



KNITTING THE FABRIC OF CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISM IN TUNISIA (2013-2020)

Recognizing the fledgling state of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Tunisia after the 2011 revolution, NRGi helped foster the emergence of civil society leaders who could drive extractive sector reforms with rigor and credibility.

NRGi played an important role in supporting civil society, which grew in numbers and strength and achieved significant results in the first years following the revolution. CSOs began to engage on resource governance issues and formed a civil society transparency coalition. NRGi succeeded in building trust with and between stakeholders, raising the general profile of transparency and good governance in the media and among Tunisians. NRGi supported local groups to secure the inclusion of natural resource clauses in the country's new constitution and leverage the Open Government Partnership and Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) to promote transparency in the extractive sector.

From 2016 onwards, NRGi strengthened evidence-based advocacy and facilitated the use of data to inform public policy and reform efforts. NRGi's partnership and collaboration with Tunisian CSOs expanded disclosure of sector-relevant information, connected to social movements in producing regions, and deepened civil society's capacity to analyze publicly available data, critique the governance of state-owned companies and engage in increasingly diverse and complex reform debates.

In more recent years, NRGi's work has led to the government releasing mining, oil and gas contracts on a public platform. Civil society research informed public debates and elicited government response. A more representative and self-reliant transparency coalition emerged, and the country's EITI implementation took off. The government also launched a participatory sector audit.

