



**BRIDGING DIGITAL DIVIDE: EMPOWERMENT  
OF YOUTH FOR THE E- TRANSFORMATION OF TURKEY**

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**March 2008 -May 2008**

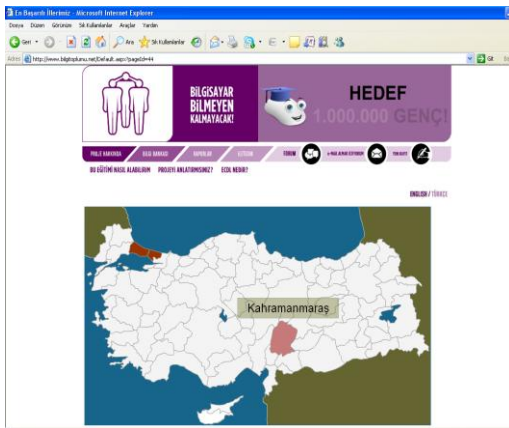


**Türkiye  
Vodafone  
Vakfı**



The third three-month period of the Bridging Digital Divide Project has been finalized by the end of May 2008. During this third month period, to be detailed below, the testing stage of the web site was finalized and the number of users reached to 1500 by 16<sup>th</sup> of June. The web site was reevaluated in order to measure its success and new tools such as simulation of Map of Turkey, have been incorporated into the web page so as to motivate young people at the local level to participate and multiply the project outcomes.

According to Project framework, project participants are entitled to have Participation Certificates after they successfully completed the ECDL e-learning Modules which including Using the Computer and Managing Files, Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Database, Presentation, Information and Communication. These Participation Certificates are designed as online Certificates which can be printed and send via e-mail.



The map simulation has been created in order to demonstrate the number of the participants from each and every city of Turkey. This demonstration also includes a gender based indicator so as to show the number of the female and male participants. The map simulation function is designed to see the distribution of the participants in cities and is expected encourage youngsters to register to the web site and have the ECDL

trainings as it shall create a youth friendly competition environment among different local youth councils to come first among the other cities.

Since participants receive online trainings though internet, they, with a special remark on disadvantaged young people, might be open to the risk emanating from Internet. In this context, the ECDL e-learning system has been enriched with new e-learning modules aiming to increase the knowledge of youngsters about Internet usage and Internet safety. Accordingly, [www.bilgitoplumu.net](http://www.bilgitoplumu.net) is expected to evolve into a virtual library consisting of substantial information on Information and Communication Technologies. The new e-learning modules are;

- Computer Security and Privacy
- Digital Lifestyles
- The Internet and the World Wide Web
- Productivity Programs
- Computer Basics

Besides, all the information in the project website has been translated in English with the intention of increasing the visibility of the project at the international level. (Annex-2)

### **Developing Communication Strategies**

The Meeting for Developing Communication Strategies and Work Plan was realized on 7<sup>th</sup> of May at Vodafone Business Centre with the participation of Project partners; UNDP, Vodafone Turkey Foundation and Youth Association for Habitat.

The decisions taken at the meeting as follows;

Redesigning project promoting materials in accordance with Vodafone preferences and distributing promotional materials to Vodafone Shops and Regional Agencies, in this way, including Vodafone employees into the project as volunteers working in collaboration with Education Team of Youth for Habitat travelling 81 cities to train and inform youth councils on IT projects.

Meeting with media representatives and informing press about success stories of the Project and the project itself. Within this context, a press release was published in “20 Dakika” newspaper which is distributed to 300.000 people a day in Istanbul. (Annex-3)

All through this three month period (March, April, May) the Bridging Digital Divide project was introduced to young people in international, national and local meetings and trainings detailed below. Within this context, the Netron Corporate Solutions assisted Youth for Habitat for developing a new design for the promotional materials including display posters and brochures which are delivered to local youth councils and participants of the introductory meetings. (Annex-1)

As it was stated in the previous progress reports, Bridging Digital Divide Project has been introduced to young people in “the local IT trainings for trainers” realized by the volunteer

master trainers of Empowerment of Youth for the Improved e-Governance in Turkey Project (BBBO). Accordingly, new IT trainers become the local points and multipliers of the project at the local level. They introduce Bridging Digital Divide Project during their trainings. Moreover, Habitat IT Academies founded in Yalova on 9<sup>th</sup> of April and in Rize on 28<sup>th</sup> of April support the Bridging Digital Divide Project as they host the IT trainings in their facilities.

### **Local IT Trainings and Project Presentation at the Local Level**



Trainings for volunteer IT trainers was realized in İzmir between the dates of 8 - 9, 15 - 16 and 22 - 23 March 2008 by the master trainers of BBBO Project. During the trainings realized by Master trainers Tamer Erez and Demirkan Demir, the participants were informed about Bridging Digital Divide Project and project website. They were encouraged to register to [www.bilgitoplumu.net](http://www.bilgitoplumu.net) and inform other youngsters at their local areas.

Volunteer master trainer of BBBO Project Hüseyin Mertol, realized trainings for trainers in Samsun in the facilities of The Educational Volunteers Foundation of Turkey. The trainings were realized between the dates of 13, 19 -20, 26- 27 April 2008 and 3- 4 May 2008. Here, he introduced Bridging Digital Divide Project.



Trainings for trainers in the Mediterranean Region were actualized between 3- 8th March 2008 in Adana. Training for trainers in the Black Sea Region was realized between the dates of 26<sup>th</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 in Habitat ICT Academy founded in partnership with Governorship of Rize. Young people were informed about the Bridging Digital Divide Project during the trainings.



The training for trainers in Adiyaman, South East Region, were made between the dates of 4<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 in the computer labs of Adiyaman Youth and Culture House by volunteer master trainers Aydın Yavuz and Serhat Özer. 20 new volunteer trainers were notified about the Bridging Digital

Divide Project.

### **Project Presentation in National and Regional Meetings**

The Project representation has been continued at national and regional levels during three month period. These meetings are as follows;

- On 6th of March 2008, Youth for Habitat Field Coordinator, Rahim Aladağ gathered with the members of Kahramanmaraş Youth Council and administrators of the City Council. He also visited one of the Anatolian High Schools and informed them about the Bridging Digital Divide and introduced the Project website.
- The 2008 National Human Development Report was launched in Ankara on 21 March 2008 with the participation of public and private institutions, ambassadors, NGOs, academics, parliamentarians and international organizations. Following two days, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, Youth Info Days were realized in order to gather youth NGOs, universities and student unions together to discuss the Youth Report and share their experiences regarding youth work. Seda Atabay and Emre Uctepe participated in the meeting as the representatives of Youth Association for Habitat and presented ICT projects including Bridging Digital Divide.
- Local Agenda 21 National Youth Parliament Regional Coordination Meeting for Central Anatolia was realized in Eskişehir between the dates of 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2008. 25 young people from 5 different cities were present in the meeting and informed about the Bridging Digital Divide Project.
- Local Agenda 21 National Youth Parliament National Coordination Meeting was actualized on 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>rd</sup> of April in Istanbul with the participation of 97 representatives from 45 cities. This meeting was realized within the context of “GepGenç “Youth Festival in cooperation with Bilgi University. Festival participants along side representatives of youth councils were enlightened about the ECDL e-learning modules delivered through [www.bilgitoplumu.net](http://www.bilgitoplumu.net). Mass registration to web site, collecting individual information and registering them all together, was realized in this Festival and it was observed that mass registration and notifications via e-mail following these registrations were more successful than individual registrations.



- 4th Ordinary General Meeting of Local Agenda 21 National Youth Parliament was realized in Ankara between the dates of 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of May with the participation of 300 people from 63 cities and representatives of youth assemblies. Youth projects including Bridging Digital Divide were introduced to deputies and the representatives of local youth councils.

**Project presentation at the International Level and Developing Methodologies to Scale up the Outcomes of the ICT usage.**

**Telecentre Leaders' Forum, 8-9<sup>th</sup> April 2008- Riga, Latvia**

Telecentre Leaders' Forum (TLF) which aims to bring the leaders of the organizations focusing on ICT for development in order to create a Europe wide network of telecentres was realized in Riga between the dates of 8th-9th of April 2008. The Telecentre Leaders' Forum was attended by over 60 telecentre practitioners, networkers and development partners.



The forum mainly targeted to compile the experiences of different national and local the telecentre activities motivated on ICT for development and create a common ground where these telecentres could collaborate and develop new strategies for the expansion and scale up of the telecentres in the region.

Seda Atabay as the representative of Youth Association for Habitat participated in the Forum and Youth for Habitat became a part of task force aiming to facilitate the creation of the network of telecentres in Europe which is called “Telecentre. Europe”. She introduced the ICT projects conducted by Youth for Habitat in the workshop activities and facilitated the workshop on “participation and volunteerism”.

Hereby, she shared the experiences gained through the implementation of the ICT project and introduced the [www.bilgitoplumu.net](http://www.bilgitoplumu.net) site and e-learning modules which in the end inspired the other participants of the workshop. During the workshop, the methodology to integrate the e-learning activities in the operation of the telecentres was discussed. And various examples of telecentre activities all over Europe were gathered to be analysed for further development of national strategy for the Community Technology Centres in Turkey.

### *What does telecentre stand for?*

A **telecentre** is a public place where people can access [computers](#), the [Internet](#), and other digital technologies that enable people to gather information, create, learn, and communicate with others while they develop essential 21st-century digital skills. While each telecentre is different, their common focus is on the use of digital technologies to support community, economic, educational, and social development—reducing isolation, bridging the digital divide, promoting health issues, creating economic opportunities, and reaching out to youth for example. Telecentres exist in almost every country, although they sometimes go by different names (e.g., village knowledge centers, infocenters, community technology centers (CTCs), community multimedia centers (CMCs), **Community Internet Access Points**, Common/Citizen Service Centres (CSCs), or school-based telecentres).<sup>1</sup>

### **“How inclusive we are?” Youth Seminar, Portugal – 31th May-3th of June 2008**

The Youth Seminar focusing on including excluded young people through raising their awareness about youth exchange projects was realized in Almada in Portugal. Emre Üçtepe participated in the Seminar and represented the "Bridging Digital Divide" project. He emphasized the importance of IT knowledge in order to benefit from employment opportunities and use internet to get involved youth exchanges easily. There were 30 volunteers and professional workers from 10 countries which were Finland, Poland, Turkey, Czech Republic, France, Slovakia, Portugal, Romania, Italy and Spain.

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<sup>1</sup> Telecentre, Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecentre>, [Last Access: 14.04.2008]



## Annex-3: Press Release

### KÖRFEZ HAZIRLIĞI

**Sürat tutkunları, hafta sonu yapılacak Türkiye Pist Şampiyonası'nı bekliyor. Körfez pistinde yarışacak Porscheler ise Levent'te hazırlanıyor.**



8 Porsche'nin katılımıyla gerçekleştirilen Araçların her biri 400 beygir gücünde ST Racing Motorsun sahibi Yusuf Arıncı'nın çabalarıyla gerçekleştirilecek yarışın Porsche'leri, firmasının 4. Levent Oto Sanayi'deki atölyesinde tasarlama yarışına hazırlanıyor. Motor, bakım-kurulum ve yarış giysilerine kadar her şeyinin bu atölyede yapıldığı araçları, genç pilotlar kullanacak. Yarışta da eski rekortmen olan Yusuf Arıncı, kuruyada özelikle güncelleme fırsatı bulabileceğini belirtiyor. Hazır ve yarışmaya hazır oldukları bu özel yarış hafta sonu 2 gün sürecek ve koreografi izlenecek.

### KENE KUYRUĞU

**İstanbul'da Pazar günü güneşli havayı fırsat bilerek pöçöğe gidenleri kene ürdü. Beğiriz Ormanları, Arnavutköy ve Çekirgezi meşinlerine piknikçilerden yüzlerce vücutlarına yapışan keneleri götüre hastanelere kudu. Hastaki Eğinim ve Keçirgeni Hastanesi'ne yollananlardan kaçanlar, 150 kişilik kuyruk çıptırıldı.**



### GEM

**Yönetim Kurulu**

**Yerleşim Yönetimi**

**Programı**

**Bir milyon genç bilgisayar kursu**

**Muhalef**

**Yarış**

### Gıda depolarında yangın korkuluğu

**Çok sayıda gıda deposunda yangın korkuluğu**