


## What next?

- Developing the training project for municipality staff
- Providing training for Libyan nurses
- Setting up organic waste-compost units
- Youth4Peace peacebuilding workshops for young Libyans
- Launch of Radio Sirte, aimed at youth audience 

## How to participate

The Nicosia Initiative is open to all EU, national, regional and local authorities, as well as civil society organisations.

For more information, please contact:  
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## Our partners

### Libyan partners



### European partners



### Financial partners



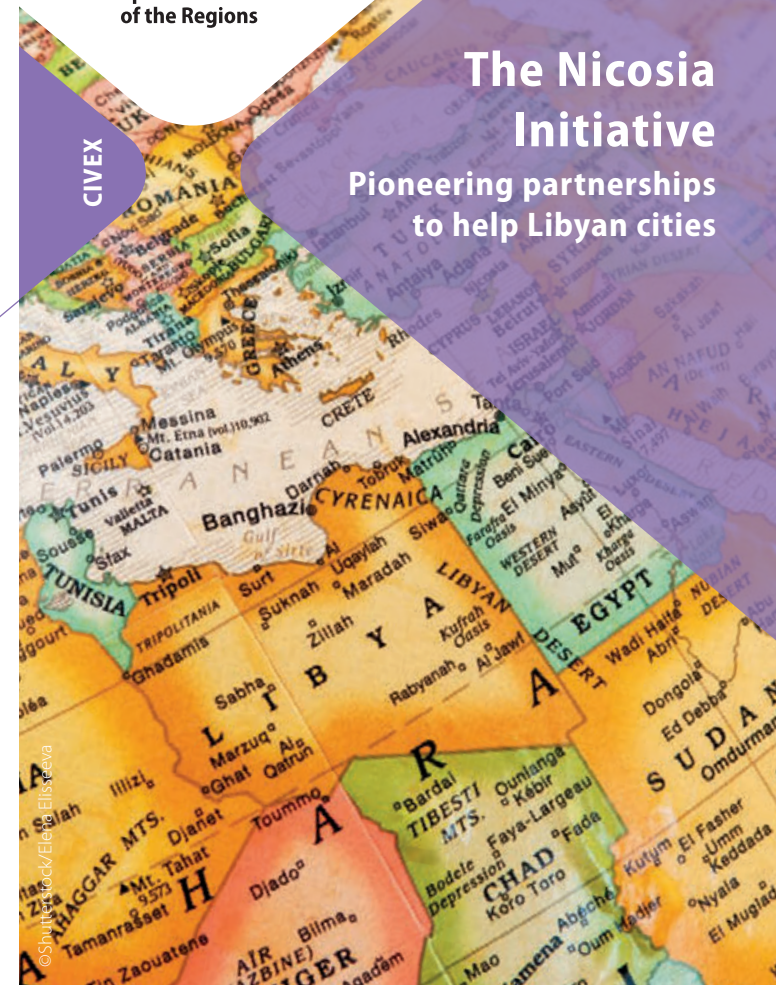
### Other partners



European Committee of the Regions



European Committee of the Regions



## The Nicosia Initiative

Pioneering partnerships to help Libyan cities

A bottom-up approach to one of the EU's most pressing foreign-policy challenges: stabilising Libya. Libyan cities identify their most urgent needs – and EU cities and regions then offer their support. An initiative whose primary beneficiaries are citizens of Libyan cities, the Nicosia Initiative is also a way to promote the inclusion of Libyan local authorities in the international community.

## Why is the CoR helping Libyan cities?

Libyan municipalities and their mayors bear most of the responsibility for providing basic services in Libya. Stability and prosperity in Libya is fundamental to the whole Euro-Mediterranean region, and beyond. With Libyan municipalities, European cities and regions can establish new partnerships for sustainable territorial development. City diplomacy can also help foster dialogue and combat radicalisation, starting with the youngest generations.



*The CoR's cooperation with Libyan cities is an example of city diplomacy at its best.*



**Federica Mogherini**

High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the European Commission

## What is the Nicosia Initiative?

The Nicosia Initiative is the European Committee of the Region's capacity-building project aimed at strengthening Libyan local authorities. With the financial support of the Public Administration Facility, it matches the needs of Libyan municipalities with support available from European cities and regions. It aims to improve the living conditions of Libyan citizens, by strengthening public services and administrative capacity at the local level.

The Nicosia Initiative is an example of city diplomacy, bringing together eight Libyan municipalities from all parts of the country and across conflict lines:

- West: Tripoli, Gharyan, Zintan, Zliten
- Centre: Sirte
- South: Sebha
- East: Benghazi, Tobruk



*With this bottom-up cooperation, we wish to support Libyan mayors in finding new partners in Europe, strengthening their capacity as services providers, and improving the daily life of citizens.*



**Karl-Heinz Lambertz**

President, European Committee of the Regions

## Some achievements to date

Since the launch of the Nicosia Initiative in 2016, 19 study visits and training activities benefiting over 150 representatives of Libyan municipalities have been implemented.

### Areas of activity

Peacebuilding for youth workers

Fisheries

Public services, inc. water and waste management

Primary health care

Strengthening administrative capacity

Financial management and transparency

Economic development

### Examples

**Sustainable fisheries:** In February 2018, the Italian region of Friuli Venezia Giulia and the mayors of Tripoli and Benghazi launched an 18-month training programme for experts, officials and fishermen. The Italian government is the funder.

**Peacebuilding training:** 180 young Libyans from across the country are taking part in March and April 2018 in an initiative implemented by UNICEF and the Institute for Economics and Peace.