ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe (RDF-EUR)

Information and Communication Technologies for attaining Sustainable Development Goals

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CONTRIBUTION FORM

ORGANIZATION: Information and Communication Technologies Authority – BTK

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TITLE: Digital Inclusion and Skills Development with BTK Academy

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: [Provide a brief description up to 500 words]

Türkiye attaches great importance to digital development and especially accessibility of ICTs everywhere by everyone. The Information and Communication Technologies Authority (BTK), the regulatory authority in electronic communications and postal sectors, has been conducting various studies for skills development and capacity building in Türkiye.

In 2017, BTK Academy was established as the training center of the BTK. It serves as a digital education portal in the field of ICTs for capacity building and skills improvement.

BTK academy provides free-of-charge, user friendly and accessible online ICT trainings from professionals for all segments of the society, including women, youth, children, immigrants and other vulnerable groups to increase the human resources capacity of Türkiye.

As of March 2023, BTK Academy reached almost 1,5 million registered users, 110.000+ minutes of online training material for 220 topics under 8 main categories: K12 World, Software World, System World, Business World, Personal Development World, Safe Internet World, Design World and Regulation World. Participants can enrol in these categories according to their interests. The number of weekly visits is around 700,000. About 8,000 new users join every week.

In addition to the online trainings, BTK Academy provides various in-class trainings under 70 different topics. Since its establishment, BTK Academy has trained more than 10,000 young people through face-to-face trainings. To offer career opportunities to trainees, several workshops are organized by BTK Academy in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders.

BTK Academy also organizes workshops, hackathons, conferences and seminars to raise awareness of all segments of society, especially youth and children, for the conscious and effective use of ICTs.

A Career Guide has been prepared by BTK Academy in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders including public and private entities, academia and professionals from the sector for more than 20 positions in the field of ICTs.

Apart from above, BTK Academy supports the normalization and relief efforts in the region affected by the huge earthquakes on 6 February 2023 through training activities. BTK Mobile Technology Truck arrived in the region and provided training for the kids on various subjects like coding, robotics, etc. Approximately, 150 children per day have training in the mobile classrooms of BTK Academy.

Türkiye is ready for regional cooperation with ITU Office for Europe to share its experiences among Member States of the ITU EUR region and provide cooperation support in the context of the relevant regional initiative.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: TÜRKİYE

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

    ☒ 2023

    ☒ 2024

    ☒ 2025

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

    ☐ EUR1: Digital infrastructure development

    ☐ EUR2: Digital transformation for resilience

    ☒ EUR3: Digital inclusion and skills development

    ☐ EUR4: Trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ICTs

    ☐ EUR5: Digital innovation ecosystems

Related ITU-D Priorities Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Related WSIS Action Line: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

    ☒ C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development

    ☐ C2: Information and communication infrastructure

    ☒ C3: Access to information and knowledge

    ☒ C4: Capacity building

    ☐ C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

    ☐ C6: Enabling environment

    ☒ C7: ICT applications

    ☐ C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content

    ☐ C9: Media

☐ C10: Ethical dimensions the Information Society

☐ C11: International and regional cooperation

Related SDG: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

☐ SDG 1: No Poverty

☐ SDG 2: Zero Hunger

☐ SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

☒ SDG 4: Quality Education

☐ SDG 5: Gender Equality

☐ SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

☐ SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

☐ SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

☐ SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

☐ SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

☐ SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

☐ SDG 13: Climate Action

☐ SDG 14: Life Below Water

☐ SDG 15: Life on Land

☐ SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

☐ SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs