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# Tunisia Civil Society Outreach

USAID engaged more than 50 civil society organizations (CSOs) across five regions of Tunisia and the capital city Tunis to better understand their capacity, needs, and networks.

Nearly all CSOs have more than one area of focus, with some working in as many as three or more sectors.

Sectors mentioned most often were women's rights/gender-based violence (55%), workforce development (33%), and democratic strengthening (13%).

Reaching financial sustainability is difficult for CSOs as funding is limited and application processes are complicated and expensive.



### Lack of diverse funding

CSOs report a lack of diverse funding: **45%** rely on international donors for funding, **20%** are self-funded. Most CSOs who receive international donor funds receive only one grant.



### Lack of community engagement and volunteer mindset

A lack of community engagement and volunteer mindset is a major challenge for CSOs who are self-funded and rely mainly on volunteers.



### Significant engagement in advocacy

**69%** of CSOs engage in advocacy work. Most popular advocacy issues are GBV, gender, environment, education, and civic engagement.



### Tension and resource inequality

Tension and resource inequality between Tunis-based and regionally based CSOs. Tunis CSOs are closer to policy and decision-making, and funding opportunities. Need stronger peer exchange and collaboration opportunities.



### CSOs want capacity building in:

- Accounting and financial management
- Digital marketing and networking
- Project and data management
- Grant and proposal writing and English skills

