



# Youth Policy Cooperation

between Turkey and Sweden 2008–2010



THE SWEDISH NATIONAL  
BOARD FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS  
[www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se](http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se)

## What is youth policy?

- What do young people really want to do in their leisure time?
- What are the success factors while working with unemployed youth?
- Can young people influence the society and what are their rights?

## The Youth Policy Cooperation between Turkey and Sweden

aims at finding the answers to these questions and more. The project lasts between 2008 and 2010 and the intention is to let actors within the youth policy field reflect on their ideas and knowledge through meetings and discussions with partners from the other country.

## The project has two main aims:

- To promote the recognition of young people's potential and learn about young people's needs.
- To promote active participation by youth in society.

## How do we fulfil these aims?

In order to make the aims more concrete they have been developed further into five project components:

### Defined concepts in the youth field

Young people have common challenges and characteristics. In order to promote their interests this project component aims at exploring important concepts and ideas that underpin youth policy.

### Knowledge of living conditions

In order to know what young people want, we need to ask the young people themselves. This project component aims at discussing what knowledge we need about young people and at building capacity for carrying out surveys. It also focuses on how we can make use of the results of the survey in order to improve young people's living conditions.

### Establish networks in the youth field

There are many people who in one way or another are involved in youth work – but do these people meet and exchange information? This project component aims at giving legitimacy to the youth field and at creating platforms to share perspectives and ideas.

### Promotion of best practice for youth employment

The unemployment rates are higher for youth than for adults. Fortunately, there are some projects that have succeeded in their efforts to stimulate youth employment. This project component aims at identifying success factors and exchange methods.

### Social services and rights for young people

All people are not aware of the rights and responsibilities that youth have. This project component aims at creating a dialogue between young people and decision-makers regarding how society can benefit from youth influence and identify the structures that society has set up especially for young people.

### Reports and website

One report from each of the project components will be published during 2009. Please contact the Directorate for Youth and Sports in Turkey (Gençlik ve Spor Genel Müdürlüğü, Gençlik Hizmetleri Dairesi Başkanlığı) or The Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs (Ungdomsstyrelsen) for printed versions. The reports will also be available at the project website. You can also find more information and news about the project there.  
[www.ungenc.net](http://www.ungenc.net)

## End conference

The 7–9<sup>th</sup> of December 2009 the activity phase of the project comes to an end during a final event in Istanbul. During this conference the project results will be presented and discussed with the attendance of politicians, civil servants, youth workers and young people themselves.

## Participants of the project

The target group and participants of the project include young people, civil servants, youth leaders, decision-makers, youth NGO's, researchers, other professionals and project partners.

## Project partners

### The Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs

is a government authority. It aims to ensure that young people have access to influence and welfare. It is done through the production and communication of knowledge on young people's living conditions. It also distributes funding to the civil society in the form of support for organisations, projects and international cooperation. All the support is distributed on behalf of the Swedish government.

### The Youth Services Department

is the unit at the General Directorate of Youth and Sports in Turkey that carries out activities for young people to utilise their leisure time with social and cultural activities. It is the only state institution in Turkey that organises special programmes for youth. The Department is in charge of providing services and implementing programmes for youth, youth leaders and youth workers through the sections in charge of youth centres, youth camps, international relations, social and cultural activities, youth research, guidance and counselling, and youth NGO's.

