

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S CENTER



ANNUAL REPORT

2015 - 2016

The International Children's Center The International Children's Center, also known as Centre International de l'Enfance, was jointly established by the Government of France and UNICEF in 1949 in Paris, France. The Center trained pediatricians and other child-health workers, especially from developing countries, and issued key documents on priority issues in child health. Fifty years later, the Center was closed due to financial difficulties. On the initiative of Prof İhsan Dođramacı, the Center re-opened in 1999 on the premises of Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey. In 2004, ICC became a non-governmental organization in accordance with Turkish laws.

The relation between the Centre International de l'Enfance and the International Children's Center in Turkey goes back to 1976 when the only branch office of the Centre was opened as the Turkish and International Children's Center (TICC). In 1980 it acquired its own premises on what was later to become the Bilkent University campus. The first big event of the branch office was a joint CIE/TICC International Conference on **"The Children of Migrant Workers: Problems Specific to the Countries of Origin"** held at the Hacettepe University on 7-10 June 1977 in Ankara. A joint study on the **"Health of children of migrant workers in Germany and the health of children in Turkey"** was conducted the same year by Prof Münevver Bertan, Prof Zafer Öztek and Prof Bike Aksu et al.

Since its re-opening in Ankara as ICC in 1999, the mandate of the Center has expanded beyond child health to include human rights with a special focus on child rights, the health and rights of young people and women, and reproductive health and rights.

In addition to the General Assembly and the Executive Board, a large network of national and international centers and consultants support and provide guidance on activities and programs of the Center.



Paris, FRANCE



Ankara, TURKEY

The Priority Work Areas of ICC are Health and Human Rights

Health Area

1. Protection and development of child health
 - Immunization
 - Newborn health
 - Early childhood development
2. Nutrition of women, infants and children
3. Sexual and reproductive health
4. Health and rights of young people
5. Health consequences of early and forced Marriages

Rights Area

1. Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child
2. Child rights education (for children and professional groups)
3. Strengthening children's participation as a right
4. Combating commercial sexual exploitation of children
5. Developing indicators for monitoring the implementation of rights in early childhood
6. Prevention of child abuse and neglect
7. Sexual and reproductive rights

The International Children's Center advocates equity and non-discrimination in health and uses a rights-based approach in all its activities concerning children, young people and women.

ICC conducts research in order to determine important factors affecting the health and wellbeing of children, women, family and community in every setting and plans necessary interventions with partners in addressing these issues.

ICC organizes conferences, seminars, workshops, training in health and rights programs.

ICC supports technical capacity building and strengthening of other like-minded nongovernmental organizations nationally and internationally working on the same issues.

The Center has been cooperating closely with national and international organizations since its establishment.

ICC was designated as a WHO Collaborating Center in 2010, the first NGO to have this prestigious affiliation.

ICC works as a Training Center with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office.

ICC has a long history of cooperation and collaboration with UNICEF.

ICC works with UNICEF in developing tools to monitor implementation of child rights in early childhood, in advocating child rights, child participation and monitoring the implementation of child rights and efforts to combat violence against children.

ICC has established a network with organizations and universities working in the field of child health in a number of countries.

ICC has affiliated centers in Baku, Azerbaijan, and Erbil, Iraq.

Our Vision:

is to strive for a democratic, productive society where all individuals enjoy equal benefits of health and well-being.

Our Mission:

is to promote the physical, mental, and social well-being of children, adolescents, young people and women in the community within the framework of health and human rights.

Our Principles:

- 1. Respect for human rights**
- 2. Working for the public interest**
- 3. Empowering future generations**
- 4. Participation**
- 5. Collaboration and Cooperation**
- 6. Transparency / Accountability**

We Work in:

- 1. Training**
- 2. Research**
- 3. Advocacy**
- 4. Capacity Building**
- 5. Networking**

Our Priorities:

HEALTH

1. **Newborn Health and Early Childhood Development**
2. **Child Health**
3. **Adolescent and Reproductive Health and Rights**
4. **Women's Health and Rights**

HUMAN RIGHTS:

1. **Rights and Participation of Children and Young People**
2. **Capacity Building and Networking**
3. **Monitoring and Reporting Implementation of the Rights of the Child**
4. **Promoting and Mainstreaming the Rights of the Child**

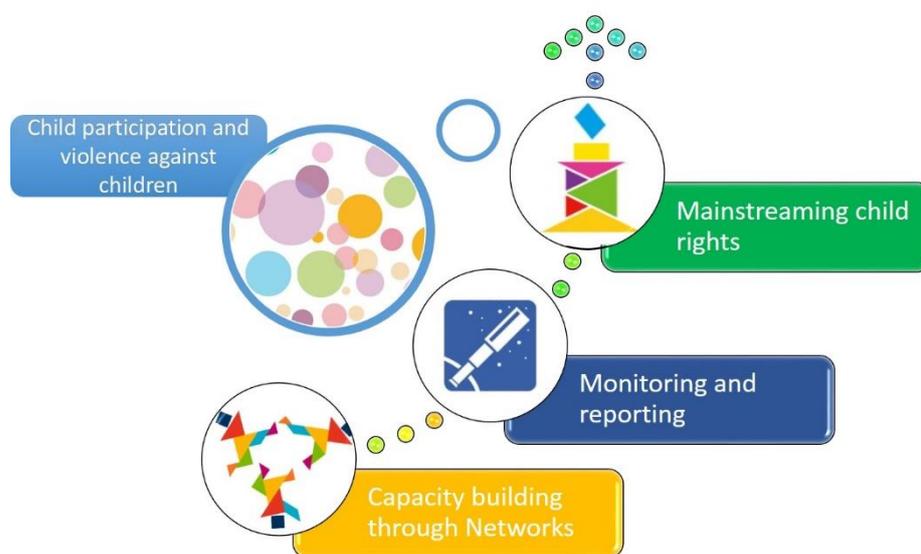
HUMAN/CHILD RIGHTS PROGRAMME

Year 2015 was a challenging year for children and for organisations like us working to help realise the rights of the child. Two general elections in Turkey and violent conflicts in the region the ICC is operating have been increasing vulnerabilities for children, new issues of concern such as rights of refugee children and increasing violence against children. This situation once more showed the ICC's strategy in working in partnerships through child rights networks is a right one to achieve results to bring about lasting change in lives of children in a systematic way by building capacities of those who are working to realise child rights. These challenges are leading us to do more in partnerships for certain groups of children such as refugee children in 2016.

In spite of all the challenges, 2015 also brought along a number of opportunities for children's rights globally and for the ICC's human/child rights programme. The international community agreed to two of the most important policy documents which the ICC will be utilising for the next 15 years to end violence against children including corporal punishment, sexual exploitation, child marriages, inequalities, and climate change. Along with existing human rights normative framework in which we operate, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agreement on Climate Change (Paris Agreement) provide us a legal and political framework to advocate for children's rights with measurable indicators. Especially following goals will be guiding our child rights monitoring efforts:

- Right to health - SDGs Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- Right to education - SDGs Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning
- Non-discrimination and freedom from violence - SDGs Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- Child participation and freedom from want - Paris Agreement and SDGs Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- Freedom from fear and violence - SDGs Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies

Human/child rights programme closed two major projects and started with four new ones in 2015 along with its regular advocacy activities. All these projects and activities are framed as follows:

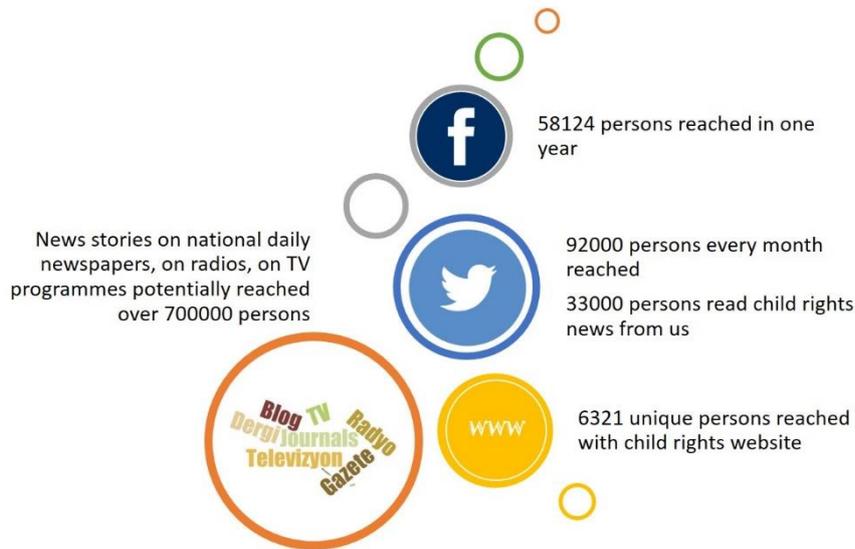


These projects are

1. Stronger with Children: Project on Empowerment of Child Rights Networks,
2. Support for the Partnership Network to Prevent Violence against Children,
3. Reducing sexual violence against children, with special attention for (commercial) sexual exploitation,
4. Observatory of Child Friendly Justice for Marginalised Victims of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Turkey.

Apart from these projects, we continued with our partnership with the Council of Europe in One in Five Campaign to End Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children.

With these projects and our regular advocacy activities, we our outreach has grown considerably. Following figure shows how many persons we reached through our work:



Such an outreach cannot be possible without our work with following networks:



Stronger with Children: Project on Empowerment of Child Rights Networks



The Project that will last for 30 months until June 2017 has the overall objective of contributing to the enhancement of respect for and fulfilment of children's right with a focus on freedom from violence and freedom of assembly in Turkey through building capacities for existing child rights networks to become a distinct movement and a united voice of/for/with children. "Strengthening Existing Child Rights Networks to Act as a Movement to Amplify The Voices Of Children - Linking International to National and Local" Project is co-funded by the

EU Delegation's Sivil Düşün EU Program is implemented by the International Children's Center in partnership with UNICEF Turkey, SEEC (Southeastern European Center for Missing and Exploited Children), Missing Children Europe, CRIN (Child Rights International Network), SHUDER (Turkish Association of Social Workers), Türk PDR-DER (Turkish Psychological Counseling and Guidance Association), Öz-Ge Der (Association for Solidarity with the Freedom-Deprived Juvenile).

In accordance with this objective, Project's beneficiary networks are Network against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (NACSEC), Partnership Network for Preventing Violence against the Child (PNPVAC), Lawyers' Network for Children (LNC), and National Platform against Child Marriages (NPCM).

There have been attempts to set up child rights focused network/platforms as movements for the last 25 years in Turkey. Some of them were established in an ad hoc manner, some of them were set up deliberately through funded projects and/or through certain international organisations or NGOs and had a short life span. However, they haven't been able to act neither as a joint force for children nor as a voice for children successfully due to a myriad of reasons ranging from lack of support and resources to individual power struggles to lack of ethical codes for joint action. Therefore, most of the NGOs could not maintain a support base and had a short life. Last 10 years have seen a revival of issue focused child rights networks, mostly on different forms of violence against children. These newer networks and the former ones helped build a collective experience and a knowledgebase for a limited number of CSOs that were involved in these networks. These experiences and knowledgebase have reached a tipping point whereby violence against children focused child rights networks can harness them and foster a sustainable child rights movement that will collaborate and cooperate instead of staying as isolated, ineffective and inert collection of organizations.



Figure 1. Children are part of the Steering Committee of the Project

Therefore International Children's Center and its partners came together with an objective to contribute to the enhancement of respect for and fulfilment of children's right with a focus on freedom from violence and freedom of assembly in Turkey through building capacities for

existing child rights networks to become a distinct movement and a united voice of/for/with children.

In order to establish a solid ground for joint action and cooperation, Participatory Action Research / Learning (PAR/L) method will be used within the context of the Project. In the year 2016, an intensive PAR/L process will be implemented in 7 regions in Turkey, with the participation of the members of beneficiary networks' and Project partners' members.

Another method that will be used throughout the Project is Strategic Litigation as a strong form of legal advocacy. Accordingly in 2016 Strategic Litigation on 2 cases and monitoring of 5 court cases will be made. In 2015, as a result of the meetings with ÇAÇAv the decision of 2 court cases for Strategic Litigation was made.

Main activities in 2015 were:

The Children's Deputies Campaign was launched upon consultations with the Missing Children in Europe that was part of a coalition in Europe to run a similar campaign just before the parliamentary elections of the European Union. Upon consultation with beneficiary networks, a campaign was launched in May just before two consecutive elections in Turkey. We asked deputies from all political parties to sign up to a child rights manifesto and become children's deputies in the Turkish parliament. Strategically with this campaign, child rights movement is going to have a friendly groups of deputies in the parliament to work with in its lobbying efforts for children. At the moment, eight deputies signed up to the child rights manifesto and showed their interest in working with the child rights networks in 2016. With the campaign we also reach thousands of people to support child rights.



Children's Deputies Campaign



Steering Committee Meetings: The first Steering Committee meeting of the Project was held on 22 April 2015 with the participation of both national and international partners as well as the representatives of the beneficiary networks. During the meeting, the participants were briefed on the Project and relevant methods, and Project's rules of procedure were decided. The meeting's importance stems from the opportunity it created for national and international partners to meet and for establishing the foundation for experience sharing between them which will continue throughout the Project. The second Steering Committee Meeting was held on 10 June 2015 with the participation of the Committee member, Child Advisory Group. The third Steering Committee meeting was held 2 September 2015.



Figure 2. Members of Lawyers Network for Children with their training certificates

Strategic Litigation Training of Trainers: Training held on 25-28 July 2015 in Ankara, was organized in partnership with ICC, CRIN and LNC. Experts and trainers shared their experience, methods and expertise on strategic litigation and other forms of legal advocacy with LNC member-lawyers that participated from different cities around Turkey.



Figure 3. The event provided a platform for child, woman, LGBTI, human, rule of law networks to learn from each other

Project's Launching Conference: With the participation of Project's beneficiary networks' and partners' members, Launching Conference was held in Ankara on 26-27 November 2015. The focus of the conference was on creating and operating networks, difficulties faced and potential benefits of networks on advocacy and advancing human rights (particularly child rights). The aim was for the CSOs and networks to learn from and reflect on each other's experiences therefore initiating a construction of a shared knowledge on how to better work together as part of networks and act together for creating change for/with children. With the participation of international child

rights networks and national human rights networks, it was expected that the conference would set the scene for the Project and enable the participants to start reflecting on their own situation, obstacles that need to be overcome, issues regarding operating networks and how to manage them efficiently in a creative way.



Figure 4. Children from Child Advisory Group was at the event to share their project with the networks

Supporting Partnership Network to Prevent Violence against Children

Partnership Network to Prevent Violence against Children in Turkey was one of the first outcomes of the EU/UNICEF regional project "Protection of Children from Violence in South East Europe." Throughout the project cycle, the Network was provided with capacity building tools such as written resources, monitoring trainings, and discussion forums in the form of meetings and e-mail list. Although during and after the project ended, a number of events or actions were taken by the Network, they were not substantially representative of the Network in nature and scope.

In the last Network meeting in Izmir (7-8 September 2013), it is suggested that a working secretariat needed to be formed with support of UNICEF Turkey to facilitate the Network activities and motivate the Network to follow through its Plan of Action. During that meeting, International Children's Center (ICC) and Association for Solidarity with Freedom-Deprived Youth (OZGEDER) both Network members offered their services to act as secretariat to the Network. Therefore after the selection process of Secretariat, International Children's Center (ICC) and Association for Solidarity with Freedom-Deprived Youth (OZGEDER) both Network members were selected as the Secretariat of NGO Partnership Network

The goal of the secretariat is to facilitate the mobilization of the Network in acting as a coalition to prevent and eliminate violence against children (VAC) through a number of concerted actions jointly run by UNICEF Turkey.

The ICC as part of the secretariat undertook a series of administrative tasks as a means to mobilize the Network in its efforts to prevent VAC; facilitated monitoring activities of the Network in producing a report on state of VAC in Turkey to be published in early 2016; and facilitated advocacy activities of the Network.

Through secretarial support, the Network reached out thousands of persons and informed them of forms of VAC and how to end it:



Reducing sexual violence against children, with special attention for (commercial) sexual exploitation

ICC involved in preparation of a global project to address CSEC with ECPAT Netherlands. The Dutch Government's International Development Programme supports the project. The project in Turkey is implemented by ICC with Network against CSEC as a support to its capacity development. Following are the activities of the project and some of the achievements observed in 2015:

The Network against CSEC in Turkey involved in four campaigns. Three of them were organised and led by the Network and its secretariat at the International Children's Center (the ICC).

One of them was a joint initiative with three other networks led by the ICC just before the general elections in Turkey to call on members of the parliament (MPs) to sign on a child rights manifesto. That campaign enabled child rights NGOs to have a regular long-term working relationship with 23 MPs to raise child rights concerns of NGOs and children themselves. This campaign was covered by a separate funding from the ICC.

Other three campaigns were about ending (1) trafficking of Syrian refugee girls (March-April 2015), (2) reporting child sexual exploitation online and (3) reporting child sex tourism (June-July 2015). Child sex tourism campaign was based on the national research report on sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism.

With these campaigns, the Network against CSEC for the first time reached general public at a massive scale of over half a million persons. Campaigns outreach was as follows:

- End Sexual Exploitation of Syrian Refugee Children campaign reached 103,356 persons through Facebook
- End Sexual Exploitation of Syrian Refugee Children campaign reached 55526 persons through Google
- Report Child Sex Tourism campaign reached 100704 persons reached through Facebook
- Report Child Sexual Exploitation Online campaign reached 121152 persons reached through Facebook
- Report Child Sexual Exploitation Online campaign reached 63404 persons through Google
- Report Child Sex Tourism campaign reached 104102 persons through Google



Figure 5. Campaign visuals along with frequently asked questions and executive summary of research report on sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism were used in campaigns

After the campaigns, several news outlets approached the Network and ICC.

About campaign on trafficking of Syrian refugee girls, one of the leading national newspapers Milliyet run a news story that has potential of reaching out to 160000 persons (circulation numbers from <http://www.medyatava.com/tiraj/2015-03-23>).

About two other campaigns, TRT Radio 1 approached the Network and on 15 July one representative joined a live radio programme that potentially reached 132674 persons (this figure is from October 2014 radio listeners survey, no other statistics available: http://www.uryad.com.tr/uploads/uryad_sonuc_201410_1.pdf. It is 10th most listened to radio station in Turkey.).

Two mainstream newspapers published news stories with similar titles and content about the executive summary of the research report. They heard about the report from our online campaign that reached over 400000 persons online.

Unfortunately, the news story appeared with a title "children being served to sheikhs in Antalya." It missed points raised in the executive summary.

Cumhuriyet with a print circulation of around 50000 published a story on its front page (circulation numbers by <http://www.medyatava.com/tiraj>) and its online edition (no statistics available) on 20 July 2015. Thereafter, another mainstream newspaper Radikal which recently stop print circulation and started to be an online-only newspaper published the same story next day (daily reach about 591367, source from <http://radikal.com.tr.cubestat.com/>).

The same or similar stories appeared in national and local newspapers print and online, we could reach 34 of them. Therefore, we do not know exact numbers of potential readers. However, we know that it exceeds over 250000.

The Network against CSEC also focused on youth activities and three online campaigns that enabled the Network to reach out to other stakeholders.

During the reporting period, new youth groups made up of young women (university students) and three high school girls (in Ankara) were set up in Ankara (26 November), Bursa (16 December) and Izmit (17 October). Youth groups are organized in universities and organizing their activities and communicate through their Facebook pages and groups such as this one from Bursa Uludag University <https://www.facebook.com/PDRgencCTCS> or this one from Ankara Hacettepe University <https://www.facebook.com/ctcs.hacettepe?fref=ts>.



In addition to already existing Two Little Girls (<http://ctcs-mucadele.net/iki-kucuk-kiz-cinsel-amacli-cocuk-ticaretini-onlemek-elimizde.html>) campaign on child sex trafficking led by Network's youth co-ordinator in Istanbul, youth groups are running campaigns on child marriages (<http://ctcs-mucadele.net/gelin-gondermeyelim-kampanyasi.html>) and child sex tourism (<http://bit.ly/CSTyouthonFacebook>).

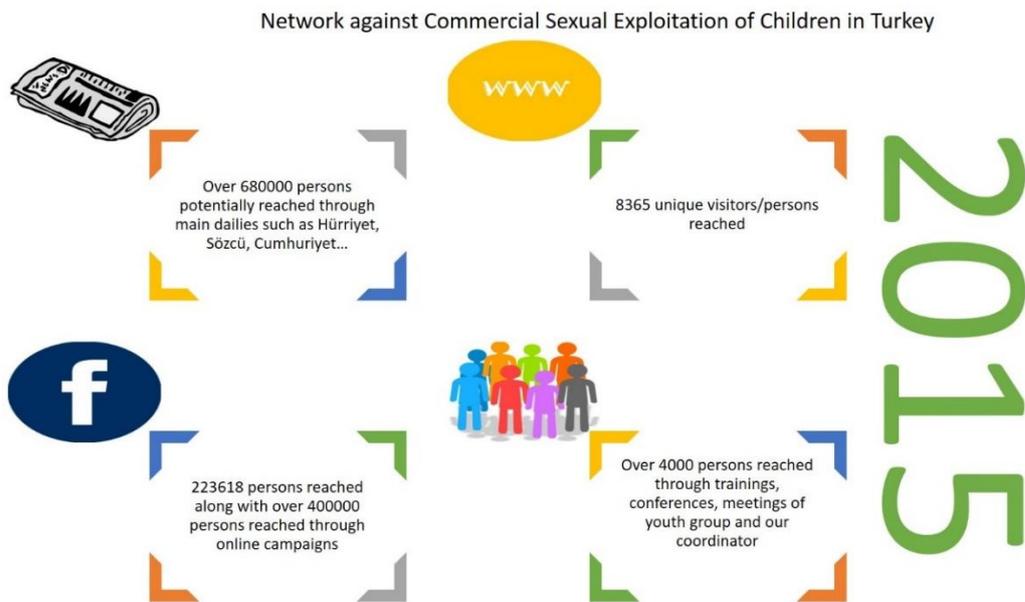
With Two Little Girls campaign, the youth coordinator and network coordinator went to Gaziantep, Hatay, and Urfa provinces along the Syrian border to show Turkish and Arabic campaign videos and provide information sharing sessions to 230 Syrian women and children. Both youth and network coordinators also reached out to other stakeholders including 76 representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises (private sector) through local Rotary and Rotaract groups in these provinces and in Ankara. Both coordinators also reached out to international relief organisations' offices in these provinces like IRC, Danish Refugee Council, and Support to Life Foundation.

Total of 1520 persons were reached through youth activities where the concept of child sex tourism and the Code were introduced including 200 imams (Sunni Islamic responsible of mosques), 115 law makers (in a separate ICC event at the Turkish parliament), over 600 students in different universities (tourism students too).

One train-the-trainer training took place with the involvement of young women from these groups and three interns of the Network for future youth group recruitments in December. This group reached 165 other young people in universities in Ankara, Bursa, Kayseri, Izmit, Sakarya.



Figure 6. Young women's group in Ankara after the train-the-trainer training



Observatory of Child Friendly Justice for Marginalised Victims of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Turkey

Observatory of Child Friendly Justice for marginalized victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in Turkey (the Project hereafter), funded by Netherland Embassy has started in June 2015 and will be completed in May 2016.

Child victim legal support services related to sexual abuse/exploitation especially for Roma, LGBT, refugee/asylum seeking children and young people are not in harmony with international legal and social standards in Turkey. Consequently, child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation are likely to suffer from further victimization in justice system. With this Project, the ICC aims to address the problems that child victims of sexual abuse and

exploitation face in justice system and provide trainings for professionals working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Within the scope of this project, in order to dissolve the difficulties and right abuses that child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in justice system, firstly, a child friendly observatory is being prepared. This observatory will include national and international documents conventions, thesis, researches, reports, statistics and case-law database in regard to child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. In this Observatory, there will be also frequently asked questions prepared by experts.

In addition to the observatory, professionals such as judges, prosecutors, lawyers, social workers and law enforcement personnel working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation will be provided with trainings in Adana at the end of February 2016. For the realization of these trainings, the ICC had been working in partnership with Victims' Rights Department at the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and Lawyers' Network for Children (LNC) members. Content of the training materials will include victim justice, how to approach child victims in pre-court, during court and after court procedures, how to provide effective legal aid to victims, especially child victims of excluded groups and communities.

Activities in 2015



Figure 7. Representatives from Ministry of Justice, UNICEF Turkey, Lawyers' Network for Children, and ICC planning a good practice training on child victims of sexual abuse

A desk study have been conducted for gathering national and international documents, conventions, thesis, researches, reports, and statistics which are going to be in the Observatory. Fact sheets about child victims have been prepared by analysing statistics from Turkish Statistic Institution and General Directorate of Criminal Records and Statistics of the Ministry of Justice.

Several meetings with Victims' Rights Department at the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and LNC members have been organized as preparatory activities for the trainings in Adana. Furthermore, for these trainings are intended to serve needs of the

local, a preparatory visit to Adana was realised in the first week of December 2015. During this visit, Chief Prosecutor of the High Court along with judges, social workers and head of children's police unit were visited and interviewed to obtain their opinions about and needs for the trainings to be realized in Adana.

Expected Outcomes of the Project

There are two main expected outcomes of this Project. Child Friendly Justice Observatory on Victims of Child Sexual Abuse/Exploitation with a focus on child victims from marginalised groups will be established online along with an online database of sexual abuse/exploitation case law, child victim justice statistics, a documentation centre with translated international texts, examples of good practice, research documents, child friendly justice glossary, frequently asked questions by victims and answers by lawyers and experts will be formed. Subsequently, resources, data and information regarding to child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation will become easily accessible.

Creating an awareness and sensitivity among professionals working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in justice system in consequence of the trainings is the second expected outcome of the Project. Also, it is expected that training will help create a good practice of child friendly justice at the local level for child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.

Campaign to End sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children – One in Five Campaign

The Council of Europe launched a campaign in 2010 to stop sexual violence against children in Europe linked to the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (The Lanzarote Convention).

The Council of Europe campaign uses available data that suggest that about 1 in 5 children in Europe are victims of some form of sexual violence. It is estimated that in 70% to 85% of cases, the abuser is somebody the child knows and trusts. Child sexual violence can take many forms: sexual abuse within the family circle, child pornography and prostitution, corruption, solicitation via Internet and sexual assault by peers. Therefore, the campaign is named as One in Five Campaign.

The campaign has been run by the ICC to end sexual exploitation and abuse of children in Turkey since July 2013. During the campaign, a large number of materials were translated, developed, published and disseminated across Turkey. For materials please visit:

<http://www.5te1.cocukhaklariizleme.org>

ICC facilitated campaign activities by providing support to municipalities, schools and other NGOs in 2015.

Events & Activities

- a) A number of materials were sent to schools and NGOs
- b) Eskişehir Tepebaşı Municipality signed the the Congress' Pact of Towns and Regions.
- c) Awareness events with Fethiye Prevention of Child Abuse Association
 - Awareness raising seminar for preventing child sexual abuse and child neglect on 23 May 2015 in Fethiye
 - Dissemination of Awareness-raising and educational materials: Prevent Child abuse and Neglect on 3 February 2015 in Fethiye.
- d) ICC and Union of Turkish Municipalities participated and contributed as speaker to the One in Five Seminar for national associations of local and regional authorities on 30 June 2015 in Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
- e) ICC translated “**18 November the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse**” materials and made available to Turkish NGOs and public.
- f) ICC contributed to Çankaya Municipality initiative of “End Child Abuse Day” on 18 November 2015. This event widely covered by online and print media. Çankaya Municipality plans to provide training to pre-schools teachers and parents of 1400 children who get education and care in 11 nurseries of the municipality to prevent child abuse and neglect in 2016.



End Child Abuse Day on November 18 was commemorated in one of the busiest pedestrian streets of Ankara

STRONGER WITH CHILDREN: PROJECT ON THE EMPOWERMENT OF CHILD RIGHTS NETWORKS

The project entitled “Strengthening Existing Child Rights Networks to Act as a Movement to Amplify The Voices Of Children - Linking International to National and Local” co-funded by the EU Delegation’s Sivil Düşün EU Program is implemented by the International Children’s Center in partnership with UNICEF Turkey, SEEC (Southeastern European Center for Missing and Exploited Children), Missing Children Europe, CRIN (Child Rights International Network), SHUDER (Turkish Association of Social Workers), Türk PDR-DER (Turkish Psychological Counseling and Guidance Association), Öz-Ge Der (Association for Solidarity with the Freedom-Deprived Juvenile), Sivil Düşün EU Program, EU Delegation to Turkey.

The Project that will last for 30 months until June 2017 has the overall objective of contributing to the enhancement of respect for and fulfilment of children’s right with a focus on freedom from violence and freedom of assembly in Turkey through building capacities for existing child rights networks to become a distinct movement and a united voice of/for/with children. In accordance with this objective, Project’s beneficiary networks are Network Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation Of Children (ÇTCS), Partnership Network for Preventing Violence Against the Child (ÇKŞÖOA), Lawyers for Children Network (ÇAÇAv), National Platform Against Child Marriages (ÇGHUP).

Regarding the conception of this Project, difficulties faced while operating networks and upon attempts to set up child rights focused network/platforms as movements for the last 25 years in Turkey, played an important role. These networks were not able to act neither as a joint force for children nor as a voice for children successfully due to a myriad of reasons ranging from lack of support and resources to individual power struggles to lack of ethical codes for joint action. Therefore, most of the NGOs could not maintain a support base and had a short life. Last 10 years have seen a revival of issue focused child rights networks, mostly on different forms of violence against children. These newer networks and the former ones helped build a collective experience and a knowledgebase for a limited number of CSOs that were involved in these networks. These experiences and knowledgebase have reached a tipping point whereby Violence Against Children focused child rights networks can harness them and foster a sustainable child rights movement that will collaborate and cooperate instead of staying as isolated, ineffective and inert collection of organizations.

Therefore International Children's Center and its partners came together with an objective to contribute to the enhancement of respect for and fulfilment of children's right with a focus on freedom from violence and freedom of assembly in Turkey through building capacities for existing child rights networks to become a distinct movement and a united voice of/for/with children.

In order to establish a solid ground for joint action and cooperation, Participatory Action Research / Learning (PAR/L) method will be used within the context of the Project. In the year 2016, an intensive PAR/L process will be implemented in 7 regions in Turkey, with the participation of the members of beneficiary networks' and Project partners' members.

Another method that will be used throughout the Project is Strategic Litigation as a strong form of legal advocacy. Accordingly in 2016 Strategic Litigation on 2 cases and monitoring of 5 court cases will be made. In 2015, as a result of the meetings with ÇAÇAv the decision of 2 court cases for Strategic Litigation was made.

Main activities completed within the year 2015 are:

Steering Committee Meetings: The first Steering Committee meeting of the Project was held on 22 April 2015 with the participation of both national and international partners as well as the representatives of the beneficiary networks. During the meeting, the participants were briefed on the Project and relevant methods, and Project's rules of procedure were decided. The meeting's importance stems from the opportunity it created for national and international partners to meet and for establishing the foundation for experience sharing between them which will continue throughout the Project. The second Steering Committee Meeting was held on 10 June 2015 with the participation of the Committee member, Child Advisory Group. The third Steering Committee meeting was held 2 September 2015.

Strategic Litigation Training of Trainers: Training held on 25-28 July 2015 in Ankara, was organized in partnership with ICC, CRIN and ÇAÇAv. The experts and trainers shared their experience, methods and expertise on strategic litigation and other forms of legal advocacy with ÇAÇAv member-lawyers that participated from different cities around Turkey.

Project's Launching Conference: With the participation of Project's beneficiary networks' and partners' members, the Launching Conference was held in Ankara on 26-27 November 2015. The focus of the conference was on creating and operating networks, difficulties faced and potential benefits of networks on advocacy and advancing human rights (particularly child rights). The aim was for the CSOs and networks to learn from and reflect on each other's experiences therefore initiating a construction of a shared knowledge on how to better work together as part of networks and act together for creating change for/with children. With the

participation of international child rights networks and national human rights networks, it was expected that the conference would set the scene for the Project and enable the participants to start reflecting on their own situation, obstacles that need to be overcome, issues regarding operating networks and how to manage them efficiently in a creative way.

One in Five Campaign Activities

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- i) Awareness events with Fethiye Prevention of Child Abuse Association
 - Awareness raising seminar for preventing child sexual abuse and child neglect on 23 May 2015 in Fethiye
 - Dissemination of Awareness-raising and educational materials: Prevent Child abuse and Neglect on 3 February 2015 in Fethiye.
- j) ICC and Union of Turkish Municipalities participated and contributed as speaker to the One in Five Seminar for national associations of local and regional authorities on 30 June 2015 in Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
- k) ICC translated “**18 November the European Day on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse**” materials and made available to Turkish NGOs and public.

ICC contributed to Çankaya Municipality initiative of “End Child Abuse Day” on 18 November 2015. This event widely covered by online and print media. Çankaya Municipality plans to provide training to pre-schools teachers and parents of 1400 children who get education and care in 11 nurseries of the municipality to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Observatory of Child Friendly Justice for Marginalised Victims of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Turkey

Observatory of Child Friendly Justice for marginalized victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in Turkey (the Project hereafter), funded by Netherland Embassy and carried out by International Children’s Center (ICC) has started on June 2015 and will be completed on May 2016.

Child victim legal support services related to sexual abuse/exploitation especially for Roma, LGBT, refugee/asylum seeking children and young people are not in harmony with

international legal and social standards in Turkey. Consequently, child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation are likely to suffer from further victimization in justice system. With this Project, ICC aims to address the problems that child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation face in justice system and provide trainings for professionals working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Within the scope of this Project, in order to dissolve the difficulties and right abuses that child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in justice system, firstly, a child friendly Observatory is being prepared. This Observatory will include national and international documents conventions, thesis, researches, reports, statistics and case-law database in regard to child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. In this Observatory, there will be also frequently asked questions prepared by experts.

In addition to Observatory, professionals (judges, prosecutors, lawyers, social workers and polices working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation will be provided with trainings in Adana at the end of February 2016. For the realization of these trainings, ICC had been working in partnership with Victims' Rights Department at the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and Lawyers Network for Children (ÇAÇAv) members. Content of the training materials will include victim justice, how to approach child victims in pre-court, during court and after court procedures, how to provide effective legal aid to victims, especially child victims of excluded groups and communities.

Performed Activities of the Project in 2015

Desk works have been conducted for gathering national and international documents, conventions, thesis, researches, reports, and statistics which are to be in the Observatory. Fact sheets regarding to child victims have been prepared by benefitting the statistics from Turkish Statistic Institution and General Directorate of Criminal Records and Statistics.

Several meeting with Victims' Rights Department at the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF and Lawyers Network for Children (ÇAÇAv) members have been organized for the trainings to be provided professionals working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in Adana. Further, as these trainings are intended to serve demand and needs of the local, a pre-visit to Adana was performed on the first week of December 2015. During this visitation, firstly the High Court Chief Prosecutor Ali Yeldan was visited; then, several people composing the target group of trainings were interviewed to ask their opinions about and demands from the trainings to be realized in Adana.

Expected Outcomes of the Project

There are two main expected outcomes of this Project. Child Friendly Justice Observatory on Victims of Child Sexual Abuse/Exploitation with a focus on child victims from marginalised groups will come into existence. Further, an online database of sexual abuse/exploitation case law, child victim justice statistics, a documentation centre with translated international texts, examples of good practice, research documents, child friendly justice glossary, frequently asked questions by victims and answers by lawyers and experts will be formed. Subsequently, resources, data and information regarding to child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation will become easily accessible.

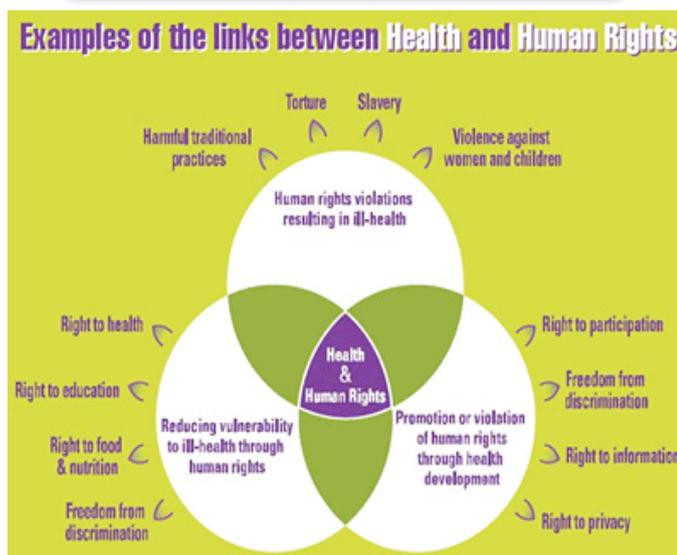
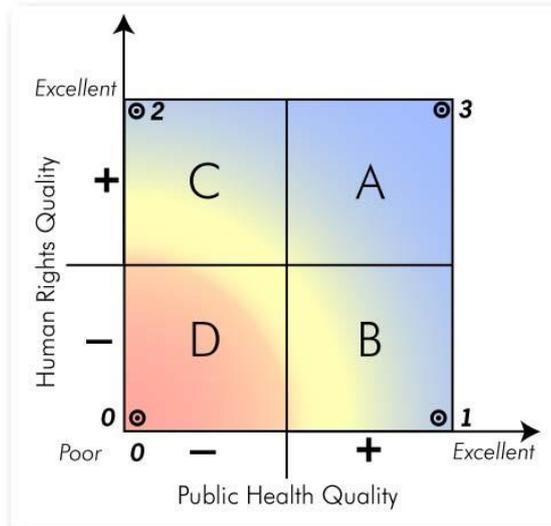
Creating an awareness and sensitivity among professionals working with child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation in justice system in consequence of the trainings is the second expected outcome of the Project. Also, the city of Adana is expected to become a good example of child friendly justice regarding to child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation.

HEALTH PROGRAM

Introduction

The right to the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental human right. It is indispensable to the exercise of other human rights and especially to the right to life. It is closely related to, and dependent upon, the realization of the rights to food, housing, work, education, non-discrimination, equality and the prohibition of ill-treatment, and respect of human dignity. It is also linked to the rights to privacy and family life, access to information and the freedoms of association, assembly and movement.

A multitude of factors, either intrinsic or extrinsic, may hinder or even prevent the full enjoyment of the right to health, as guaranteed by Article 12, paragraph 1, of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.



Ill health is caused by, and the result of, poor living conditions. It is a direct consequence of an unhealthy and polluted environment, unsafe drinking water, and undernourishment. Certain categories of the population are more at risk than others. Due to gender inequality, inadequate access to health services and goods affects, in particular, women and girls.

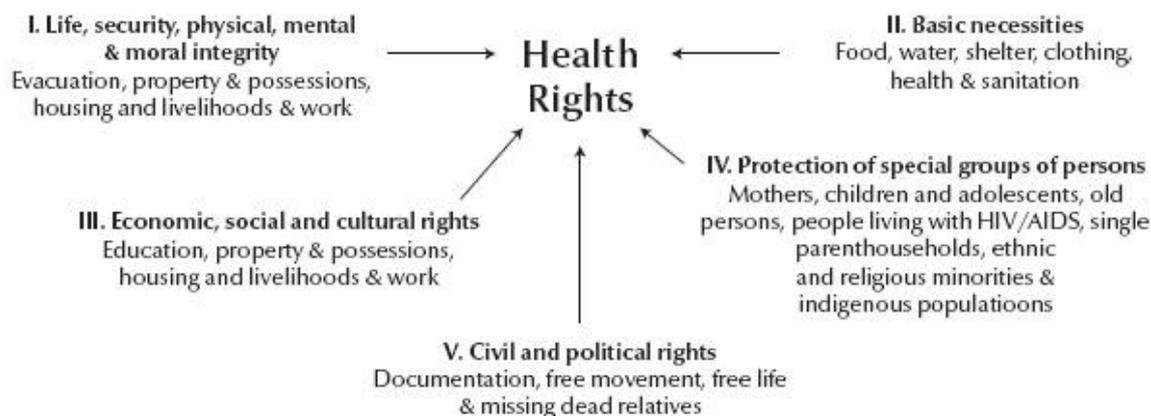


Figure 1 Protection of specific human right during disasters and their connection with health rights

The right to health will suffer from the general economic climate and the degree of economic development of a state. It will also be affected by disparities between different regions within a state, in particular, between urban and rural areas.

The right to health may also be affected by natural or man-made disasters. In addition, trade or financial agreements may adversely impact upon the right to health. In this respect, not only states but also third parties have a responsibility to eliminate factors and obstacles which may impede or block the full enjoyment of the right to health. The qualified medical personnel can reduce the effectiveness of public health care systems.

Children face particular health challenges related to the stage of their physical and mental development, which makes them especially vulnerable to malnutrition and infectious diseases, and, when they reach adolescence, to sexual, reproductive and mental health problems.

Most childhood deaths can be attributed to a few major causes – acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, measles, malaria and malnutrition – or a combination of these. In this regard both the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child recognize the obligation on States to reduce infant and child mortality, and to combat disease and malnutrition.

With respect to health, States should, for instance, adopt legislation or other measures ensuring equal access to health care provided by third parties. In addition, the other actors in society – individuals, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), health professionals, and business – have responsibilities with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights.

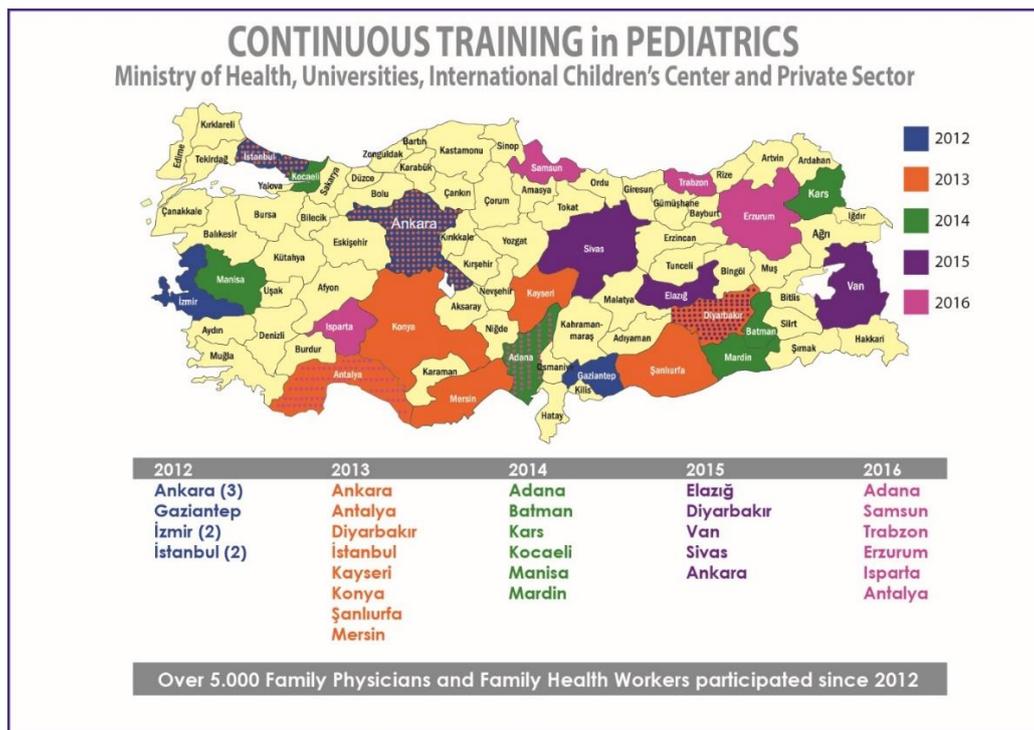
Governments and health professionals should treat all children and adolescents in a non-discriminatory manner. This means that they should pay particular attention to the needs and rights of specific groups, such as children, generally, young girls and adolescent girls, who in many contexts are prevented from accessing a wide range of services, including health care. More specifically, girls should have equal access to adequate nutrition, safe environments, and physical and mental health services. Appropriate measures should be taken to abolish harmful traditional practices that affect mostly girls' health, such as early marriage, and preferential feeding and care of boys.

Children's development is affected by psychosocial and biological factors and by genetic inheritance. Poverty and its attendant problems are major risk factors. The first few years of life are particularly important because vital development occurs in all domains. The brain develops rapidly through neurogenesis, axonal and dendritic growth, synaptogenesis, cell death, synaptic pruning, myelination, and gliogenesis. These ontogenetic events happen at different times and build on each other, such that small perturbations in these processes can have long-term effects on the brain's structural and functional capacity.

Adequate nutrition during infancy and early childhood is fundamental to the development of each child's full human potential. It is well recognized that the period from birth to two years of age is a "critical window" for the promotion of optimal growth, health and behavioral development.

Therefore, International Children's Center -ICC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the universities and the private sector launched the "Continuous Paediatrics Training for Family Health Physicians and Family Health Workers" programme. It has received great interest and demand since 2012.

The main theme of the programme has been identified as "Nutrition of Infant and Toddler, Immunization, Fever and Child abuse". A series of one-day seminar were realized in different provinces since 2012 where more than 5.000 health professionals were participated.



CHILD HEALTH

Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being regardless of race, religion, and political belief, economic and social disparities.

PREVENTIVE CHILD HEALTH

Vaccines:

Besides being one of the most successful and cost-effective public health interventions, vaccines are also one of the most important factors affecting children's health and their quality of life.

The Expanded Program on Immunization covers the vaccination services for the vulnerable age groups in order to protect and immunize as well as to control and eradicate pertussis, diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, hepatitis B, and H.

Influenza type B infections

that can have serious consequences like illness, disability or death. Immunization services are the primary services for preventive health care. These services also provide an opportunity to deliver other life-saving measures, such as family planning and nutrition, to mothers and children.

Immunization Training for Mid-level Managers

ICC carried out two international Workshop on "Immunization Training for Mid-level Managers" in Moldova on 9-20 November 2015 and in Azerbaijan on 7-18 December 2015 and in Ukraine on 4-15 April 2016. Forty-nine, fifty-two and fifty-six managers from different regions of all levels participated the workshops respectively. The main objective of the workshops is to contribute to increase the quality of immunization services, to increase immunization coverage and inform health professionals and managers on effective programme management

Up to today, 152 participants from 25 countries were trained in Ankara. 275 managers were participated in-country workshops: Uzbekistan, Ukraine (4), Moldova (2) and Azerbaijan (3).





European Immunization Week

Health professionals working at the primary health care level in Adana, Samsun, Trabzon, Erzurum, Isparta and Antalya were provided a series of conferences on Immunization by the Ass.Prof. Sevtap Güney, and Prof. Ateş Kara, members of National Immunization Committee. 1456 health professionals working at the primary health care level were attended the conferences in 2016.



Also on 4-15 April 2016 the main theme of the European Immunization Week was discussed with the health professionals of Ukraine by Prof.Dr. Selda Bülbül, Dr.Sevtap Güney, Dr.Güljan Dönmez and Dr.Arzu Köseli in collaboration with WHO-Kiev Office.





European Immunization Week 2016 infographic and poster were translated into Turkish.



**AVRUPA
AŞI
HAFTASI**

ÖNLE, KORUN, AŞILAN

**24-30 NİSAN 2014
ANKARA - TÜRKİYE**

DÜNYA AŞI HAFTASI

Küresel Aşı Aktivite Planı'nın 6 Amacı

<p>BAGIŞIKLAMADAKİ AÇIĞI KAPAT</p> <p>DİFTERİ, TETANUS VE BOĞMACAYA KARŞI BAĞIŞIKLAMAK</p> <p>Hedef: 96% 50.000.000 kişi için aşılanmayı artırmak</p> <p>Açık: 65 ülke 8,7 milyar çocuk</p>	<p>KIZAMIKTA ÖLÜM ORANINI DÜŞÜRMEK</p> <p>Hedef: 800.000.000 kişi için ölüm oranını düşürmek</p> <p>Açık: 115 Çocukların 68% için aşılanmayı artırmak</p>	<p>KIZAMIKÇIK HASTALIKINI ELİMİNE ETMEK</p> <p>Hedef: 800.000.000 kişi için aşılanmayı artırmak</p> <p>Açık: 1/2 Çocukların 50% için aşılanmayı artırmak</p>
<p>ANNE VE YENİDOĞANDA TETANUSU ELİMİNE ETMEK</p> <p>Hedef: 81 ülke Her yıl 200 milyon yeni doğan için aşılanmayı artırmak</p>	<p>COCUK FELCİNİ YOK ETMEK</p> <p>Hedef: 90 ülke Çocuk felcinin 90% için aşılanmayı artırmak</p>	<p>YENİ VEYA AZ KULLANILAN AŞILARI KULLANMAK</p> <p>Hedef: 90 Yeni aşıların geliştirilmesini teşvik etmek</p>

HERKES İÇİN HAYAT BOYU AŞILAMA



Capacity Building

As agreed with Azerbaijan Ministry of Health Public Health and Reforms Center (İSiM) in 2014, in order to implement Cascade+ Approach for strengthening the in-service trainings of field level vaccinators on immunization two missions were realized in 2015.

In September 2015, Development and implementation of the "Cascade+" approach in the teaching process was developed and implemented and the supporting materials for teachers were finalised. The joint work with the working group gave an opportunity to finalize and improve the teaching process on immunization module. In collaboration with the working group didactic materials for all themes on Immunization module for trainers (Facilitator Guides) for thematic course and baza course were developed. The necessary additional materials to be developed were identified. Also through holding one day workshop for the working group the task distribution and preparations of ToT workshops were completed. Besides Facilitators Guides, a tool for supervision of trainings was also drafted.

Between 18.10.2015-30.10.2015, two rounds of training for trainers for teachers of medical colleges on work with didactic material of the immunization module for basic and thematic courses of postgraduate training were conducted. The developed didactic materials on conduction of immunization module training as well as teach the trainers on the use of "Cascade+" teaching approach were presented.

Through providing two five-days training, 50 teachers of medical colleges were trained as trainers. Additionally, 4 trainers were trained and coached as master trainers and awareness was created for 2 supervisors.

At the end of mission, a Facilitator guideline for Thematic Course and the Facilitator Guide for Baza Course were finalized. The developed M&E tool was tested.





Ankara University Medical Faculty Visit (17 March 2016)

Ankara University Medical Faculty, Department of Public Health Assistant Training Program interns visited the International Children's Center under the leadership of Ankara University Medical Faculty, Department lecturer Professor Dr. Deniz Çalışkan to evaluate International Child Health Monitoring Program. Some of our visitors were the students of Public Health Speciality and Occupational Diseases Minor Program. Dr. Arzu Köseli and Dr. Ayşegül Esin attended to share the ICC's programs and projects.

Prof. Dr. Deniz Çalışkan conveyed Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Arzu Köseli that Ankara University Medical Faculty, Department of Public Health President Prof. Dr. Recep Akdur sent. At the end of the meeting, Public Health Assistants took a tour around the ICC and received their materials and publications which were prepared by ICC.



World Breastfeeding Week infographics were translated into Turkish.

DÜNYA EMZİRME HAFTASI
EMZİRME
SÜRDÜRÜLEBİLİR KALKINMA İÇİN BİR ANAHTAR

1-7 Ağustos 2016

Dünya Emzirme Haftası 2016 Amaçları

- 1 BİLİLENDİR**
- 2 PEKİŞTİR**
- 3 HAREKETE GEÇ**
- 4 TEMASA GEÇ**

Emziren, dünyayı, ve nefesi barın! Emzirmeyi bırakmaz!
Sürdürülebilir kalkınmaya insanlara (özellikle kızlara zarar vermeden yaşayınlar) katılın.

ÇEVRE VE İKLİM DEĞİŞİKLİĞİ
Popülasyondaki artışlar ve iklim değişikliği, beslenme ve sağlık için tehditler oluşturmaktadır.

BESLENME, GIDA GÜVENLİLİĞİ VE YOKSULLUĞUN AZALTILMASI
Beslenme ve gıda güvenliği, sürdürülebilir kalkınmanın temel taşlarıdır.

SÜRDÜRÜLEBİLİR KALKINMA VE BEKLENEN İSTİKLALİK
Sürdürülebilir kalkınma, gelecekteki nesiller için fırsatlar yaratır.

HAYATA KALMA, SAĞLIK VE BESLENME
Emzirme, bebeklerin sağlığını geliştirir ve beslenmelerini destekler.

KADINLARIN ÜRETKENLİĞİ VE İSTİKLALIĞI
Emziren kadınlar, üretken ve istikrarlıdır.

<http://worldbreastfeedingweek.org>

DÜNYA EMZİRME HAFTASI
EMZİRME
SÜRDÜRÜLEBİLİR KALKINMA İÇİN BİR ANAHTAR

- 1** Emziren, bebekleri beslerken sağlığı ve gelişimini destekler. Bebekleri besleyen kadınlar, daha sağlıklı ve üretken olabilirler.
- 2** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 3** Emziren, bebeklerini sağlığını geliştirir ve besler. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 4** Emziren ve yeterli duvara teması, bebeklerin beslenmesini destekler. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 5** Emziren ve yeterli duvara teması, bebeklerin beslenmesini destekler. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
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- 8** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
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- 12** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 13** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 14** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 15** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 16** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.
- 17** Emziren annelerin, bebekleri için yeterli beslenme ve bakım sağladığı kanıtlanmıştır. Emziren annelerin bebekleri, daha sağlıklı ve güçlü doğar.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Introduction

The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo, Egypt, in 1994 defines reproductive health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system the right of men and women to be informed and to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning of their choice.” The Eastern Europe and Central Asia region is characterized by certain trends in sexual and reproductive health such as relatively high maternal mortality mostly in Central Asia, above-average number of abortions, relatively low usage of modern contraceptives and high rates of cervical cancer.

Trends in the region point to several priority sexual and reproductive health areas in particular need of development; these include maternal health, family planning, early and forced marriage and cervical cancer. Major advances have been achieved to reduce maternal mortality across the region, although some countries may fall short of reaching maternal health related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Latest available data suggests many women in the region continue to lack universal access to quality family planning information and services including commodities.

People in many countries of the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia live longer, healthier lives. But following a sharp decline in the 1990s, key indicators such as life expectancy and fertility have stabilized and even show an upward trend again. Fertility levels overall remain low in most countries of the region, and as a result of increasing longevity and low birth rates, populations are ageing. The number of people aged 65 years and above has increased to 14%, or 174.5 million. At the same time, societies are becoming more diverse due to increasingly complex migration patterns and the changing nature of families, gender relations and individual life choices.

One of the most troubling negative trends in the region is the increase in HIV prevalence rates. Over the past two decades HIV prevalence nearly doubled from 0.25 to 0.41 percent of population aged 15 to 49, making this the only world region where HIV is still on the rise. Injecting drug users, men having sex with men and young people below 24 years of age are at particular risk.

Women, young people, ethnic minorities (including Roma), migrants and LGBT people are among those who often experience multiple levels of discrimination and disadvantage. In addition, child marriage and bride abduction persist, particularly in Central Asia, and this compounds the levels of inequality experienced by girls and women. Early pregnancy, violence and trafficking are other factors that increase vulnerability.

ICC has been struggling in support on freedoms and rights, anti-discrimination laws, and aimed at protecting human rights in many perspectives. Gender equality is another concern as a right and a principle that is critical for achieving all human development goals. Access to sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, including vulnerable and marginalized

groups is imperative. Yet in many places in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, women have difficulty obtaining modern contraceptives. Some face stigma, others lack affordable options, and some simply lack access – particularly those from marginalized or vulnerable groups, such as members of the Roma community, young people or women in rural areas. Therefore, ICC has focused vulnerable population specifically Roma community to increase access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights. ICC addresses the social determinants of health and health inequalities of the most vulnerable populations, with a focus on women and young people’s sexual and reproductive health.

Adolescents aged 10-19 years have specific needs and require a responsive health system that takes into account their biological, emotional, and social development. To realise the health and wellbeing of adolescents and protect their human rights, countries need to adopt holistic health policies and education programmes about prevention of injuries, violence, and self-harm; good sexual and reproductive health outcomes; prevention of non-communicable disease; and other crucial aspects of physical and mental health and development. Such education will help adolescents enhance judgment and learn the skills to maximize their health and wellbeing.

Critical new evidence points to the importance of paying urgent attention to emergencies. Specific vulnerabilities of women, children, and adolescents living in humanitarian crisis settings threaten their health and wellbeing. Though it is clear that humanitarian crises put women, children, and adolescents at grave risk, national planning processes often leave humanitarian preparedness, response, and recovery out of their longer term development planning. Since April 2011, there is a remarkable and continuous Syrian influx to Turkey over 2.500.000, 260.000 of them lives in 25 camps in 10 provinces. Since the unrest in Syria and the start of an influx of Syrian nationals into Turkey, the Government has formally declared and maintained an open border policy. The rest all over in Turkey, especially in big cities; Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir, Mersin, Konya, Adana.

The year 2015 is the end point of the MDGs, and their transition to the sustainable development goals (SDGs), and also the 20th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development’s plan of action and the Beijing Declaration and platform of action. Family planning, antenatal care, delivery at facilities, and skilled birth attendance have all increased over the past two decades. However, huge inequities in coverage and quality continue, and furthermore stronger effort is needed to remove barriers to access, which continue to hinder success. In particular, postpartum care for mothers and newborns has not received due attention and remains a missed opportunity in reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health. Investments in women’s health beyond reproductive health needs greater attention, given the rise of effects on health related to non-communicable disease, such as cancer, obesity, and diabetes.

Women, children, and adolescents who are marginalized suffer from various inequities and discrimination, such as those based on gender, income, age, place of residence, and education levels, resulting in worse health outcomes. The international community gathered in New York for the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly and set the post-2015 development agenda in the form of 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 associated targets. The SDGs are relevant to all countries worldwide. While the Millennium Development Goals set a limited number of human development targets for poverty eradication, health, education, food security and nutrition, the SDGs go much further and ask much more from the world’s countries. The new agenda integrates all three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) around people, planet, prosperity, peace

and partnership. It recognizes that so many of the development goals impact one another and are interrelated and interdependent. Health has a central place as a major contributor and beneficiary of sustainable development policies.

Therefore, ICC has been giving the priority of SRHR needs of vulnerable population, Roma community, elderly women and refugees for the next year plan.

Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health services for Most at Risk Adolescent/Most at Risk Young People in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region

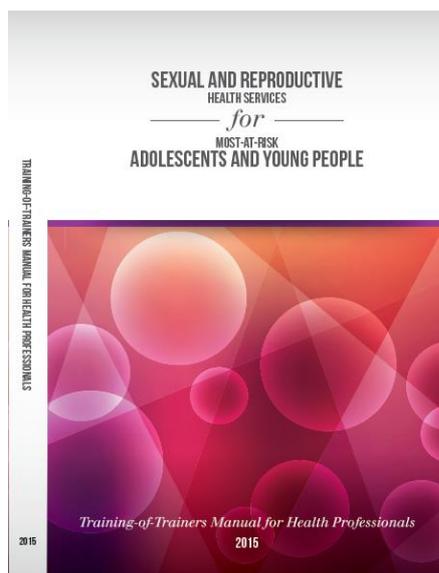
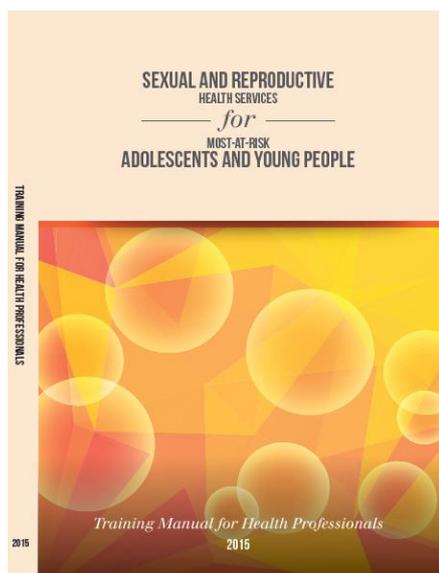
The International Children’s Center has been giving priority to the most vulnerable, particularly most at risk adolescents and young people (MARA and MARYP) and also persons living with HIV since 2011. ICC and UNFPA EECARO have been cooperating since 2011 on SRHR issues for adolescents and youth. As part of SRH systems strengthening, UNFPA EECARO supported development of a Training of Trainers (ToT) course on provision of comprehensive SRH services for MARA/MARYP.

Since 2011, thirty six health care providers from Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan were provided with technical and practical knowledge on MARA & MARYP, and they returned to their countries to share this knowledge with many young people. The aim of these courses is to build the capacity of SRHR service providers, to increase MARYP access to “youth friendly” SRHR services, including HIV and STIs. The aim of these courses is to build the capacity of SRHR service providers, to increase MARYP access to “youth friendly” SRHR services, including HIV and STIs. During the trainings, valuable feedback was received on the way on how to improve the manual. Currently, the ToT Manual includes all materials of each session and detailed instructions for trainers, as well as all materials for trainees.

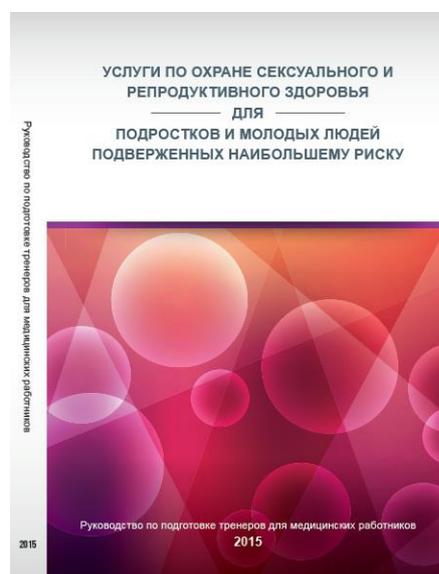
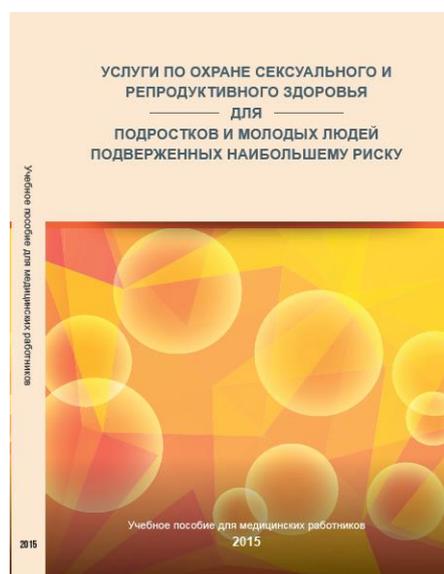
The second step to the development of the ToT Manual was a development of a training package to be utilized during national roll out of the training course. In collaboration with UNFPA EECARO, ICC developed the training package, and the first national roll-out took place in Tajikistan with the assistance of UNFPA Tajikistan country office in 2013. It was designed to build the capacity of national institutions and professionals, including NGOs and state institutions. Feedback received during this pilot-testing was used by ICC for further improvements.

The following manuals were prepared in English and Russian:

1. The Training of Trainers on Providing Comprehensive SRH for MARA and Young People
2. National Training Course Providing Comprehensive SRH for MARA and Young People.



For review of ToT and National Training Packages, a Working Group comprised of experts in the field from UNESCO, UNFPA EECARO representatives and active SRH young peer educators was established to review both course manuals in English. The Group reviewed the manuals (ToT Manual and the National Training Manual along with the course sessions' PPT presentations) and they gave necessary inputs and made suggestions for the final output. The suggestions of the Working Group Members were incorporated and Technical Edition was completed.



FIGO INITIATIVE ON PREVENTION OF UNSAFE ABORTIONS, Regional Workshop, the NAEM Region, Istanbul, Turkey, 21-22 May, 2015

ICC took part in the FIGO Initiative on the Prevention of Unsafe Abortion continue making progress towards reducing the burden of unsafe abortion and its consequences in the NAEM Region on May 2015 in Istanbul. The FIGO recommendations of replacing sharp curettage for

Manual Vacuum Aspiration (MVA) or misoprostol for the treatment of incomplete abortion have been part of the plan of action of every country and some are not including it any longer because the task is already completed. The FIGO have not been equally successful in fulfilling another FIGO recommendation that of providing family planning counselling and effective contraception to every woman admitted for abortion before she leaves a health facility. This objective has been included in the plans of action of almost every country for years, but progress has been very slow. Provision and acceptance of long-acting reversible contraception is increasing very slowly, testing the FIGO's working principle of being patient and persistent in the process of achieving the intended objectives. During the last three years the Initiative has also made progress in making effective another recommendation of the FIGO Committee for the Ethical Aspects of Human Reproduction and Women's Health, related to providing safe abortion services to women who comply with the national laws. Several countries where women who comply with the law had to seek clandestine and often unsafe abortions are now providing safe abortion services according to the laws and regulations of the respective country. In summary, the work of FIGO Member Societies in relation to this work has been commendable.



During the regional meeting WHO launched the Clinical handbook for safe abortion which has been available online since January 2014 on the WHO website http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/unsafe_abortion/clinical-practice-safe-abortion/en/. This handy reference is a derivative tool grounded in content found in the second edition of WHO's safe abortion guidance, published in 2012.

Whereas the safe abortion guidance offers a comprehensive blueprint for eliminating unsafe abortion, the handbook summarizes key clinical recommendations to enable evidence-based decision-making and best practices with respect to safe abortion. The task of reducing unsafe abortion and its consequences is not easy and cannot be achieved in a short period of time.



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS FOCUS ON ROMA COMMUNITIES WORKSHOP

17-18 June 2015, by ICC – International Children’s Center and UNFPA EECARO – Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia of the United Nations Population Fund

The International Children’s Center has been giving priority to the most vulnerable people especially Roma Community since 2012. ICC and UNFPA EECARO have been cooperating since 2011 on SRHR issues for most at risk adolescents and youth. One of the vulnerable population is Roma in the region. Approximately 12-15 million Roma live in the region. These outcomes reflect poorer living conditions, reduced access to quality healthcare and higher exposure to risks. There is also evidence that Roma communities are less well informed about SRHR issues and can be confronted with discrimination in access to healthcare. ICC has been working for Roma women and young people. First, ICC has revised and adapted and edited “Training-of- Trainers Course Providing Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health Services for Most-at-Risk Adolescents and Young People” for Roma People. In particular, this training: promotes the right to health of the Roma population, particularly Roma women and with due attention to Sexual and reproductive health & rights. ICC EECARO plans to conduct Training-of- Trainers Course Providing Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health Services for Most-at-Risk Adolescents and Young People” for Roma People in the near future.

The two day workshop organized by the International Children’s Center (ICC) and the UNFPA EECARO was attended by regional stakeholders working in the field of Roma access to Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRH&R) in Istanbul on 17-18 June 2015.

The workshop aim was to interactively bring into debate practices and outreach experiences, challenges and priorities, focusing on particular issues faced by the most vulnerable and at risk individuals in the Roma communities. The main purpose of the workshop was to define the specific SRH&R needs of the most vulnerable Roma populations in the region and to identify practical solutions for change.

The workshop was structured in two segments, comprising of:

1. One-and-a-half-day technical workshop with experts and representatives of Roma and non-Roma civil society organizations, including ICC, technical and Programme staff of the UNFPA EECARO and Country Offices (Cos), Open Society Institute (OSI), Council of Europe (CoE) etc. (17th of June 2015 full day and 18th of June 2015 morning sessions);

- a. The first half of Day1 of the workshop (17th of June 2015) was dedicated to presentations on the work on Roma health, including SRH&R, by the representatives of ICC, UNFPA EECARO and COs, OSI, CoE and the Turkish Ministry of Health;
 - b. The second half of Day1 and the first half of Day2 was dedicated to working groups which explored key needs and barriers affecting Roma access to SRH services, solutions, priority areas for interventions and cooperation opportunities for ensuring equal access of Roma, including MAYP/MARA (Most-At-Risk Young People and Adolescents), to SRH services and rights. The debates following the presentation of each working group conclusions were channelized towards shaping-up a list of policy recommendations and proposals for stakeholders' involvement and further steps in the field.
2. Half-day internal consultation meeting with participation of ICC and UNFPA representatives, during which the contributions made during the workshop have been discussed in order to reinforce the vision for and commitments towards



addressing the access to health, including SRH&R of the Roma in the region (18th of June 2015 afternoon session). The exercise was envisaged to further help the involved agencies in elaborating own comprehensive situation-maps based on which to track progress and evaluate outcomes of relevant interventions. The participating agencies discussed particularities of transferring the specific information into policy recommendations and programmes, as well as future advocacy interventions in the field

The participants to this event were relevant regional stakeholders working in the field of Roma access to SRH&R from 5 countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo and Turkey. The results of the workshop were envisaged to constitute inputs to the efforts of different stakeholders in the region to support the improvement of Roma health and particularly their access to SRH&R. Policy makers, donors, local and regional authorities could benefit from the results, by improving their approaches for more effective action on SRH&R of Roma community.

The workshop constituted an opportunity for experience sharing and debate, as well as an opportunity for cooperation on joint actions that would ensure equal access of Roma (MAYP/MARA included) to SRH services and rights.

The workshop has concluded that, despite efforts and policy and practice mechanisms, progress is still slow towards ensuring proper health services and rights for the Roma communities in the region.

Inequities and social determinants of health require consistent, comprehensive and integrated interventions and structural changes are necessary in many dimensions, while incentives should be made available for change both on the side of health systems and the side of vulnerable communities. While policies and lack of capacities create barriers for Roma to access proper health services and rights, poverty, as the main social determinant of health, seems in itself not to be “a good fit for longer time planning”. The circles of poverty and the growing ghettoization obstruct the Roma in employing reliable survival mechanisms for themselves and from acting as equal individuals with the rest of the society.

Policies and practices in the field should address the social determinants of Roma health, should engage the grassroots and aim for orienting priorities and action driven by the needs of the people and not by random presence of donors and funding. Health Systems need to revise their capacity to be inclusive, making sure that their lack of flexibility do not disempower and exclude its most vulnerable citizens.





The 59th Turkish National Pediatric Congress and 3rd Italian- Turkish-Iranian Pediatric Congress- Antalya- 4-8 November 2015

The 59th Turkish National Pediatric Congress and 3rd Italian- Turkish-Iranian Pediatric Congress took place on 4-8 November 2015, in Antalya, Turkey. The congress had a valuable scientific program with conferences by experts. Over than 1.200 participants joined the congress. Prof. Dr. Münevver Bertan (ICC Executive Director) chaired at the first session on 8 November 2015. “Child Rights and Physician Rights” presentation presented by Dr. Ayşegül Esin (Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Officer)

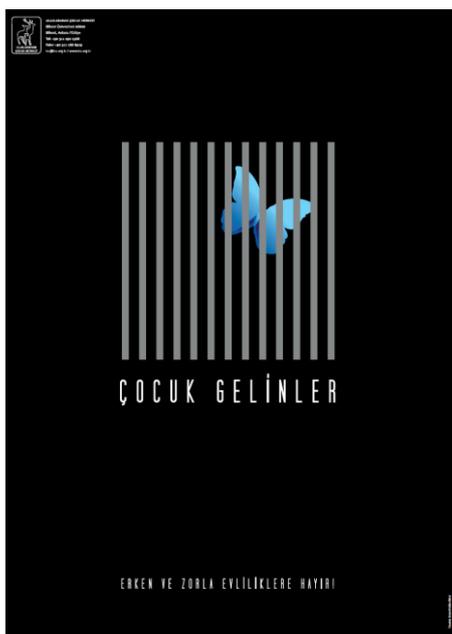
at the Consultation Expert Session. The congress website for more information <http://millipediatri2015.kongresi.info/default.asp?p=home>



EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGES

Child marriage is one of the issues mainstreamed throughout ICC's programming.

- ICC is a member of the Girls not Brides, a global alliance against child marriage. ICC also supports National Platform against Child Marriage in Turkey.
- ICC works with UN Gender working group and UNICEF Turkey in protecting children from child marriage. ICC contributed to development of the standard operational procedures guide on child marriage cases in Turkey, as a part of a project by UNICEF and Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality.



- ICC is preparing an indicators guide for monitoring child marriage in Turkey at the local level as a part of Child Friendly Cities programme run by UNICEF Turkey with technical support from ICC.
- ICC supports children and youth through small scale support programme. One of the main joint activities of children and youth in 2017 was a series of events on child marriage with a big conference in the end at Bilkent Hotel, promoting volunteer support to NGOs that works for protection of children from child marriage.
- ICC runs trainings on child rights and child health for professionals working with/for children. All training materials have child

marriage section in them. For the last two years, ICC provided trainings to American Bar Association lawyers in Turkey working for refugee children and women and to thousands of family physicians.

Fight against early and forced marriages has been an integral part of the ICC's work of promotional and capacity building activities on prevention of violence against children. In this context ICC has translated United Nation's joint general recommendation/general comment No. 31 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on harmful practices in Turkish and offered for the use of the CSOs as an important legal and political advocacy tool.

Such General Comment and the relevant international standards has been integrated to the trainings delivered by the ICC for lawyers and CSOs over the years. One such example is, for the last two years, Child Rights Trainings for Lawyers working for Refugee Children delivered by ICC with the American Bar Association. 2-day training on child rights and child protection including information on international standards on early and force marriages, was provided to lawyers serving for refugee families in the border provinces where refugee population is high.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE November 25 - December 10, 2016

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an international campaign which takes place each year and runs from 25 November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to 10 December (Human Rights Day), also encompassing other important key dates. Widely known as the '16 Days Campaign', it is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. It was originated by the first Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and is coordinated by the Center for Women's Global Leadership.

In support of this civil society initiative, "Say No to Violence against Women, Youth and Children" Panel was held at International Children's Center (ICC) on 05 December 2016. The panel attracted around 100 participants.



Opening speeches of the panel were made by Mükerrerem Keskin-tepe (retired teacher), Çağla Süslüay, ("Genciz Eşitiz" Project, Ankara Youth Coordination Team Member) and Dr. Ayşegül Esin, (ICC Reproductive Health and Rights Officer).

UN expert Zeliha Ünal'dı and Dr. Ayşegül Esin made presentations at the panel which was moderated by Prof. Dr. Münevver Bertan, ICC Executive Director.

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PANEL

Kadınlara, Gençlere, Çocuklara Şiddete Hayır!

5 Aralık 2016, Pazartesi

Panelimize katılımınızdan onur duyuyoruz.

Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi (UÇM)

L.C.V.: 2901145, ico@icc.org.tr

PROGRAM

11.30-12.00 Kayıt

12.00-12.15 Açılış Konuşmaları:
Mükerrerem Keskin-tepe, Emekli Öğretmen
Çağla Süslüay, "Genciz Eşitiz" Projesi, Ankara Gençlik Koordinasyon Ekibi Üyesi
Dr. Ayşegül Esin, Üreme Sağlığı ve Hakları Sorumlusu, Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi

12.15-13.25 Panel: Kadınlara, Gençlere, Çocuklara Şiddete Hayır!
Panel Başkanı: Prof. Dr. Münevver Bertan, Genel Müdür, Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi
Küresel bir salgın olarak: Kadına Yönelik Şiddetle Mücadelede Birleşmiş Milletler, Zeliha Ünal'dı, Toplumsal Cinsiyet Uzmanı, Birleşmiş Milletler
Cinsiyete Dayalı Şiddet, Dr. Ayşegül Esin, Üreme Sağlığı ve Hakları Sorumlusu, Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi

13.25-13.30 Film Gösterimi:
Kadına Karşı Şiddetle Mücadele için 16 Günlük Aktivizm

13.30-14.00 İkram

Yer: Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi (UÇM), Bilkent Üniversitesi Merkez Kütüphane Binası, B Blok, Zemin Kat, Robert Debré Salonu

Bu proje İsveç Başkonsolosluğu tarafından desteklenmekte ve Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi tarafından yürütülmektedir.

After the panel, a film titled "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign) screened.

Other News:

Presentation on "Child Brides"

Our President Prof. Dr. Tomris Türmen made presentation on "Child Brides" at the meeting organised by TÜKAL on 5 November 2016.



GRUNDTVIG LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS: Public Living Room–A Safe Learning Space Project

The project entitled "Public Living Room–A Safe Learning Space" (Grant Agreement no: 2013-1-NL1-GRU06-12705 9) is supported by Center for European Union Education and Youth Programmes of the Turkish Ministry of EU Affairs Turkish National Agency, Erasmus+ Programme (Lifelong Learning Programme). The activities began on August 2013 and lasted for two years (ended by the end of July 2015). It is a partnership of Mother Centers in 5 countries. The partnership wanted to explore the qualities of mother centers, how it functions by debating its most essential aspect: safety. In the partnership each partner has chosen a sub-theme related to safety. Partners formulate questions to be debated by all other partners and they gather the outcomes of these debates afterwards in a theme paper

Activities were implemented by six centers from Germany, Poland, Austria, Slovakia and Turkey.

Project Partners:

1. Uluslararası Çocuk Merkezi Dernegi (= International Children's Center ICC) - Turkey
2. Stichting Nest! - The Netherlands
3. Mütterforum Baden-Württemberg e.V. Landesverband der Mütterzentren, Familienzentren und Mehrgenerationenhäuser - Germany (Project Coordinator)
4. Dachverband der unabhängigen Eltern-Kind Zentren Österreichs - Austria
5. Stowarzyszenie "Mamy Czas" - Poland
6. Únia materských centier (UMC) - Slovakia
7. Landesverband Mütter- und Familienzentren in Bayern e.V. - Germany

For each of the mobility/meeting held, ICC, with support of the Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, organized discussions on the topics in the mother centers of Gaziantep. A report for each of the debates was prepared both in English and in Turkish, and outcomes of the discussions were presented in the mobility meetings.

In 2015, the partnership had 4 international meetings organized consecutively by Mütterforum Baden-Württemberg e.V. Landesverband der Mütterzentren, Familienzentren und Mehrgenerationenhäuser – Germany (Project Coordinator), Dachverband der unabhängigen Eltern-Kind Zentren Österreichs – Austria, International Children's Center ICC) – Turkey and Únia materských centier (UMC) – Slovakia.

The first meeting was organized by Mütterforum (Germany) between 15-19 January 2015. The aim of the meeting was to discover the effects and problems of “Diversity, Exclusion and Discrimination” in mother centers. 27 participants from partner countries actively participated in the meeting and highlighted the importance of MCs as these places host lots of people from different cultures. MCs provide a place where people learn from different cultures and learn to respect the differences.

The second meeting was organized by Dachverband (Austria) between 5-9 March 2015. The aim of the meeting was to explore the importance of economic safety. The host partner arranged an informative session on Economic safety and gave brief information to MC coordinators about how they can find financial support to centers. It was a very helpful session since the MC coordinators were really willing to learn about grants and other financial supports offered by national and international organizations and by national and local governmental institutions. The Head of the Women and Family Issues Department of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality joined ICC in this very important meeting and provided information on how municipalities support NGOs.

The third meeting of the partnership was organized by ICC in Ankara on “Partnerships on How to Create Safety in the Local Community”. The meeting was organized between 16-17 April in Ankara in ICC Premises. 31 participants from partner organizations other other institutions joined in this meeting. Apart from partners, from Diyarbakır Metropolitan Municipality, Head of Department of Women Policy, Head of Department of Social Services and Manager of DİKASUM* Branch of Department of Women Policy also participated to the meeting in order to learn about the philosophy of MCs. Manager of Women and Family



Branch of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality also supported this meeting and shared valuable suggestions and the topic. According to the outputs of the meeting, following points were given the most priority while forming a partnership exclusively for Mother Centers:



1) Investments should be supported by Strong Financial situation, Knowledge, Experience

2) It is very important to create partnerships after a deep research. Wrong choice of a partner could also create an environment where we need to cease our activities, for example political or religious parties.

3) Mother Centers, internationally, should always include their members into the process of finding a partner or funding. This will help both parties to

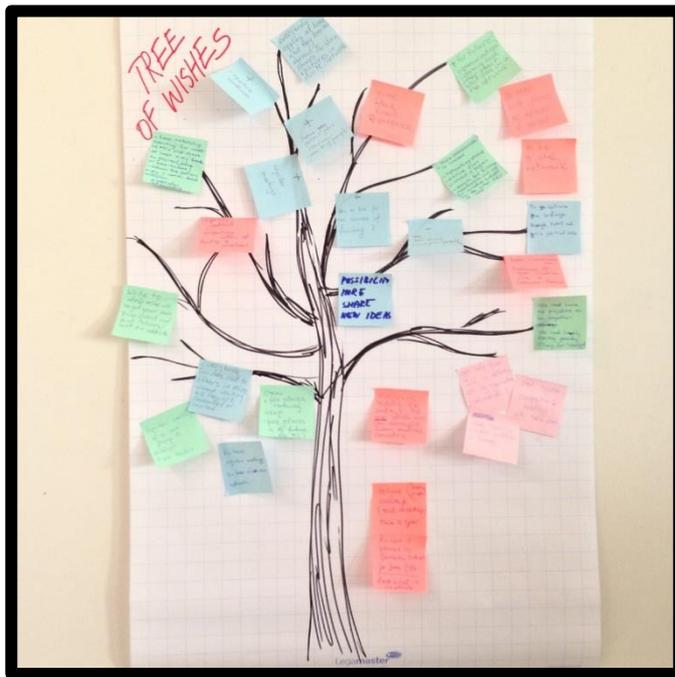
be better aware of profit and benefit for each of them. Besides, inviting members to the meetings of mother centers, will help empower the women. Eventually, the common goal for mother centers is not just finding fund but also personal and institutional development.

4) Partnerships are long term processes and parties should be open in their expectations, benefits and requests.

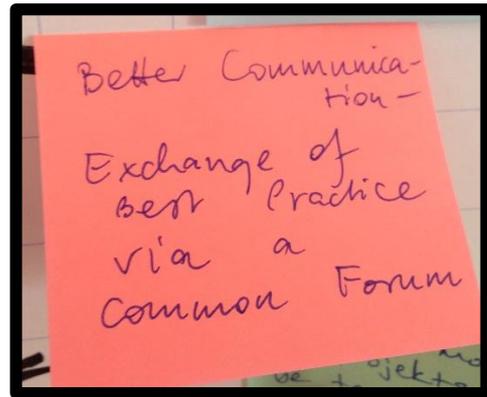
5) Partnerships are not only between at least 2 institutions or mother centers. There is also a partnership between the mother centers and the women attending there: mutual development and benefits, safe place, feeling safe and trusted, believing in one's self and continuity.



The last meeting of 2015, which was also the last meeting of the project activities, was held in Nitra, Slovakia between 4-5 June 2015. The meeting was hosted by Únia materských centier (UMC). The topic of this last meeting was "Tools & methods to use in Mother Centres". 30 participants from partner countries and other institutions joined this meeting. The aim of this meeting was to create a stable network of mother centers internationally and to have a written commitment on key rules for a safer and a peaceful environment in MCs. The following scheme was prepared by the ICC to help the MC coordinators and the visitors to create a sustainable safe environment:



A Tree of Wishes was created by the partners to empower the mother centers all around the World.



According to the output of the project, a theme paper for each of the topics below was prepared by the partners and were shared online on websites

and with the national agency of each of the partner:

- Making the Mother Center into a safe public living room,
- How mothers give each other shelter/support in early motherhood,
- When I leave my child,
- Having a supporting group/community,
- Dealing with the health care system,
- Inclusion, exclusion, discrimination,
- Economic safety,
- Tools & methods to set up safety in our group.
- Creating Safety in times of Crisis / life changing situations
- How to create safety in local community

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