

## “Participation of Young People in Youth Information Work”

Vienna, 20-23 April 2005

European Seminar, organised jointly by ERYICA, Eurodesk and EYCA,  
in the framework of the Austrian Presidency of the European Union

<p><b>DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE OR PROJECT INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTLY IN AN ASPECT OF YOUTH INFORMATION WORK</b> included in Compendium of Projects prepared for the European Seminar</p>
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Ref: **06-54**

Organisation: **Youth Assoc. for Habitat**

European Affiliation: **EYCA**

1. **Name of Initiative** (project, activity, service or product):

**54 - TURKEY: Empowerment of Youth for Improved E-governance**

2. **Description of Initiative or Project** (*please give a short but complete description, including the aim of the initiative or project*):

Computer and Internet usage among Turkish youth is still not as prevalent as in the developed world. Turkey has very few cases where the Internet and modern communication technologies have been effectively utilized for advocacy and public action. The main reason for this is lack of opportunities that young people have in order to enhance or build their IT skills. This lack results in limited opportunities for the youth to participate in decision-making, to network with other youth associations and to build skills for better access to job opportunities.

With this project, it is aimed to support the youth for training and engagement in e-governance services that will help them to participate in the new information-based global economy to realize their full potential and to become employable in the IT sector. The target group of the project has been addressed as the unemployed young people of age 16-26 from the disadvantaged provinces of Turkey.

Through a peer education model, the initial target for the first years is to reach 2,000 young people from the 28 project cities and help them gain Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills. The project is anticipated to be the National Digital Inclusion project of Turkey over a three-year period through the extended partnerships.

**Project Implementation**

The project was announced during the Local Agenda 21 National Youth Parliament's 1st General Assembly in May 2005.

- A. Training of Trainers:** The project model is based on peer education through volunteer trainers. 40 leaders have been selected to be trained as trainers. A training partner, Bilge Adam, supported the selection and training of trainers, design of the training curriculum and course books.

**B. Preparation Phase for Local and Regional Trainings**

- ? The trainers received certificates and started to plan the training sessions in their local provinces.
- ? Special emphasis was given to strengthen local partnerships - municipalities, universities, high schools and youth centres.

**C. Local and Regional Trainings**

- ? Trainers submitted their work plans and started to deliver the regional and local trainings in September 2005.
- ? 6,400 course books were published to be delivered to the trainees.

**3. Form of Youth Participation in Youth Information Addressed by This Initiative :**

*(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)*

This is:

- a) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in the identification of the information needs of young people in their locality or field of interest**
- b) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in the designing and preparation of information magazines and materials** (for a young public)
- c) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in informing or advising other young people**
- d) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in managing or evaluating youth information centres or other services** (such as a youth card)
- e) An initiative or project that addresses **another aspect of youth participation in youth information work** (please specify the aspect):

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**4. Name and Address of Organisation Responsible for This Initiative:**

Name: Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21  
Address: Fulya Mah. Mevlüt Pehlivan Sok. Ali Sami Yen Apt. 8A/2,  
Mecidiyeköy, Istanbul, Turkey

**5. Name and E-mail Address of Person to Contact** (for information about this initiative):

Name: Basak Demir  
E-mail Address: [basakom@yahoo.com](mailto:basakom@yahoo.com), or [info@euro26.com.tr](mailto:info@euro26.com.tr)

**6. Who Participated in This Initiative ?**

Within the framework of the first phase of the project that was developed and implemented with the partnership of Youth for Habitat, Microsoft and UNDP, 40 young volunteers were trained to be trainers in the field of Information and Communication Technologies. In five months they provided basic computer trainings to 1,200 disadvantaged young people in 20 cities. The second phase of the project will start in March 2006, and aims to reach 100,000 young people over a period of 3 years.

<p><b>7. What Was the Scope of This Initiative?</b>  <i>(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)</i></p> <p>Local <input type="checkbox"/>                  Regional <input type="checkbox"/>                  National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                  European <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>8. When Was This Initiative Undertaken</b><i>(please state the date when the activity was started, when it finished, or if it is still continuing):</i></p> <p>This project started in May 2005 and the first phase lasted 12 months. Second phase of the project will start in March 2006 and will last three years, until March 2009.</p>
<p><b>9. What Were the Results Obtained by This Initiative?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>? The training of disadvantaged young people who do not have opportunities for having computer education, to include them in the IT-based public and private sector.</li> <li>? Conducting activities to guide the trained youth to find employment opportunities.</li> <li>? On the other hand by participating in such a project trainees will be informed about national and international youth activities and policies.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Report – Publication – Other Product</b> <i>(if there is a report, publication or other “product” relating to this initiative, please state where it can be obtained or consulted, and in which language):</i></p> <p>The following material is available concerning this initiative:  <i>(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)</i></p> <p>Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    Publication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                  Other Product (specify) Training materials,  1600 Microsoft Office Books to be given to trainees <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Title:                  The National Digital Inclusion project: Empowerment of Youth  for Improved E-governance in Turkey</p> <p>Language(s): English and Turkish</p> <p>Can be consulted / downloaded at this web-site: <a href="http://www.undp.org.tr/EmpowermentOfYouth.asp">http://www.undp.org.tr/EmpowermentOfYouth.asp</a></p> <p>Can be obtained from (address of organisation): Youth Association for Habitat  and Agenda 21, Fulya Mah. Mevlüt Pehlivan Sok. Ali Sami Yen Apt. 8A/2,  Mecidiyeköy, Istanbul, Turkey</p>
<p><b>11. Additional Information:</b></p> <p>This is one of the first examples of a public, private sector and NGO partnership, for a social responsibility action.</p>

This description form has been completed by:

Name of Person:                  Guler Altinsoy

E-mail Address:                  [guleraltinsoy@yahoo.com](mailto:guleraltinsoy@yahoo.com) or [info@euro26.com.tr](mailto:info@euro26.com.tr)

Name of Organisation:                  Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21