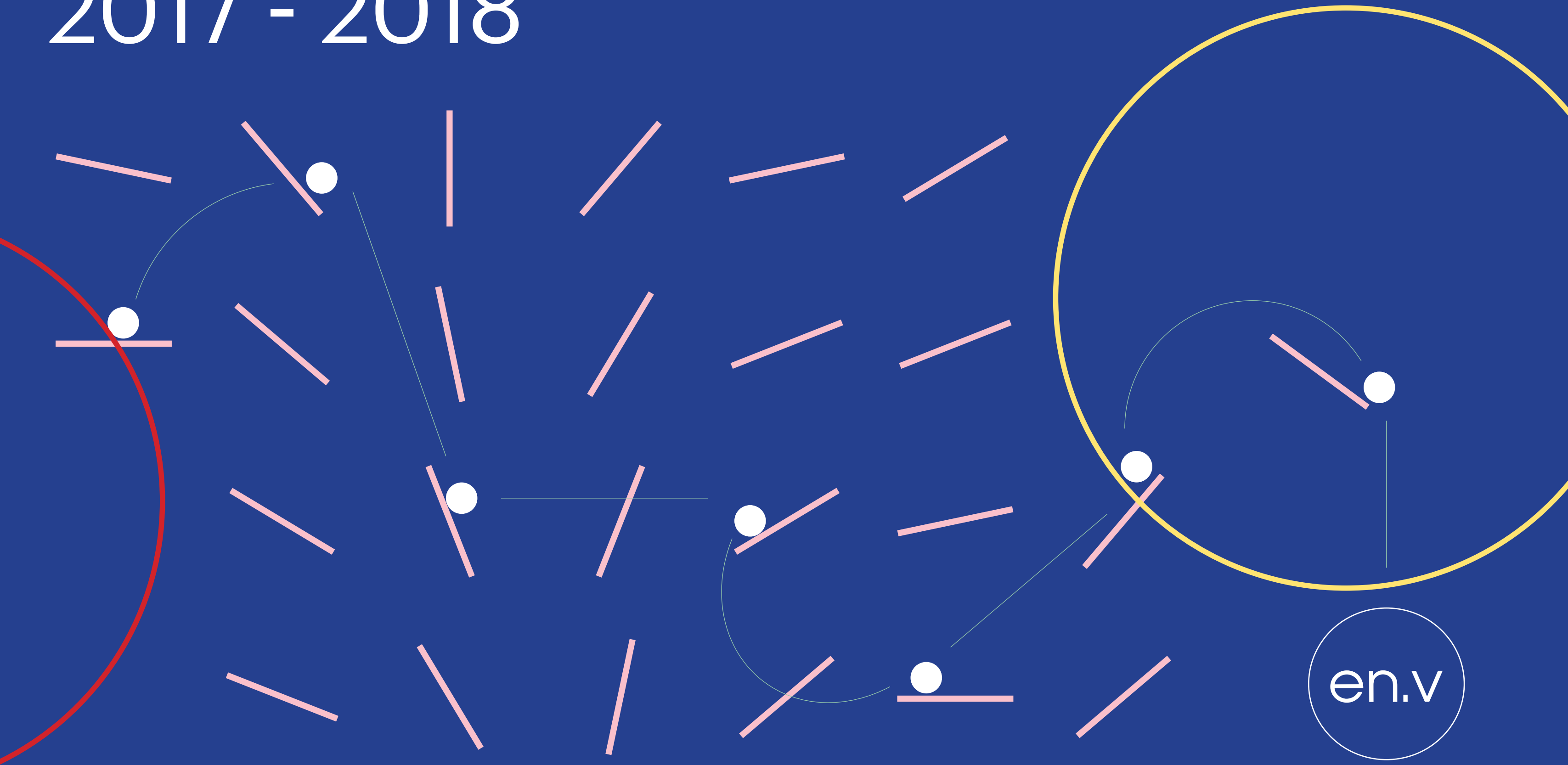


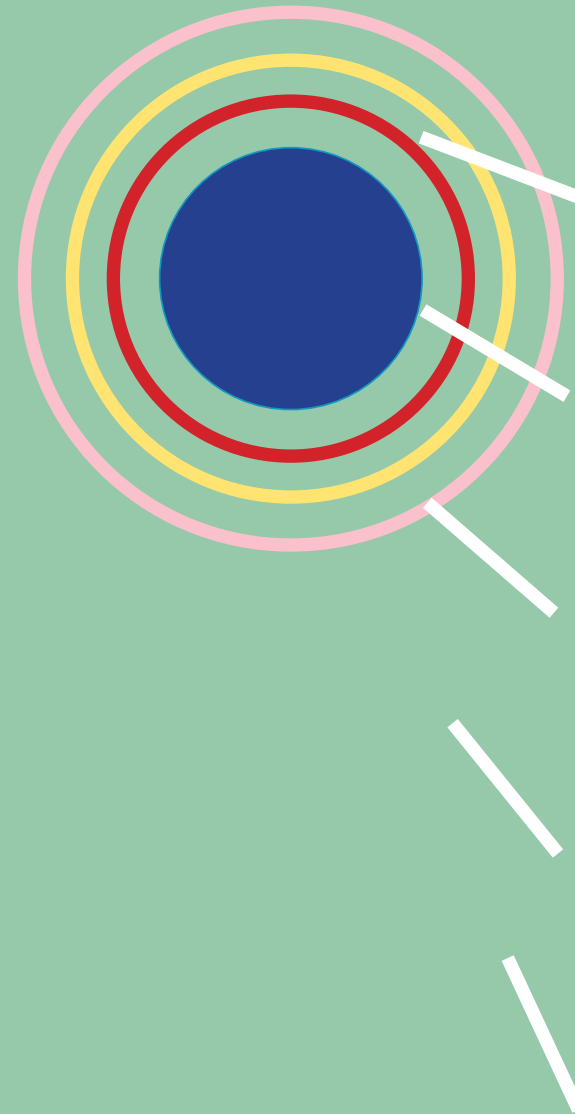
PROGRESS REPORT

2017 - 2018



en.v

Contents



03 **INTRODUCTION**

06 **PROMOTING ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP**

12 **MOBILIZING THE CIVIC SECTOR**

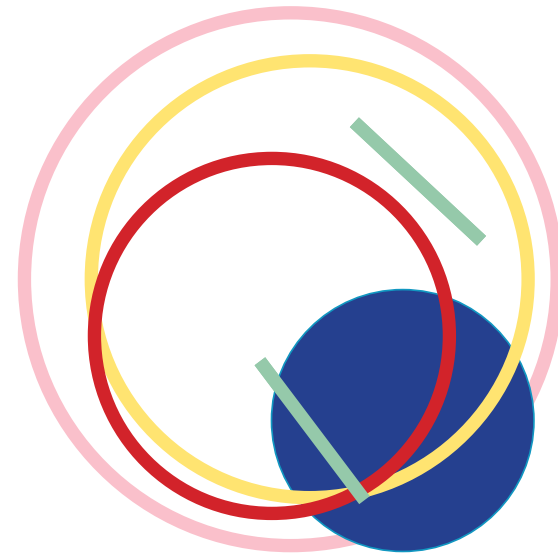
19 **ENGAGING THE WIDER COMMUNITY**

24 **WORKING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

27 **OUR FUNDING**

29 **CONCLUSION**

Introduction



Over the past two years at en.v, we welcomed a diverse group of team members, program participants, interns and volunteers to our growing and evolving network. During the time we spent together, each of these individuals enriched our knowledge and helped us push for innovation and impact. We adapted our programs to become more responsive to the changing environment of the sector and local society, and redefined our core organizational values.

With a more intentional focus on community-building and inclusion, we also refined our strategic direction and concentrated our efforts on creating safe platforms and spaces to bring together the local community through meaningful dialogue and exchanges.

Internally, we actively empowered one another through mentorship and equal opportunities for growth and personal development. By working together closely, we were able to create an environment for constant learning, drastically increasing the efficiency, determination and overall impact of our team. Through open dialogue, we seized every learning opportunity to build on our collective efforts and skills and

created a formula for success which allows us to capture our learnings and scale them.

A key turning point for en.v occurred during the Strategic and Action-Planning (SAP) exercise that was led by the team in June 2018. When we were asked to assess and redraft the past and future goals and strategies of our organization, we found ourselves engaged in a deeper dialogue about possibility.

Guiding our conversations and process were questions like - are we, as an entity, listening and responding to the needs of the local community? - questions that when asked, and reflected on, strengthened our commitment to our efforts and allowed us to create a plan which was more adaptable and responsive to the needs, interests and skills of our beneficiaries as well as the wider society. As we thought about the community we were each a part of and considered how we, as an organization, were responding to those needs, we were also leveraging from the diversity which the team represented; differences in cultural and life experiences and academic frameworks and ages, which deeply enriched our conversations and strongly contributed to our SAP experience.



Introduction

What resulted was a living inquiry of the changes and efforts we needed to introduce locally, in addition to a list of inclusive, common values which would give rise to our work.

This action plan reflects who we are as a team, and, especially, as an organization. It also represents our shared value system, which promotes a dynamic culture of openness and discovery as well as constant learning and growth. These are the values which will drive our efforts and work moving forward.

Both directly and indirectly, our contributions to the sector have returned to us in the form of success stories, enriched networks, progressive conversations and innovations as well as new opportunities.

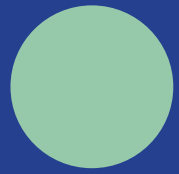
2017 and 2018 have been particularly exciting for en.v, as we have seen a measurable shift in the culture and environment which surrounds the local community and civil society in particular, which continues to expand and evolve in their processes, activities and eagerness to address social issues.

“There is no event that you have organized [where] I haven’t met someone I have worked with later on. [...] I feel like an agent of change & I feel empowered.”

**Dr. Roma Soni, Architecture Dept.
- Boxhill College Kuwait**



PROMOTING ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP



Promoting Active Citizenship

One of our main areas of focus is promoting active citizenship and critical thinking skills in Kuwait, particularly amongst youth and so it is highly rewarding and promising to see the tangible impact of our efforts, sometimes months or even years down the line. A prime example of this was the success of a group of young subgrantees from our n-mu program in legalizing food trucks in Kuwait as part of their n-mu community project. We continue to work towards empowering the youth through various long-term programs and short-term projects. In an effort to increase the capacity of creative voices in the Middle East and North Africa, in 2017 en.v partnered with Hedayah, a U.A.E. based organization, to support them in the implementation of the “Creative Minds for Social Good” (CMSG) initiative.

The initiative focused on supporting the development of online campaigns that counter violent and divisive narratives and promote peace, tolerance and positive alternatives through a series of workshops, mentorship and funding opportunities.

In late 2017, en.v independently hosted a second edition of CMSG that resulted in video campaigns (a few of which are on en.v’s YouTube channel) addressing several critical and pressing social issues in Kuwait such as domestic workers rights, rights of children with motor disabilities, xenophobic attitudes towards expats and migrant workers, discrimination experienced by Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaiti men and gender based violence, to name a few. Rapidly spreading across the broader community, these videos successfully expanded the public dialogue surrounding taboo topics in Kuwait.



CMSG SUCCESS STORIES

TAKE ME SERIOUSLY

As part of their efforts to raise levels of awareness on the importance of equal education in the region, the campaign inspired a group of teachers at the Gulf International School in Dammam, Saudi Arabia to host a video screening event and discussion to promote the cause.

GRAY AREA

Within three days of its release, this video campaign, which focused on the rights of Kuwaiti women married to non-Kuwaiti men & their children received over 17,000 views and sparked an ongoing dialogue around the fluctuating states of belonging, inequality and discrimination that they face.

DURING THAT SAME YEAR, WE FOCUSED ON

increasing environmental awareness and engaging local youth in promoting environmental protection and sustainability through a nine-month pilot project titled 'Educating for Sustainability' (EFS), with funding from the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). By funding and supporting local educators and environmental activists, EFS focused on promoting environmental action as well as data collection and analysis using Participatory Action Research (PAR).

**Promoting
Active
Citizenship**

THREE PROJECTS IN PARTICULAR DEMONSTRATED REMARKABLE IMPACT:

MW6INY

What began as a community beach-cleanup and data collection project to spread awareness on the impact of beach-littering, evolved into an established non-profit organization that was publicly recognized and awarded by the Environmental Public Authority (EPA). To date, Mw6iny has engaged over 2000 volunteers in their efforts, and established over 35 partnerships with key local stakeholders.

THE HYDROPONIC GARDEN PROJECT


encouraged sustainable and healthy ways to grow food in Kuwait and managed to not only involve the majority of the student body at the American School of Kuwait (ASK) in the set-up and maintenance of a hydroponic farm, but also attracted the interest of the parent community. The students gathered approximately 400 surveys on food habits in Kuwait, identified barriers to healthy eating in schools, and hosted two farmers' markets where they sold their

own produce as well as that of local farms. Following the overwhelmingly positive results and feedback which the project received, ASK established the Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) Club in 2018 to continue exploring and experimenting with PAR.

THE CLEAN CAMPING PROJECT

mobilized 140 students from Boxhill College Kuwait (BHCK) to advocate for a more sustainable desert environment through various activities like documentation of waste dumping in deserts, study tours and awareness campaigns. They have presented their project at various local and international educational institutions and forums such as the Gulf University of Science and Technology (GUST), the American University of Kuwait (AUK), the Qatar University Foundation Program (QUFP) Conference at Qatar University and the Task-Based Learning and Teaching (TBLT) 2018 Conference at Ryukoku University, Kyoto, Japan.

**Promoting
Active
Citizenship**



One of the most notable achievements of our Educating for Sustainability program was the fact that all of the community projects developed have continued to sustain their efforts.

These projects demonstrate that even with limited resources and time, participatory and innovative approaches to environmental education can lead to greater curiosity and enthusiasm amongst local youth to promote sustainability, as well as to the development of more creative and action-oriented initiatives and knowledge-sharing to replicate best practices.

In addition to the long term programs like CMSG and EFS, en.v continued to work with with students through a combination of engaging and critical thinking activities. Be it introducing students from the AMIDEAST English Access Microscholarship Program to the concepts of active citizenship and advocacy or exposing GUST design and teaching students to the concept of experiential learning for environmental sustainability as part of the TEDx Global Day, or working with the American University of Kuwait (AUK) student club leaders on building their collaborative process through teamwork, en.v strives to promote constructive youth engagement, participatory education and a sense of shared community amongst youth in Kuwait.

**Promoting
Active
Citizenship
In Numbers**

2017 - 2018

**WORKSHOPS
CONDUCTED**

9

**CSO
REPRESENTATIVES
& EDUCATORS
TRAINED**

23

29

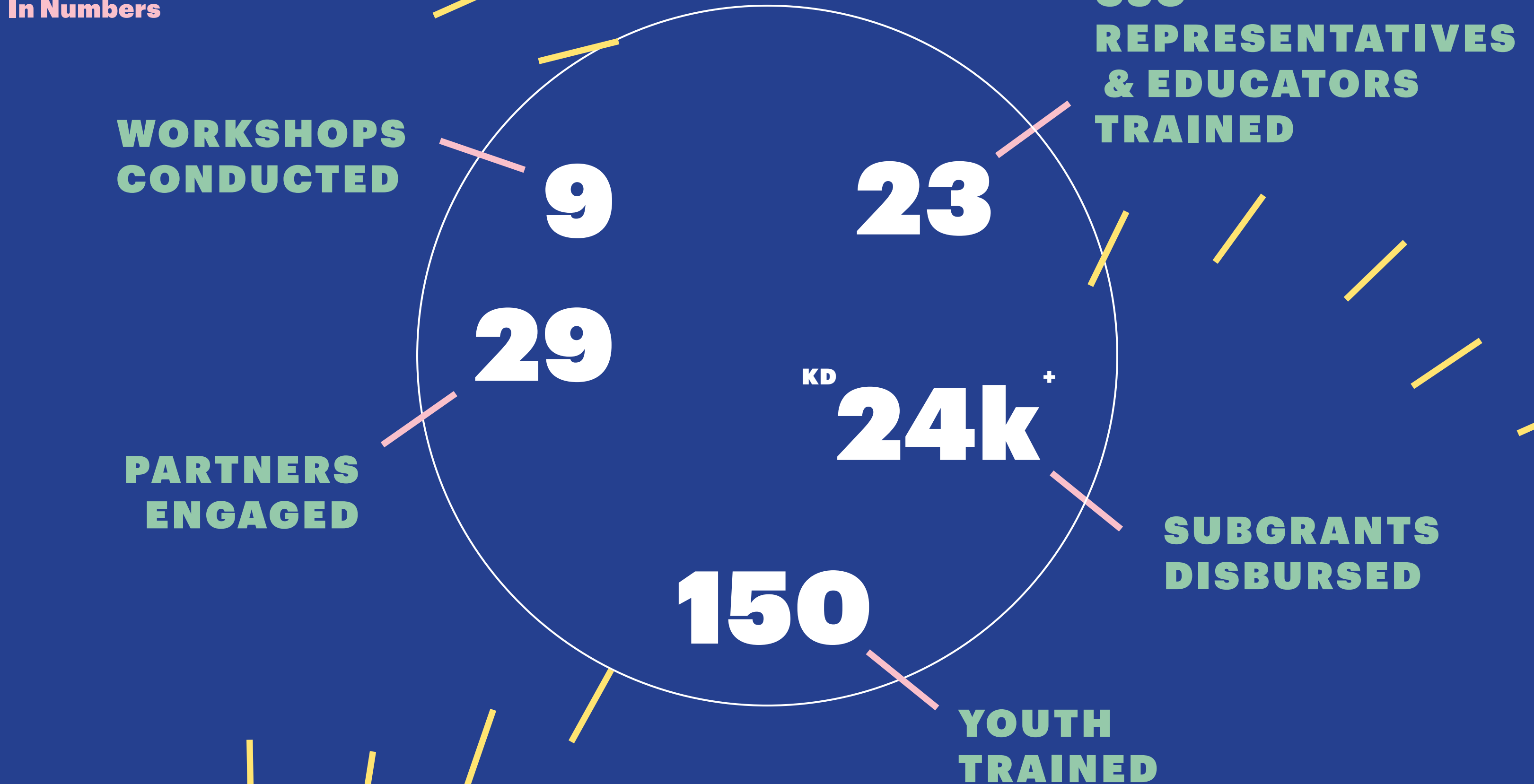
**KD
24k⁺**

**PARTNERS
ENGAGED**

**SUBGRANTS
DISBURSED**

150

**YOUTH
TRAINED**



MOBILIZING THE CIVIC SECTOR



Mobilizing The Civic Sector

Two of en.v's key strategic priorities include:

- **Strengthening the civic sector in Kuwait.**
- **Building the capacity of individual CSOs to help enhance their organizational effectiveness and programmatic impact.**

1

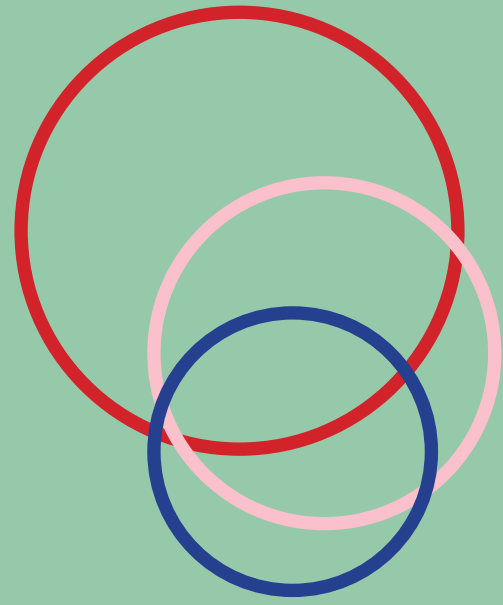
PACE

In its effort to strengthen the civic sector, en.v continued its partnership with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) through the PACE (Promoting & Advocating for Civic Sector Enhancement) program which is geared towards increasing the sectors' collective impact and recognition amongst public and private stakeholders through various initiatives.

In 2017, the first phase of PACE focused on the development of thematic networks between CSOs to promote increased coordination, knowledge-sharing and effective collaboration. This phase saw the birth of fruitful collaborations between various CSOs like:

- **LOYAC & Training Gate International organized a four day workshop and awareness campaign on accessibility for special needs children**
- **In August 2017, LOYAC & Refood organized a field trip to expose children signed up in LOYAC's entrepreneurship program to critical social issues like poverty**
- **Women to Women and Diwan Al Murra hosted a forum on violence against women in November 2017**
- **Nuqat collaborated with en.v and Hikma to host panel discussions as part of its two-day conference**
- **LOYAC and Injaz executed a personality development program together for the first time.**

Mobilizing The Civic Sector



CONT.

As part of the second phase of PACE, en.v hosted a meet-up of CSO representatives that eventually resulted in the creation of a roadmap for the development of a formal network structure amongst CSOs in Kuwait with the ultimate purpose of increasing public trust and understanding of CSOs and the role they have to play in the country's development. en.v also created an online NGO directory with the aim of connecting nonprofits with each other and the wider community. In the summer of 2018, PACE continued into its third year as en.v conducted a CSO sector mapping and needs assessment in order to get a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the challenges as well as emerging opportunities within the civic sector in Kuwait to inform its future programs.

2

SHARAKAH FORUM & WORKSHOPS

As part of our ongoing effort to foster cross-sector collaboration, en.v continued to provide training and networking opportunities to CSOs by supporting the Kuwait Projects Company (KIPCO) in the development and management of their annual Sharakah Forum and accompanying workshops in March 2017, bringing together key stakeholders involved in the field of social responsibility in Kuwait, with the aim of fostering the creation of shared value through collaboration and capacity building. The forum was followed by six workshops which offered training in promoting financial sustainability for participating CSOs. In 2018, en.v collaborated with KIPCO again to develop the KIPCO Sharakah workshops

with a focus on community engagement for increased impact, providing participants with innovative tools and skills that would enable them to better understand and further engage with their stakeholders through a variety of means, including digital platforms, data collection and visualization, storytelling, creative outreach activities and cross-sector collaboration. The KIPCO Sharakah Workshops are being recognized for the quality of the training and discussions which bring together international and local leaders in the field to share their experiences, challenges and best practices.

Mobilizing The Civic Sector

3

MANARA

Over the years, en.v has found its niche in capacity building of CSOs and in late 2017, we launched Manara, a program that mobilized civil society organizations and emerging women leaders with the shared goal of enhancing gender equality through coalition building and advocacy campaigning. This 18-month-long program was implemented by en.v in partnership with PartnersGlobal and Ibtakar Consulting, providing participants with training, mentorship, and funding opportunities to develop collaborative campaigns addressing women's rights issues in Kuwait. en.v facilitated the establishment of the Manara coalition, a CSO network for women-centered advocacy comprising 14 CSOs and 20+ individuals, and offered them constant support and mentorship to ensure successful outcomes for their campaigns. Through Manara, CSOs have been able to leverage their different skills and networks to create more resources, launching a public campaign to advocate for a women's

shelter and developing an online platform to showcase their work and garner further support.

4

REGIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Regionally, in 2017 & 2018 en.v provided support and technical assistance to the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) and the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) over a period of nine months in the implementation of the second iteration of their Regional Assistance Program, RAP II. RAP II provided subgrants and technical support to prepare MENA civil society organizations (CSOs) and citizens to respond to political developments. The project also enhanced the participants' ability to successfully campaign for political, legal, and social change, and build their advocacy and project management skills.



SUCCESS STORIES

en.v's capacity building efforts continue to create ripples which come back to us in the form of success stories with origins that can be gratifyingly tracked back to our programs.

1

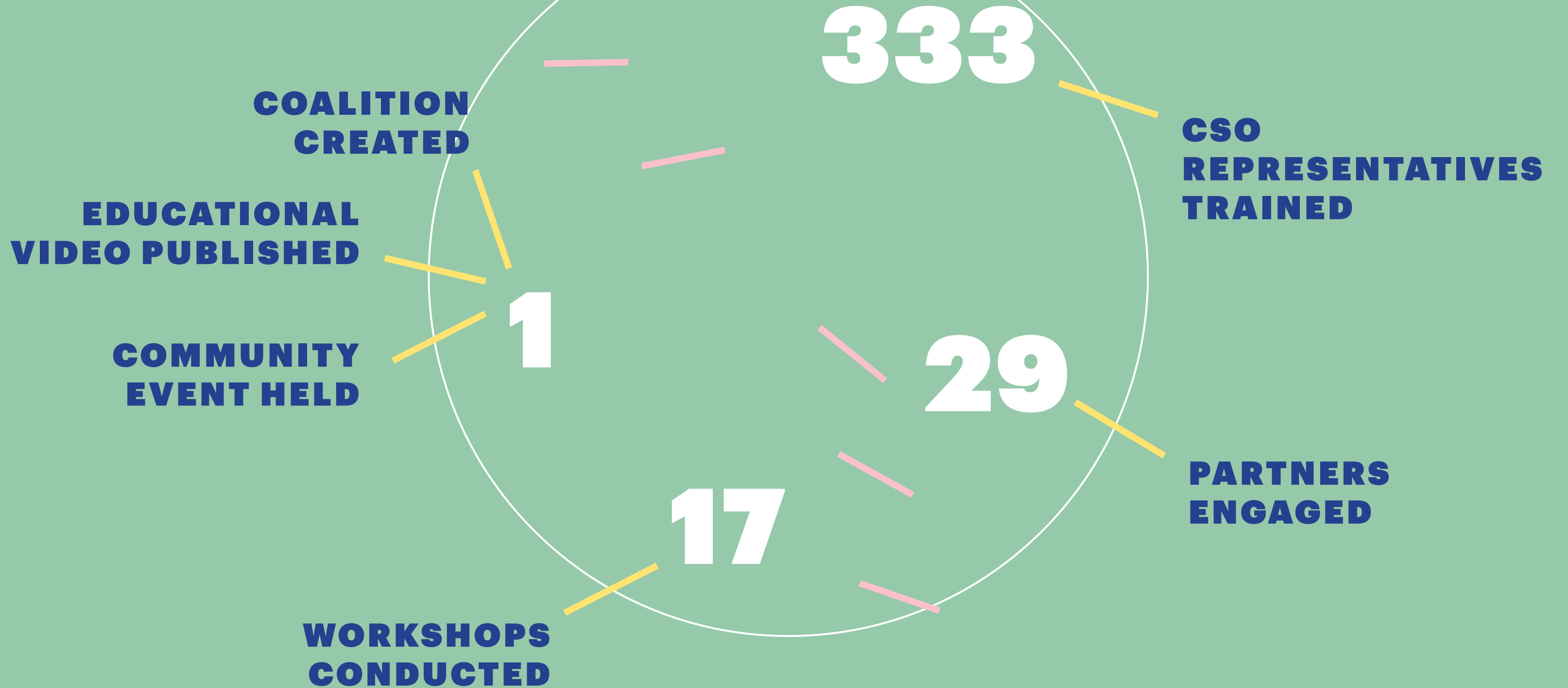
The Fawzia Sultan Healthcare Network (FSHN), who started their Early Childhood Intervention training through en.v's STAND program, continues to deliver this training and to work with the nursery schools which it first met through the STAND initiative five years ago. In addition, the Early Childhood Intervention program introduced the Kuwait Child Rights Society and the SCAN program for referring child abuse cases to the administration of the nursery schools and their staff. Birth Kuwait, which had no written strategic plan or mission upon joining STAND, has gone on to become one of the most visible, active and inclusive CSOs in Kuwait and continues to partner with other STAND alumni, including FSHN.

2

Abdullah Alkhonaini, a STAND alumnus, was awarded the 'Franco-German Prize for Human Rights and the Rule of Law' in 2018 (one of the 15 winners across the globe) for his project 'Raqib 50', that he founded under the STAND program. 'Raqib 50' is a platform to monitor the performance of MPs through their voting positions, agendas and reports.

3

Abolish 153, another STAND and CMSG alumnus and subgrantee, has also received multiple international awards and recognition, including the 2016 Challiot Prize for Human Rights in the GCC.





ENGAGING THE WIDER COMMUNITY



Engaging The Wider Community

AWAKEN gave a voice to people from diverse backgrounds, perspectives and communities, allowing them to share stories and think critically.

With the CSO mapping insights at our disposal, en.v launched a three-day community-building festival, AWAKEN, in November 2018 under the theme 'Uniting for Social Innovation', in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences and Burgan Bank.

AWAKEN was part of our efforts to build bridges between different communities and redress the low levels of citizen engagement and community mobilization across the country.

With an aim to promote more inclusive and innovative programming on the part of CSOs, and increase their overall impact, AWAKEN brought together people with different ideas, knowledge and insights to develop creative solutions to pressing social issues and foster empathy amongst the broader community in Kuwait.

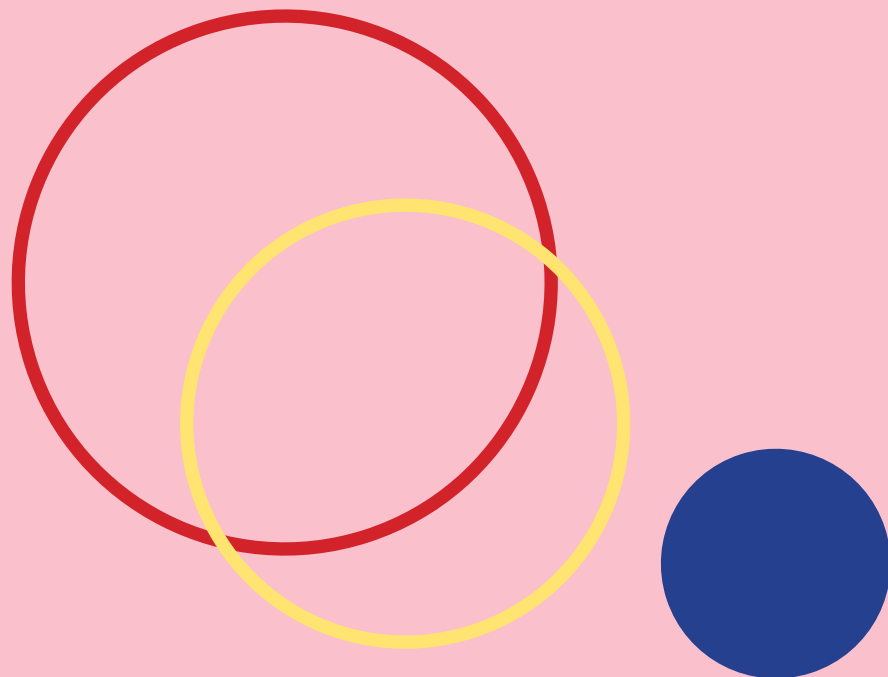
Over the course of two weeks in the run-up to the festival, en.v collaborated with local community organizations to co-host a number of different pre-events around the festival's theme that took people on a journey through the various stages of awakening (disrupt, unlearn, discover, connect, coexist). Over 130+ people took part in these

five pre-events that encouraged participants to question their assumptions, think critically, and have meaningful discussions related to community-building in Kuwait, setting the tone and stage for AWAKEN.

One of the main components of the festival was the interactive talks consisting of a series of seven short participatory sessions aimed at encouraging participants to think critically and collectively about social identity and community in Kuwait.

Promoting self-reflection, building bridges, and generating a feeling of empowerment were just a few of the takeaways from these sessions.

Another component was the Community Lab which focused on generating meaningful dialogue and inspiring participants to come up with alternative and innovative methods for addressing social issues, collectively. All the activities emphasized personal agency and the importance of dialogue and creative thinking in creating positive social change in the country.



**Engaging
The Wider
Community**



We can envision how the activities in **AWAKEN might be scaled and used to engage with people across different communities to create cross-sector dialogue. It would be a particularly useful approach within the CSO sector, in order to bring community leaders into direct contact with more diverse groups in Kuwait, fostering dialogue and leading them to create more needs and data-driven programming.**

Engaging The Wider Community



TESTIMONIALS

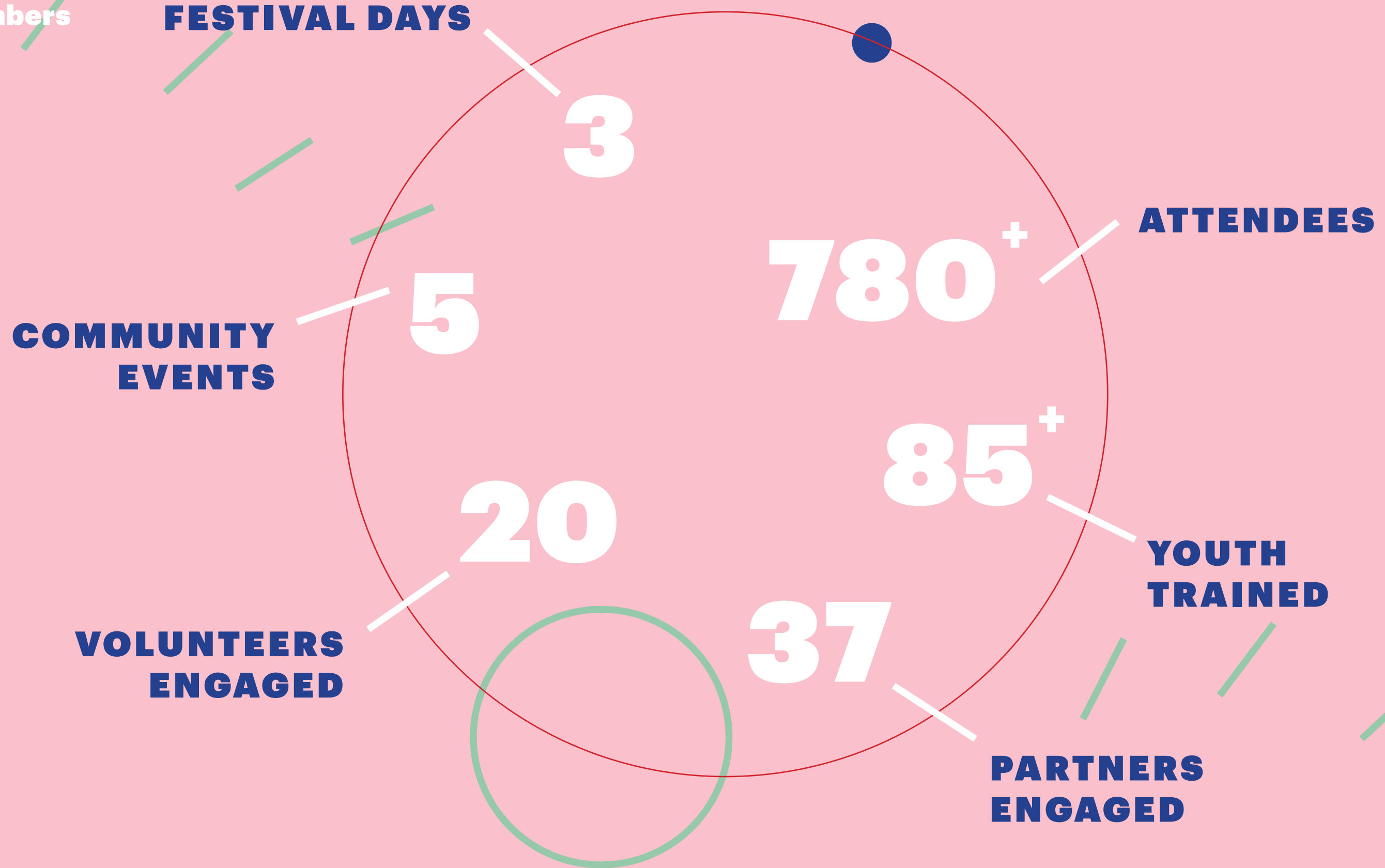
“Beautiful, beautiful message, you really made me warm up inside. [...] It was an honour and privilege to work with you guys, you are a fantastic team and thank you for having us be there.”
Faten Abu Ghazaleh - Community Partner

“I wish I could have stayed longer. It was amazing, I loved it, I spoke to around 3-4 people and the questions, the discussion and everything after that was mind-blowing. I loved it, Mashallah!”
Hafsa - Participant

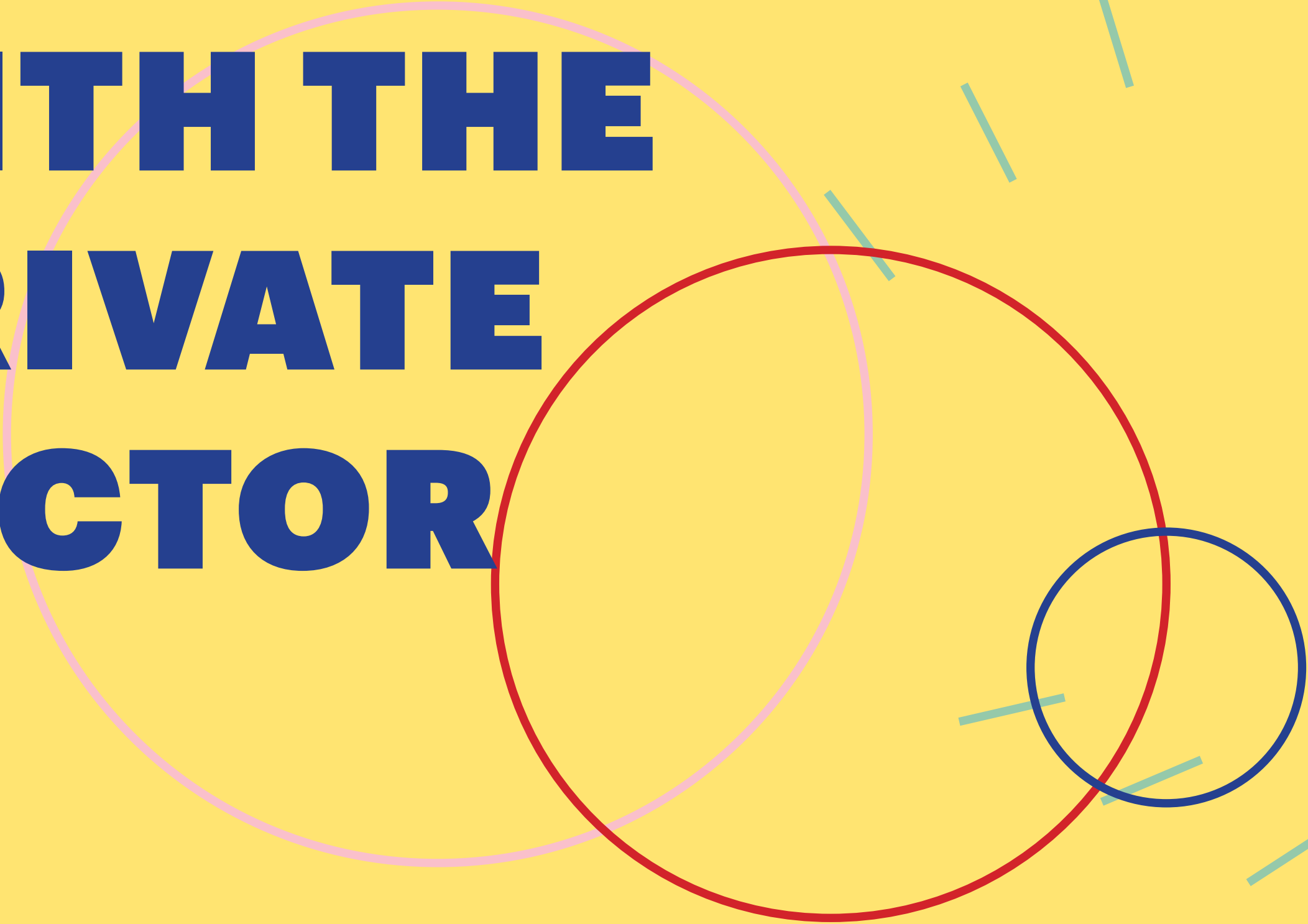
“It was, hands down, one of the most inspiring events I have ever participated in here in Kuwait. The energy, excitement, and sincerity in the space was palpable, and that is a testament not only to your excellent organizational skills, but to the integrity of your intentions throughout the process.”
Dr. Mai Al Nakib - Community Partner

**Engaging
The Wider
Community
In Numbers**

2017 - 2018



**WORKING
WITH THE
PRIVATE
SECTOR**



Working With The Private Sector

The private sector continues to be an important part of the CSO ecosystem, providing most of the funding for projects aimed at creating positive social impact.

Working with the private sector remains one of en.v's priorities, to which end en.v collaborated with the Pearl Initiative (a UAE based organization) to host a workshop on "Planning for Impact – Frameworks for CSR Initiatives" for CSR managers in Kuwait. This innovative and interactive workshop, led by regional and international experts, increased the participants' ability to measure the impact of their initiatives and identify the most effective means of reaching their goals through results-based program design and monitoring and evaluation. By helping organizations with employee engagement, using participatory tools to create internal momentum and shared community around their corporate ethos and CSR priorities, en.v hopes to see the goals of the private sector's CSR become more strategic. This will encourage long-term partnerships between CSOs and for-profit enterprises with aligned values in order to maximize outcomes.

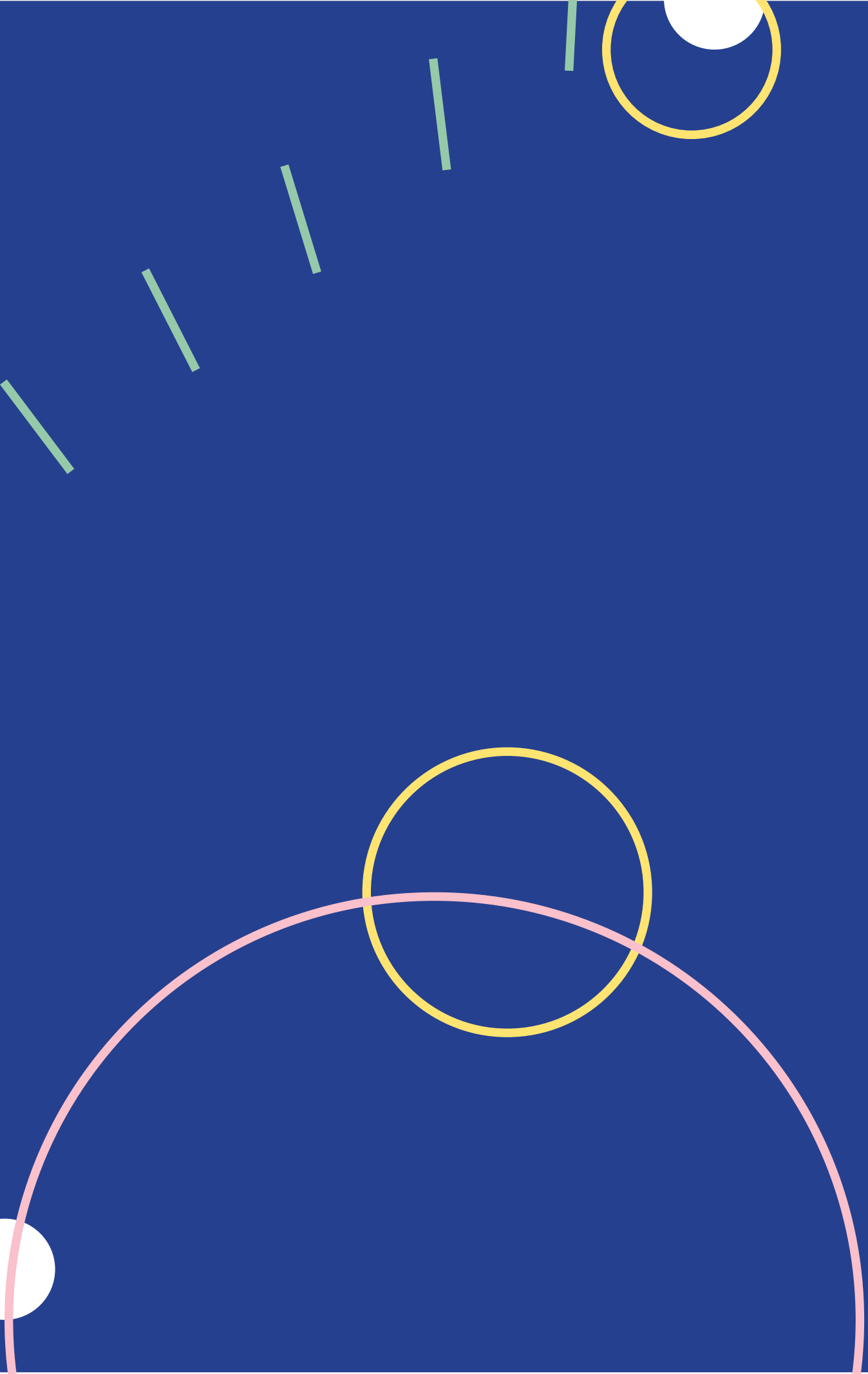
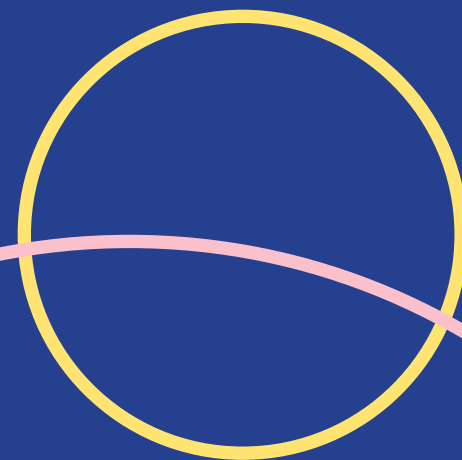
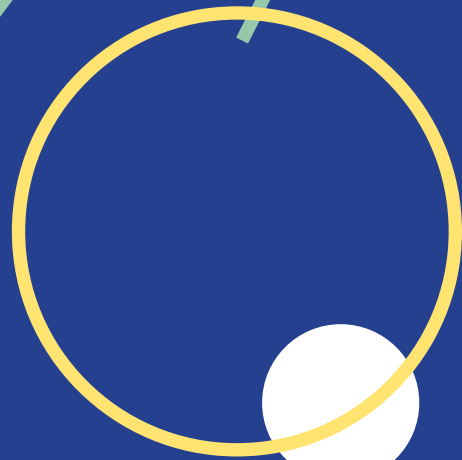
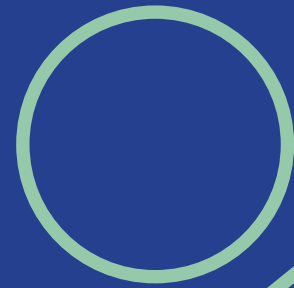
In Numbers 2017 - 2018

CSR managers expressed their desire to have more opportunities like this, to come together with their colleagues from different organizations to share best practices, challenges and lessons learned in a safe and collaborative spirit.





OUR FUNDING

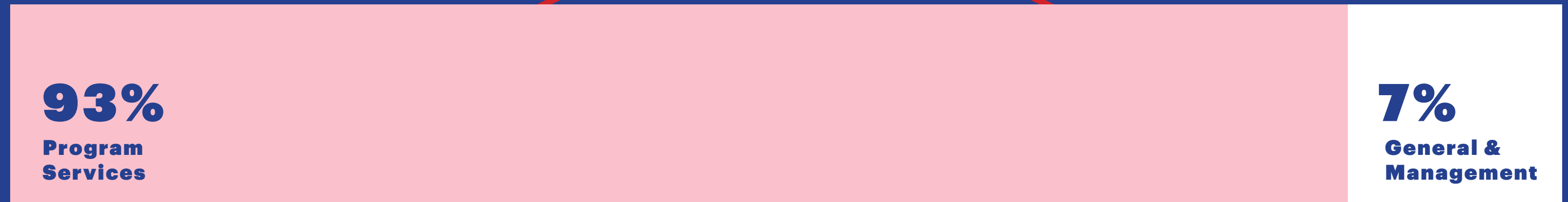


OUR FUNDING

How our work is funded



Where the funding goes



How the funding helps



Conclusion

Embracing discomfort is essential for community-building, and strong communities power the civic sector.

Our training beneficiaries

59%

**CSO
Community**

39%

**Youth
Community**

2%

**CSR
Community**

Discomfort has taken center stage at en.v,

pushing against the points of resistance we meet and embracing it as a fundamental element of our work. This process has allowed us to maximize both our social impact and reach within the local community and provided us with the impetus to challenge dominant norms.

Through creating programs and safe spaces where communities authentically engage, we built and strengthened our relationships with a myriad of collaborators, community members and partners, while creating a stronger network amongst them. We are gratified to see community partners expand upon the dialogues and embrace the inclusive models we introduce. Collectively reflecting a more unified civic culture which values different voices, explores “the other”, challenges bias, and, yes, leans into discomfort towards reaching more authentic dialogue, have been the highlights of 2017 - 2018. We are optimistic as we see the connections grow and look forward to continuing our work in not only skills development but building bridges to create more inclusive and innovative cultures.

Fostering social development & civic engagement in the Middle East



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