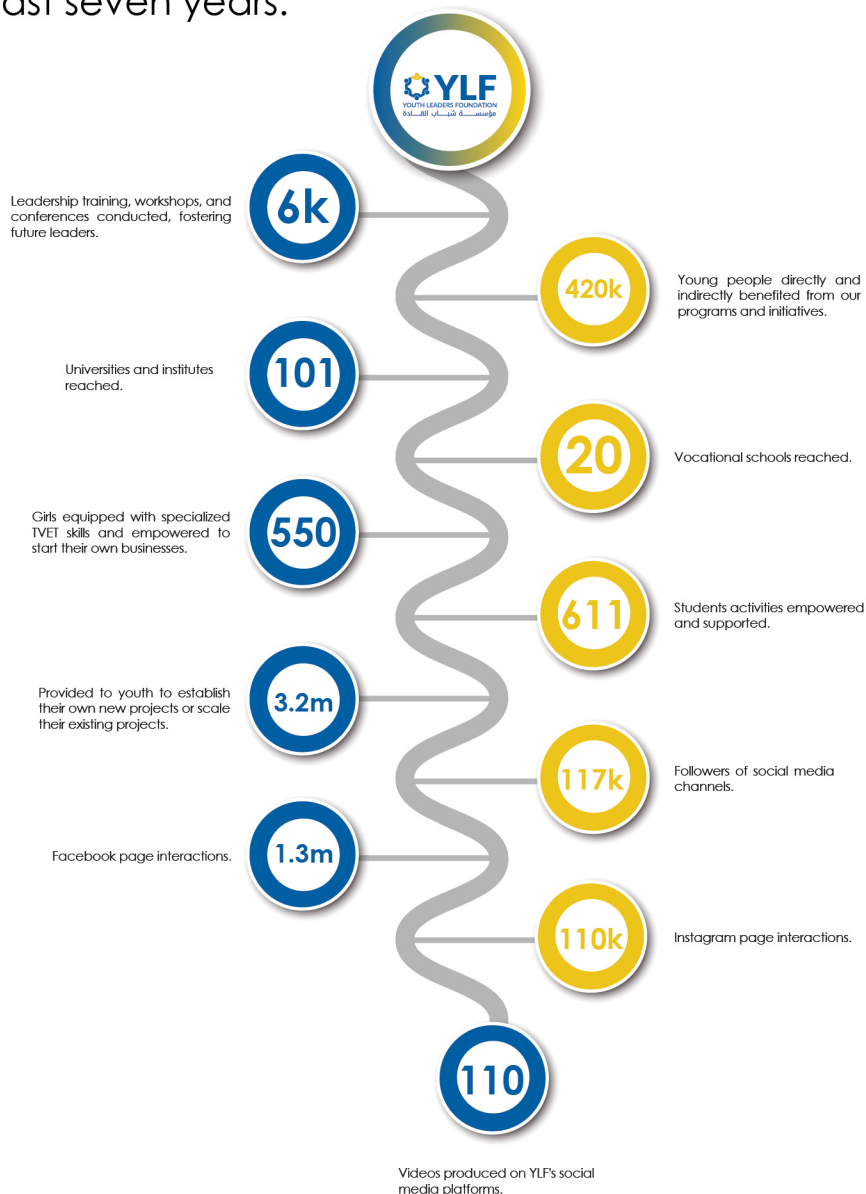


• **Governmental entities** are promoting structures and mechanisms where young people's voices are heard, respected, and translated into action.

• **Societies** are building supportive ecosystems for youth fostering civic engagement culture.

Impactful Milestones

In pursuit of our mission to empower youth, YLF is proud to showcase the significant milestones it has achieved over the past seven years.



Programs and Initiatives

On-going Programs and Initiatives

Leaders' League:

Amplifying Student Voices Through Teamwork in Activities

•Importance of Student Activities:

YLF believes participating in student activities helps students develop practical skills and become well-rounded individuals.

•The Leaders' League Program:

This program selects leaders who have experience in student activities, ensuring they have practical qualities for their roles.

•The Leaders' League Platform:

This platform is a one-stop hub for Egyptian university student activities. It allows student groups to:

- Showcase their mission, activities, and achievements.
- Participate in competitions for recognition of their contributions.

•Overall Impact:

Launched in 2019, this program is **the first and largest of its kind in Egypt**. It fosters a nationwide network of impactful student activities.



The Leaders' League Program aims to develop exceptional student leaders across Egyptian universities.

The Program Structure:

1 Pre-Assessment:

- Evaluates student activity projects to ensure they're ready for competitions.



2 Selection Process:

- Uses expert judges and government officials to evaluate teams through qualifiers.
- Awards financial prizes to winning students to support their work.

3 Capacity Building:

- Provides training, camps, seminars, and development events to enhance student skills within their activities.

4 Organizing Competitions:

- Encourages participation and helps students discover talents through competitions focused on specific topics.

5 Post-Assessment:

- Analyzes data using advanced tools to measure program effectiveness and identify areas for improvement.



Program's Outcome (2019 - 2024):

- **1671** training and consultancy sessions conducted.
- **611** student activities directly or indirectly supported, encompassing around 450,000 students.
- **48** public and private universities and institutes reached in **21** governorates.
- **2,500,000 EGP** provided to **52** projects of student activities.
- **17 university** presidents and vice presidents attended the event to oversee the youth's projects in various fields.
- **3 ministers** also attended to support the youths and provide them with effective advice to enhance their expertise.



The Leaders: **Leader**ship program

Dreams and Ambitions: Youth Leadership Impacting the Future

- Launched with YLF's inception, in 2017, the Leaders Program targets promising Egyptian university students. It equips them with the skills to become future leaders.
- The program offers intensive development stages: Practical and technical training in students' chosen fields.
- Personalized guidance and counseling based on individual needs.
- Sports activities to build teamwork, resilience, and healthy habits.
- **Building a network of leaders:** Cultivate a pool of well-rounded leaders equipped with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience to make a positive impact on their communities and beyond.



Structured Process:

Similar to other YLF programs, a well-defined structure ensures success.

1 Identifying Future Leaders:

- Pre-assessment process including applications, interviews, and assessments.
- Selects students to join the YLF Leaders' network.

2 Building & Enhancing Skills:

- Mentoring and coaching for participants.
- Individual Development Plans (IDPs):
 - Assessors identify 1-3 skill areas for improvement.
 - Students choose preferred learning methods to develop those skills.
 - Aligns career goals with values discovered through coaching.



3 Practical Experience:

- Internship opportunities with program sponsors in various sectors and participation in mega events (e.g., COP 27, EU Jeel Connect, and others).
- Students gain insights, practical skills, and network with professionals.



4 Measuring Growth:

- Post-program evaluation tracks personal and professional development.
- Helps students identify areas for continued improvement.



Program's Outcome (2017 - 2023):

- Meticulously selected and worked with **165** future leaders from a pool of over **35,000** applicants, across **101** universities and institutes, and **56** faculties in **27** Governorates.



Engineering Leaders:



Learning without Borders

• Learning Expert is a program Launched in 2022 by the Youth Leaders Foundation in collaboration with Concrete Plus.



• Learning Expert mainly focuses on linking youth internships with corporate projects and vision by introducing case studies from the corporate side to be implemented by the interns to give them early access to corporate and career life.

• The program's objective is to enhance practical and technical skills to ensure the quality of internships during the university years.



Activities & Approach:

1 Pre-Assessment:

- Evaluate student commitment to solving the project's case study and to ensure they're ready for competitions.



2 Capacity Building:

- Provides training, camps, seminars, and development events to enhance student skills.



3 Organizing Competitions:

- To highlight youth power in corporate life and the benefits of integrating the practical experience in the internships.



4 Practical Experience:

- Internship opportunities with program sponsors in various sectors and in mega projects
- Students gain insights and practical skills and network with professionals.

5 Measuring Growth:

- Post-program evaluation tracks personal and professional development.
- Helps students identify areas for continued improvement.



Program's Outcome (2022 - 2024):

- A total number of **1575 students divided into 103 teams** were supported during the program.
- A total of **+50 training hours** were facilitated for each participant.
- More than **5 field visits** were conducted for each participant with more than **16 internships** were secured.



Climate Leaders:



Empowering the Next Generation of Egyptian Climate Champions

- Climate Leaders, launched in 2022, is a tailored program for individuals, student groups, and startups interested in creating a positive environmental impact and assuming leadership roles in their areas of expertise.

- The program equips creative students with the skills to develop community solutions.

- Educational training and interactive work shops to increase youth knowledge of climate change issues and solutions.



- Project management training and mentorship are conducted to equip the participants with the skills to design and implement community-based climate action projects.

- Policy advocacy and social media campaigns are implemented to promote climate action.

- Her Excellency, **Ms. Intsar El Sisi**, attended presentations on the winning projects during COP27.



Activities & Approach:

1 Pre-assessment:

- The Climate Leaders program conducts a pre-assessment to assess applicants' projects.

2 Capacity Building and Enhancement:

- The program trains young individuals to become effective climate leaders through business, interpersonal, and environmental training, providing financial skills, soft skills, and knowledge about environmental challenges.



3 Organizing Competitions:

- The Capacity Building for Climate Action program culminates in a competition. Climate Leaders teams develop concrete climate action initiatives, focusing on sustainable practices, technology, and innovative business models, with support from facilitators and mentors.



4 Filtration and Selection:

- The program offers interim qualifiers for student teams, involving specialized judging panels and committees, experts and government officials, and financial support for winning teams.



5 Post-Assessment:

- The program uses advanced evaluation tools to conduct a post-evaluation, collecting and analyzing data to measure its effectiveness and work on improvement.

Program's Outcome (2022 - 2023):

- More than **713** projects were supported during the program.
- A total number of **37,000** applicants were supported during the program.
- A total of **50** training hours were facilitated for each participant.



Beyond the Glass Ceiling through Building Bridges for Women and Girls in Technical and Vocational Education and Training

- Launched in 2019, "She Leads" is a program that aims to **change Egypt's technical education landscape for girls**.
- It empowers female vocational school students (aged from 14 to 17) to become future entrepreneurs.
- The program provides these young women with the skills and knowledge needed to start and run businesses.
- It also encourages innovative female student projects and social responsibility.



Goal:

Empower girls to become future leaders in technical and vocational education (TVET).

Structured Process:

Similar to other YLF programs, a well-defined structure ensures success.

1 Pre-Assessment:

- Gauges students' readiness for program activities.

2 Raising Awareness & Sensitization:

- Educates girls and their parents on rights, protection against and eliminating violence, and challenging stereotypes in TVET And the importance of the education to girls' development.



3 Capacity Building & Enhancement:

- Provides mentoring, coaching, and entrepreneurial/interpersonal training for girls.
- Offers specialized workshops on product prototyping and business branding.

4 Organizing Competitions:

- Encourages participation and advancement through competitions.
- Aims to build confidence, innovation, and creativity.
- Increases visibility and recognition for participating girls.

5 Selection & Filtration:

- Expert judges and government officials evaluate participants.
- Winners receive financial awards to continue their work.

6 Post-Assessment:

- Analyzes data to measure program effectiveness and identify improvement areas.
- Focuses on enhancing the sustainability of participants' projects and businesses.



Program's Outcome (2019 – mid 2024):

- **8,750** girls directly or indirectly supported (with a total of **2,900** applications processed).
- **550** female future entrepreneurs supported (with a total number of **165** projects).
- **20** vocational schools reached in **10** governorates.



Banan:



Egyptian Female Entrepreneurs

- Banan is a program launched in 2023 by the Youth Leaders Foundation in collaboration with AttijariwafaBank Egypt and under the patronage of the National Council for Women.
- Banan focuses on empowering all female entrepreneurs, with no limitations or restrictions for female entrepreneurs for professional and sustainable transformation to expand and maintain their businesses.



- The program 's mission is to become a permanent destination hub for female entrepreneurs as an open-door mechanism in order to provide the needed support and assistance to become tomorrow's entrepreneurs.
- The program has the objective of enhancing knowledge, technical skills, and production to ensure the highest quality products and sustain the projects for girls entrepreneurs.
- Banan offers comprehensive capacity-building components to female entrepreneurs.

Activities & Approach:

① Capacity Building and Enhancement:

Tailored training programs aim to equip participants with the essential skills and knowledge to navigate the business landscape effectively, such as business modeling, ideation, marketing, selling, and customer-oriented training.



② Equipped Workshops:

Banan provides workshops with the necessary resources and equipment, allowing the girls to produce a diverse range of products.



③ Sales and Exhibition Platforms (E-commerce Website and Showroom):

- To reach a wider audience, Banan offers two options:
 - An e-commerce website that facilitates online sales.
 - A permanent showroom located in Zamalek that allows the girls to showcase and sell both their handcrafted products and customized services.

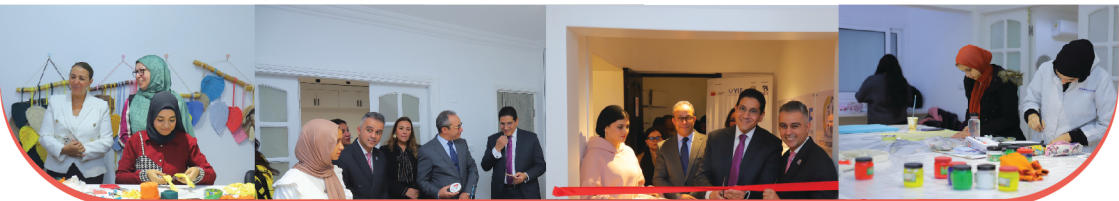
④ Groundbreaking Technology Event:



Banan goes beyond traditional business support by hosting a huge technology event. Through workshops, talks, and meetings with technology pioneers, this event focuses on introducing young women to current technology trends, breaking stereotypes, and inspiring them to pursue careers in the technology field.

Program's Outcome (2023 - 2024):

- A total number of **75 female entrepreneurs** were supported during the program.
- A total of **45 training sessions** were facilitated for each participant till mid - July 2024.
- A total of **40** exhibition days in more than **8** different events and exhibitors.



YLF's "Juniors Program - Empowering Egypt's Student Union Members"



•As Egypt boasts a vibrant pre-university student population of 25 million, leveraging its success in training thousands of young leaders across Egyptian universities and technical schools, YLF is launching a new program - **"Juniors Program - Empowering Egypt's Student Union Members: The Students Union Leaders (The SU Leaders)"**.



•This dynamic initiative will ignite the leadership potential of schools' student union members and the early stage development in all 27 governorates of Egypt, and further solidifying YLF's commitment to fostering leadership, education, and community engagement among Egypt's young leaders.

The Program Structure:

1 Screening & Pre-Assessment

•YLF monitors school union elections across Egypt (27 governorates) 189 student representatives are chosen based on competency assessments. Assessments help **tailor program activities** to student strengths.

2 Capacity Building & Development

- Students participate in boot camps, workshops, and activities. Focuses on leadership skills and creating awareness initiatives for their governorates.

3 Rolling out in Governorates

- 189 students roll out awareness initiative activities across each of their governorates with the supervision and orchestration of YLF (reaching around **27,000 other students**).

4 Networking & Connections

- Students connect with officials from relevant ministries (e.g., Culture, Education, and others).

Field visits and networking **events bridge the gap between students and government.**

Empower student leaders through exposure and potential policy influence.

Target (2025 – 10 Months Period):

- The program directly targets working with **189 pioneering members of schools' students unions** (7 members of the executive office from each of the 27 governorates).
- The program will indirectly target the capacitating and the sensitization of around **40,000 school students** across the 27 governorates (4000 students in each governorate).

Current & Previous Partnerships:

Governmental Partners



International Organizations



Private Sector Partners



Individual Experts

YLF has a roster that encompasses a number of 500 subject-matter experts from different backgrounds and fields, who are providing coaching and mentoring to YLF's beneficiaries (300 Mentors, 150 Trainers, and 50 Coaches).

All photos included in this document are part of the Youth Leaders Foundation implemented activities.

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