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Technical Assistance for the Support for Children's Rights in Türkiye

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Activity 1.6. Organizing an Awareness-Raising Event to on Child Labour

Çanakkale Child Gathering



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INTRODUCTION

This report contains detailed information on the "Çanakkale Child Gathering" event held on June 12, 2020 at the Çanakkale Tabyalar Parkı with the participation of 1074 children. Throughout the report, the activity organized will be referred to as "event".

ABOUT THE ÖZNE ÇOCUK PROJECT

"Technical Assistance for the Support for Children's Rights in Turkey", **Özne Çocuk** project is carried out by the Ministry of Family and Social Services as the main beneficiary and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security as the co beneficiary. The lead institution of the project is Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate for EU Affairs (DEUA) and the contracting authority is the Central Finance and Contract Unit (CFCU). The project is financed by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance 2014-2020 (IPA II).

RATIONAL

Prevention and elimination of child labour in all sectors in Turkey has long been a national goal. According to the 2009 data of TURKSTAT, child labour intensive sector is the service sector. Children working in the industrial sector make up 24% of economically active children. Children in street conditions (children living, working on the street) are a serious problem. As stated in the ToR seasonal agriculture is also among the most important issues.

Within this context, as part of the awareness-raising activities and the within the scope of the Advocacy Plan and the Awareness-raising Strategy under Activity 1.6, a one-day awareness-raising event must be organized. The aim of this event is to raise awareness about the adverse effects of child labour in all sectors, form a basis for new collaborations by bringing together relevant stakeholders (representatives of the central organization, local authorities, civil society organizations and employers) and to design a fun and informative day for children. In addition, the proposal suggested that this activity be repeated twice more in different contexts and provinces to focus on the global dimension of child labour and the actions and efforts needed for its elimination. In the meetings held with the beneficiary it was decided to organize two events of different sizes instead of repeating this event every year. One event will be held in a location where seasonal agriculture is prevalent and the second will be held in a setting accessible to a wider range of target audiences without being limited to agricultural labour. The administrative order including the requested amendment was submitted on 31.05.2022 and was approved on 10.06.2022.



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Within the scope of the approved amendment, within the scope of activity 1.6.2 awareness raising activities, a one-day children's festival, which the public can easily access, will be organized by the contractor in the city centre with the participation of at least 1000 children in accordance with the advocacy plan. Any participant indicator other than the child participation indicator will not be taken into account. Along with the children invited, the general public will also be encouraged to participate. The event will include healthy outdoor activities and games for children. In the event links will be made with the world day against child labour and it will include activities aimed at raising awareness on child rights. A children's street will be designed for the long-term use of children in the area where the children's festival is held. This street, which includes mini playgrounds, will also be suitable for use after the event.

EVEN PLANNING

Within the scope of the ToR, the project team and the experts initiated the preparatory work for the event in March 2022. The event concept note containing information on the date and venue of the event, participant profiles, draft event program and plan, logistics arrangements, promotional materials etc. was submitted to the beneficiary institution on 23.05.2022. (See Annex-1 for the revised version of the event concept note according to the feedback of the beneficiary institutions). Furthermore, many meetings were held with the officials from the beneficiary institution to discuss the event organization and the procedures. As a result of these meetings, it was deemed appropriate to hold the event on June 12, 2022 at the Çanakkale Hamidiye Tabyalar Parkı (Çanakkale Hamidiye Bastions Park). The event organization process was initiated simultaneously with the meetings held with the beneficiary institution. In addition to the preparations for the organization, the design of the Children's Street and the preparations for the necessary logistics procedures were also initiated.

Logistical Arrangements

Event Location

The public event was held at the Hamidiye Tabyalar Parkı in the city center of Çanakkale. The easy-access location of the park, which provides a safe playground for the children and has a suitable infrastructure for audio and sound systems were influential in the selection of the park.

Event Date and Time

Organized as part of the 12 June World Day against Child Labour, the event was held on 12 June this year as it falls on a Sunday when the schools are closed and the weather conditions are suitable for the event to be held outdoors. The event venue was prepared to allow children to enter the area as of 13.00 and was open to children until 17.30.



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Participant Management

1074 children participated in the event. The age range of the children varied between 5-15 years. (Please see Annex-2 for the Participants List.) Information about the event was made through the Çanakkale Provincial Directorate of National Education and Çanakkale Governorship, with the guidance of the beneficiary institution.

It was observed that the event attracted the attention of children living in the region as it was held in a public park. There were children who could not be registered due to the open area of the park. Therefore, it can be stated that the number of children participating in the event exceeded 1074.

Transportation and Accommodation

Since only children from Çanakkale participated in the event, no transportation or accommodation arrangements were made.

Simultaneous Interpretation

In order to make the event accessible to all children and participants, a sign language interpreter was on the stage throughout the event. The interpreter was also featured on the LED screen positioned behind the platform.

Professional Photographer

A professional photographer was present throughout the event. The photos taken were shared on social media both during and after the event. Children's privacy was respected when taking photos, verbal consent was obtained from both the children and their accompanying parents before taking any photos.

Music

During the event, music was broadcast for children in the playgrounds through the sound system installed in the area.

Waste Management

Owing to the recycling bins placed in the event venue, both event waste management and children's awareness of recycling were ensured. In order to prevent paper waste, the information of the children participating in the event was recorded with computers. The cleaning staff in the area regularly ensured the hygiene of the children's playgrounds.



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Promotional Materials

A cloth drawstring bag containing a t-shirt, hat and thermos was distributed to the children participating in the event. While choosing promotional materials, attention was paid to select durable materials that children can use in their daily lives. The selected materials were designed in accordance with the visibility rules and submitted for approval. In addition, raincoats were provided for the children, as there was a possibility of rain on the day of the event.

Material	Piece
Cloth drawstring bag	1400
Cotton White T-Shirt	1400
Thermos Cups	1400
White Hat	1400

Catering Management

There were food stands in the event venue. Each child was served cold sandwiches, juice and bananas in recyclable paper bags. In addition, free snacks were distributed to children all day at the cotton candy, popcorn and apple candy stands stationed in the event venue.

Due to the hot weather and the active and physical games of the children, water was distributed at different stands throughout the day.

Health Measures

During the event, medical teams and 2 ambulances were present in the area. Particular attention was paid to safety measures in playgrounds to ensure the safety of children.

EVENT VISIBILITY

- **Pre-Event**

Pre-event announcements were limited due to the limited number of participants in the event and the event venue being organized in line with this limit. Before the event, announcements were posted on the social media accounts of the project.

- **During The Event**

During the event, social media posts continued on the project's social media accounts. In addition, swallow flags, sail flags and triangular flags were used in accordance with the visibility rules in the event venue.



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Logos of relevant institutions were included in all promotional materials produced and attention was paid to compliance with the visibility rules.

- **Post Event**

In the post-event period, details about the event were shared on the project's social media accounts.

EVENT AGENDA AND FLOW

The event was organized to include healthy outdoor activities and competitions that allow children to be children and enjoy their childhood. During the event, children were able to play as they wished (between 13.00-17.30) in the toys in the venue and benefit from the catering stands.

The program of the event is as follows;

- 13:00- 13:30 Arrival of Children at the Event Venue and Distribution of Promotional Materials
- 13:00- 15:15 Music Broadcast
- 15:15-15:30 Keynote Speakers: Nurten Erdihan and Emirhan Keskin, Coordinators of Children's Rights Turkey
- 15:30-15:45 Minister's Speech: Minister of T.R. Family and Social Services Derya Yanık
- 15:45-16:00 Opening of Children's Street
- 16:00-17:30 Music Broadcast

The event started at 13:00 with the children arriving at the venue. First, the names, surnames, school and class information of the children who were welcomed at the registration desks were obtained, and then the bags containing the promotional materials were distributed. Then the children were guided to the toys set in the area.

The playgrounds established in the area are as follows;

- Inflatable Ball Pool Castle
- Big Climbing Mountain
- Skill shot
- 2 Human Foosball
- Giant Inflatable Slide
- Giant Inflatable Darts
- Giant Jenga

Throughout the day, the children had a good time with these toys. The event continued with the speeches of Nurten Erdihan and Emirhan Keskin, Coordinators of Children's Rights Turkey at 15:15. In their joint speech, the coordinators emphasized the importance of children's rights and emphasized the steps to be taken to prevent child labour. At 15:30, Derya Yanık, Minister of Family and Social Services, gave a speech that highlight the meaning and importance of the day. In her speech, she marked the importance of the Özne Çocuk Project.



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After the speech, the Children's Street was opened with the participation of the Minister and the children. Children's Street is located in the Hamidiye Tabyalar Park. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is on the metal plates placed on both sides of the symbolic street in the middle of a green field. On this street, there are also benches where games such as checkers, chess and go are located. After the opening of the Children's Street, children spent time both on the street and in the playgrounds.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

This first event, which was held within the scope of the Özne Çocuk Project, was successfully completed in an organizational sense. Many participants expressed their content and appreciation verbally to the organization team on the field at the event venue. The Hamidiye Tabyalar Parkı, where the event was held, enabled the event to take place without any problems, owing to its location, size and technical infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Some suggestions that will be useful to evaluate in other events that will be held during the project process are as follows;

- Workshops (writing, painting, creativity, recycling workshops, etc.) can be organized to make the event more interactive for children.
- Traveling children's theatre groups can be included. Music concerts can be arranged for children.
- A photo booth can be set up in the event area, so children can have memories to take home.
- Informative sessions can be organized for adults accompanying children, and informative materials can be shared on the subject.

BUDGET

Event expenses were covered from the incidental expenses budget of the project. Pre-approval for incidental expenses on the basis of this activity was obtained from CFCU on 10.06.2022 in accordance with ToR article 6.5.



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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Activity Concept Note

Annex 2: Participant List





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