



Comprehensive report 2026

Independent Election Commission · Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

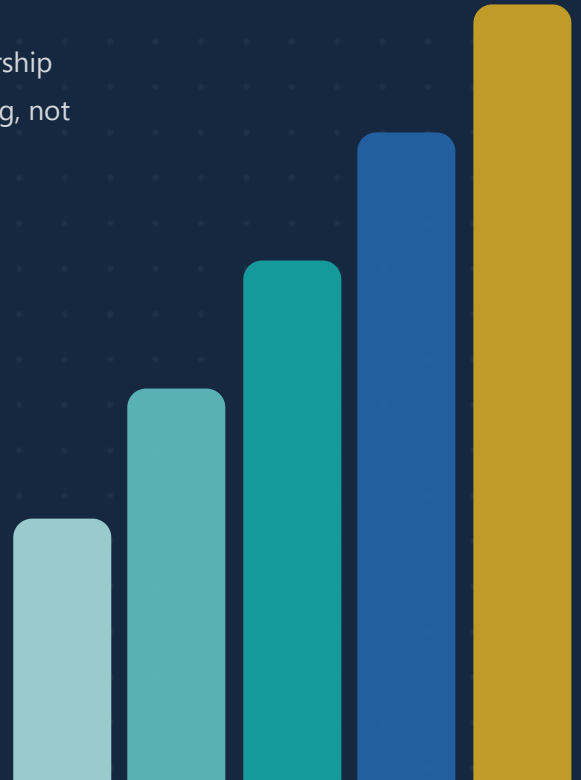
Aنا Usharek

أنا أشارك

The Sustainable Democratic Empowerment
Programme for Youth

Young · Jordanian · Active

When young people learn how elections are run and try leadership with their own hands, they become partners in decision-making, not spectators.



482,720

attendances and
participants

48,304

interactive sessions

12

governorates

55

higher-education
institutions

Contents



This report brings the programme booklet, the brochure, the tri-fold, the figures annex and the policy brief together in one document.

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“ The programme does not only teach young people about participation; it gives them the chance to participate for real: in the classroom, in the field, and in the labour market.

Delivery partners

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Ministry of Education

Ministry of Youth

Judicial Council

Jordan Bar Association

State Lawsuits Department

Penn State University (research partner)

55 higher-education institutions

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Four years on, Ana Usharek has moved from reaching young people to changing what they do

Ana Usharek is the civic and political education programme of Jordan's Independent Election Commission. Since 2022 it has worked with young people in universities, colleges, schools and youth centres in all 12 governorates. This report brings together what the programme has done, what it has changed, what the 2024 election data tell us about young voters, and where the programme goes next.

482,720

attendances and participants, up to Sept 2026

48,304

interactive sessions

12

governorates

≈300

initiatives launched by participants

6,035

young volunteers in the 2024 elections

43.7%

of 2024 voters were aged 17–35

Key findings

- Trust is built through understanding**
Among participants, trust in the electoral process rose from 63% to 82%, and intention to vote from 41% to 74%.
- The programme strengthens cohesion**
The value placed on dialogue and tolerance rose from 58% to 87%, and awareness of hate speech from 44% to 80%.
- Young people already carry the vote**
715,230 young people voted in 2024: 43.7% of all voters. Youth turnout rose from 30.1% in 2020 to 31.2%.
- The gaps are urban and female**
Youth turnout was 19.3% in the Amman districts and Zarqa, against 43.9% elsewhere. Female youth turnout was 6.3 points below male.
- Females lead the programme's reach**
Females account for 61.8% of attendances and participants (298,267 of 482,720) and 74.6% of registrations for the renewed programme.
- From attendance to proof**
The five-station Isnad ladder replaces attendance certificates with credentials earned by proof. It starts at 15 universities in 2026/2027.

Priority recommendations

- Sustain the programme as a strategic national investment**
- Go where youth turnout is lowest: Amman and Zarqa**
- Close the female participation gap, starting with the Badia districts**
- Time polling-day messages for the afternoon and evening**
- Reward proof, not attendance, across the five stations**
- Keep measuring impact, independently**

Actions and indicators for each recommendation: chapter 19.

Sources: programme data up to September 2026; impact evaluation 2022–2025 (IEC pre/post tools); IEC data on young voters, 2024 parliamentary elections; programme update executive summary, 27 September 2026.

AT A GLANCE

01 A national programme, run by a constitutional body, that takes young people from awareness to leadership

Ana Usharek ("I Participate") is the civic and political education programme of Jordan's Independent Election Commission (IEC). Since 2022 it has worked in universities, colleges, schools and youth centres in every governorate. It starts with knowledge, builds skills, and then opens a step-by-step path to leadership and real influence in public life and the labour market.

Our mission

That every young woman and man has the knowledge, skills and confidence to take part in public life responsibly, and trusts the electoral process because they understand it and have lived it.

Our vision

A generation of Jordanians who see participation as a right they exercise and a responsibility they carry, and who turn their skills into impact in their communities and opportunity in their lives.

What makes Ana Usharek different?

- 1 Run directly by a constitutional body**
The institution that runs elections explains to young people how they are run, impartially and credibly.
- 2 Year-round, not seasonal**
Not tied to an election calendar; it runs every semester and through the summer.
- 3 A five-station ladder**
From the first session to the national leadership track, ATHAR.
- 4 Learning by doing**
Realistic election simulations, moot courts, competitions, a hackathon and Sawtak Mu'athir.
- 5 In all 12 governorates**
Universities, colleges, schools and youth centres, in cities and outlying areas.
- 6 Measured, independently checked impact**
Pre/post measurement and an independent study with Penn State University.

Our strategy: engage, lead, develop

Engage

Stations 1–2
Ana Usharek · Usharek+

Lead

Stations 3–4
Fellowship · Zimam

Develop

Station 5
ATHAR: national leadership

Implemented by the IEC with universities and colleges, and the Ministries of Higher Education, Education and Youth. Each station ends with a credential that states what the young person can do, not only that they attended.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND POLITICAL MODERNISATION

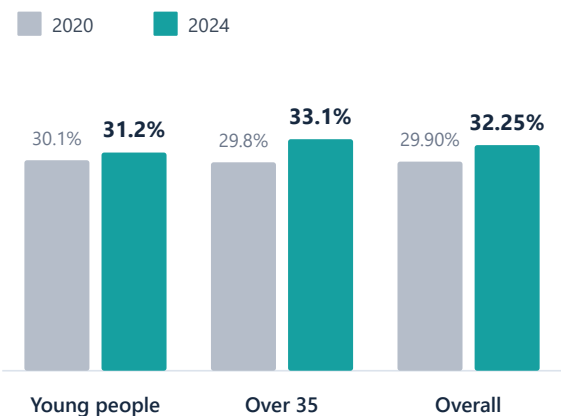
02 From 2020 to 2024: more young voters, and new doors opened by law

Political modernisation in 2022 changed the rules for young people: a lower candidacy age, national party lists and, from 2026, seats for young people on governorate councils. The 2024 elections were the first test. More young people voted than in 2020, yet their turnout is still below that of older voters.

Young voters in the 2020 and 2024 parliamentary elections

Indicator	2020	2024	Change
Young voters	647,204	715,230	+68,026
Youth share of all voters	46.6%	43.7%	–2.9 points
Youth share of the voter register	46.4%	45.18%	–1.2 points
Youth turnout	30.1%	31.2%	+1.1 points
Over-35 turnout	29.8%	33.1%	+3.3 points
Overall turnout	29.90%	32.25%	+2.35 points

Turnout by age group (%)



How to read this: Youth turnout rose, but older voters’ turnout rose faster, so the youth share of all voters fell from 46.6% to 43.7%. The number of young voters still grew by about 68,000.

Political modernisation: what changed for young people

2022

Constitutional amendments: the minimum age to stand for parliament falls to 25.

2022

Election Law 4/2022: 41 of 138 seats (30%) for party lists in the 20th House, rising to 50% in the 21st and 65% in the 22nd.

2024

First parliamentary elections under the new law: overall turnout 32.25%, and 589,820 first-time eligible voters.

2026

Local Administration Law 16/2026: three seats for under-35s on every governorate council.

The doors are open. The programme’s job is to prepare young people to walk through them with confidence and competence.

Sources: IEC Detailed Report on the 2020 parliamentary elections (p. 56); IEC Detailed Report 2024 (pp. 89, 91, 100) and 2024 young-voter data by hour and district; 2022 constitutional amendments; Election Law 4/2022; Local Administration Law 16/2026. Age bands follow each IEC report; changes are calculated.

WHAT THE PROGRAMME HAS ACHIEVED

03 Numbers that tell a story of national reach

In four years Ana Usharek has reached most of Jordan's higher-education institutions and extended to schools, youth centres, and law and media faculties.

482,720

session attendances and participants

Up to Sept 2026

48,304

sessions delivered

Latest data, 2026

298,267

female attendances and participants (61.8%)

Up to Sept 2026

184,453

male attendances and participants (38.2%)

Up to Sept 2026

15 + 15 + 80

delivery sites: universities + youth centres + schools

During 2026

45

facilitators

Up to Sept 2026

≈300

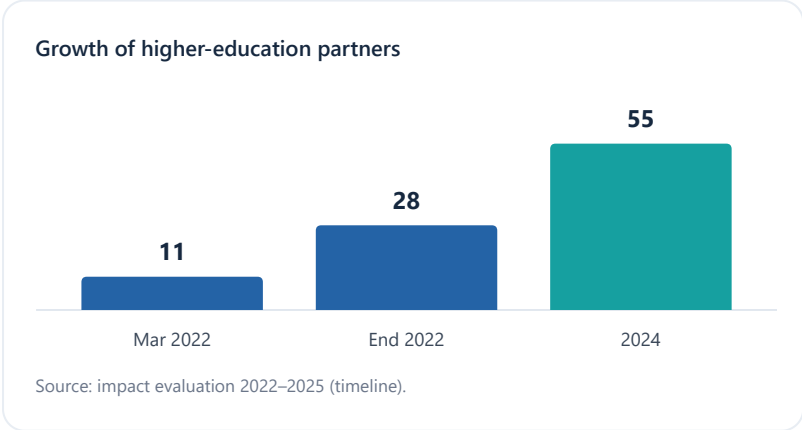
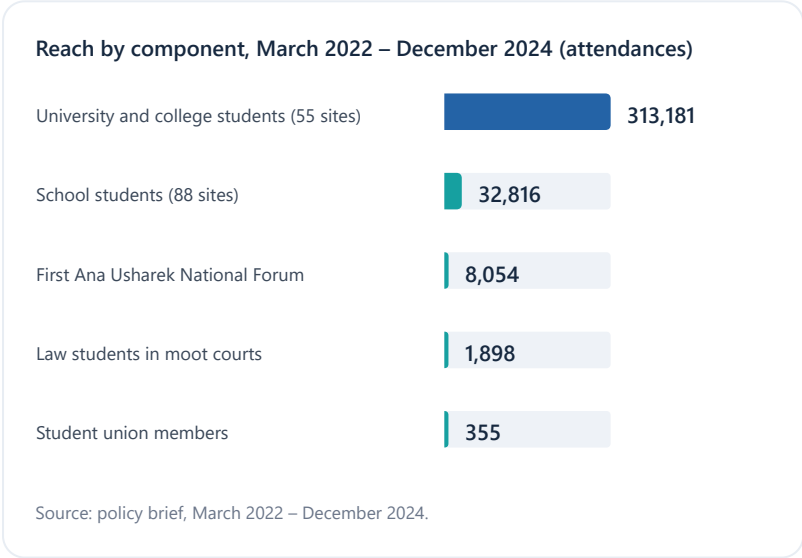
initiatives launched by participants

Programme data, Sept 2026

55 + 88

HEIs + summer sites

Impact report 2022–2025



Milestones

2022

Delivery begins in March at 11 universities, 28 by year end; the first Ana Usharek National Forum: 8,054 students in 311 sessions.

2023

Basma launches with the Ministry of Education at 88 summer sites.

2024

The partnership reaches 55 higher-education institutions, with over 313,000 university and college attendances since 2022.

2025

Transformative impact evaluation of the programme, 2022–2025.

2026

Basma in 89 schools, Sawtak in 15 youth centres, the Tech-Voices hackathon, the Iqna'ni (Convince Me) contest and the Sawtak Mu'athir competition.

2026/2027

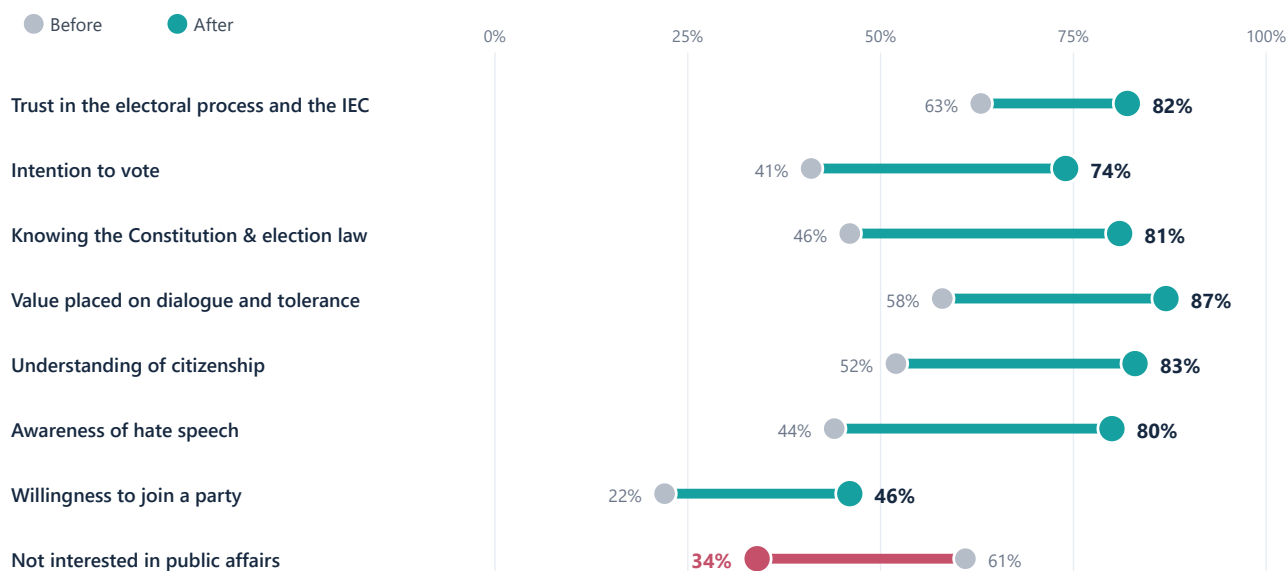
The new five-station ladder: stations 1–3 at 15 universities, 2,844 applications by 4 October 2026.

IMPACT ON PARTICIPATION AND TRUST

04 When young people understand the electoral process, they trust it and take part

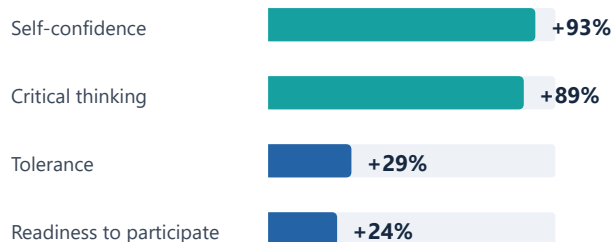
Pre/post measurement of participants is clear: knowledge, trust and intention to vote rise, and disinterest falls. Trust is not asked of young people here; it is built through understanding and experience.

Before and after the programme (% of participants)



Source: impact evaluation 2022–2025 (IEC pre/post assessment tools).

Improvement in personal skills

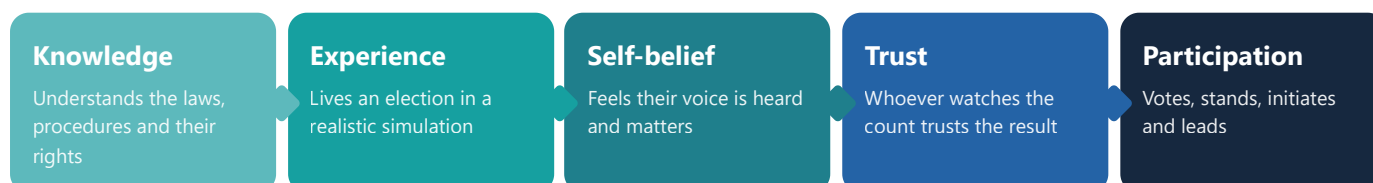


Source: ATHAR presentation.

2,973

responses from 45 universities and colleges in the evaluation study with Penn State University (2024–25). Belief in one's ability to influence rose from 38.5% to 53.7%.

How the programme builds trust



PEACE AND SOCIAL COHESION

05 Extremism grows in a vacuum. The programme fills it

“Extremism revives when a young person feels they have no voice, no opportunity for change, and no safe space for dialogue.”

The programme answers each of these three needs with something young people can use, every semester and in every governorate.

A voice

Facilitated dialogue, election simulations, and persuasion and oratory competitions where young people argue, listen and change their minds.

An opportunity

Credentials an employer can read, a portfolio of real civic acts, and about 300 youth-led initiatives in their communities.

A safe space

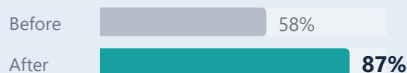
Year-round spaces on campuses and in youth centres to discuss identity, religion and politics without fear, and within the law.

Four ways the programme builds cohesion

1 Dialogue and tolerance

Facilitated spaces to discuss identity, religion and politics with respect.

Value placed on dialogue and tolerance



2 Countering hate speech and misinformation

Media literacy, a fact-checking lab and digital protection units.

Awareness of hate speech



3 Bridging “us versus them”

Mixed groups across governorates and backgrounds, females and males together, and inclusion initiatives such as disability rights.

4 A shared national identity

The Constitution, the rule of law and belonging to the state above sub-identities.

Understanding of citizenship



Promoting youth awareness is not an educational luxury. It is a national, security and societal necessity.

An aware young person can reject hate speech, resist attempts at recruitment, and build a future on pluralism, peace and shared responsibility.

Source: impact evaluation 2022–2025 (IEC pre/post assessment tools); Ana Usharek policy brief, September 2026.

PERSONAL SKILLS: FROM PARTICIPATION TO OPPORTUNITY

06 The skills that make an active citizen also make a strong employee and an initiative founder

When young people learn to hold a dialogue, persuade, lead a team and analyse a problem, they are preparing at the same time for public life, for the labour market and for launching their own initiative. That is why the programme builds personal skills as a bridge between all three.



What employers say

7 in 10 companies see analytical thinking as essential in 2025

39% of existing skills will change or become outdated, 2025–2030

63% of employers see skills gaps as the biggest barrier

After analytical thinking come resilience and flexibility, then leadership and social influence: the same skills public participation demands.

Source: World Economic Forum, Future of Jobs Report 2025.

Where the programme builds each skill

	Curriculum	Simulation	Competitions	Fellowship & Zimam	Sawtak
Analytical & critical thinking	●	○	●	●	○
Communication & persuasion	○	○	●	●	●
Leadership & influence	○	○	○	●	●
Teamwork	○	●	●	○	●
Resilience under pressure		●	●	○	○
Negotiation & conflict resolution	○	●	○	●	○
Media & digital literacy	●	○	●	○	○
Innovation & initiative		○	●	●	●

● Main focus ○ Supporting focus

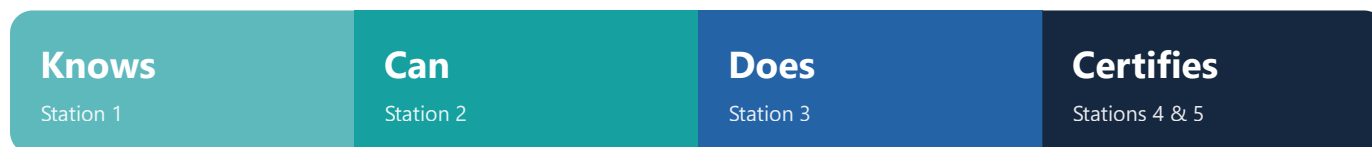
THEMES AND CHARACTER FORMATION

07 Four layers that build an active, participating young citizen

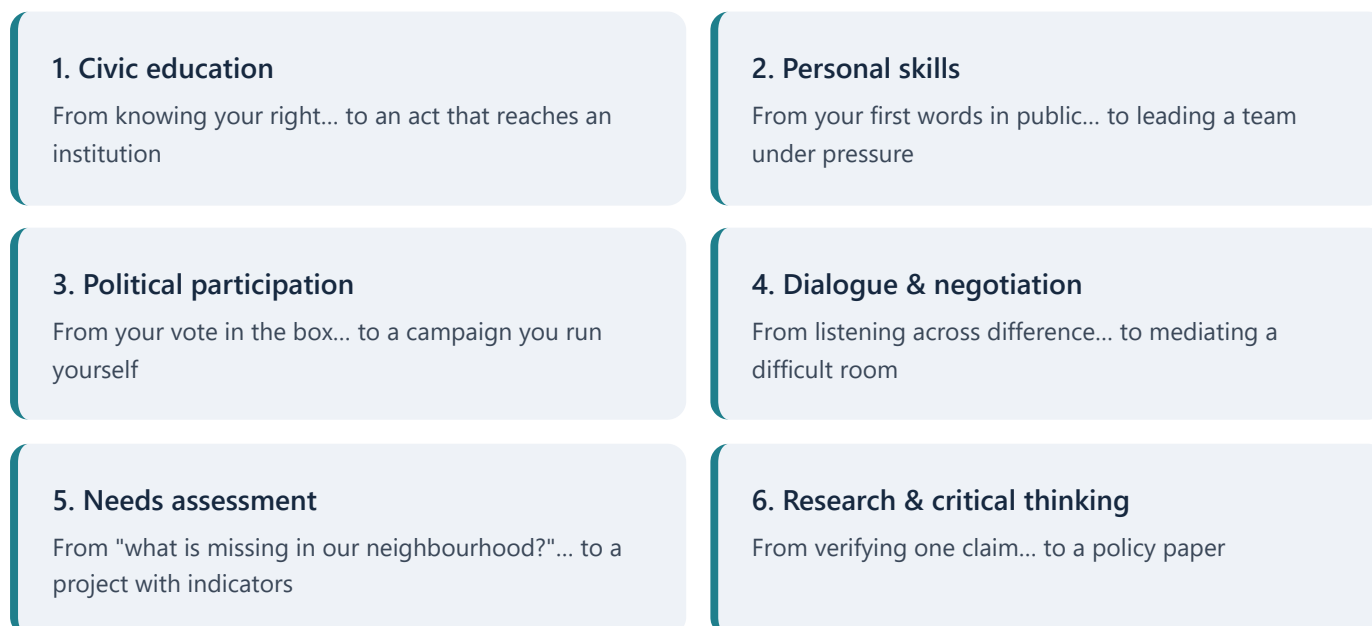
The programme does not deliver isolated facts. It builds character layer by layer: knowledge that opens awareness, values that guide behaviour, skills that make action possible, and practice that creates impact.



Four levels in the Mizan framework: each station raises you one level



Six skill threads that rise with you from station to station



Source: "Ana Usharek is changing" infographic, September 2026.

THEMATIC TRACKS

08 Issues young people live with, at the heart of the programme

Alongside the core curriculum, the programme runs four tracks that touch young people's lives directly. Every one of them ends in practice.

1 Leadership

23

sessions in Zimam

From leading yourself to leading a team, change and public life. It runs through the Fellowship, the Zimam track (23 sessions in four leadership arcs), the leadership station of Sawtak, and the national ATHAR track.

Zimam: 23 sessions

ATHAR: 12 months

Sawtak

2 Female leadership

61.8%

of attendances are female

Females are 61.8% of attendances and participants (298,267 of 482,720). Yet the Penn State study found an ambition gap: 25.3% of young females said they would definitely or probably stand for office, against 38.9% of young males. So the programme invites young females to lead by name, rotates strong roles between females and males, and measures and announces speaking time.

Would definitely or probably stand (Penn State study)

Young males  38.9%

Young females  25.3%

61.8% female

Parity in ATHAR

30% on councils

3 Environment & climate

New

in the updated curriculum

Water and climate are also questions of participation and accountability. The updated curriculum adds a session on "Jordan, water and climate" and sessions on public money and the municipal budget, linked to needs assessment and local initiatives.

Water & climate

Municipal budget

Local initiatives

4 Media literacy & digital safety

2,070+

youth media pieces

Modules on media education, spotting false news and cyberbullying, plus a "verification and AI lab" in the updated curriculum. Young people have produced over 2,070 media pieces. The "Innocence Under Attack" initiative moves digital awareness from lectures to safe simulation; it has been piloted in two schools in Amman.

Verification lab

2,070+ media pieces

Digital safety

Sources: impact evaluation 2022–2025; programme update executive summary and Zimam document (Sept 2026); Local Administration Law 16/2026.

REALISTIC ELECTION SIMULATION

09 We learn elections by living them

Simulation is a core part of the programme's method, not a side activity. Participants live the full electoral cycle with real roles and real tools, from the voter register to appeals, so they understand the process from the inside and trust its integrity.



Roles participants take on

Voter Candidate
Polling-station chair and members
Candidate agent Observer
Journalist Fact-checker

What participants take away

- A precise understanding of every stage of the electoral process
- Trust in integrity that comes from experience, not instruction
- Respect for the result, and objection through legal channels
- Organisation, teamwork and working under pressure

Where it happens

Basma

Mock voting and counting in school classrooms

Universities

Election and parliament simulations

Zimam

A mock municipal council and participatory budget

Moot court

Electoral appeals before a bench

The practical election exercise

The practical exercise builds students' electoral knowledge through a full simulation of every stage of the electoral process: from registration and candidacy, through campaigning and campaign management, to polling, counting and the announcement of results. Through this hands-on experience, students learn the procedures of the electoral process and the roles of the different parties involved, building electoral awareness grounded in knowledge and practice.

Learn it... live it... and take part with awareness.

Activity	Sessions	Male	Female	Total
Practical election exercise	50	1,428	1,728	3,156
Jordanian Parliament simulation model (German Jordanian University)	16	106	71	177

Source: programme data, cumulative to September 2026.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTION VOLUNTEERING

10 From the classroom to the field: the programme's young people at the heart of election season

Ana Usharek does not stop at the classroom door. In election seasons its young people become the IEC's partners in awareness campaigns and volunteers on polling day, carrying what they learned to their peers, families and communities.

6,035

young volunteers from the programme in awareness campaigns and on polling day, 2024 elections

11

national awareness campaigns with the programme's young people

Polling day is the real test of everything learned in the classroom: young people stand beside voters, see integrity from the inside, and return to their communities as its witnesses.

38% → 64%

share who volunteer regularly, before and after the programme

1 in 3

graduates took part in an initiative or campaign afterwards

2,070+

media pieces produced by young people: video, podcast, posts

Source: Ana Usharek programme data. Source: impact evaluation 2022–2025.

The role of young people across the electoral cycle

Before polling day

Awareness campaigns

- Sessions in universities, schools and youth centres
- Digital content explaining the laws and voting procedures
- Checking facts and countering rumours
- Peer-to-peer dialogue

Polling day

Election volunteers

- Guiding and directing voters
- Supporting older voters and persons with disabilities
- Sharing accurate information on procedures
- Modelling neutrality and discipline in public

After polling day

Reading the results

- Understanding how votes are counted and seats allocated
- Discussing results with numbers, not impressions
- Turning the experience into new initiatives and content
- Preparing for the next season

Why it matters

- 1 A message from peers**
Young people believe people like them, so the call to take part travels faster and deeper.
- 2 Trust through presence**
Those who work the election season see integrity up close and carry it home.
- 3 Documented skills**
Organisation, communication and working under pressure add to a young person's professional record.

Context: 17–35-year-olds were 43.7% of voters in the 2024 parliamentary elections (715,230), with youth turnout of 31.2% against 32.25% overall.

READING THE 2024 ELECTION DATA

11 Young people on polling day: who voted, when and where

An analysis of young voters (aged 17–35) in the 2024 parliamentary elections by hour, district and sex. Youth turnout is close to that of older voters; the real gaps are geographic and between females and males, and young people make up their minds in the evening.

715,230

young voters (17–35), or 43.7% of all voters

31.2%

youth turnout, against 33.1% for over-35s

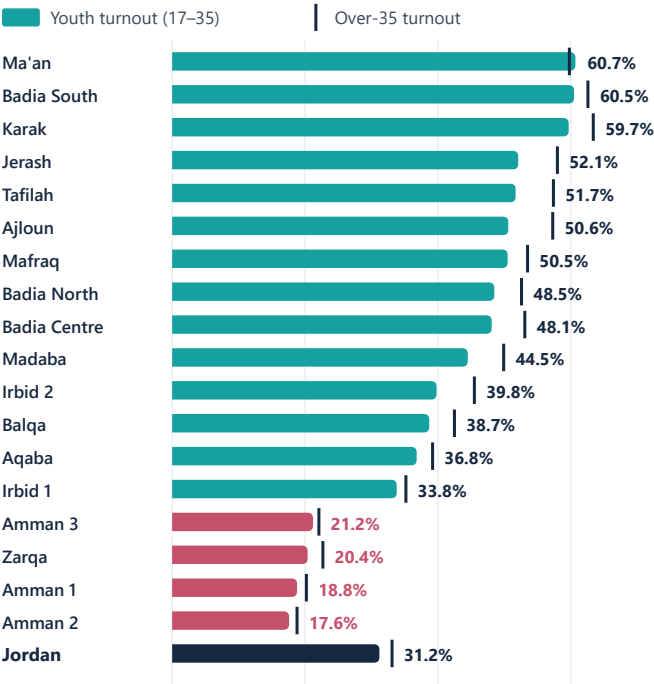
28.2%

female youth turnout, against 34.5% for males

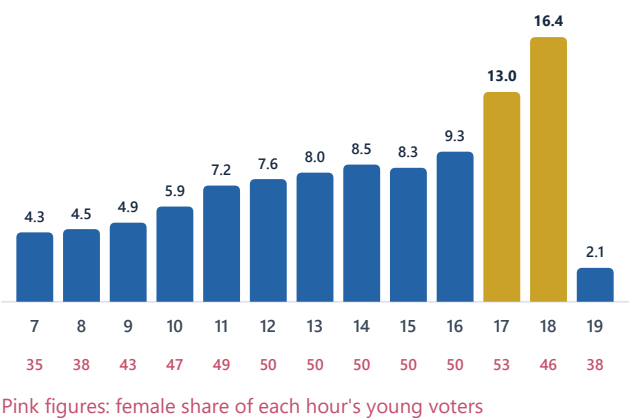
40.9%

of youth votes cast after 4 pm

Youth turnout by electoral district



Youth votes by polling hour (% of all youth votes)



Youth voting peaks between 5 and 7 pm (29.4% of their votes). Males dominate the first hour (65% of young voters); the female share peaks at 5 pm (52.6%).

In 17 of 18 districts youth turnout was below that of older voters; Ma'an is the exception. Youth turnout tracks the overall level of each district, so the widest gap is between the big cities and the periphery, not between generations.

What this means for Ana Usharek

- 1

Big cities first
The three Amman districts and Zarqa hold 51.8% of registered young voters but cast only 32.1% of youth votes: 19.3% turnout against 43.9% elsewhere. Zarqa is the second-largest pool of young voters (336,409), yet sent only 323 of the programme's 2,844 applications this semester.
- 2

Timing is part of the message
About 41% of youth votes came after 4 pm. Polling-day messages and volunteers should concentrate on the afternoon and evening, while encouraging young people to vote early and avoid the last-hour rush.
- 3

The female gap
Female youth turnout is 6.3 points below male youth turnout, widening to 13–21 points in the Badia districts. This is where the female leadership track and Sawtak in youth centres come in.

Source: IEC data on young voters (17–35) by hour, district and sex, 2024 parliamentary elections; IEC Detailed Report 2024 (pp. 89, 101). Turnout rates and vote shares are calculated from these data.

11

Reading the 2024 election data · continued

Youth participation in the 2024 parliamentary elections by district

The full district and hour figures behind the previous page. Districts are sorted by youth turnout.

District	Youth (17–35)			Over-35 turnout	Youth share of voters	Female turnout	Male turnout	After 4 pm
	Registered youth	Young voters	Youth turnout					
Ma'an	25,955	15,766	60.7%	59.8%	45.6%	56.3%	65.6%	25.3%
Badia South	42,902	25,939	60.5%	62.6%	49.0%	51.6%	72.1%	30.1%
Karak	85,386	50,947	59.7%	63.4%	43.6%	57.7%	62.1%	40.8%
Jerash	60,120	31,297	52.1%	58.0%	43.8%	48.9%	56.2%	44.9%
Tafilah	28,810	14,900	51.7%	57.4%	43.9%	47.3%	57.7%	41.6%
Ajloun	52,451	26,519	50.6%	57.3%	42.8%	47.6%	54.6%	41.4%
Mafraq	51,794	26,157	50.5%	53.5%	45.2%	46.6%	55.4%	36.4%
Badia North	58,680	28,484	48.5%	52.6%	47.2%	43.1%	56.3%	41.6%
Badia Centre	34,937	16,817	48.1%	53.1%	43.3%	41.1%	58.7%	41.1%
Madaba	56,660	25,201	44.5%	49.9%	42.0%	40.3%	49.3%	42.5%
Irbid 2	149,827	59,595	39.8%	45.5%	42.9%	35.7%	44.9%	47.6%
Balqa	161,838	62,599	38.7%	42.5%	43.5%	35.9%	41.8%	43.1%
Aqaba	38,691	14,246	36.8%	39.2%	46.3%	33.9%	39.8%	47.7%
Irbid 1	258,237	87,247	33.8%	35.2%	44.3%	30.4%	37.6%	42.7%
Amman 3	193,611	41,123	21.2%	22.1%	39.0%	18.0%	24.8%	41.8%
Zarqa	336,409	68,764	20.4%	22.7%	43.7%	16.7%	24.3%	39.8%
Amman 1	290,029	54,455	18.8%	20.2%	45.2%	15.1%	22.6%	41.8%
Amman 2	369,369	65,174	17.6%	18.8%	41.8%	14.9%	20.4%	35.2%
Jordan	2,295,706	715,230	31.2%	33.1%	43.7%	28.2%	34.5%	40.9%

Youth votes by polling hour

Hour	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Votes	30,567	31,999	34,758	42,014	51,429	54,420	57,335	60,677	59,532	66,845	93,219	117,150	15,285
% of youth votes	4.3	4.5	4.9	5.9	7.2	7.6	8.0	8.5	8.3	9.3	13.0	16.4	2.1
Female %	35	38	43	47	49	50	50	50	50	50	53	46	38

Method notes: young voters are aged 17–35; registered youth are aged 18–35 as in the IEC Detailed Report 2024 (p. 89). Over-35 turnout = (district voters – young voters) ÷ (district registered – registered youth). The Irbid 2 voter count is calculated from its published turnout (42.83%). "After 4 pm" is the share of youth votes cast from 4 pm until close.

Source: IEC data on young voters (17–35) by hour, district and sex, 2024 parliamentary elections; IEC Detailed Report 2024 (pp. 89, 101). Turnout rates and vote shares are calculated from these data.

PROGRAMMES DELIVERED

12 Four programmes that reach every group

Basma

For school students · with the Ministry of Education

An interactive two-day programme (five hours a day) on national identity, dialogue, rule of law and awareness of political life, ending in an election simulation and a personal pledge. It is facilitated by Fellowship and Usharek+ graduates: the ladder at work, where those who learned now teach.

89

schools

43

education directorates

668

sessions

39,270

students

30,795

female attendances

29,736

male attendances

2 × 5

two days, five hours a day

87.6%

facilitator satisfaction

Source: programme data up to September 2026; facilitator satisfaction from the Basma 2026 analytical report. Basma launched in 2023 at 88 summer sites (32,816 attendances to 2024).

Student union capacity building

For elected student council leaders

Trains student union members to represent their peers effectively, run fair and violence-free student elections, work within the regulation on student party activity, and plan and advocate. A student union is a young person's first real experience of governing and representing.

355

union members

20

sessions

12

universities

Source: impact evaluation 2022–2025.

Deanship of Student Affairs staff

For institutional partners in universities and colleges

Equips deanship staff to support civic activity, oversee student elections and accompany student initiatives, so the impact stays inside the institution after the sessions end. This is the programme's guarantee of institutional sustainability.

293

deanship staff

15

sessions

87%

institutional satisfaction

Source: impact evaluation 2022–2025 (deanship survey, 34 respondents).

Sawtak

National Youth Leadership Development Programme · with the Ministry of Youth **Build · Participate · Influence**

A leadership journey for 18–35-year-olds in 15 youth centres: 65 sessions across five stations (belonging, active citizenship, political participation, leadership and impact). It is built on experiential learning: realistic simulation, dialogue, Jordanian case studies and community initiatives led by participants. It began on 29 June 2026.

1

Belonging

Rooting national identity

2

Active citizenship

Responsible participation

3

Political participation

Understanding the political system

4

Leadership

Building skills and teams

5

Impact

Making a difference

From application to participation

Applied



1,125

Accepted



415

Took part



317

15

youth centres

5

leadership stations

53%

of participants female

409

sessions in the daily log

Source: Sawtak 2026 records (daily log to 14 September 2026).

Experiential learning method

- Interactive workshops and realistic simulation
- Dialogue sessions and constructive debate
- Case studies from Jordanian reality
- Community initiatives led by participants
- Field visits and meetings with national institutions

Programme goals

- Root national belonging and turn it into responsible practice
- Build political and civic awareness for informed participation
- Equip young people with leadership and dialogue skills
- Prepare leaders able to counter hate speech
- Move young people from recipients to makers of impact
- Build a national network of young leaders

“Leadership is not a position. It is responsibility, presence, and the ability to bring about positive change.”

COMPETITIONS AND THEIR ROLE

13 Why we hold competitions

For us a competition is a learning tool, not an end in itself. Knowledge becomes performance in front of an audience, and young people learn to compete fairly and respect the result, just as in an election.

From knowledge to performance

Apply what you learned under time pressure and judging.

Teams from three regions

North, Centre and South meet around one goal.

Talent discovery

Competitions reveal who is ready to climb the ladder.

Fair competition

Published rules, open judging and a right to appeal.

Moot Court

Electoral justice through young eyes

For law students in 22 faculties. Students plead electoral cases, electoral appeals and cases under the regulation on party activities before law professors, then before judges named by the Judicial Council in the final rounds. Scoring: 60% written pleadings, 40% oral.

4

editions

58

training sessions

1,898

students

Advocacy · legal analysis

Convince Me (Iqna'ni)

The art of persuasion and influential speech

An alternative to debate: debate is a battle with a winner and a loser; persuasion is a bridge. The audience votes before and after, so what is measured is a team's ability to change minds, not to defeat an opponent. Judges 80%, shift in audience vote 20%.

20

teams in the 2026 rounds

3

regions

52

judges

Persuasion · respect for others

Tech-Voices hackathon

Youth · Technology · Participation

Teams of 3–5 design apps, platforms and digital campaigns, using AI and data analysis, that boost political and civic participation. Judged on innovation, impact, feasibility and sustainability; the aim is for winning projects to be implemented with partners.

11

universities (June 2026)

Innovation · entrepreneurship

Sawtak Mu'athir

Your Voice Matters: honing talent, making impact

For journalism and media students, who become influential digital content creators across five themes, including electoral participation, countering hate speech and disinformation, and cyberbullying. Entries: film, podcast, play or digital campaign, scored on a 100-point rubric.

5

themes

5

entry formats

21

scoring criteria

Content creation · ethics

Raqeem | Al-Bayan

National youth oratory competition

The name joins al-raqeem (the enduring Nabataean inscription of Petra) with al-bayan (the height of Arabic eloquence): words that are carved, not spoken and forgotten. First-season theme: "The Jordan we want — draw it with your words."

“ Your word is a trace, and your trace is history

Oratory · message design

Traditional debate vs Convince Me

	Debate	Convince Me
Image	A battle: winner and loser	A bridge: a before and an after
Goal	Silence the opponent	Change the audience's mind
Measure	Judges' scores	Judges + shift in audience vote

Sources: official competition guides 2023–2026; Amman Arab University (hackathon, June 2026).

GEOGRAPHIC REACH AND EXPANSION

14 Present across the governorates, and expanding to reach every one

In the first semester of 2026/2027, the programme continues with its three stations at 15 universities in 8 governorates across all three regions. The next step is a university site in every governorate, then 60 sites by 2029.

Current delivery sites

15 universities | 15 youth centres | 89 schools in Basma

Registration, first semester 2026/2027

Registration for Ana Usharek opened in higher-education institutions. By 4 October 2026:

2,844

students from 15 universities

1,496

Ana Usharek

876

Usharek+

472

Fellowship

74.6%

female

Applications by governorate, first semester 2026/2027 (to 4 October 2026)

North

684 24%

Centre

1,574 55%

South

586 21%

Irbid

684 applications

Ajloun

No site this semester

Jerash

No site this semester

Mafrq

No site this semester

Amman

941 applications

Balqa

310 applications

Zarqa

323 applications

Madaba

No site this semester

Tafilah

210 applications

Karak

227 applications

Aqaba

64 applications

Ma'an

85 applications

Source: online registration, first semester 2026/2027, to 4 October 2026 (governorate = university location).

Next priority: a university site in every governorate

Al-Hussein Technical University

Amman

German Jordanian University

Madaba

Al al-Bayt University

Mafrq

Jerash or Philadelphia University

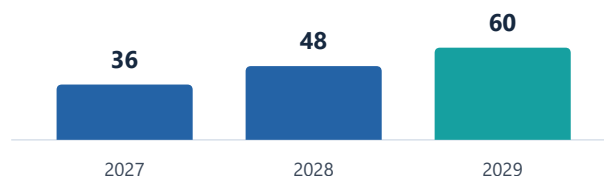
Jerash

Ajloun National University

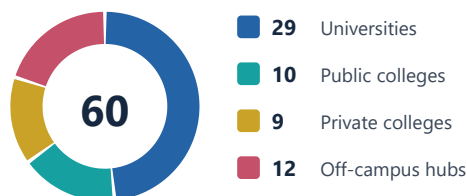
Ajloun

Proposed sites from the 2027 list in the strategic plan.

Target delivery sites



The 60 sites in 2029



Source: operational strategic plan 2027–2029.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

15 What we measure, and where we stand

The programme runs a monitoring and evaluation framework with reach indicators, impact indicators and delivery-quality indicators, and clear targets for the next phase.

Indicator	Value	Source
Reach		
Session attendances and participants	482,720	Up to Sept 2026
Sessions delivered	48,304	Latest data, 2026
Partner higher-education institutions	55	Impact report 2022–2025
Female / male attendances and participants	298,267 / 184,453	Up to Sept 2026
Summer term 2025/2026 attendances	14,274 at 15 universities	Aggregate data
Participants in the practical election exercise	3,156 in 50 sessions	Programme data, to Sept 2026
Applications, first semester 2026/2027	2,844 (to 4 Oct 2026)	Online registration, Oct 2026
Impact		
Trust in the electoral process and the IEC	63% → 82%	Impact report 2022–2025
Intention to vote	41% → 74%	Impact report 2022–2025
Knowledge of Constitution and electoral law	46% → 81%	Impact report 2022–2025
Not interested in public affairs	61% → 34%	Impact report 2022–2025
Self-confidence / critical thinking	+93% / +89%	ATHAR presentation
Participant initiatives	≈300	Programme data, Sept 2026
Stood in student council and club elections	187	Impact report 2022–2025
Volunteer regularly	38% → 64%	Impact report 2022–2025
Campaign and polling-day volunteers (2024 elections)	6,035	Programme data
National awareness campaigns	11	Programme data
Delivery quality		
Basma facilitator satisfaction	87.6%	Basma report 2026
Basma: all themes completed	92.1%	Basma report 2026
Host-school cooperation (excellent/good)	92.1%	Basma report 2026
Institutional satisfaction (deanships)	87%	Impact report 2022–2025
Sawtak sessions starting on time	90%	Sawtak log 2026
Next-phase targets		
Credentials earned by proof	4 credentials + ATHAR	Isnad ladder
Acts that reach an institution and get a reply	New programme indicator	Zimam design
Delivery sites	36 → 48 → 60 (2027–2029)	Plan 2027–2029
ATHAR leaders	75 (50% female)	ATHAR track

GLOBAL AND ARAB COMPARISON

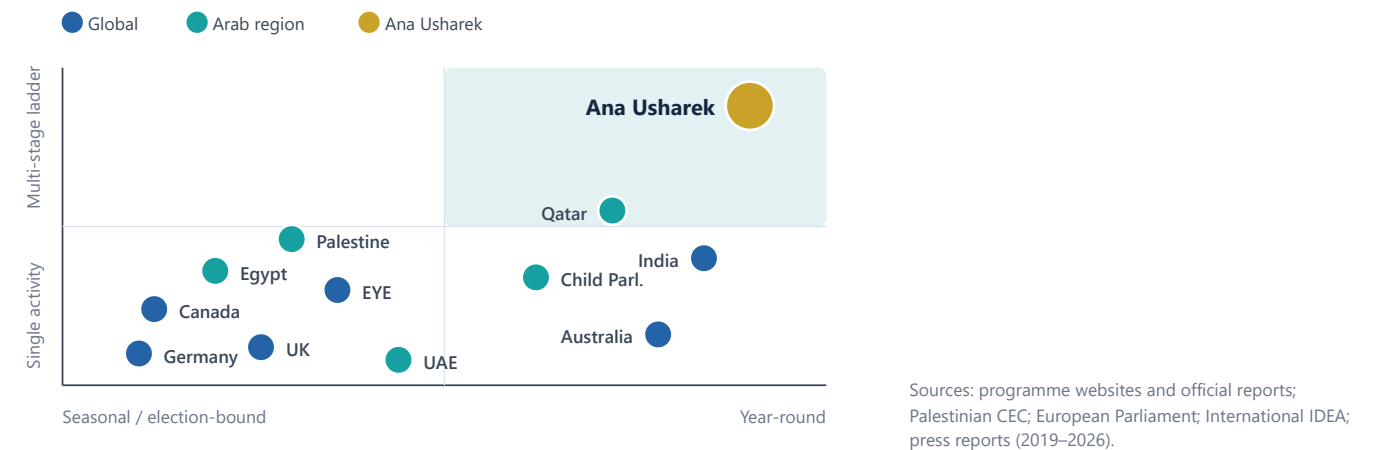
Where does Ana Usharek stand among 16 comparable programmes?

We compared the programme with leading youth civic and electoral education programmes. Most are tied to an election season or built around a single activity. Ana Usharek combines continuity, a graduated ladder, and direct delivery by an electoral body.

Programme	Run by	Model	Scale (unit, year)
Ana Usharek — Jordan	Independent Election Commission	Year-round 5-station ladder + simulation + competitions	482,720 attendances and participants, 48,304 sessions (2022–2026)
Global			
Electoral Literacy Clubs — India	Election Commission	Standing clubs in schools and colleges	~220,000 clubs (undated figure)
Student Vote — Canada	CIVIX with Elections Canada	Parallel school vote at election time	917,109 votes, 6,302 schools (2025)
Juniorwahl — Germany	NGO	School elections at election time	6,400+ schools (2025)
Make Your Mark — UK	UK Youth Parliament	Periodic national youth ballot	526,573 votes (2024)
National Electoral Education Centre — Australia	Electoral Commission	Visits, mock polling and count	95,944 visitors (2018/19)
European Youth Event (EYE)	European Parliament	Biennial event	~9,000 participants (2025)
Arab region			
University voter education — Palestine	Central Elections Commission	Project rounds run by universities	40,000 participants/beneficiaries (2017–18)
QatarDebate	Qatar Foundation	Debate training and championships	925 speakers, 15 national championships (2023–24)
Political Awareness Forum — UAE	FNC Affairs Ministry & National Election Committee	Annual forum for university students	No published figure
School awareness visits — Egypt	National Elections Authority	Visits and mock voting	No published figure
Arab Parliament for the Child	Arab League & Sharjah	Regional mock parliament	54 members (2026)

Units differ (votes, visitors, session attendances), so read each figure in its own unit rather than comparing directly.

Positioning map (analytical reading)



DEVELOPMENT PLAN

17 Why modernise?

The programme has succeeded in reaching people. The next phase is about depth: knowing what a young person can do, not only how many sessions they attended.

1

Knowing is not enough

Legal knowledge rose 35 points and intention to vote from 41% to 74%, yet only about 14% of graduates went on to engage in party work.

2

The certificate rewarded attendance

It said you were in the room. It did not say what you can do, and no employer reads it.

3

Material had aged

Repealed laws (decentralisation and the 2021 local administration law) and lecture-shaped modules with no practice.

4

The road stopped short

No published path after the Fellowship, and no way to see how national leadership is reached.

Source: programme impact evaluation 2022–2025 and an audit of 34 training modules (85–90% exposition).

A fifty-minute session with one steady rhythm



No presentation runs beyond ten minutes. The longest part of the session is the part where the participant works. Every session has a 30-minute version for tight days.

Moving up by proof, not attendance

90% attendance

Eligibility to be assessed, no longer the credential itself.

Evidence all term

Teaching someone else, a real act, a paper, an observed facilitation.

Blind marking

Against a published rubric, by someone who is not your trainer.

Named assessor

The credential carries the name of whoever granted it: a chain of transmission.

Four pillars for 2027–2029

Deepen

Competence-based curricula and credentials earned by proof

Widen

From universities to colleges and community hubs: 60 sites

Elevate

Young people in local and party decision-making

Sustain

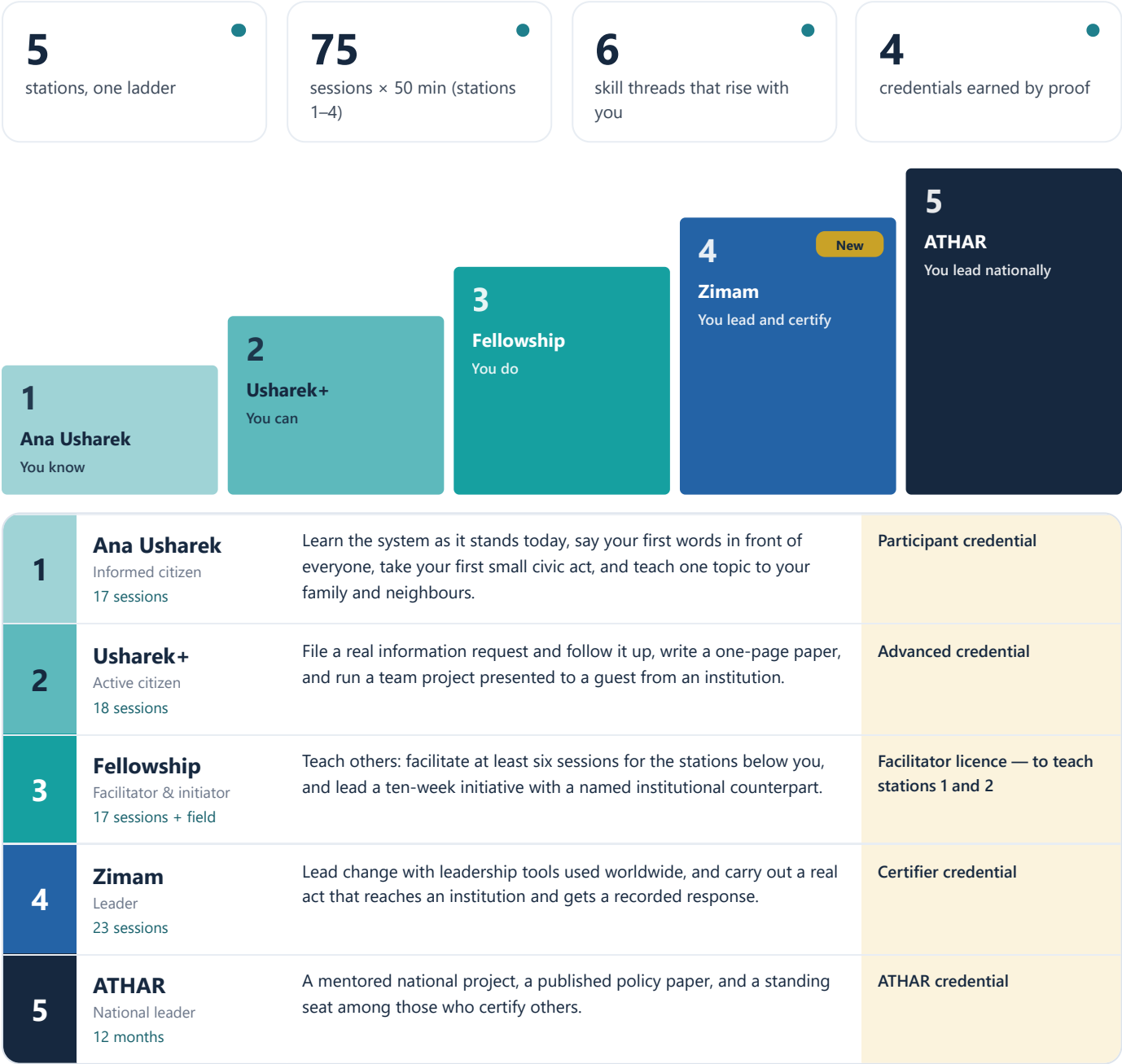
A national registry, an alumni guild and an employer council

Source: operational strategic plan 2027–2029, "From Attendance to Agency".

THE FIVE STATIONS

18 The Isnad ladder: climb it station by station

Each station raises you one level, gives you a credential bearing your assessor's name, and leaves something outside the room. Whoever completes a station can teach the one below: that is what "isnad", a chain of transmission, means.



The ATHAR gate: Entry to ATHAR with a Zimam credential and a published composite: competence 60%, participation 40%.

First semester 2026/2027: registration opens for the renewed programme

15

universities run stations 1–3 this semester

Source: online registration, first semester 2026/2027, to 4 October 2026.

2,844

registrations by 4 October 2026

74.6%

of registrations from females

What young people gain

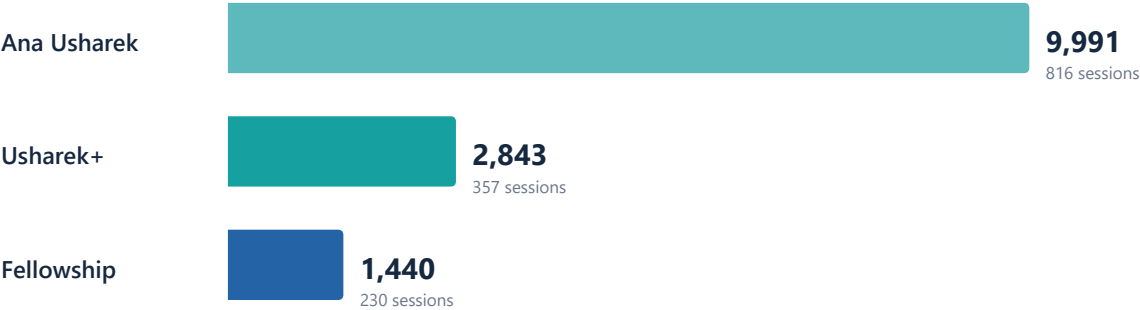
- A real licence to teach from station three, in the programme's name
- A portfolio of acts and numbers, and STAR interview practice
- An act that reached an institution and got a reply, not only activity in a room
- A clear path: they know today what stands between them and the next station

Open to everyone

Strong roles rotate between young females and males, speaking time is measured and announced, rooms and materials are accessible, and there is a protection route that never asks anyone to narrate their experience.

Source: "Ana Usharek is changing" infographic and Zimam design document, September 2026.

The ladder already works: attendances by station, summer term 2025/2026



Source: summer term 2025/2026 aggregate (1,403 sessions, 15 universities).

Headline figures by source

Indicator	Impact evaluation 2022–2025	Up to end of Sept 2026
Attendances	412,701	482,720
Sessions	38,875	48,304
Sites	55 + 88	15 + 15 + 80
Governorates	12	12
Female share	60.5%	61.8%
Facilitators	155	45
Participant initiatives	250	≈300

Figures differ between sources because each covers a different period. An "attendance" is one person at one session, so someone who attends ten sessions counts ten times.

RECOMMENDATIONS

19 Six recommendations for the next phase

These recommendations draw on the programme's measured impact, the 2024 election data and the development plan for 2027–2029. Each comes with practical actions and an indicator that anyone can check.

Recommendation	What to do	How we will know
1 Sustain the programme as a strategic investment	Keep the endorsement of university presidents and deans of student affairs, embed the programme in institutional plans, and secure a stable multi-year budget line.	Delivery sites: 36 → 48 → 60 (2027–2029)
2 Go where youth turnout is lowest	Expand in the universities and youth centres of the Amman districts and Zarqa, and recruit facilitators from those districts.	Youth turnout there (19.3% in 2024); applications from Zarqa (323 this semester)
3 Close the female participation gap	Use the female leadership track and Sawtak to reach young females, starting with the Badia districts. Rotate strong roles and measure speaking time.	Female youth turnout (28.2% against 34.5% for males in 2024); ATHAR leaders 50% female
4 Time the polling-day message	Concentrate awareness messages and volunteers in the afternoon and evening, and encourage young people to vote early to avoid the last-hour rush.	Share of youth votes cast after 4 pm (40.9% in 2024)
5 Reward proof, not attendance	Roll out the five-station Isnad ladder, blind marking against published rubrics, and a national credential registry.	Credentials earned by proof; acts that reach an institution and get a recorded reply
6 Keep measuring, independently	Use pre/post tools in every station, keep independent research partners, and publish the results every year.	Trust (63% → 82%) and intention to vote (41% → 74%) tracked every year

“ Safe dialogue spaces prevent frustration and marginalisation from building up, and make difference a strength rather than a threat.

METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES

How to read the figures in this report

Definitions

Attendance

One person at one session. Someone who attends ten sessions counts ten times, so attendances are not the number of individual young people.

Young voters

Voters aged 17–35 in the IEC 2024 data. Registered youth are aged 18–35, as in the IEC Detailed Report 2024 (p. 89).

Turnout

Voters divided by registered voters in the same group and district.

Before and after

Results of the IEC's pre/post assessment tools applied to programme participants (impact evaluation 2022–2025).

Credential

A certificate granted at the end of a station for demonstrated competence. It carries the name of the assessor who granted it.

Notes on the data

- Figures come from different sources and periods. The table of headline figures by source (chapter 18) shows how they relate.
- Rates for 2024 young voters by district, hour and sex are calculated from IEC data. The Irbid 2 voter count is calculated from its published turnout (42.83%).
- International comparisons use different units (votes, visitors, attendances), so read each figure in its own unit.
- Before-and-after results describe programme participants, not all young Jordanians.
- Figures are rounded as in their sources; small differences in totals come from rounding.

Sources of figures

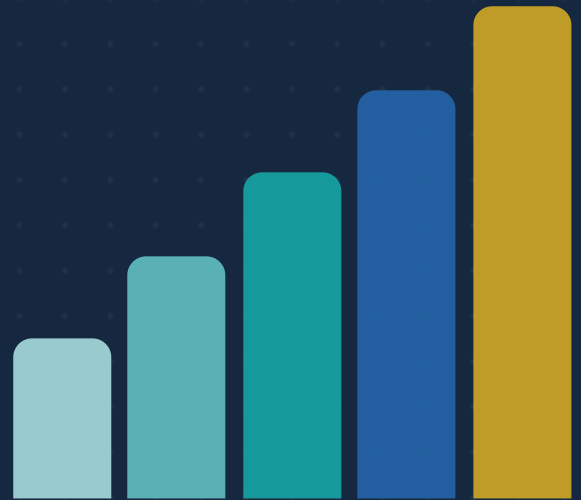
1. Programme data up to September 2026
2. IEC detailed reports on the 2020 and 2024 elections
3. Transformative impact evaluation 2022–2025 (updated performance report)
4. Programme update executive summary, 27 September 2026
5. ATHAR presentation
6. Policy brief, March 2022 – December 2024
7. Basma 2026 analytical report
8. Sawtak 2026 records
9. Official competition guides 2023–2026
10. "Ana Usharek is changing" infographic and Zimam blueprint, Sept 2026
11. World Economic Forum, Future of Jobs Report 2025



This report brings the programme booklet, the brochure, the tri-fold, the figures annex and the policy brief together in one document.

Democracy is not inherited. It is learned, and practised.

Join Ana Usharek, and be part of a generation that makes an impact.



Comprehensive report 2026

This report brings the programme booklet, the brochure, the tri-fold, the figures annex and the policy brief together in one document.



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