

National Seminar

Report, Turkey – Istanbul, 10 November 2018

1. Aim of the national seminar

In line with the aim of the project outcomes,

- to bring together different stakeholders including teachers, NGO representatives, policymakers, academics, students and relevant parties,
- to provide a setting for these stakeholders to share their experiences,
- to receive feedbacks from stakeholders regarding best examples and problems concerning unaccompanied minors and youth in the context of inclusion.

2. Preparation phase of the seminar

2.1 Development of the program (September-November 2018)

- Program was prepared in accordance with the guidelines for WP3.
- National seminar was planned as one-day face-to-face event.
- The detailed structure and schedule of the event will be available in e-classroom with open access.

2.2 The content of the National seminar was composed of the following ‘main’ themes:

- Presentation of CiSoTRA project and relevant activities
- Overview of the current situation on unaccompanied minors in Turkey and the world
- Roundtable: Sharing of experiences

2.3 Speakers

- Coordinator of the Project, Müge Ayan
- Advisory Board member, Pınar Uyan Semerci
- Researcher of the Project, Ayşe Beyazova Seçer
- Trainer in the Project, Suzan Oktay Erol
- Partner Germany, Alexander Krauss
- Manager of the Project, Kenan Çayır

2.4 Invited participants include:

- Advisory board members
- Experts expected to give ad hoc feedback on project activities
- NGO representatives
- Teachers

- Academics and students
- The invitation/announcement of the seminar was disseminated through: Twitter, e-mail, Facebook, Instagram.
- Participants registered for the event on site before the National Seminar.

2.5 E-classroom (open access)

- Material about activities will be available in e-classroom with open access. Materials will be available also in the future to be used in further project's activities.

3. Delivery of the national seminar

Date/Location: 10.11.2018, İstanbul Bilgi University

Number of speakers: 6

Number of participants: 42

Program. content:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 14:00 -14:10 | Opening speech , Müge Ayan, İstanbul Bilgi University Center for Sociology and Education Studies (SEÇBİR) |
| 14:10-15:30 | Session 1: Overview of the current situation on unaccompanied minors in Turkey and the world , Moderator: Pınar Uyan Semerci, İstanbul Bilgi University Center for Migration Studies

Current situation and narratives from the field, Ayşe Beyazova, SEÇBİR; Suzan Oktay, Social Workers Association

World examples: Constraints and possibilities, Alexander Krauss, Institut für sozialwissenschaftliche Beratung GmbH (ISOB) |
| 16: 00-17:30 | Session 2: Roundtable: Sharing of experiences Moderator: Kenan Çayır, SEÇBİR |

Some important remarks made during the seminar:

Dr. Müge Ayan in her opening speech presented the project activities and emphasized the importance of carrying out projects on unaccompanied minors and creating spaces to learn from each other's knowledge and experience.

In the first panel session moderated by Prof. Dr. Pınar Uyan Semerci, one international and two national speakers gave their papers on unaccompanied minors. The paper co-presented by Dr. Ayşe Beyazova Seçer and Suzan Oktay Erol gave an overview on the current situation on unaccompanied minors. While Ayşe Beyazova Seçer presented Turkey's national report which includes findings of

desk research and focus group studies on unaccompanied minors, Suzan Oktay Erol presented striking examples from everyday practices of unaccompanied minors. Followed by Beyazova Seçer and Oktay Erol, Alexander Krauss presented highlights from the synthesis report. While he mentioned some of the problems he focused on the solutions and good examples from the partner countries with special reference to Germany.

The final session was organized as a roundtable discussion to give more free space to all participants to share their experiences and to discuss further steps. One of the common problems expressed by the majority of the participants was the following: Once unaccompanied minors are 18 years old, state protection ends and minors are left to their own devices. A suggestion brought up by one of the participants was that a transition institution needs to be established for minors at the age of 18 to 20.

Another common point which has been stressed by most of the participants was that the work done with the minors should adopt a grassroots approach instead of a top-down approach, which is the current practice. It is of utmost importance that the needs of the minors are taken into consideration.

Last but not least, the need for teachers to come together with social service workers is stressed.

4. Evaluation of the seminar and policy recommendation

4.1 Letter of thanks and evaluation questionnaire

A week after the training a letter of thanks was sent to the speakers and all the participants for their contribution and participation.

4.2 Evaluation analysis

30 participants responded to the questions in the evaluation form. 28 of the respondents are attendees. The rest are speakers/moderators.

Figure 1 below give a summary of the structure of participants. It shows that the greatest majority of the participants are teachers (31%). Those who work in the area of protection of unaccompanied minors and social workers are 19% each. This is followed by those who work in the area of human rights. Remaining audience work in the area of research, NGO, and advocacy.

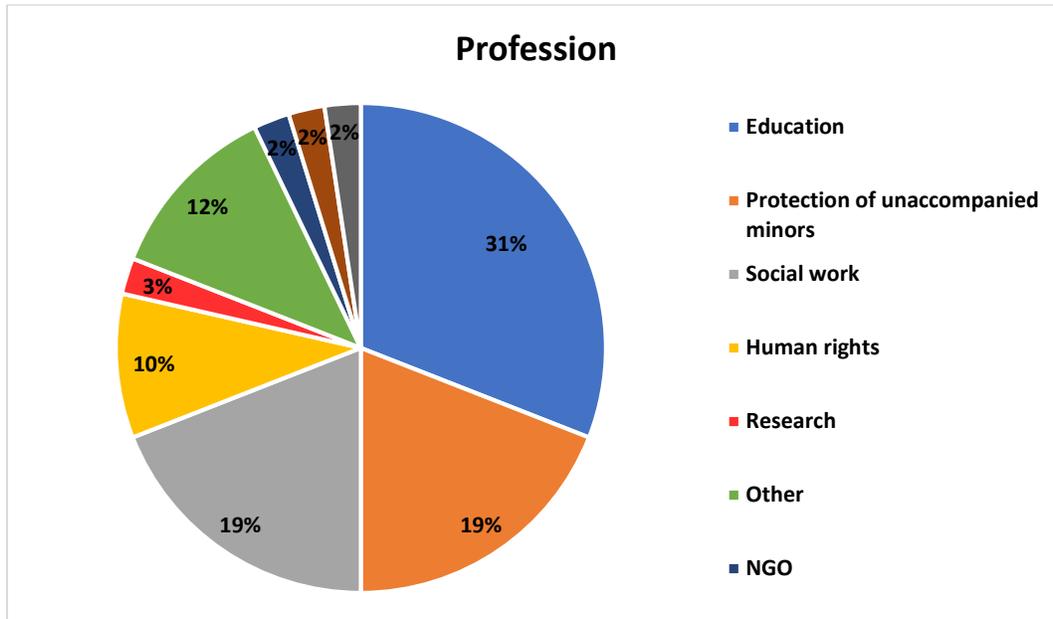


Figure 1 Percentage of position of participants

The figures below are about feedbacks given by the participants:

- Figure 2 shows that all of the participants have assessed that the seminar was either ‘very useful’ or ‘somewhat useful’.
- One of the aims of the seminar was to provide a setting for exchange of experience with peers and colleagues. Figure 4 shows the results on this aim. It shows that all participants found the seminar ‘very useful’ or ‘somewhat useful’ in terms of exchanging experience with peers and colleagues.
- Another aim was to provide exchange with an international expert. 26 out of 30 participants found international expert’s presentation ‘very useful’ or ‘somewhat useful’. 28 out of 30 participants found the seminar ‘very useful’ or ‘somewhat useful’ in terms of exchanging experience with the international expert.
- A separate panel in the seminar was organized to introduce the work done by NGOs on migrant and Roma children to other stakeholders, particularly teachers. Figure 5 demonstrates that 40 out of 41 participants found exchange with civil society agents very useful or somewhat useful.

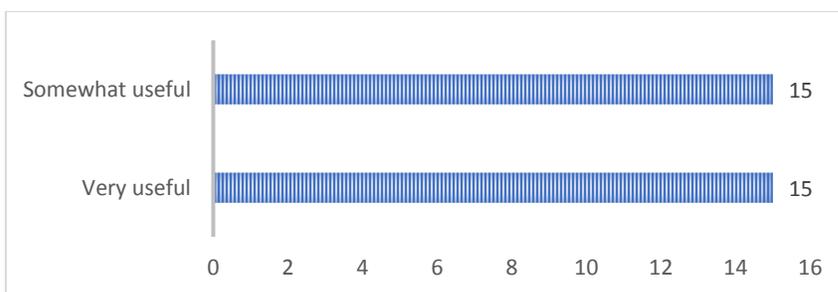


Figure 2 Number of participants who evaluated the general context and discussions during the seminar

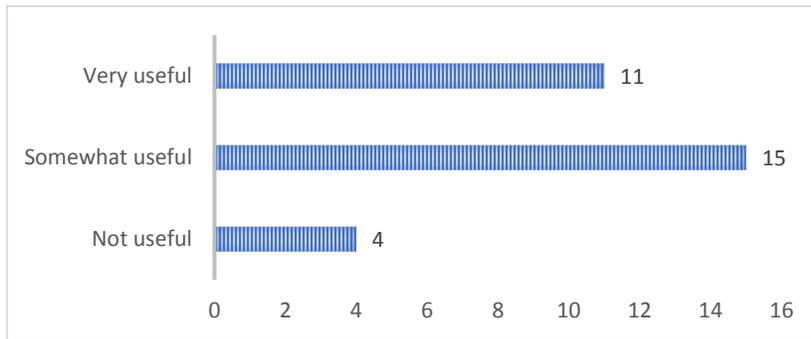


Figure 3 Number of participants who evaluated international experts' presentations

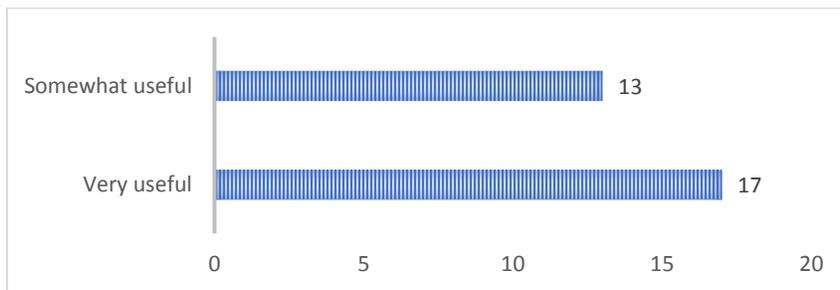


Figure 4 Number of participants who evaluated the exchange of experience with peers and colleagues

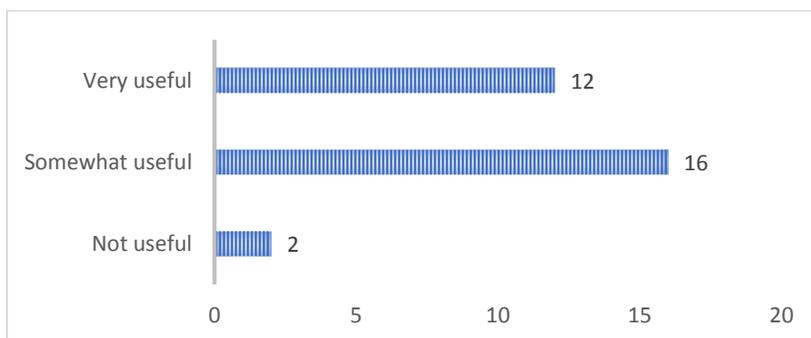


Figure 5 Number of participants who evaluated the exchange of experience with international experts

4.3 Policy recommendations

Based on the evaluations given by the participants, the following (policy) recommendations can be made:

- There is a need to create more spaces for bringing together different stakeholders working in the field of inclusion of unaccompanied minors.
- Effort should be paid to make best practices more visible and accessible for those who work with unaccompanied minors.
- Figure 6 shows the percentage of participants who expressed that to act efficiently in their work with unaccompanied minors they need more of the following content: 24% need case studies, 29% need practical exercises. Thus a great majority need to be supported by more practical exercises in the field. The rest express that they need spaces to discuss and share their experiences in the field, express their suggestions and opinions. 14% of the participants need to be equipped with theoretical background.

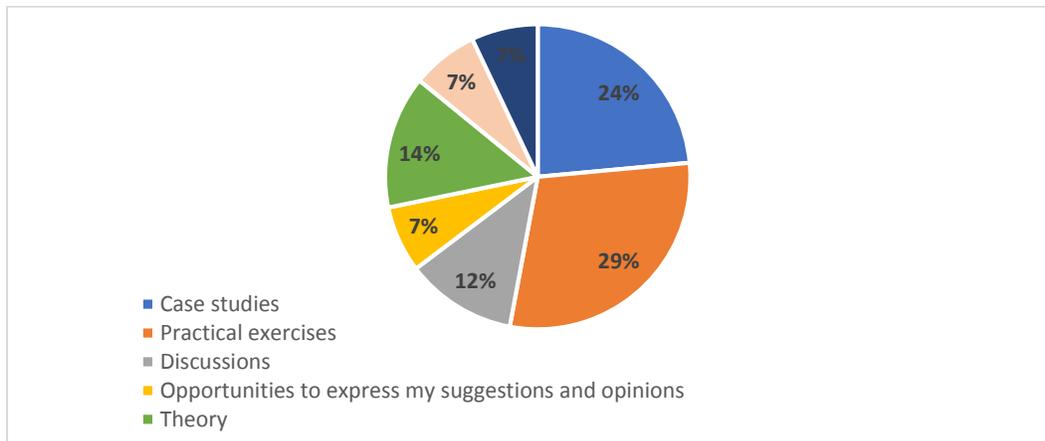


Figure 6 Percentage of participants who expressed that they need support in following contents