

# HIGHLIGHTS of 2020

## UN Women in Turkey

UN Women in Turkey works closely with the Government, civil society organizations, the private sector, media and UN and international partners to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in all spheres of life. UN Women's overarching goals are: to strengthen women's leadership and participation in decision-making, advance gender-responsive plans, budgets and services, eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and strengthen the rights and opportunities of refugee women. Towards these goals, in 2020, UN Women implemented a diverse portfolio of projects and programmes, adapting them to respond to the growing and changing needs of women and girls amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Siyasette KADIN

## Women's Political Participation and Leadership

In 2020, UN Women maintained its close partnerships with the parliament, local authorities and councils, civil society organizations and community groups to strengthen women's participation. UN Women improved the gender sensitivity of parliamentarians, local council members, local authorities, representatives of local civil society organizations and university students through capacity building, trainings, workshops, and international exchanges.

- Strengthened relations with the Committee of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (EOC) of Turkish Grand National Assembly and Inter-Parliamentary Union.

- Gender analysis of 7 pieces of legislation completed and submitted to the EOC.

- UN Women strengthened relations with Ankara Metropolitan Municipality:

- Contribution to the preparation of the Local Equality Action Plan (2021-2024)
- Capacity Development Trainings and Gender Responsive Budgeting Workshops for staff
- Development of a ground breaking online tool: Social risk map "[Mor Haritam](#)"

- New resources developed:

- [Call to Action to Women Leaders: Gender-Sensitive Covid-19 Response](#)
- [Gender Equality in Local Governance and Services](#)

- [Gender responsive media trainings for students in media and journalism](#)



Watch



**133**  
participants



**5**  
universities

- [Gender responsive local politics and experience sharing workshops](#)



Watch



**90**  
participants



**6**  
cities



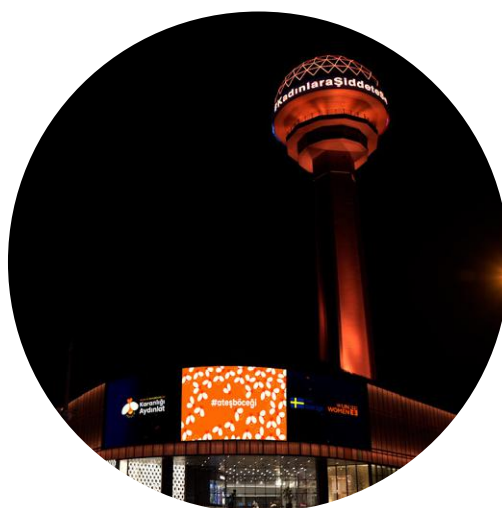
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# Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

With a goal to reduce gender-based discrimination and violence against women and girls, in 2020 UN Women supported civil society organizations (CSOs), in particular women's rights organizations, to advocate for the enabling and effective implementation of normative frameworks; to transform gender-discriminatory stereotypes, perceptions and beliefs; and to empower women and girls who have experienced discrimination or violence, including those from disadvantaged groups, to advocate for and use available, accessible and quality services.

- Representatives from **20 CSOs** initiated comprehensive shadow reporting process for the 8th periodic review of the CEDAW Committee, coordinated by the Turkish Women's Union.
- **71** local women's CSOs and service providers improved their capacities on counselling services to women, in line with the Istanbul Convention standards, and based on [Handbook for Operating a Women's Counselling Center](#), in partnership with the Foundation for Women's Solidarity.
- Physiological counselling and guidance teachers increased their capacities on diversity, social cohesion and child, early and forced marriages (CEFM) in partnership with the Flying Broom Women's Communication and Research Association.
- An interactive bilingual (Turkish and Arabic) website was activated for the promotion of girls' education and preventing CEFM. (<http://kizlarokuldagelecekleriguvende.org/>)



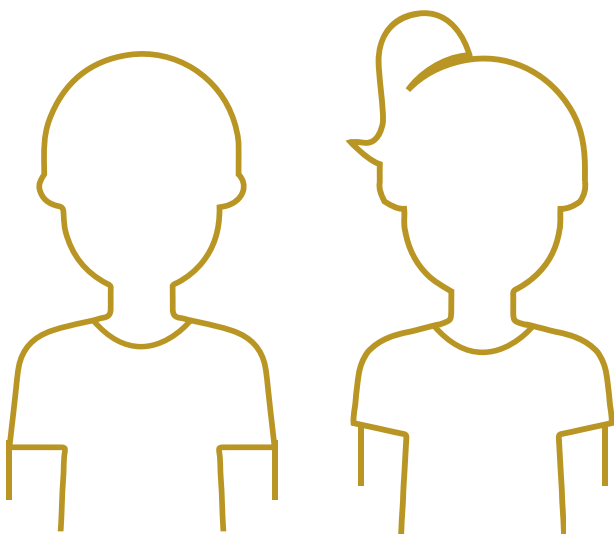
THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY  
THE EUROPEAN UNION.





# Ending Child, Early and Forced Marriages

The United Nations Joint Programme for the Prevention of Child, Early, and Forced Marriages in Turkey (2018-2021) aims to strengthen national mechanisms for the protection of women and children against child, early and forced marriages (CEFM). The Joint Programme aims to address the root causes of CEFM by increasing collective work on prevention and by responding to the needs of those in or at risk of CEFM through the provision of multi-sectoral services. It further promotes favourable social and gender norms towards ending CEFM among relevant national stakeholders, communities and individuals.



- In partnership with the Association for Monitoring Gender Equality (CEID), monitoring of CEFM in 4 provinces was strengthened, by developing new CEFM indicators, monitoring tools, service mapping and supporting capacities of local authorities and CSOs to use them.

- UN Women worked with the respective departments of **4 municipalities** located in high prevalence of CEFM to conduct community based activities, service provision and to ensure CEFM prevention and response are included to their annual workplans.
- **22.335** survivors of violence against women and girls (VAWG) received psychosocial and legal support through 3 women's CSOs supported under the **Small Grants Modality**.

## Men and boys to end CEFM

- The first national "[Research Study on the Perception of Men and Boys on Child, Early and Forced Marriages in Turkey](#)" was completed and published.
- In partnership with the Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV), UN Women reached more than **2.470** men through father support programmes to eliminate child, early and forced marriages in Turkey.

DONOR:





# Empowering Refugee and Local Women

UN Women Turkey's Refugee Response Programme (UN Women RRP) continued to strengthen the resilience of Syrian women and girls and host communities and to increase their access to opportunities, rights, and services with a gender-responsive approach in 2020. UN Women has adjusted its ongoing programs to ensure continuation and adaptation of activities in line with specific challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The differentiated impact of COVID-19 on women and girls is embedded in existing interventions. Together with its implementing partners in Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa, Kilis, Mardin, Istanbul, and Izmir, the programme worked to ensure that women, girls, and their communities are resilient to conflict, displacement, and other crises through protection, livelihood and social cohesion support. UN Women RRP also contributed to the capacity development of CSOs, women-led and grassroots organizations through gender-responsive refugee response trainings. Such support was also provided to the first line responders in Turkey, aiming to enhance duty bearers' capacity for mainstreaming gender in refugee response.

- **4.000** refugee and local women and girls with specific needs accessed psycho-social support, counselling, and referral services on legal, health, education and employment related issues.
- UN Women supported Syrian and Turkish community leader women who reached more than **1.400** women amid COVID-19 and reflected their urgent needs.
- More than **1.000** women and girls from refugee and host communities had access to long-term employment, livelihood and income generation opportunities through digital skills trainings and Turkish language courses.
- More than **100** Turkish and Syrian households joined the micro-gardening initiative and increased food security and dietary diversity.





- UN Women provided small grants to four women-led CSOs working in gender sensitive refugee response, amounting to USD 64.916, resulting in strengthened capacities to provide better support to Syrian women and girls.
- Gender-Sensitive Resilience Index Report was released based on the data collected through baseline and endline surveys carried out among the women benefiting from the services of the SADA Center. The results demonstrated a significant increase in women's resilience capacity and enhancement in their livelihood coping strategies and an increase in their influence in household decisions.
- **3,590** women and girls joined social cohesion activities.
- UN Women provided capacity development, gender trainings and one-on-one mentorships to 19 local and national CSOs.
- Eight UN Agencies benefited from training on 'Gender Responsive Approach in Humanitarian Action' offered by UN Women.

#### SADA Women's Cooperative:

- Was established by Syrian and Turkish women in 2019 to provide income generation opportunities for its members. It offers a **safe space** for the production, marketing, and sales of items produced by women.
- Started selling online at [sadacoop.com](https://sadacoop.com) and e-commerce websites.
- Enhanced the digital literacy skills of its partners with the support of the Government of Ireland.
- Selected as one of **the scale-up projects** of the Paris Peace Forum 2019, the Cooperative attended the Forum in 2020 and presented its one year of results and achievements.



#### DONORS:



This project is funded by the European Union.  
Bu proje Avrupa Birliği tarafından finanse edilmektedir.  
هذا المشروع ممول من قبل الاتحاد الأوروبي



From  
the People of Japan



Iceland

8 Mart

Dünya Kadınlar Günü

#GenerationEquality

#NesillerBoyuEşitlik



Destekliyoruz

HeForShe

UN Women Cinsiyet Eşitliği için Dayanışma Hareketi



## HeForShe Movement

HeForShe is the global solidarity movement initiated by UN Women inviting men, boys and people of all genders to stand in solidarity and to be an advocate for gender equality. HeForShe offers an innovative, inclusive approach to mobilize men and boys as equal partners for gender equality and women's rights acknowledges the ways in which they also benefit from gender equality since 2015 in Turkey with the support of private sector including HeForShe Impact Champions, such as Koc Holding, Vodafone, Unilever, Accor Hotels, PWC, civil society, universities and youth.

Recognizing the power of sports to propel gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, HeForShe is collaborating with Fenerbahçe Sports Club which is one of the most popular multi-sports club in Turkey with 9 different sports disciplines and a large fan base of 25 million around the world.

- Fenerbahçe Sports Club, HeForShe Turkey's partner, has become the first sports club in Turkey and in Europe by signing the [Women's Empowerment Principles \(WEPs\)](#).

- In partnership with Fenerbahçe Sports Clubs, "Implementation Guidelines of the Principles for Gender-responsive Sports Clubs" is being developed which is based on UN Women's global ["Sports for Generation Equality Initiative"](#).

- As a result of HeForShe – Fenerbahçe Sports Club partnership, **1125** sportspeople, technical personnel and staff of Fenerbahçe Sports Club have increased their awareness and knowledge of gender equality in sports through trainings implemented by UN Women's training partner, AÇEV (Mother and Child Education Foundation) since 2019.

- HeForShe x GQ Podcasts



Promoting men engagement together with male public figures [Available on Spotify](#)

- "Generation Equality: Empowering Women and Girls in Sports", a unique inter-generational dialogue event, among veteran and current female athletes and girls took place to celebrate the power of sports to empower women and girls, organized by UN Women, Fenerbahçe Sports Club and Tüpraş on 8th of March.



[On International Women's Day, Fenerbahçe Sports Club urges women's empowerment in sports](#)



HEFORSHE TURKEY - FENERBAHÇE SPORTS CLUB PARTNERSHIP IS SUPPORTED BY TÜPRAŞ





# Private Sector Partnerships

UN Women engages with private sector companies under global flagship programmes implemented at national level: to address stereotypes in marketing and communications (Unstereotype Alliance); to engage men as allies (HeForShe); and advance gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community (Women's Empowerment Principles - WEPs).

- WEPs signatory companies have taken concrete steps to change their practices to better address the needs of women employees, including in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The number of [WEPs signatories](#) in Turkey grew to 369: 2nd largest in the world.
- Unstereotype Alliance Turkey Chapter united businesses and industry leaders to transform gender-based stereotypes in advertising and media content.

- 'When Ads Change, Society Changes Campaign' with 8 awards



- 1 Crystal Apple Award
- 2 Jury's Special Awards at Crystal Apple
- 2 Felis and 1 Success Award (3 Awards) at Felis 2020
- Social Media Awards
- A Awards 2020



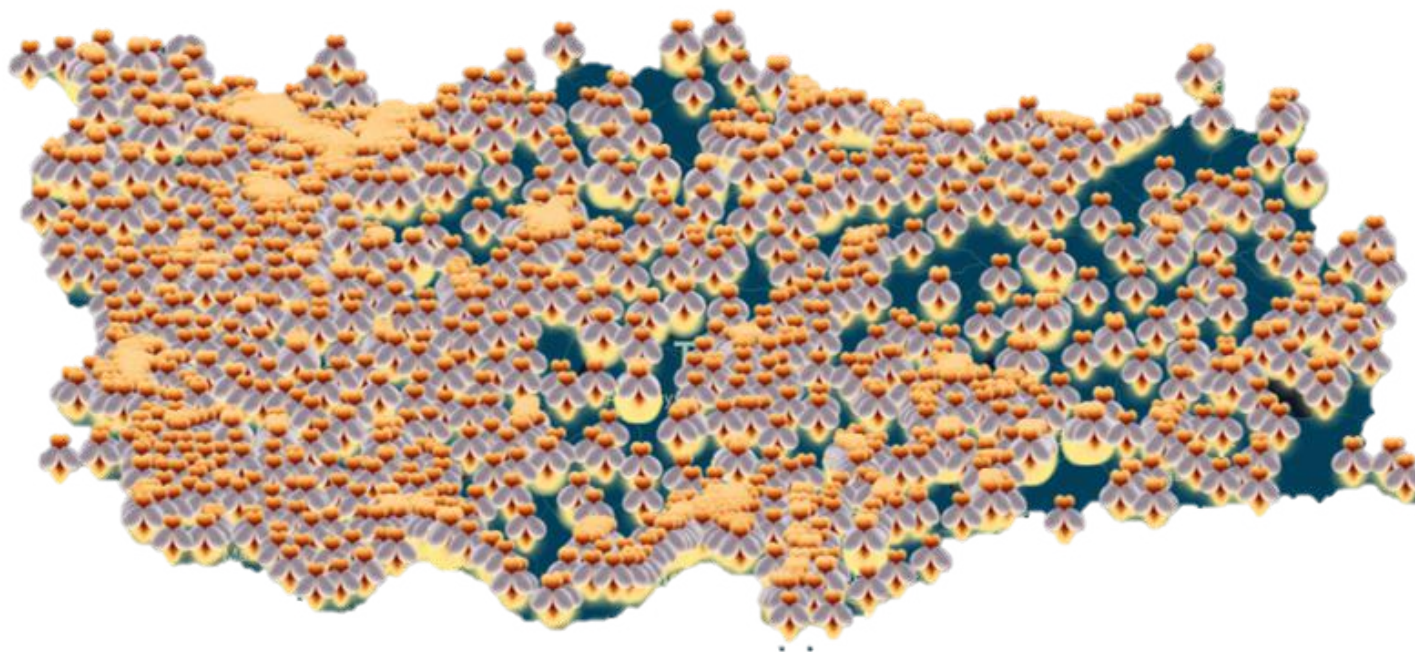


# COVID-19 Response

UN Women extensively strengthened its engagement with multiple partners including private sector, business associations, CSOs, influencers, media and advertising industry towards advancing gender equality and managing the disproportionate effects of the COVID-19 crisis on women and girls.

- UN Women developed new publications on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- UN Women Turkey published “[Rapid Gender Assessment of COVID-19 Implication in Turkey](#)”. The research presents the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on the working and domestic life of women and men.
- “[Impact Assessment of COVID-19 on Women in the Workplace](#)” is published in partnership with the Turkish Industry and Business Association (TUSIAD) and the Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation (TURKONFED) with the participation of more than 300 companies.
- Over **22.000** survivors of VAWG from **36** provinces in Turkey received psycho-social and legal support as well as referrals to governmental services based on their specific protection needs, thanks to improved institutional capacities of three women’s CSOs through small grant support.
- SADA Women’s Cooperative produced **252.000** face masks to contribute to public health amid COVID-19 within the framework of “PEP- Promotion of Economic Prospects” programme financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).
- [“My Safety Plan”](#), an easy-to-use guideline for women on how to access services and exercise their rights reached over **54.000** women. UN Women collaborated with the private sector and CSOs to ensure maximum outreach.
  - Available in English, Turkish, Arabic, Sign language, Audio, Visual
- [#HeForSheatHome / #EvdeHeForShe Campaign](#) to address increased care work burden on women amid COVID-19 and promote equal share of care work among women and men.
  - **500.000** campaign reach
- “[No to Domestic Violence](#)” campaign to address increased domestic violence against COVID-19 in partnership with Aygaz, a WEPs signatory LPG company.
  - **150.000** campaign reach





# Safer Cities for Women and Girls

UN Women's innovative campaign, Light the Dark against Gender Based Violence in public spaces won prestigious Silver Effie Award. Within the campaign an interactive Turkey map was created in 2019 where citizens could pin the unsafe spots of the cities they live in.

- The results were used by several Municipalities to make betterments in public spaces.
- The methodology inspired Beşiktaş District Municipality to develop its own platform to create a safer and more equal district.
- Created by UN Women in 2019, Light the Dark Lighting Exhibition became part of the "[Istanbul the Lights](#)" festival organized by Contemporary Istanbul.



DONOR:





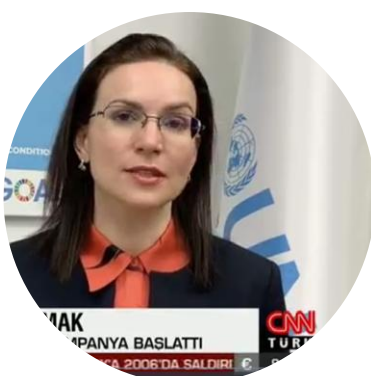


# Safer Cyber Spaces for Women and Girls

UN Women developed an interactive online platform to raise public awareness and prompt action against gender based cyber violence. Users visit <https://fireflies.digital/> where they take a test about cyber violence, check their results, download an informative guideline and challenge their network to join a global solidarity movement. The goal is to reach one million people!

## Within the 16 Days of Activism:

- **220.000** visited fireflies.digital, **68.400** taken tests, **27.000** result check, 10.000 downloaded guideline, **20.000** challenged users.
- 30 private sector companies and 50 influencers reaching **30 million** Instagrammers supported the campaign.
- Yapı Kredi Bank communicated the Campaign to its **20 million** customers through mail announcement.
- 436 news pieces, 10 million print media reach, **14,6 million** impressions received on UN Women Turkey social media accounts.
- Fenerbahçe Sports Club reached almost **8 million** people with their 16 Days of Activism campaign.
- Campaign cover on Milliyet News is selected as one of the best headlines of 2020 by MediaCat magazine.
- More information about the campaign results can be found [here](#).



DONOR:



# Generation Equality Campaign

The year 2020 was a milestone year for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women. It marked the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. In this pivotal year to take stock of progress achieved and accelerate action on remaining gaps, UN Women partnered with numerous partners to launch **Generation Equality** - a global, multi-year campaign bringing together different generations of activists and leaders to tackle the unfinished business of achieving gender equality. In Turkey, UN Women organized numerous events and dialogue sessions under the framework of Generation Equality campaign.

- Generation Equality events brought together women and men from different generations, sectors and walks of life.
- Displaying achievements in women's rights in a chronological order beginning from the Ottoman Empire, "Equality through Generations in Turkey" interactive wall exhibition invited the visitors to complete the exhibition with their own gender equality journey.
- In Turkey, inspiring women manifest their stories of empowerment
- Gupse Özay: A woman comedian fights stereotypes in Turkish films
- Adalet Budak Akbaş: Changing the rules so that women and girls in Turkey can thrive with an education
- I am Generation Equality: Janine Shepherd, aerobatic pilot, author, resilience expert
- I'm Generation Equality: Selin Özünaldım, HeForShe advocate, youth activist for gender equality
- Bahar Toksoy Guidetti: From a successful career in Turkish volleyball to empowering girls through sport





# COMMUNICATION FOR CHANGE



Printed media:

**431**

NEWS PIECES

**42 million**

PEOPLE REACHED



TV:

**166**

NEWS PIECES

**17 million**

PEOPLE REACHED



Online:

**3.395**

NEWS PIECES

**8 million**

PEOPLE REACHED



Social media:

**18 million**

PEOPLE REACHED

Social media growth:



Facebook

**74%**



Instagram

**627%**



Twitter

**648%**

Two new media partnerships launched under UN Women Media Compact with  
**GQ Turkey Magazine & Milliyet Newspaper**



# WHAT'S NEXT?

In 2021, UN Women will continue working in the areas of increasing women's participation and leadership in political and economic decision-making, advancing gender responsive governance, preventing and combating different forms of violence against women and girls, and contributing to gender sensitive refugee response. We will continue ensuring that our programmes and projects are implemented in view of the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls, and in line with the principle of "leaving no one behind." In addition to continuing ongoing initiatives, new projects include the following:

- UN Women started a three-year project **"Implementing Gender-Responsive Planning and Budgeting in Turkey"** as of December 2020, funded by the European Union and the main beneficiary of which is the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services - General Directorate on the Status of Women whereas the co-beneficiary is Presidency of Turkey - Presidency of Strategy and Budget. The project aims to increase financing for gender equality and women's empowerment through strategic partnerships, providing tailored technical assistance and guidance, and building institutional capacity and knowledge. It is designed to support selected line Ministries as well as four selected pilot municipalities (Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, Eskisehir Metropolitan Municipality, Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, Edirne Municipality).
- **"Strengthening civil society capacities and multistakeholder partnerships to advance women's rights and gender equality in Turkey"** project aims to reduce gender inequalities by enhancing the ability of civil society organizations in Turkey to be the agents of transformative change towards gender equality and women's rights. It will be implemented over the course of 36 months starting from 1st of April 2021 with the support of the European Commission. Under this project UN Women will work with civil society actors as knowledge partners, implementing partners, and advocates for normative advancements and accountability, and will support civil society through convening and networking, knowledge exchange, capacity development, funding, including through its grant-making mechanisms.
- **"Strengthening the Socio-Economic Stabilization of Refugee and Host Community Women and Girls through Women's Leadership"** in Gaziantep, Istanbul and Izmir has an overall objective to increase and expand the role that women play and better serve them in humanitarian response and recovery efforts, adjusted to the emerging and urgent needs in COVID-19 context. Funded by the Government of Japan, it will be implemented over the course of 12 months beginning on 1 April 2021. The project will contribute to the social and economic stabilization of minimum 2.000 Syrian and other refugee women and girls living in Turkey. It will enhance women's leadership and self-reliance through the provision of gender-responsive protection and livelihoods support and by enhancing women's and women's organizations' capacities to lead recovery and resilience efforts at community and local levels. The project is placed on the humanitarian-development nexus and will address the urgent and ongoing needs of women and girls from refugee and host communities for protection and livelihoods in the context of both the Syrian crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Building on the achievements and lessons learnt over the previous years, the project **"Advancing gender equality and women's leadership in political and business life"** has an overall objective to advance women's leadership and participation in decision-making in Turkey by focusing on key stakeholders and actors in the fields of politics and private sector. The project will:
  - Provide support for increasing women's leadership in political decision-making, establishing a cadre of interested, diverse and capable women to run for political office at local level, increasing solidarity and gender equality awareness among women from different political affiliations and with women from outside government, advancing the national and policy legal framework, strengthening gender sensitive governance at the local level.
  - Promote women's leadership and influence in the private sector, strengthen the engagement of men political and corporate leaders in advancing gender equality, work with media current and future professional and media outlets to advance non-stereotypical portrayal of women in media as political and business leaders and to practice gender sensitive practices internally and externally.

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