

## Türkiye - Increasing employability for Syrian refugees and Turkish host communities in the renewable energy sector

<b>Title of inspiring practice</b>	Increasing Employability for Syrian Refugees and Turkish Host Communities in the Renewable Energy Sector <i>("Yenilenebilir Enerji Sektöründe Suriyeliler ve Ev Sahibi Topluluklar için İstihdam Edilebilirliğin Artırılması")</i>
<b>Geographical area</b>	Türkiye <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Konya – Selçuklu</li> <li>• Kocaeli – Gebze</li> <li>• Hatay- İskenderun</li> <li>• Mersin-Akdeniz</li> <li>• Bursa-Yıldırım</li> <li>• İstanbul – Ataşehir, Bahçelievler</li> </ul> <p>4 cities will be added at the end of 2022.</p>
<b>Period of implementation</b>	31/12/2019 – 31/12/2023
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>This project focuses on the delivery of vocational training and skills certification for Syrians and Turkish host communities in the renewable energy sector – including solar power and wind energy. The project will benefit to an estimated minimum of 1 600 Syrians under Temporary Protection and Turkish host community members, by increasing their employability through vocational trainings and skills certification in this sector.</p> <p>The vocational training and certifications are expected to increase employability of the beneficiaries and access to available job opportunities in the renewable energy sector.</p>
<b>Scope of the practice</b>	<p>This practice is within the scope of Vocational Education and Training.</p> <p>It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 103 hours online training,</li> <li>• 144 hours face-to-face education,</li> <li>• A total of 247 hours course training programme.</li> </ul>
<b>Educational level</b>	Vocational Education and Training for the adults as a lifelong learning practice.
<b>Introduction and context</b>	<p>The key stakeholders involved in this practice are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Republic of Türkiye Ministry of National Education (Public Education Centres and Vocational and Technical Anatolian High Schools)</li> <li>• The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</li> <li>• The Republic of Korea-Ministry of Foreign Affairs</li> <li>• The Republic of Türkiye Presidency of Strategy and Budget</li> <li>• The Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Foreign Affairs</li> <li>• The Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources</li> <li>• Civil Society Organisations.</li> </ul> <p>As of November 2020, Türkiye hosts more than 3.6 million Syrian refugees under temporary protection, which offers them access to education, healthcare, social security and also employment.96% of Syrian refugees live amongst Turkish host communities and 59 427 people live in refugee camps. Most of these refugees are within the age of employment and need vocational training to get employed in more qualified positions. The project focuses on male and female (over the age of 18) Turkish and Syrian citizens.</p>

	<p>The overall objective of this project is to increase their employability in the sector of renewable energy. The project will do so by providing vocational training and skills certification opportunities.</p> <p>The overall budget of this project is USD 2 800 000 and is funded by the Republic of Korea-Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p>
<p><b>Key activities and outcomes</b></p>	<p>The key activities of this initiative include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocational and Technical High Schools in the provinces (Kocaeli, Konya, Bursa, Hatay, İstanbul and Mersin) were visited and analyses were conducted;</li> <li>• Since September 2020, a "Renewable Energy Curriculum" has been developed and programme development studies have been carried out with the project team. A "Photovoltaic Solar Panels Installation and Hybrid (Solar-Wind) System Integration" course programme was completed and approved;</li> <li>• A workshop on the development of the "Blended Learning" course programme was held. As a result of the workshop, the project course programme "Renewable Energy Technologies Photovoltaic Solar Panels Installation and Hybrid (Solar-Wind) System Integration (Blended Learning)" was approved.</li> <li>• Online learning materials are developed and published on the learning management system of Directorate for Lifelong Learning "HBÖ Akademi" <a href="https://hboakademi.eba.gov.tr">https://hboakademi.eba.gov.tr</a> ;</li> <li>• In line with the course programme developed according to the blended learning model, a 40-hour training for 53 trainers was held in Antalya in January, 2022 and İstanbul in March, 2022;</li> <li>• An "Inclusive Classroom Practices Seminar" was held online with the participation of trainers to motivate them and increase their classroom activities;</li> <li>• Solar Energy Power Plant, Wind Energy Power Plant, occupational health and safety materials, desks-chairs, computers, hardware, CNC counters, 3D printers and automation systems were purchased and sent to all provinces;</li> <li>• Courses were initially launched at the beginning of March 2021. Mask-disinfectant and training kits were provided to trainees and trainers because of the pandemic. Also, consumable needs of all provinces have been determined and sent;</li> <li>• A building located in Iskenderun Organised Industrial Zone, Hatay-İskenderun has been renovated to make it suitable for giving lessons and workshops. The opening of the building, which has become the Iskenderun Public Education Centre Renewable Energy Laboratory, took place on 30 July 2021. Extra tables-chairs, curtains, air conditioners, projectors, model solar panels, etc. have been provided. Trainings started to take place in this building since August 2021.</li> <li>• The "Mersin-Akdeniz Public Education Centre, Renewable Energy Laboratory" was constructed and courses in the lab have been carried on since September 2021. Desks, air conditioners, office supplies, flooring, table-chair etc. have been provided to the laboratory.</li> <li>• Cleaning staff has been employed in schools.</li> <li>• A private sector workshop was held in Kocaeli and Bursa on 27-28 September 2021 with the aim of discussing employment and internship opportunities, determining the sector's workforce needs, and informing the private sector about the trainings provided.</li> <li>• A total of 703 trainees were awarded a certificate by the end of July with Renewable Energy trainings (which started in March 2021).</li> <li>• In order to support the processing of online courses, 84 computers were purchased for seven Public Education Centres in six provinces, where courses are offered.</li> <li>• On 21 June 2022, the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting took place to discuss the access to more provinces and trainees with the addition of time, budget and targets to the project. As a result of the meeting, it was decided to extend</li> </ul>

	<p>the project until 31 December 2023 with an additional budget of USD 500 000 and a new target of 600 additional trainees.</p> <p>Not reaching the target of trainees and not being able to employ them might be potential obstacles to the project. Course announcements were regularly made by PECs and by checking/controlling courses at certain times, the potential absenteeism is prevented. Private sector workshops will also continue in project provinces in order to contribute to the employment of trainees.</p> <p>Trainees who pass all the exams but with low absence rate can receive the course certificate that will help them to find a job in the renewable energy sector.</p>
<b>Other information</b>	<p>Detailed information and course programmes are available on both project websites:</p> <p><a href="http://yenilenebilirenerji.info">http://yenilenebilirenerji.info</a></p> <p><a href="http://e-yaygin.meb.gov.tr/pagePrograms.aspx">http://e-yaygin.meb.gov.tr/pagePrograms.aspx</a> (programme number: 165000700)</p>
<b>Contacts and sources</b>	<p><u>Useful links:</u></p> <p>Project website: <a href="http://yenilenebilirenerji.info">http://yenilenebilirenerji.info</a></p> <p>Online trainings are held via: <a href="https://hboakademi.eba.gov.tr">https://hboakademi.eba.gov.tr</a></p> <p>Republic of Türkiye, Ministry of National Education, Directorate-General for Vocational and Technical Education</p>
<b>Date of update</b>	5 October 2022