ORGANIZATION

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND Turkey Country Office, Turkey pledges to

Continue supporting the national efforts for eliminating child labour in Turkey
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Name:
Continue Supporting the National Efforts for Eliminating Child Labour in Turkey

Description:
Child labour is a major violation of child rights. It deprives children of their childhood, keeps them from realizing their potential and locks them in a cycle of poverty. As we reimagine the world post-COVID, we should not let the gains against child labour wiped out by the impact of Covid-19. We must make sure that children and families are provided services and equipped with skills so that every child survives, thrives, learns, protected from violence and exploitation, lives in a safe and clean environment, and has an equitable chance in life. Quality education, child-sensitive social protection, and better economic opportunities can be game-changers.

Drawing on its global and national experience in social policy, child protection, education and health, and its long-standing partnerships with key public, private and non-governmental organizations, UNICEF Turkey will continue implementing a multi-sectoral programme on combatting child labour. With this pledge, UNICEF Turkey County Office reiterates its commitment to contributing to the National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (2017-2023) by strengthening several national and local organizations targeting child labour and providing services for vulnerable children and families.

Implementation plan:

UNICEF Turkey's multi-sectoral work on child labour builds on the following pillars:

Child-Sensitive Social Policies: Supporting integrated social protection systems for vulnerable individuals and households, coupled with appropriate education and child protection measures; allowing children to remain in education and protecting the most vulnerable families against socio-economic shocks.

Education and Skills-Training:
Increasing the quality and accessibility of relevant vocational training and skills formation for adolescents through schools, vocational training centres and decent workplaces.

Business Practices Upholding Child Rights:
Promoting the enforcement, adoption and wholistic implementation of business practices aligned with child rights and wellbeing.
Social Norms:
Addressing stereotypes and assumptions normalizing and perpetuating child labour in society and economy.

Evidence-Based Policy Development:
Supporting data and evidence generation on child poverty, deprivations, vulnerabilities and child labour risks in Turkey and translating evidence into policy and programme design at national and local levels. Identifying implementation gaps and strengthening the operational capacity of the multiple stakeholders targeting child labour.

Impact:
UNICEF's work will contribute to efforts addressing the root causes of child labour and it will improve the quality and quantity of services for vulnerable children and families. This will keep children and adolescents from engaging in economic activities and ensure they are protected and remain in education.

In 2021, UNICEF Turkey will continue to provide social protection, child protection, and education services to thousands of children and families at risk of child labour. Approximately 10,000 children will benefit from services targeting responding to child labour and more than 10,000 children will receive community-based child protection support reducing the risk of child labour. More than 500,000 refugee children will be supported through conditional cash transfers for education in order to support enrollment to and retention in education. To inform and improve programming, reports will be generated on Covid-19's effect on working conditions in Turkey as well as changing prevalence of child labour in selected sectors. Recommendations for the private sector and public institutions to support child-sensitive business practices and family-friendly work policies will be developed.

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