

 **Donor Report: Cover Letter Template**

Ref: UNDP/

01.02.2022

Dear Mr. Mehmet UVEZ,

**Subject: Project “Technical Assistance for the Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre”**

**Progress Report**

Reference is made to the contribution agreement between EBRD and UNDP for the project “Technical Assistance for the Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre” effective June 2019.

I am pleased to submit herewith the Progress Report for the abovementioned project.

The report summarizes the progress of the project between January 2021 and December 2021 and provides an overview of the achievements, challenges, lessons learned, interim financial status and way forward.

I thank EBRD for its contributions to UNDP and look forward to strengthening our partnership in support of development in Turkey.

Mustafa Ali Yurdupak

Portfolio Manager (ISG-PPI)

UNDP Turkey

Attached:

“Technical Assistance for the Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre” Project Progress Report

Mehmet UVEZ

Deputy Head of Turkey and Head of Ankara Resident Office

EBRD Turkey

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| --- | --- |
| Reporting Period | 01st January 2021 – 31st December 2021 |
| Donor | European Bank for Reconstraction and Development  |
| Country  | Turkey |
| Project Title | Technical Assistance for the Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre |
| Project Locations | Adana/Turkey |
| Project ID(Atlas Award ID)Outputs(Atlas Project ID and Description)Strategic Plan and/or CPD Outcomes | 00121250 GEN200127364Output: Providing Adana Chamber of Industry (ADASO) with high calibre technical assistance and consultancy services for the establishment and operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre. (Project Number: 00127364)Output 1.4 Sustainable job opportunities created for displaced populations and host communities |
| Implementing Partner(s) | Adana Chamber of Industry  |
| Project Start Date | *Project start date is 3rd March 2020,* *the date when the ProDoc was signed by all the relevant signatories.* |
| Project End Date | 28th February 2022 |
| LPAC Date | 10th May 2019 |
| Steering Committee/Project Board Meeting Dates | 27th October 202023rd August 2021 |
| SDG linkages  | <https://intranet-apps.undp.org/UNDP.HQ.CPS2018/app/TUR/programme/285/projects>  |
| GEN marker | GEN 2 |
| (Year) Delivery to Budget Ratio |  |
| [Year] Annual Work Plan Budget  | USD |
| Total resources required |  |
| Revenue received | * Regular USD
* Other
	+ Donor USD
	+ Trust Fund Cost Sharing USD
	+ Thematic Trust Fund C/S USD
	+ Special Activities USD
	+ EU funding USD
* Total USD
 |
| Unfunded budget | USD |
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# Executive summary

*The overall objective of this initiative is to provide ADASO with high calibre technical assistance and consultancy services for the establishment and operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre. Once established; the Centre will both target the demand and supply side of local economy through well-established business model, a viable business plan and an impact and client-oriented service delivery.*

*The Project document “Technical Assistance for the Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre” is signed by ADASO, UNDP and MoAF on 01.06.2019. UNDP-EBRD Financing Agreement was signed on 03.03.2020. First payment of 60.000 Euro as Advance received by UNDP on 19.05.2020. As of 19th May 2020, the Project became operational and UNDP has initiated project activities. The duration of the project initially was 18 months, however, extended for an extra 6 months until the end of February 2022.*

*Following the I PSC Meeting, which was realized within the scope of the Project on 27th October 2020, technical meetings were conducted with implementing and funding partner on planning/coordination and implementation of the remaining project activities as the Project duration has been extended for an extra 9 months from 30 November 2020 to 31 August 2021. Technical discussions regarding the IT system, curriculum and cooperation strategy were put in place in order to determine the required administrative issues; upcoming stages of planned work and content design. Furthermore, the technical issues on the project implementation was discussed with the donor and other stakeholders.*

*In the period between January 2021 and August 2021, two foundational design reports were developed which formed the basis of the Project plan and determined the future strategies, namely, “AVTC Project Conceptual Design Report” and “AVTC Business Operations Plan Report”. In partnership with the "Response and Resilience to the Covid-19 Crisis" and "Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Center" Projects, virtual capacity building training series were conducted towards vocational high school teachers with contribution of different stakeholders and thanks to the synergy among the projects. In cooperation with the General Directorate of Development Agencies, the EBRD, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Adana Chamber of Industry, trainings in many different aspects, from digital trends to innovation culture, were accomplished. In order to support the technical aspects of the project and achieve excellent quality and calibre in the implementation stages, three consultants have been mobilized to facilitate the implementation actions towards various spheres touched by the Project including IT Conceptual Design, Learning Management System (LMS) and Pilot Blended Vocational Education Trainings of AVTC. As a result of successful collaboration of the consultants with Project team and partners, the learning management system-ADDIE was introduced for the usage of the Project and three pilot vocational trainings were designed and conducted towards the selected vocational high school students of Adana in the fields of Welding Training, Electric Arc Training and CNC (Turning and Milling) Training and students’ performance in the pilot trainings were evaluated according to their exam results and shared with local companies to provide them with new job opportunities. Considering, the amelioration of the Covid-19 Pandemic, frequent field vists were realized by Project team to the Project implementation area in order to share the Project reports to implementing partner, get their feedback, to discuss the physical infrastructure, determine the content of the trainings & activities, design the roadmap of the pilot trainings and realize various coordination and collaboration meetings with stakeholders regarding the progress of the Project.*

*The II PSC Meeting which was realized within the scope of the Project on 23rd of August 2021 was fianlized with an additional extension of the Project duration from 31.08.2021 to 28.02.2022 with no cost time extension. According to the decision taken in the related meeting, following the II PSC Meeting, additional two pilot blended vocational trainings were realized in the areas of Gas Metal Welding and CNC Turning Operator in order to further monitor the quality and sustainability of the vocational trainings; the protocol was signed among ADASO and Ministry of Education to ensure that ADASO obtained the legitimacy to provide vocational trainings and accomplish the operationalization of Adana VET Centre; the collaboration among ADASO and a service company was facilitated, the technical spesifications report was prepared and the protocol was signed in order to give ADASO the legitimacy to make official tests and act as VOC Test Centre. In addition, the consultations regarding awareness raising and communication activities were accelerated with the implementing partner and other stakeholders and necessary networks were established to ensure the realization of the initially planned events within the vision of encouraging young people towards vocational tarinings by changing their perspective regarding the sector through utmost participation of the related target groups to these events.*

*In the upcoming period, series of physical meetings and activities are planned to be held with the best practice models supported by the donor as well as all related national and international partners & recently established networks. The planned events will take place both virtually & physically and the provision of awareness raising and knowledge enhancement of all parties will be actualized in a more sturdy way. As the proposed inclusive business model is a unique working area with the potential of scalability and replicability, the visibility of both the Project strategy and Centre will be ensured through awareness-raising activities and developed communication strategy. In this context, capacity development programs, technical info sharing and knowledge management platforms and dedicated awareness raising activities will be designed and actualized in the upcoming stages of the Project.*

*In addition to the communication actions, it is planned to realize additional vocational trainings towsrds high school students to increase the number of beneficiaries by providing them with education & job opportunities and to provide ADASO and vocational high school students with at least one online vocational training by using digital tools as described in the “AVTC Project Conceptual Design Report” in addition to other planned communication activities.*

# Background Information

*According to the Directorate General of Migration Management as of January 2021, Turkey hosts the largest refugee population in the world and has demonstrated strong national ownership of the response. The Government of Turkey provides a rights-based legal framework through the Temporary Protection Regulation, which offers access to education, health care, employment and social security to Syrians. According to the Government of Turkey, it spent 35+ billion USD in response to the Syria crisis since the onset of the crisis. The response provided in Turkey is increasingly focusing on a longer-term development and resilience-based approach- complementing the humanitarian response.*

*A comprehensive needs assessment has been conducted by the Government to identify the needs of the Syrians under temporary protection as well as the local authorities in the host communities which will be the basis of the allocation and disbursement of donor funding, mainly the financial support expedited from the EU. This assessment addressed the following areas: (i) basic public services (education and health); (ii) social development, protection and cohesion; (iii) livelihoods and employability and (iv) municipal services and urban infrastructures.These assessments usually highlight the relatively low skills levels among Syrians under Temporary Protection, which significantly overlap with the skills of the host communities, mainly those in the border provinces that are highly populated with Syrians under temporary protection. This points to a possible risk of high-competition among two communities, particularly for low-skilled jobs (including women) and an increase of tensions between the two communities.*

*Leveraging on UNDP’s long-lasting thematic experience and know-how on local socio-economic development accumulated in Southeast Anatolia Region of Turkey, in the context of Syrian crisis response, UNDP facilitated establishment and operationalization of a Vocational Training Centre in Gaziantep (aka GSO MEM) in collaboration with Gaziantep Chamber of Industry in 2016 and 2017. Experience in income generation and occupational capability development interventions revealed the fact that, the VET programmes for Syrians can only be influential for income generation, if linkages with the demand side of the local economy (i.e. SMEs) are well established and sustained through effective and systemized placement and matching services.*

*In this sense, the overall objective of this project is to provide ADASO with high calibre technical assistance and consultancy services for the establishment and operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre. In this framework, the present initiative aims at providing vocational training programmes for the specific requirements of the SMEs which benefit from the services of the SME capability centres on the one hand and design an integrated business model that would connect this VET Centre with the other complementary initiatives in the province/region. In addition, within the scope of the present initiative, matching and placement services will focus between the SMEs benefitting from the services of the SME capability centres and the trainees/graduates of Adana VET Centre.*

*The Project aims to contribute to the overall national strategies on qualified labor force and quality vocational training education. The Project also aims to contribute specifically to the following SDG targets:*

* *4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.*
* *4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.*
* *8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.*

# Progress Review

***Output 1: Providing Adana Chamber of Industry (ADASO) with high calibre technical assistance and consultancy services for the establishment and operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Centre.***

***Procurement and/or Distribution of Support Materials/Reports :***

*Following the I PSC Meeting where the content of the “AVTC Project Business Operations Plan Report” has been discussed elaborately and approved by all Project parties, the related report in which the detailed information was shared regarding the Business Operations Plan of the Adana Vocational Training Centre under the headings of ADASO Vocational Technical Training Centre - MEM 4.0, A multi-stakeholder Vocational Training Collaboration Platform, Social Enterprise Company, the Golden Ratio, Strategy and General Framework of the Model, Method – Overall Progress of the System, Physical Infrastructure, Task Stakeholders, Complementary Institutions, Business Development Stakeholders, Non-Vocational Virtual Opening Areas, Organizational Structure, Corporate Development Strategies, Strategic Plan and Starting Point, Business Development and Sustainability, Marketing Plan, Risk Management and etc. was finalized and shared with the stakeholders for the planning of next implementation actions accordingly.*

*Similarly, “AVTC Project Conceptual Design Report” in which the the AVTC-LMS Project Description has elaborately been detailed out by spectacularly concentrating on learning management, curriculum system, file server, quality control, certification tracking system and etc; has identified the conceptual system design by mentioning the actors and requirements of the platform, data provider entities, cloud system infrastructure, platform development methodology, platform model screen layouts and etc. Similarly, the information related to LMS Platform Development Process; Conceptual Database Design and many more technical issues was developed in accordance with the requirements of the business strategy and shared with Project partners for their kind consideration in the design of the virtual platform.*

*In addition to the finalization of the initially planned reports and design strategies, Terms of References prepared for other required consultancies to complete the second and third work package and related procurement processes are finalized. In this context, first of all, a technical consultant has been mobilised in order to receive Consultancy Service for IT System Simulation of Pilot Blended Vocational Training for Adana Vocational Training Center – Learning Management System (AVTC-LMS). As the main duty of him, the consultancy on pilot semi-working software prototype for Adana Vocational Training Center – Learning Management System (AVTC-LMS) IT Conceptual Design has been ensured by the consultant. As the major output of this consultancy services, ADDIE Development Process Document has been developed within the scope of AVTC-LMS Prototype Phase 1 which includes but not limited to AVTC-LMS Project Description, ADDIE Training Strucure, ADDIE Simulation Prototype, ADDIE Instructional Design Model & Platform and etc. Various consultation meetings were realized with the Project implementing partner in order to discuss the usability and practicability of the related pilot platform and adapt it into the requirements of the related Centre. As a result of the related report and the consultation meetings, it was ensured that the implementing partner has full awareness and instructions on the utilization and conformation of the related platform.*

*Similarly, another consultancy service has also been received from Learning Management System (LMS) Senior Advisor towards the development of training contents, software applications and exams in line with the needs of the industry, conceptual design and project management for the development of technological infrastructure and creation of blended learning solutions within the scope of related Project.*

*Finally, consultancy service was received in order to conduct Pilot Blended Vocational Education Trainings for Adana Vocational Training Center. Under the framework of this consultancy service, it has been ensured that the content of the pilot trainings was developed in coordination with Project implementation partner, students have been selected from Vocational High Schools of Adana and 5 Pilot Blended Vocational Education Trainings were conducted towards the selected students in the fields of Welding Training (for 2 times), Electric Arc Training and CNC (Turning and Milling) Training (for 2 times) and students’ performance in the pilot trainings were evaluated according to their exam results and shared with local companies in order to provide job opportunities to the trained students. AVTC Project Pilot Trainings Curriculum and Module Development Meetings played a huge role for the successful completion of the related pilot trainings as in the related consultation meetings, the purpose and importance of the the related trainings, the goal of creating widespread impact, added and unique value, the scope and plan of the pilot trainings, the prescribed calendar for the trainings, the requirements for the trainings, the importance of training the trainers and training environments were evaluated and the discussiosn and comments / suggestions were considered while determining future steps. AVTC Project Business Operations Plan has been utilized for the design of each trainings which lasted for approximately two weeks in the fitsr phase of the training session and theoretical lessons were given in a virtual way, while practical courses took place physically in ADASO. Considering that trainings for senior vocational high school students started within the framework of demands from the industry, 12 hours of theory and 42 hours of practical training were given to approximately 15 students at each pilot training by 3 trainers in which all students learned through intense experience and practice. Due to success experienced in the relevant trainings and exams afterwards, the job placement rate turned out to be quite high in all 3 trainings of the first phase, namely Gas Arc Welding (11 out of 12 students), Electric Arc Welding (8 out of 10 students) and CNC Trainings (10 out of 14 students) due to the fact that the demand for designing and conducting these trainings was high and came from the industry caused the system to work successfully which contributed to Project’s main vision of balancing the supply and demand relationship in the economy through the needs and requirements of the sector. Due to the success achieved in the first pilot trainings, additional two pilot blended vocational trainings were also realized in the next quarter of the Project in the areas of Gas Metal Welding and CNC Turning Operator in order to further monitor the quality and sustainability of the vocational trainings.*

***Providing Technical Assistance:*** *Technical Meetings were conducted with the implementing partner and donor in order to discuss the business model and business operations plan, possible partnerships, content and timing of the planned trainings, expectations from the consultants and the reports to be developed, the content of the strategy document to be prepared and etc. Throught the mentioned period, coordination meetings were also realized with other stakeholders of the Project in order to set a light to the new cooperation possibililties, get advantage from already existing inititatives and become acquainted with the previous experiences and know-how of the related institutions according to what necessary measure have been taken in the following steps of the Project.*

*In addition to technical meetings, various field missions were also realized to Project area in order to present the developed reports and strategy documents to implementing partner and get their feedbacks; to visit the schools where practical trainings were realized in order to demonstrate the ownership and act as motivation trigger by also establishing industry connection when necessary via relevant role models; to realize site visit to the ADASO VTC area to discuss the physical infrastructures; to evaluate the content and method of Pilot Vocational Trainings; to determine the roadmap of other potential trainings and to clarify other project topics and titles for planning the next implementation actions.*

*In order to maintain coordination with the Project stakeholders, AVTC Project Current Situation Assessment and Communication Meetings were aslo realized in a frequent way through which the competency development activities and communication plan has been negotiated with the implementing partner, opinions & suggestions were taken, action stages have been evaluated and calendar for visibility activities have been determined and it has been decided to initially realize an online experience sharing and capacity development events and panels by including good examples from national/international spectrum with mutual consent of all parties towards what the necessary networks were established and communication was initiated with successful actors in the field. In addition, through the consultation with other UNDP Project Teams, a synergy has been established among Portfolios and Projects and mutual cooperation was achieved on similar application areas. As the result of these meetings, in partnership with the "Response and Resilience to the Covid-19 Crisis" and "Establishment and Operationalization of Adana Vocational Training Center" Projects, virtual capacity building training series were conducted towards vocational high school teachers with contribution of different stakeholders and thanks to the synergy among the projects. In cooperation with the General Directorate of Development Agencies, the EBRD, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Adana Chamber of Industry, trainings in many different aspects, from digital trends to innovation culture, were accomplished of which the details are shared at below:*

* ***“Creating Creativity and Innovation Culture” Training (02.04.2021):*** *In the related training which conducted with 64 participants (27 – female; 37 – male) idea, creativity and innovation concept, creative individual types, basic concepts related to innovation, behaviors of creative people, creative process, creativity in education, design-oriented thinking and other related topics are examined in detail.*
* ***“Integration of Educational Institutions to Sustainable Development Goals” Training (06.04.2021):*** *In related training, which realized with 36 participants (12 – female ; 24 – male), the 1972 Limits of Growth Report, the 1972 Human Environment Declaration, the 1987 Common Future Report, the Millennium Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals, the relationship of vocational and technical education to sustainable development, global risks in the context of sustainable development, the integration of sustainable development goals into course subjects and other contents are shared with the target audience in detail.*
* ***“Entrepreneurship Culture” Training (09.04.2021):*** *In related training, which actualized with 39 participants (17 – female; 22 – male), all subjects that constitute the main concepts related to entrepreneurship which includes but not limited to concept of entrepreneurship, factors affecting entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship process, first steps of lean enterprise, business model canvas, north star metrics, mindset, value proposition, customer segments, interface and customer experience, channel types and phases, relationship categories, key partnerships and sources of motivation , revenue stream categories, cost stream and etc. were conveyed to the target audience.*
* ***“Digital Trends” Training (13.04.2021):*** *In the related training, which had 42 participants, comprehensive information was shared with the target audience within the framework of important issues under the headings of Basic concepts for digitalization, industry 4.0 concept and historical process, smart production, internet of objects, cloud computing, virtual and transferred reality, artificial intelligence, block chain, 3d printing technology, digital transformation, value chain, the impact potential of digital technologies in the production process, mckinsey report, technological progress trends, new professions and future workforce, production and consumption relationship, covid-19 and digital transformation, youth unemployment and job deficit*

*As the major technical assistance actions, it has also been ensured that necessary facilitation steps were taken towards the signing of the protocol among ADASO and Ministry of Education which gave ADASO the legitimacy to provide vocational trainings and accomplish the operationalization of Adana VET Centre. The related protocol was signed among ADASO and Ministry of Education on December and the recent pilot trainings on Gas Metal Welding and CNC Turning Operator was realized by referencing to the relevant protocol. Similarly, necessary studies were conducted to facilitate the collaboration among ADASO and a service company to give ADASO the legitimacy to make official tests and act as VOC Test Centre. Within this scope, Technical Specification report was developed for service procurement to establish a VQA Authorized Certificate Organization from Adana Chamber of Industry and the relevant service contract was signed among the parties on December according to the developed technical spesifications document.*

**Indicator Based Performance Assessment**

| **Level in Results Hierarchy** | **Description** | **Indicators** | **Baseline**  | **Annual target[[1]](#footnote-1) for 2021 year** | **End of project target** | **Cumulative Realization (Number or Text)** | **Explanation for deviation from the target and any other remark (please break-down into male/female if possible)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *UNSDCF Outcome* | *1.1. By 2020, relevant government institutions operate in an improved legal and policy framework, and institutional capacity and accountability mechanisms assure a more enabling (competitive, inclusive and innovative) environment for sustainable, job-rich growth and development for all women and men.* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *CPD Output* | *1.1.4. Citizens, with specific focus on vulnerable groups including in less developed regions have increased access to inclusive services and opportunities for employment* |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Output 1: Adana VET Centre Operationalized* | *# of assessments on job creation and labour absorption capacities of the local economies assessed thoroughly* | *1.1. Stakeholder Mapping Report**1.2. Demand and Supply Side Labour Market Assessment Report**1.3. Sector Specific Labour Absorption Capacity Assessment Report* | *3* | *0* | *3* | *3 (100%)* |  |
| *# of business models of Adana VET Centre conceptualized to better serve to the needs of the local community, SuTPs and local economic actors* | *2.1. Business Model and Business Plan of the Centre**2.2. Governance Structure of the Centre of the Centre**2.3. Placement and Matching Strategy of the Centre**2.4. Communication, Visibility and Outreach Strategy of the Centre**2.5. Performance Evaluation, M&E and Impact Assessment Framework**2.6. Sustainability Strategy of the Centre**2.7. Concept Note on Physical Design Principles for the VET Centre* | *1* | *0* | *1* | *1 (100%)* |  |
| *# of targeted VET modules designed, refined and developed* | *3.1. VET Modules for Prioritized Training Themes (approx. 5)**3.2. Customized/updated VET Modules (approx. 10)**3.3. Customized/updated Basic Life Skills (BLS) Training Module.**3.4. Working Life in Turkey Training Module**3.5. Training of Trainers Programmes* | *0* | *5* | *5* | *5 (100%)* | *With the request of ADASO and approval of PSC members of 2. PSC meeting, the activity # 3.3 & #3.4 is cancalled.* |
| *0* | *5* | *5* | *5 (100%)* |
| *0* | *0* | *0* | *0%* |
| *0* | *0* | *1* | *0%* |
| *0* | *3* | *6* | *3 (50%)* |
| *# of capacity development programs, technical study tours and dedicated awareness raising programmes* | *4.1. Institutional Capability Assessment Report for ADASO**4.2. Institutional Capability Development Programmes for ADASO**4.3. Technical study tours to national/international best practice VET Centres (max. 2)**4.4. Dedicated training/awareness raising programmes (max. 3)* | *0* | *1* | *1* | *1 (100%)* | *Due to covid measures, and with the approval of PSC members, the activity #4.3 is cancelled.**All events are planned to be realized in 2022 for activity #4.4.* |
| *0* | *1* | *1* | *1 (100%)* |
| *0* | *0* | *0* | *0 %* |
| *0* | *2* | *4* | *0 %* |
| *# of certifications / accreditations* | *5.1. VOC Test Centre Certification**5.2. Quality Certification for VET Centre* | *0* | *0* | *1* | *1 (100 %)* |  |
| *0* | *0* | *1* | *1 (100%)* |

# Contribution to Gender Equality

*The project has adopted a GEWE perspective from the very start by making the desk research with gender mainstreaming approach and developing strategies for the benefit of women. All the researched made within the scope of the Project and reports developed through gender mainstreaming perspective. Especially, in the Fact Finding and Inception report, the facts and current situation of women living in the project region have been thoroughly analyzed through socio-economic investigations. Business strategy of the Centre has been designed in such a way that the VET Centre will principally benefit women living in Project area and increase their access to skills formation and labor market.*

*Throughout the meantime, local infrastructures have been supported in such a way to provide VET programs for women via provision of necessary tools and competencies and a dedicated VET Program has been designed and implemented with major participation of women, placement and matching strategies have been developed for employability of women in local economies. Fir this purpose, it has been ensured that the participant profile to the capacity building trainings was gender neutral and the women displayed an active participation to get the utmost benefit from the activities. Similarly, it has been ensured that the students who benefitted from the vocational trainings and obtained new job opportunities have gender neutral profile and women were provided with decent work and employment opportunities equal to men.*

*In addition to the inception report, the communication and training materials have also been developed in a gender responsive way to contribute to women’s employment. It should also be mentioned that the partnership structure at this related project has been developed in a way that it would vary from very basic initiatives such as co-organization of a project event to a more complex initiative that would lead to a structural change in the local service provision to Syrian and host community women such as skills development, access to markets etc. Due to this, even though concrete gender responsive activity has not been done yet with the partner, the policies/regulations of Project stakeholers and their internal processes are being improved through following gender mainstreaming approach at each level of project implementation and mainly the awareness raising has been achieved. By this token, it has been ensured that all project activities and services were designed for the benefit of women and contributed to their empowerment through developing new opportunities for education and employment. In addition, it is planned to achieve an alteration in the women’s perspective towards industry and vocational training by realizing awareness raising activities and attracting the females to take active part in and benefit from it in order to increase their skills and abilities and lead to the boost in the participation level in labor market.*

# Project Risks and Issues

## Updated project risks and actions

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Type* | *Date Identified* | *Description* | *Comment or Management Response* | *Critical Flag* |
| *Economic/Social* | *05/2020* | *Lack of interest from the final beneficiaries in participating to the Project activities* | *Design and conduct of intensive advocacy and dissemination activities targeting the final beneficiaries of the Project* | *Impact:5**Probability: 2* |
| *Institutional* | *05/2020* | *Lack of interest from the local stakeholders in participating to the execution of the Project activities at the local level* | *Design and conduct of intensive advocacy and dissemination activities targeting the local stakeholders* | *Impact:5**Probability: 2* |
| *Environmental* | *05/2020* | *Delay in the implementation of project activites due to the emergency of Global Coronovirus Pandemic* | *Design and conduct of relevant project activities in a virtual way and maintaining the overall project flow* | *Impact:5**Probability:5* |

## Updated project issues and actions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Type* | *Date Identified* | *Description* | *Solution Date* | *Comment or Management Response* | *Solution Flag* |
| *Operational* | *31/12/2019* | *The transfer of project fund has been delayed* | *May 2020* | *Project Activities were delayed and Finance Unit took the relevant legal actions to solve the issue* | *Solved /Completed* |

1. **Monitoring Arrangements**

*As the main monitoring action, various coordination and consultation meetings were realized with Project stakeholders to ensure that the project is being implemented within the planned strategies and in a designed time period. In addition, interim progress reports and documents were also developed and shared with Project partners and the next steps were determined based on their suggestions and opinions. In addition, the list of students of pilot vocational trainings have clearly been listed, the evaluations of the results of the related trainings have elaborately been made and monitoring and evaluation strategy was determined towards the job placement activity.*

***Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting:*** *In the light of the progresses in the Project, 2nd Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting held on 23rd of August 2021 including the members from Presidency of Strategy and Budget (SBB), Adana Chamber of Industry (ADASO), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Turkey Country Office.*

*As per decision of PSC Meeting and approval and mutual consent of all parties, the duration of the project is agreed to be extended from 31.08.2021 to 28.02.2022 with no cost time extension to implement and finalize the following activities:*

* *To realize additional seven pilot blended vocational trainings under the scope of the AVTC Project to monitor the quality and sustainability of the vocational trainings*
* *To provide ADASO and vocational high school students with at least one online vocational training by using digital tools as described in the “AVTC Project Conceptual Design Report”*
* *To facilitate and ensure the signing of the protocol among ADASO and Ministry of Education which will give ADASO the legitimacy to provide vocational trainings and accomplish the operationalization of Adana VET Centre*
* *To facilitate the collaboration among ADASO and a service company to give ADASO the legitimacy to make official tests and act as VOC Test Centre*

***HACT / Micro Assessment:*** *The micro-assessment studies were conducted towards ADASO startng from September 2021 and the report was developed and cleared by an independent audit firm on 05.10.2021.The micro-assessment assessed the implementing partner’s control framework and financial and program management capacities. It resulted in a risk rating (low, moderate, significant or high) according to the overall risk rating used by the UN agencies, along with other available information (e.g., history of engagement with the agency and previous assurance results), to determine the type and frequency of assurance activities as per the guideline and has been taken into consideration when selecting the appropriate cash transfer modality for an implementing partner. In addition, several necessary suggestions and recommendations were also developed and shared with the implementing partner in order to increase its in house technical & administrative capacities of procurmenet & finance management.*

# Lessons Learned

*The major bottlenecks that the Project experienced in 2021 was not being able to realize capability development study visits as initially stated in the Project document including development of institutional capability development programmes for ADASO and realization of technical study tours to national/international best practice VET Centres. Considering that the foundational factor behind this challenge was again Covid-19 Pandemic, as a solution to this problem it has been decided to realize an online experience sharing and capacity development events and panels by including good examples from national/international spectrum with mutual consent of all parties. Relevant coordination and consultation meetings were initiated, and communication was established with successful actors in the field. It is planned to realize the capacity development activities in the last quarter of the Project.*

*In addition, co-working more on designing gender-specific activities with Gender Advisor to develop gender responsive outputs could also be mentioned as a suggestion for the upcoming period in order to increase the gender mainstreaming side effect of the relevant Project.*

# Conclusions and Way Forward

*Considering that the major part of the pilot vocational trainings were finalized successfully and through maintaining the initially determined strategy of AVTC Business Operations Plan, as the next step, it is planned to concentrate on the monitoring and evaluation of their results and VOC Test Centre Certification at a high scale. Considering that ensuring the legitimacy of ADASO towards providing vocational trainings and accomplishing the operationalization of Adana VET Centre and making it technically capable of realizing official tests and acting as VOC Test Centre has already been accomplished as the primary goal of the Project, the sustainability of the system is planned to be closely monitored at the upcoming period.*

*In addition, capacity development and dedicated awareness raising programmes will also take place in the upcoming period together with the studies on certifications and accreditations. For all of these activities, close coordination will be followed up with project partner, donor and and all related stakeholders to ensure that steady communication is maintained. As mentioned, consultancy services will be provided to assure that the Project is being implemented at a high quality under the framework of its objective and targets.*

*Finally, it is planned to reflect the training content to a digital way and transform the whole curriculum into the established virtual platform. Especially, providing ADASO and vocational high school students with at least one online vocational training by using digital tools as described in the “AVTC Project Conceptual Design Report” is among the priority targets.*

*No revision is predicted to the project plans for the upcoming reporting period at this stage and there is no funding gap and resource requirement.*

# Visibility and Communication Arrangements

*The European Bank for Reconstraction and Development (EBRD) contributions to the Project will be highlighted through the most effective and efficient communications methods and channels at country level focusing on EBRD’s strong interest on supporting the achievement of security for the refugees and host community in the field. An additional priority will be reporting on human interest stories, which aim at highlighting and connecting the implications of UNDP’s and Adana Chamber of Industry (ADASO) work and the contribution of the EBRD’s with the impact on people and communities. The Country Office will ensure close coordination with the related stakeholders in Turkey, which is particularly important for this specific operation with sensitivity in communication. High-level visibility actions, involving the EBRD and partners at all levels, will be carried out at critical junctures.*

*Meanwhile, it has been ensured to communicate the project achievements and accomplishments via social media channels, UNDP Website, press release and official news. However, regarding the overall Project and Center communication/visibility, awareness raising activities are planned to be realised in the upcoming stages in accordance with the Guidelines of EBRD and ADASO with reference to Project Communication and Visibility Strategy/Plan.*

*As the initial action, it is planned to realize “Panel on Look to the Future of the Vocational Training” in a way that will target vocational high school students, teachers, parents and relevant school administrators as target groups and aim to change their perception of vocational education by presenting good examples. By realizing the activity, raising awareness in the field of vocational education, presentation and evaluation of examples of project schools where similar studies are carried out will also be actualized within the scope of increasing the visibility of the project. In addition to that, it is also planned to realize “Cooperation for Vocational Education and Vocational High School Model Design Social Media Live Broadcast” in order to introduce ADASO, UNDP and EBRD Cooperation and share the proposed model for vocational education and “Hackathon Event” to discover and reward studies on innovative practices in vocational education for encouraging young people to the field of vocational education and creating an element of trust in them.*

# Financial Status[[2]](#footnote-2)

Insert Cumulative Expenditure Report here, from the project start date to the date of this progress report. . Unless there is specific guidance by the donor that was agreed within the Financing Agreement or a templete stated in ProDoc, use the reporting template of your own similar to this [example](https://undp.sharepoint.com/%3Ax%3A/s/QAUnitTurkey/EZW76Lu-xhFBh1ds9qdQJ-kBPZ0Pe5YzjnPDeeQ55zohCg?e=VzYTjK).

# Annexes

*i. AVTC Project Business Operations Plan Report*

*ii. AVTC Project Conceptual Design Report*

*iii. ADDIE Development Process Document*

*iv. AVTC Capacity Development Trainings Summary Report*

*v. AVTC Pilot Vocational Trainings Evaluation Documents*

*vi. AVTC Progress Report No: 2*

*vii. AVTC Progress Report No: 3*

*viii. AVTC Workshops & Webinars Draft Programme*

1. **You should consult your AWP to see what your planned targets were for that year. If this is the final year of your project, you can omit “Annual Target” and only focus on “End of Project Target”.** [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Disclaimer: Data contained in this financial report section is an extract of UNDP financial records. All financial provided above is provisional.*

*Disclaimer: UNDP adopted IPSAS (International Public Sector Accounting Standards) on 1 January 2012, cumulative totals that include data prior to that date are presented for illustration only.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)