Eurasia Foundation believes societies function best when people take responsibility for their own civic and economic prosperity. Through cooperation based on mutual respect, EF’s programs equip citizens to define and achieve sustainable outcomes for their communities. For 25 years, EF has supported the development of vibrant civil society organizations and international partnerships in developing and transitional countries. Today, EF employs top-tier methodologies in community engagement, education, and online training to empower the next generation of leaders in the Middle East, North Africa, China, and the Eurasia region.

Our Expertise

Community Engagement

EF equips citizens and organizations with skills and tools to effectively address pressing community-level social challenges, such as youth literacy, domestic violence, and child protection. EF empowers young people to grow into proactive, informed, and engaged citizens by encouraging self-awareness, critical reflection, and community action. We facilitate development and implementation of community-based, youth-led projects on pluralism and tolerance, Internet freedom, environmental protection, and community health and wellness. Through leadership skills training, service learning, and sharing international best practices, EF supports its partners and beneficiaries in creating and implementing innovative, practical, and sustainable solutions in their communities.
Capacity Building

EF supports the development of sustainable partnerships and local institutions that are equipped to respond to community needs. Through its Capacity Mapping Assessment (CMA) tool, EF identifies institutional needs and tracks organizational growth by measuring an institution’s capacities in governance, fundraising, program management, communications, human resources, and financial management. The versatility of the CMA framework allows EF to strengthen the administrative capacities of academic institutions and bolster the effectiveness of local civil society organizations. CMA is an evolving and dynamic tool that EF applies to a broad spectrum of institutions.

Economic Opportunity

EF promotes the active participation of individuals in building their economic futures and contributing to the productivity of their communities. From entrepreneurship to small business development, EF applies innovative tools and strategies to develop viable business models that are responsive to local market demands and consistent with international best practices. In 2017, EF launched Gazelle Finance, an independent impact investment firm that provides risk capital to underserved small and medium enterprises in Georgia and Armenia. EF has also developed a training model targeted toward women and youth entrepreneurs that builds skills from defining a business idea to starting up. The model blends practical business skills and leadership training with networking and mentoring to provide individuals with the foundational skills they need to evaluate risks and manage the challenges of starting a new business.

Education

EF’s education programs range from facilitating formal university partnerships among leading higher education institutions to providing informal skills training for at-risk youth populations. We work with students, young professionals, educators, professors, and school administrators to improve curriculum design, teacher training, and research capacity, among other competencies. Our online programs train aspiring social entrepreneurs and community advocates using blended social learning and experiential methodologies that nurture practical skills, self-confidence, and social networks. EF creates user-friendly websites and uses open source tools to facilitate engaging and interactive experiences for participants. We are currently pioneering a new curve in virtual exchange learning by developing a mobile application that promotes cross-cultural exchange between youth in the Middle East and the U.S.