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Empowered Girls Empowered Future Gender Equality Stakeholder Workshop Executive Summary

Gender Equality Stakeholder Workshop Final Report Summary

Objectives of the stakeholder workshop were realized by the Aydın Doğan Foundation within the scope of the “Empowered Girl Empowered Future” project, CSOs working on young women and girls meet together on a platform focused on gender equality and improve strategies about solutions to problems on this area. This workshop was realized on 7 September 2024 at İstanbul and its goals are capacity building of the CSOs working with disadvantaged groups and supporting dissemination to gender equality.

Problems and Solution Proposals determined by Participating CSOs in the Workshop

Inadequate Cooperation: Regular joint project must conduct to provide mechanism strong collaboration between public, sivil society and private sector.

Inadequate Need and Impact Analysis: Universities should increase research funding for impact analyses, provide additional funding for data collection processes and share research results with communities.

Inadequate Corporate Sustainability: Social and economic incubation support should be provided to local CSOs to increase institutional sustainability.

Socio-economic Barriers and Gender Inequality: New development models should be developed in cooperation with local NGOs and the private sector to reduce the effects of poverty and ensure gender equality.

Inadequate Representation of Women: Incentives for equal representation, work-life balance policies and home care support should be provided to increase women's representation in social, political and economic spheres.

Lack of Awareness: In order to raise awareness on gender equality, campaigns supported by media and education should be organized, social media and CSO cooperation should be ensured, and inclusion courses should be added to the curriculum at universities.

Inclusion and Gender Awareness Gap: In order to create a sustainable gender equality policy and increase inclusiveness, cooperation should be established with bar associations, professional organizations and trade unions, and Women's Solidarity Centers should be established in neighborhoods.

Lack of Expertise and Inclusion: In order to overcome the lack of experts and develop sustainable projects, cooperation should be established with funding organizations, projects should be made comprehensive and experts should be supported with trainings.

Taboos on Sex Work: Data monitoring studies should be conducted to raise awareness on sex work and software and application groups should be established to raise awareness in this field.

Data Collection and Monitoring Issues: Open data platforms should be used in data collection and monitoring processes, and gender data should be consolidated under a single roof.

Gender Inequality Arising from Social Norms: Inclusive awareness raising activities, social campaigns and training programs should be organized to eliminate gender inequality caused by social and cultural norms.

Insufficient Awareness of Men: In order to raise men's awareness on gender inequality, education programs should be expanded and gender courses should be added to vocational high schools.

Weak Civil Society Relations: In order to strengthen communication between civil society and the public sector, workshop reports should be shared with public institutions, data should be shared regularly and policy recommendations should be directly transferred to the relevant units.

Deconstructing Concepts: In order to strengthen the meaning of gender-related concepts, the concepts of leadership, empowerment and negotiation should be emphasized and efforts should be made to bring these concepts to life in schools.

Lack of Sustainability and Expertise: In order to increase sustainability in gender work, an expert pool should be created and capacity building trainings should be organized.

Media Insensitivity: In order to increase the sensitivity of the media to gender equality, it is recommended to develop a common language with media representatives and to carry out activities to raise awareness.

Social Norms and Lack of Role Models: Role models should be encouraged and society should be educated to overcome social resistance to gender equality.

Workshop Highlights:

Problem Identification and Solution Development: Each group identified the main problems faced in their field and developed solutions in accordance with SMART criteria.

Inter-Institutional Cooperation Workshop: Stakeholders areas where they can contribute to project activities have been identified and recommendations have been developed for the sustainability of cooperation.

The workshop revealed that advocacy work on gender equality and girls' empowerment needs to be approached systematically. Creating inclusive, long-term and sustainable strategies and involving the media in this process is important to create lasting change in this area.

This Gender Equality Stakeholder Workshop Final Report was prepared by Öğrenme Tasarımları for the Aydın Doğan Foundation within the scope of the IPA III/2023/450-059 "Empowered Girls, Empowered Future project, co-financed under the European Union's call for "Support to Rights- Based CSOs Working on Social Inclusion and Youth." The content of this report, prepared within the project, is the sole responsibility of the Aydın Doğan Foundation and does not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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