

Why and How Empower Young Women in /via ICT?

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Roundtable: “ICT as an Instrument for the Empowerment of Young Women and Girls”

Why empower young women in/via ICT ?

“Knowledge is king” > the one who has it is the king

ICT easier

1. Access to knowledge, networks
2. Communication/interaction with others (citizens, agenda-setters, representatives)

>> Awareness, knowledge, networks, , employment
empowerment...but not only for employment,
wealth ...

Why empower young women in/via ICT ?

e-citizen: more and more people are becoming e-citizens by using ICT in their communication with other citizens and representatives and in fulfilling their rights and duties with **e-government** and **e-democracy** models.

>> women should be able to have (the same) access, and skills to use ICT as equal citizens of the new society. Better to start in the earliest age.

Project 1: Empowerment of Youth for e-Governance in Turkey

Partners

*Youth Association for Habitat
UNDP*

The project will **strengthen the ICT use capacities of local youth platforms** that are established through **Turkey's Local Agenda 21** Program. The project will train local youth platforms to become **active users** of the existing Local Agenda 21 **e-Governance Web Portal** and train a selected group of young people to become **employable in the IT sector**.

Within the framework of this Project, **basic computer trainings** have been provided for **2500 young people in a period of 1.5 years**

Project 1: Empowerment of Youth for e-Governance in Turkey

Second phase since March 1st,
2006.

ICT training for
100.000 socially
disadvantaged youth with 200
volunteer
trainers within 3 years.

Currently implemented in **43 cities**
throughout the country

Training of
young women
is emphasised

Project 2: Refurbishment and distribution of used PC's for youth - informatics train

Partners

*Ayhan Sahenk Foundation,
Microsoft,
Ministry of Education,
State Railways
Youth Association for Habitat*

to refurbish used PCs and to distribute them to the schools, youth NGOs and local youth councils all around in Turkey.
6000 PCs have been refurbished and distributed in May 2006.

Empowerment of Youth for e-Governance in Turkey Project provided voluntary Office trainings for **817** young people since June 2006

Project 3: Young Action in Information

Partners

Cisco System,

Turkish Informatics Foundation,

UNDP

Istanbul Technical University

Youth Association for Habitat

Make **youth part** of **knowledge economy** and **information society** in **Turkey** by empowering youth and give them **skills** for their future **careers in ICT sector**.

Based on **volunteerism**

16-26 years old youth with basic english language knowlegde

Priority is given to socio-economically disadvantaged and **young girls**

10 trainers from around the country have been trained in **informatics and Internet networks technologies**. They now train **20 youth** each back in their home town.

Project 4: Bridging the digital divide: Empowering youth for Turkey's e-transformation

Partners

Youth Association for Habitat

UNDP

Turkey Vodafone Foundation

have supported Microsoft's
“Turkey's developing with
ICT” vision.

2007 – 2009

1.000.000 young
people from **81 cities**
will be trained online
for 30 months and will
be awarded with
ECDL (European
Computer Driving
Licence)

Girls and other
disadvantaged youth is
given priority

Project 5: **CIVIC-WEB- Youth, Internet and civic participation**

Partners

Coordinator: **University of London**

Media and Communication Studies - Lund University /
Sweden

Amsterdam School of Communication Studies / **The Netherlands**

Center of Media and Communication Studies – Budapest Central
European University / **Hungary**

Faculty of Communication - Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona
/ **Spain**

Center for Social Communication Studies - University of
Ljubljana
/ **Slovenia**

Istanbul Bilgi University / **Turkey**

Funded under EU's 6
FP 2nd area “**citizens and governance**” for

3 years since September
2006

Project 5: **CIVIC-WEB- Youth, Internet and civic participation**

CIVICWEB focuses on **civic websites** currently emerging on the internet, which are targeted at young people (**aged 15-25**). It considers the **role** such sites play in constructing **youth identities** in relation to **civic participation**, paying particular attention to intergenerational relations, culture, **gender** and nationality (including European identities).

The research focuses on three key dimensions of this phenomenon:

- 1. production**
- 2. nature and characteristics**
- 3. uses and interpretations**

among sub objectives are

- to analyse the content, structure and presentation of civic sites, and the extent to which they invite **active participation** among their users
- to explore the **variety of uses to which young people put civic websites**, and the meanings such sites hold for them
- to investigate the different **modes of participation** and activity such sites make possible, or indeed prevent
- to assess the **relationship** between young people's uses of civic websites and their **'offline' civic participation**
- to analyse the diverse forms such initiatives take in relation to the broader social, cultural and political **differences between European member states**
- to address their **implications for practitioners and policy-makers**, nationally and Europe-wide.

Thank you!