FINAL REPORT OF THE YOUNG IDEAS WORKSHOP FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
NOTE: The presentation of the designs and materials used in this publication does not necessarily reflect the views of UNICEF and ICHILD-International Children’s Rights Ambassadors Association regarding any country, region, city, or area, or the legal status of the authorities thereof.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ICCHILD - International Children’s Rights Ambassadors Association is an NGO founded in 2019 in Ankara carrying out all kinds of informative, promotional and awareness-raising activities with the objective of enabling children and young individuals to enjoy the rights they are entitled to within the scope of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in platforms where their interactive participation is ensured and where they have a say.

Young individuals elaborating on the basic topics around the global goals have shared their thoughts and experiences on “Fighting Against Inequality and Injustice, Fighting Against Hunger and Poverty, and Fighting Against Climate Change” within the scope of this workshop. We hope that this report will contribute to all decision makers in terms of designing a new sustainable world.

This report has been prepared with the contributions of 40 young individuals from 15 provinces across Turkey coming up with solutions for global issues. We would like to thank the young individuals Selda Bozbıyık, who have all worked for the preparation of this report.
Contents

Introduction .................................................................................................................. 1

Expectations of Young Individuals in Reducing Inequality and Injustice and Solution Proposals .......................................................... 3
  Education ....................................................................................................................... 4
  Gender Equality ........................................................................................................... 5
  State/Politics/Laws ....................................................................................................... 7
  Business Life ................................................................................................................ 9

Expectations of Young Individuals in Ending Hunger and Poverty and Solution Proposals ................................................................. 11
  Employment ................................................................................................................ 12
  Access to Basic Needs ................................................................................................. 12
  Sustainable Agriculture and Energy ........................................................................... 14
  Extreme Population Growth ....................................................................................... 15
  Income Inequality ......................................................................................................... 15
  Social Development and Education ............................................................................. 16

Expectations of Young Individuals for Reversing Climate Change and Solution Proposals ................................................................. 17
  Industry ......................................................................................................................... 18
  Food .............................................................................................................................. 18
  Raising Awareness and Organization on Environment and Climate ....................... 18
  Energy Policies ............................................................................................................ 20
  Waste Management .................................................................................................... 20
  Agriculture and Environment ...................................................................................... 20
  Incentives and Sanctions ............................................................................................. 21
  Representation on Environment and Climate ............................................................. 21
  Responsibilities ............................................................................................................ 22
  Education ..................................................................................................................... 23
  Sustainability ............................................................................................................... 23

Conclusion ..................................................................................................................... 24
INTRODUCTION

This report consists of the outputs of the online workshop where young individuals have come up with solutions together on the global issues that affect themselves and other living beings in the world using the Human Centered Design (HCD) method by ICHILD - International Children’s Rights Ambassadors Association, through cooperation with UNICEF.

The 8-hour online workshop was one of the youth participation processes where ICHILD used HCD principles. Based on their experiences, young individuals analyzed their status in the society, created models and designed solutions together.

The workshop was held with the active and meaningful participation of 40 young individuals (24 women, 15 men, and 1 who does not wish to disclose) from 15 cities, namely Adana, Amasya, Ankara, Aydın, Balıkesir, Bursa, Çanakkale, Diyarbakır, Edirne, Eskişehir, İstanbul, İzmir, Konya, Sakarya, and Tekirdağ. Attendance was encouraged with the shared life stories of young individuals, and the collaborative learning via online resources, fields and contents.

In the developing world order, young individuals now have more say about their own lives, and are entitled to participate in the decisions that affect them. Therefore, the goal of ICHILD was to involve young individuals in the processes with their desire to design a new world model in the “Young Ideas Workshop for a Sustainable Future” and to ensure their meaningful participation.

During the course of the sessions held with three different youth groups, works have been carried out under titles “Fighting Against Inequality and Injustice, Fighting Against Hunger and Poverty, and Fighting Against Climate Change”, which are the basic topics of Global Goals. Several ideas and suggestions have been brought to the table during the sessions held. The ideas and suggestions developed during the sessions were presented to the approval of all participants at the end of the workshop.

The fact that the young individuals participating in the workshop were from various provinces and with different cultural backgrounds enabled different approaches on
similar matters to emerge, and thus the solution proposals were inclusive. The objective of the young individuals was to be part of the solution, using their creativity and their own experiences.

Human centered design is a design process to create innovation prioritizing the needs of individuals affected from the process when developing any product or service. It ensures that the target is reached in the most correct way, by offering the freedom of choosing ideas and receiving constant feedback with the idea, “There are no wrong answers, there are right questions.”

The solutions set forth in this report present the solution proposals designed by participating young individuals for combatting “Extreme Poverty, Inequality, Injustice and Climate Change” in a constantly changing world.

ICHILD will continue to create and support the enabling environment necessary for upholding the best interests of children, for the meaningful participation of children, adolescents, and young individuals. Within this scope, it aims to continue using the HCD method by developing it further.
Expectations of Young Individuals in Reducing Inequality and Injustice and Solution Proposals
Education

- We want the number and the inspections of special education institutions to be increased, and we want support for special children in a qualified manner.

- We want pre-school education to be more accessible for every child, and more qualified.

- We want the formal education system to be designed in such a way as to ensure that children can discover their own areas of interest. The society needs people with different professions; we want children to receive education in line with their own areas of interest and wishes.

- We want a more meticulous treatment for the teaching profession. Teachers are the individuals who make the highest effort and contribution for the development of a society. We therefore want a more selective approach for individuals entering a teaching major. We also want the contents of such major courses to be transformed in line with the requirements of the present day.

- We want any and all adverse behavior against students and teachers in education settings to be eliminated, and we want risks to be reduced.

- We want negative perspective created by social stereotyped perspectives and norms to be transformed into inclusive perspectives focusing on the uniqueness of children and young individuals. We want incentive subsidies to be given to workers who live in rural areas and send their children to school (For example, agricultural workers may regard their children as free and/or extra labor force, and therefore may not wish to send their children to school.)
- We want to prevent peer bullying causing inequality and injustice in education. Therefore, we want school counsellors at school to be more careful and supporting about “Peer Bullying”, and we want them to develop an effective monitoring mechanism in that regard.

- What underlies inequalities and injustice is a society in oblivion. We want a “Building for Counselling” for rendering parents conscious and ensuring that the necessary planning is made for a more conscious society. We want mandatory awareness raising trainings to be held for parents prior to and following birth of their children, at this building.

- We want the Non-Governmental Organizations to offer parents awareness raising trainings on topics like secure internet use and the right use of technology more frequently.

Gender Equality

- Professions are not gender specific. We want individuals to be protected from sexist and homophobic, discriminatory rhetoric they are subjected to during their hiring processes. We want equal conditions and equal salaries.

- We want campaigns to be held to transform social norms that damage the sentiments of equality and justice between individuals to a more equal, fair and inclusive approach.

- We want activities preventing gender discrimination in terms of access to education and increased percentages of girls accessing education.

- We want any individual over the age of 18 to be entitled to be married, as per mutual consent, regardless of sexual identity and sexual orientation.
- We want salaries and conditions in business life not to change by gender.

- We want the rights of employees to be explained to them transparently, regardless of their gender in business life.

- We want women not to be forced to change their physical and personal unique characteristics, such as physical appearance or tone of voice in business life.

- We want protectionist sexism not to be regarded as a norm across the society.

- We want egalitarian approaches that will not require the practice of positive discrimination to be adopted.

- We want the changes that individuals make in their appearances in line with their own wishes to be respected. We want no one to be subjected to gender stereotypes.

- We want an informative guide to be created which is accessible for every individual, and which includes correct and qualified information on gender identity, sexual orientation, and romantic orientation.

- We want families to respect gender equality at home and not to discriminate children based on their gender.

- We want hobbies, sports, arts, and personal preferences not to be associated with gender stereotypes.

- We want the sensitivity and awareness of violence against "women" to be demonstrated for violence against "men" as well. We do not accept any form of violence against anyone.

- We think we need to transform our language in the positive sense for gender equality. We want relevant education modules to be developed and a Gender Equality Heroes network to be created, and then we wish these heroes to support the transformation of language in the society.
• We want a sensitive attitude adopted for gender equality in national channels/media content.

• We want an increased auditability for media components.

• We want content that will adversely affect people socio-psychologically/psychosocially at national channels not to be open to public, and we want access to such contents to be left to people's choice. At this point, we want an expert team to be created that will identify the contents that will adversely affect people socio-psychologically/psychosocially.

**State/Politics/Laws**

• Special children should not be isolated from social life, and they should be able to access their rights in an equal and fair manner like all children. Therefore, we want training courses and support to be provided for families, and we want laws to be passed that focus on meeting the needs of special children.

• We want high quality family planning strategies to be developed in order to reduce inequalities that arise from population growth.

• We want monitoring mechanisms consisting of children to be implemented in order to increase auditability in every matter concerning children.

• We want the public to be informed more on domestic violence and we want each citizen to be urged to report to the authorities when required, as it is their obligation to report.

• We want a crime committed by an individual not to be extenuated because of his/her appearance, clothing, or position, and we want no tolerance to be offered to the perpe-
tractor with regards to the crime that has been committed.

- We want the judiciary independence to be preserved at all times, not being compromised due to any bribes, pressure, or position.

- The citizens trust increases in a state where the laws are processed correctly, and which acts in compliance with the legal, justice, and social state norms. We therefore want the transparency and the reliability of the judicial mechanism to be increased.

- We want the zero-tolerance policy in Combating Inequality and Injustice to be effective.

- We want the representations of children’s councils, women councils and youth councils to be created under one roof. We want the decisions made in those councils to be extended in such a way as to represent every individual. It is necessary to listen to the voice of the public as a very important concept and to re-evaluate decisions based on the wishes and the demands of the majority in order to ensure the representation of other people in the society.

- We want advisory boards to be created, consisting of groups regarded as sensitive and vulnerable in the society, for all decisions to be taken for such groups and the requests of such boards to be taken into consideration, and we want laws and regulations to ensure the meaningful participation of such boards to be developed.

- We want councils to be created about fundamental rights and we want these councils to be supported by the state (Human rights, animal rights, children’s rights…)

- We want judicial systems to be developed to prevent girls being married off at an early age (before 18 years).

- We want measures against discourses that degrade individuals to be increased.

- If young children are subjected to witnessing violence, we want legal regulations to be introduced for sanctions against the family as well.
Business Life

- We want the maximum working hours for each individual to be set in standards that benefits humans, and we want every individual to receive a decent minimum wage. We want an economic system where the status difference in the society is not reflected in income distribution.

- We want the maximum working hours of each individual to be clearly set when commencing work and we want these to be notified to employees. We want increased auditability for the implementation of maximum weekly working hours by the state and for the payment of overtime for those individuals who work more than the specified hours.

- We want deterrent laws to be passed to prevent child labor.

- We want the functions and the audits of the ALO 183 hotline to be increased.

- We want the creation of a volunteer monitoring network (by holding a certain professional competence test) with individuals who have retired from relevant areas (Social Services, PDR, Psychology, Child Development…), and we want the field works on preventing child labor to be monitored and inspected.

- We want interns working in any field to be under legal protection (such as the payment of social security). We want the psychological or physical pressure on interns to be eliminated.

- We do not want any individual to be subjected to maltreatment, be alienated, or face disadvantage in the business world because of their sexual identity and sexual orientation.

- We want a secondary identity to be created based on talents in professions. We want people’s job-related competencies to be discussed rather than their personal preferences in interviews (religion, race, political views...).
- We want the possibility of women becoming mothers not to make them less preferable in their work life.

- A female senior employee is as respectable as a male employee of the same position. We want emphasis on gender equality to be included in the bylaws and regulations at every workplace.

- We do not want individuals with disabilities to be deprived of the right to work just because of their disability. As for the quotas for persons with disabilities in each business sector, we want the quality of the work asked to be done by individuals with disability assigned to such workplaces to be monitored and reported.

- We want factors like race, religion, ethnic origin, gender not to be determining when hiring people for work.

- If employers or workers attempt to bully any one or a group in work setting, we want this to be entered in your record and we want this to be an assessment criterion for recruitment processes.

- We want the work processes to be auditable and transparent in order to ensure equality and justice.

- We want it to be legally mandatory to inform the people not accepted for the job during the recruitment process as to why they have not been accepted.
Expectations of Young Individuals in Ending Hunger and Poverty and Solution Proposals
Employment

- We want the employers to create working areas and areas fit for agriculture in rural regions in order to encourage migration from cities to rural areas. At the same time, we want the state and the relevant ministries to create an atmosphere that allows this.

- We want individuals to be encouraged to choose their professions in line with the work areas that are compatible with the geographical, economic, and cultural conditions and opportunities in the country. Within this scope, we want vocational workshops to develop individuals in work areas, and we want institutions to be created to serve these purposes.

- We want the creation of mechanisms that will encourage individuals to choose their professions based on their own skills, talents, and experiences.

- We want small artisans, local producers, and small farmers to be supported.

- We want all individuals to be treated equally during the recruitment process, regardless of language, religion, race, and gender.

- We want the social life adaptation process of persons with criminal backgrounds to be supported, and we want areas of employment to be created in line with their talents and skills in order for them to maintain their lives.

- We want companies to carry out particularly their service operations in areas that need development, and we want them to be in a tendency to invest in those areas. Within this scope, we want the international organizations and states to call out to companies.

Access to Basic Needs

- We want the access of all children and adults to high quality, nutritious food, clean water, and other basic needs to be facilitated.
We want help campaigns to be held for people having difficulty accessing clean water, and we want the solidarity networks to be supported.

We want sustainable service designs to be implemented in order to support access to clean water in disadvantaged regions.

We want international efforts and conferences to be expanded in order to address the problem of access to clean water and other basic needs with a global perspective.

We want the R&D activities to be supported in order to use existing clean water resources more efficiently, to reduce water consumption using rational methods, and to be able create new resources.

We want urban planning activities to be carried out in such a way as to ensure that each individual has equal access to clean water and other basic needs.

We want the difference between the education and support services provided by the state and those provided at private entities to be prevented.

We want products consumed more than the need to be suitably distributed to persons in need without discrimination through solidarity institutions.

We want the identified international standards to be improved and practices audited in order to evaluate access to basic needs.

We want political crises to be settled in a peaceful manner by creating a dialogue environment, and we want auditing by international organizations to ensure that embargoes do not prevent access to basic needs.

We want infrastructure services to be conveyed to each individual equally. We want support for local administrations that are unable to convey infrastructure services to people in an equal manner.
• We want strategic food storing activities done for the purpose of profiting to be inspected.

• We want health insurance to be provided for homeless and unemployed people and their families in all countries across the world.

**Sustainable Agriculture and Energy**

• We want agricultural activities to be supported in countries where extreme poverty is experienced, which cannot get agricultural support.

• We want investments in renewable sources of energy to be supported.

• We want farmlands destroyed due to climate crisis to be re-organized in such a way as to support sustainable agriculture, and we want agricultural workers to be encouraged for sustainable agriculture.

• We want efforts carried out to encourage recycling, and therefore new employment areas to be created.

• We want all work carried out by United Nations for sustainable consumption to be compiled and prepared in the form of a report, an international sustainable consumption conference to be held with the participation of all states across the world, and we want new decisions to be made.

• We want cooperative activities to be developed in the agricultural sector.

• We want R&D activities to be carried out in the agricultural sector for domestic seed production, marketing, and production of new products, and we want R&D centers to be created.

• We want producers and entrepreneurs to be financially supported.
Extreme Population Growth

- We want family planning matters in national education curriculum to be improved in order to create an awareness among young individuals on family planning and we want mandatory training courses for people when they apply for marriage procedures.

- We want family planning and birth control awareness trainings to be held in order to take extreme population growth under control, and we want each individual to have equal access to means of birth control.

- We want individuals who are respected in the society and/or experts to support awareness efforts and trainings in order to raise awareness among the public on family planning and birth control, in compliance with social norms.

Income Inequality

- We want an organization to be created at a national level, and we want this organization to inspect economic activities at a national level, and to be responsible for equality in taxes and income distribution. Moreover, we want interests and illegal systems such as unearned income to be audited with suitable laws.

- We want minimum wage and tax policies to be determined taking into account income inequality, and we want systems to be created to audit such policies by developing international standards.

- We want the maximum and minimum salary levels for vocational groups and titles to be determined.
• We want all individuals to be treated equally in terms of income distribution, regardless of language, religion, race, and gender.

Social Development and Education

• We want awareness activities to be carried out to prevent extreme consumption and waste (public service announcements, advertisements, and training courses).

• We want topics and activities on empathy to be covered more in school curricula.

• We want training courses to be given on entrepreneurship and financial literacy in poverty-stricken areas to enhance the quality of education, and we want increased funding opportunities for entrepreneurs in these areas.
Expectations of Young Individuals for Reversing Climate Change and Solution Proposals
Industry

- We want city planning efforts to be organized, and we want the factories inside the city to be moved out when necessary.
- We want the urban infrastructures to be organized.
- We want people to be taught what carbon footprint is and we want an effective mitigation path accordingly.
- We want policies to be developed for the creation of maximum amount of green areas or gardens where sustainable agriculture can be exercised in apartment buildings.

Food

- We want policies to be developed to prevent food waste.
- We want a “Food Sharing Network” to be created and managed effectively.
- We want campaigns and informative conferences to be held across the country underlining the importance of plant and vegetable-based nutrition.

Raising Awareness and Organization on Environment and Climate

- We want to hold active campaigns on social media and other platforms to establish a public opinion on combating climate change.
- We want environmentally sensitive incentive campaigns to be developed and implemented for factories.

- We want the NGOs to raise awareness among people on climate change and to carry out afforestation activities. Accordingly, NGOs can be provided with more funds.

- We want campaigns to be held on social media to raise awareness on climate change in social media and we want these campaigns to be supported by decision makers.

- We want action to be taken on climate, and we want the rights of climate activists to be protected towards third parties.

- We want actions to be held that do not harm the environment, ensuring that attention is drawn to climate crisis.

- We want relevant workshops to be held for children that are age-appropriate.

- We want lawyers working on environment to be supported.

- We want interactive games/applications to be developed with the purpose of creating awareness on climate change.

- We want the use of nature-friendly substances to be encouraged instead of fossil fuel-based products.

- We want companies to adopt environmentally friendly marketing policies (such as the packaging of products, and holding “bring in the old and get the new” campaigns)
Energy Policies

- We want the governments to allocate bigger budgets for green energy policies.
- We want support for the R&D activities carried out for renewable energy resources.
- We want policies encouraging people to use energy in the right way to be developed.

Waste Management

- We want factory and household wastes to be sorted and made available for recycling. We want policies that encourage recycling to be developed.
- We want the release of nuclear and chemical wastes to be reduced.

Agriculture and Environment

- We want environmentally friendly natural agricultural methods to be developed. We want policies that support local producers in agriculture to be developed.
- We want the opening of uncontrolled and illegal animal farms to be taken under control, and otherwise we want various sanctions to be implemented.
- We want agricultural areas to be created close to the urban areas with seeding times for farmers in a certain order, and we want them to be used for sustainable agriculture.
• We want the rights and the profits of the farmers to be protected for sustainability purposes while underlining the concept of "agricultural protectionism".

• We demand for sustainability purposes increased use of vacant lands owned and not used by the state as agricultural areas and pasture areas.

Incentives and Sanctions

• We want tax exemption system to be introduced for electric vehicles.

• We want nature-friendly enterprises to be supported (such as tax discounts, provision of resources for R&D studies).

• We want recycling to be integrated into country policies and we want penal sanctions to be developed and implemented in case of violations.

• We want incentives to be provided for factories that carry out filtering in the short term, and we want sanctions for those that fail to implement it in the long term.

• We want local producers to be supported (such as local markets being preferred; public needs being met through products by local producers).

Representation on Environment and Climate

• We want green policies to be tested in the parliament through parties.

• We want the functionality of the Supranational Climate Commission to be increased. We want the Climate and Environment issues concerning the world to be discussed more effectively by this commission.
Responsibilities

◆ Public Responsibilities

- We want electricity scooter and cycling lanes to be more common.
- We want forest areas to be announced and protected as natural parks.
- We want the state to create an audit mechanism for waste management.
- We want the carbon releases of all public institutions to be minimized (such as public factories being the pioneers in green policies like filtering systems).
- We want the obligations of international climate agreements that have been signed to be fulfilled (such as the Paris Convention, the Kyoto Protocol)
- We want the amount of green spaces per person to be increased.

◆ Personal Responsibilities

- We want excess to be avoided in luxury consumption items.
- We want waste to be avoided. (Such as food waste, electricity consumption, water consumption)
- We want individuals to prefer sustainable and local products in order to reduce carbon release and water footprint.
- We want electric vehicles to be preferred when buying vehicles instead of fossil fuel vehicles.
Education

- We want plant-and vegetable-based nutrition to be more common.
- We want agricultural workers to be educated on sustainable farming.
- We want relevant individuals to be educated in birth control methods so that population growth can be taken under control.
- We want a more comprehensive education as part of the curriculum in schools on climate change.
- We want the number of sustainable architecture and ecological architecture departments to be increased and included in the curriculum.
- We want parents’ awareness raised on climate change.

Sustainability

- We want products that can be recycled to be sorted by individuals and recycled at the recycling centers by the public sector.
- We want increased production of recyclable goods and those goods to be more accessible.
- We want sustainable entrepreneurship to be supported.
- We want increased awareness for sustainable tourism.
- We want sustainable and ecological architecture to be encouraged in the cities.
CONCLUSION

This workshop that we have held in order to increase the participation of young individuals in online platforms has made us understand what the expectations of young individuals are in the constantly developing new world order. On the other hand, this study has showed that young individuals can develop strong joint solutions together for global problems in the areas of thinking, questioning, and producing.

Young individuals have a say not only on matters that affect them, but on matters that affect the environment and the world they live in as well. While encouraging the participation rights of young individuals with the online workshop held, ICHILD has brought forth an output that public authorities and entities, local administrations, private institutions, international organizations, NGOs, and individuals can benefit at the same time. Young individuals believe that the solution proposals they come up with should be heeded and studied in all units of the society (including the family) regardless of the level.

This participation process that took place during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic has created an opportunity for the young individuals to come together online as they experience difficulties meeting in physical settings, and thus had a positive contribution on their development process. During the global pandemic, the education, social, and entertainment areas of young individuals were restricted and many of them faced such an uncertain future for the first time; and their participation in an online setting was supported by their schools and families. The workshop that was held has introduced different perspectives for the thinking methods of young individuals.

As an NGO with no profit objectives, ICHILD shall continue with its interaction with young individuals, continue representing, defending, and conveying their thoughts and wishes, and their joint decisions in social media and in relevant places, and shall continue making meaningful this journey that they had set out with the motto “Raise the future!” in 2019 together with children and young individuals.
Final Report Of The Young Ideas Workshop For a Sustainable Future