

# Fifty Cultural Projects for Social Impact



AFAC أفاق

The Arab Fund For Arts and Culture  
الصندوق العربي للثقافة والفنون - أفاق

www.arabculturefund.org

In the inaugural edition of AFAC's Arab Creativity and Entrepreneurship Fund (ACEF) in 2014, we supported 50 projects that are contributing to positive social impact in the Arab region.

Social change refers to the alterations and adjustments that occur in measuring social change. It is a conceptual, not a scientific, approach, a society's belief systems, values and behavioral patterns. There is a strong relationship between art and social change, and there has been a strong relationship between art and social change, and there have been numerous attempts by academics and experts to both define and measure it based on the research that has been produced on this topic in recent years.

Initially we set out to categorize the 50 projects in three different sections, with each section corresponding to one integral component of social change—be it raising awareness (Uncover), shifting perspectives (Discover), or inspiring action (Recover). We then weighed each of the 50 projects featured in this book against 14 different dimensions of social change. By that highlights why these projects are creating change – and how doing so, we have critically examined the social impact of each of the 50 ACEF-supported projects, and uncovered how these projects are contributing to social change in the Arab region.

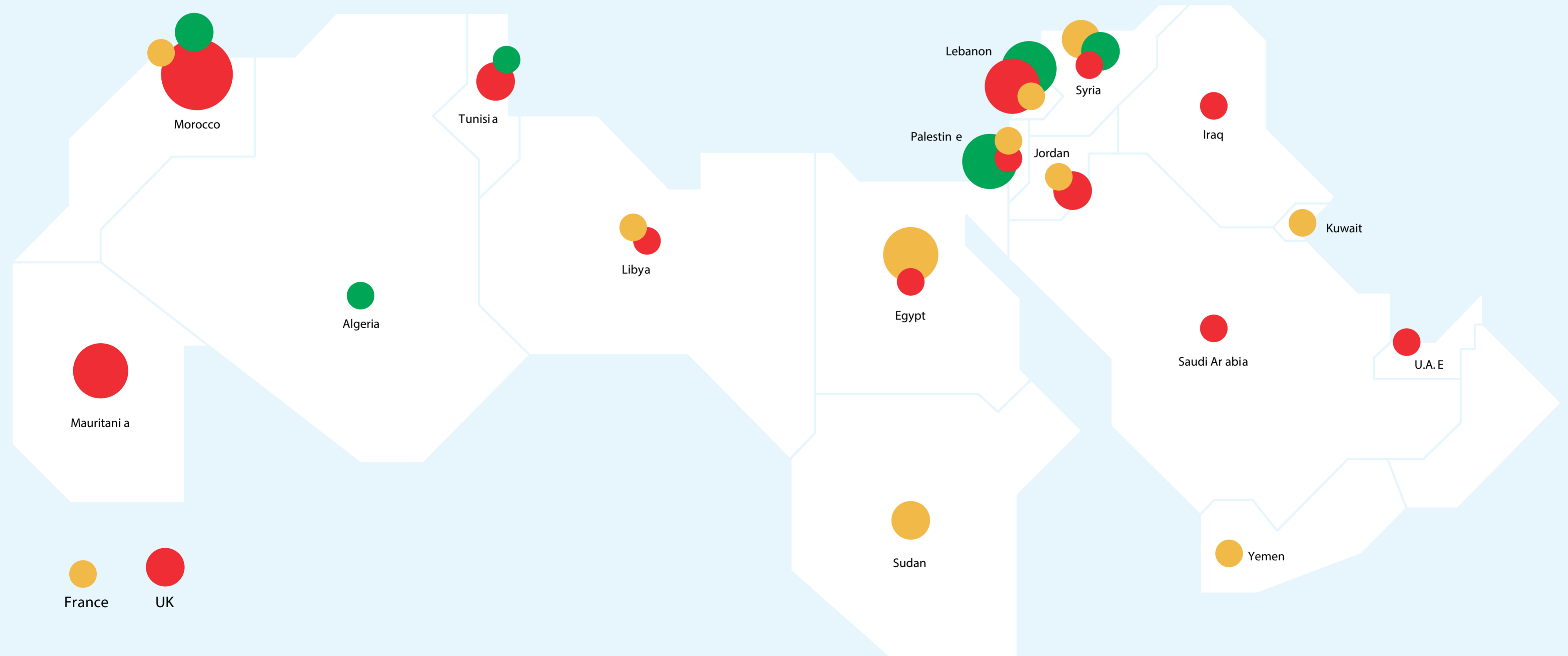
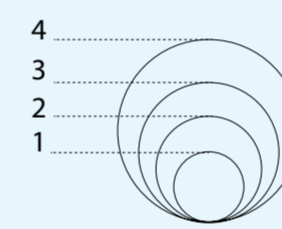
Each of the 50 projects featured in this book is contributing to social change in the Arab region, each in its own way. It was important for us when developing this publication to come up with a methodology that project against 14 different dimensions of social change. By that highlights why these projects are creating change – and how doing so, we have critically examined the social impact of each of the 50 ACEF-supported projects, and uncovered how these projects are contributing to social change in the Arab region.

**Un—cover**  
The first step of change is awareness: about our rights, about how these rights are being violated and who is violating them; awareness about the obstacles standing in the way of our progress and the ways in which we can overcome these obstacles. The projects in this section open our eyes to social problems, political injustices, and different forms of oppression in various parts of the Arab region with the aim of documenting and raising awareness about them.

**Dis—cover**  
Imagination is a very powerful tool. It helps us discover new perspectives, it inspires creation, and it provides a space for a group of people to imagine a better world. By doing so, it offers us a glimpse of, or at least a hope for, a more inspiring future. The projects in this section propose alternative solutions to existing problems and provide a space for different points of view to come together and imagine a better future.

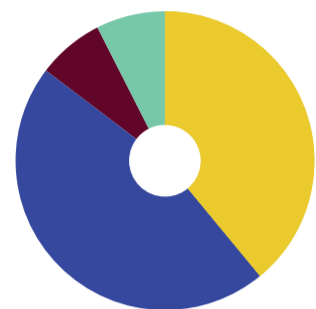
**Re—cover**  
Participatory projects are important because they bring people together in order to tackle existing problems and think about solutions for them. It offers platforms that encourage various stakeholders to take part in engaging activities and lead them to take action. The projects in this section work on bringing people together and providing them with a space to think freely, speak out, create new projects, and make the world a better place.

Number of projects



- Spur Critical Thinking**—by offering alternative points of view and improving the intellectual and cognitive skills of people and communities
- Inform Public Opinion**—by documenting what is happening and what has happened, and shedding light on injustice, abuse, corruption and inequality
- Personal Development**—by providing the tools for young people, especially in volatile and vulnerable environments, to grow and succeed
- Community Development**—by improving safety, stability, independence, and quality of life for various local communities
- Participation**—by providing spaces for different groups of people to come together and work towards a more sustainable future
- Promote Diversity and Mutual Understanding**—by encouraging debate and promoting reconciliation, tolerance and mutual understanding
- Foster Dialogue**—by enabling freedom of assembly and pushing freedom of expression

- Civic Engagement**—by promoting cultural democracy, stemming from the belief that culture is a basic human right
- Conflict Resolution**—by promoting empathy, tolerance and respect for diversity, and building peace
- Identity Construction**—by improving creative, emotional and intellectual capacities and helping advance personal and collective identity formation and values
- Preserve Heritage & Traditions**—by providing support for the preservation of cultural traditions, heritage, production, and languages
- Heal Trauma**—by supporting the health of communities and improving tolerance, healing, diversity and citizenry
- Enhance Gender Equality & Fight Stigmatization**—by supporting communication and raising awareness on causes like sexuality, abuse, poverty, war, refugees, and marginalized groups
- Boost Economy**—by creating jobs and generating resources for local communities



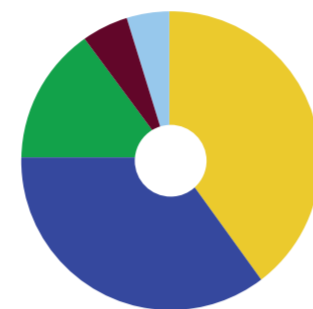
Khalid Shamis  
021



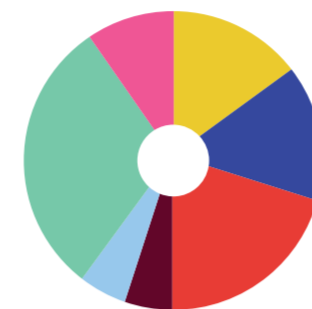
Amira al-Sharif  
026



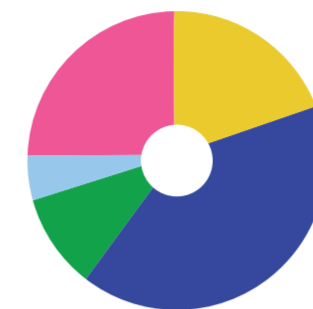
Zara Samiry  
034



Khaled Abdelwahed  
042



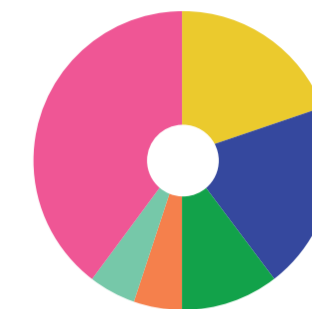
Omar Imam  
046



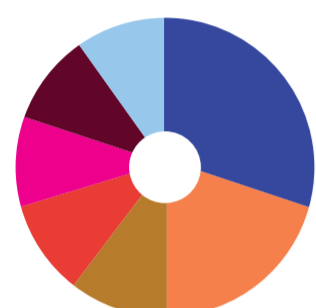
Samar Hazboun  
054



Tamara Stepanyan  
064



Hamada Elrasam  
068



Yahya al-Abdallah  
076



Natalie Naccache  
080



Faisal al-Fouzan  
088



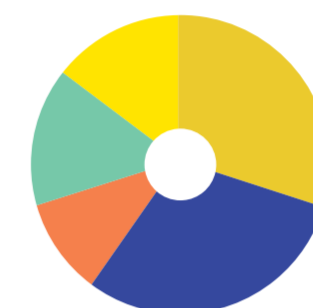
P. Rizk and J.  
098



Eman Helal  
102



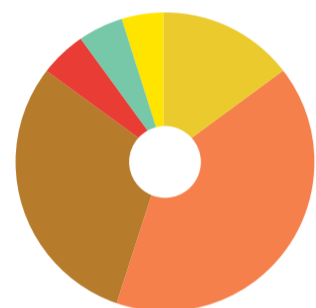
Yasir Tigani  
109



Randa Mirza  
114



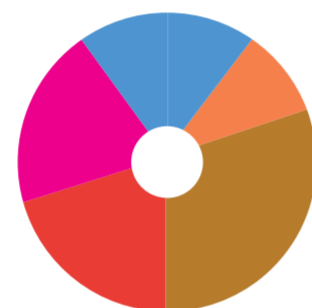
Rula Halawani  
120



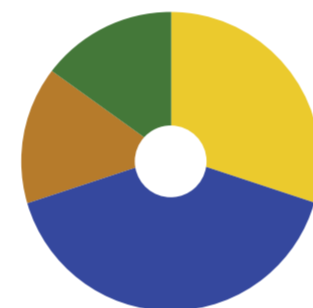
Invisible  
126



Maysoun Pachachi  
134



Osama Halal  
138



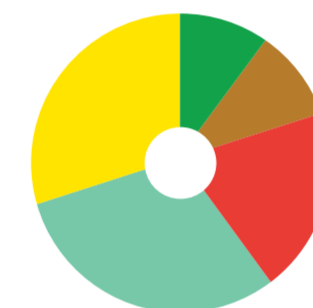
Younes Baba-Ali  
142



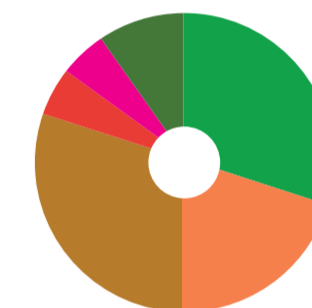
Hadia Gana  
146



Ma3azef  
150



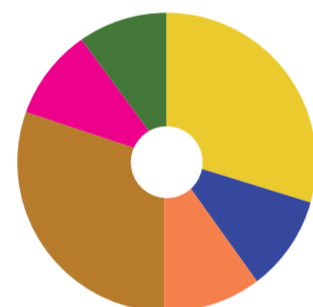
Arab Image Foundation  
152



Selim ben Safia  
158



Amanda Kerdahi  
164



Arab Media Lab  
168



Sawsan Darwaza  
172



Hamza Boulaziz  
176



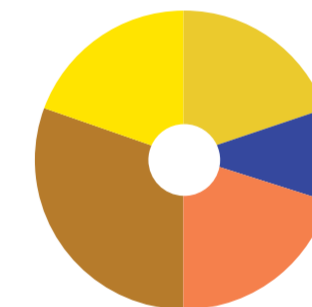
Arthur Gabriel Yak  
178



Anthony Chidiac  
180



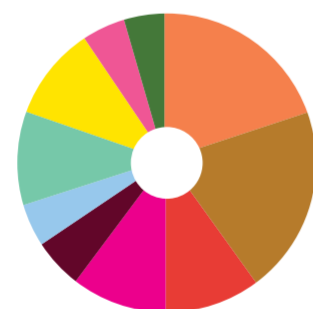
Kaouther Ben Hania  
182



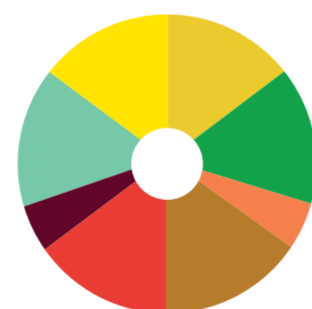
Hassan Darsi  
186



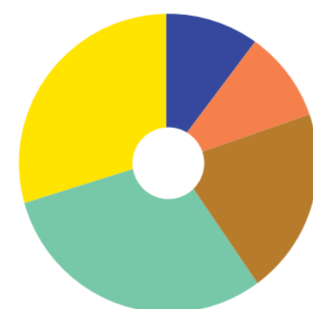
Rana Jarbou  
190



Al-Ma'mal Foundation  
193



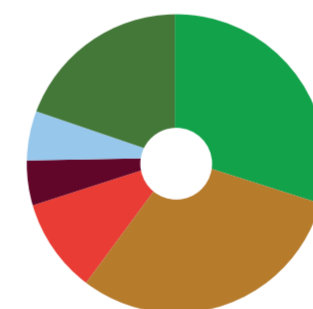
Espace Culturel  
200



Information Assembly for Culture  
204



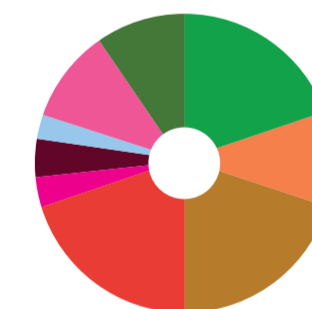
Sara Ouhammadou  
208



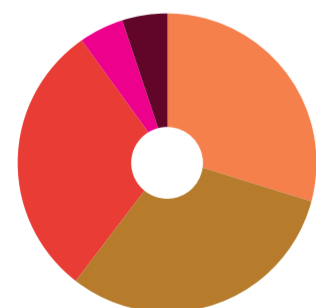
Maison des Cineastes  
216



Cinema et Memoire  
220



Dar al-Mussawer  
222



ASSABIL  
226



Ma3mal 612  
230



YANTE  
234



Zakharef in Motion  
238



Danseurs Citoyens  
242



Shareef Serhan  
244



Brunel Institute  
246



Shubbak  
250



Anya  
256



Beirut & Beyond  
262

NOTE  
The information on this poster is based on a subjective analysis conducted by the AFAC team.