



EMPOWERING TEACHERS TO BECOME TRAUMA-SENSITIVE SCHOOLS

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

Background:

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods, landslides, avalanches, droughts, etc. are threatening many countries around the world and they pose significant challenges to communities across the globe, impacting not only lives and infrastructure but also the mental and emotional well-being of those affected. Supporting the community through school-based programs, starting with students, is an economic and fast solution for vulnerable groups. The schools and relevant associations in the field of education play an important role in terms of maintaining the well-being of students, teachers, school staff and also society.



Aim:

The Reach Out Project aims to develop the knowledge and skills of teachers to meet the psychosocial needs of students who have been affected by natural disasters and to increase their social adaptation. In line with this main goal, the objectives are:

- To ensure that teachers have knowledge of post-disaster psychosocial support and increase their awareness of the psychological effects that students may experience after natural disasters.
- To help teachers identify students' psychosocial needs and provide them with appropriate strategies to meet those needs.
- To equip teachers with appropriate techniques to provide the necessary support to increase students' social adaptation.
- To assist teachers in collaborating with students' families and other relevant stakeholders to create a social support network for meeting students' psychosocial needs.



Activities:

- Curriculum Analysis to prepare a program that enables teachers to determine the psychosocial needs of their students in accordance with the learning objectives in their annual plans and to use appropriate strategies to meet these needs.
- Creation of a Psychosocial Support Activity Booklet that contains 60 ready-to-use and curriculum-integrated activities that teachers can use in their class on the selected lessons (Social Sciences, Science, Language, Sport, Art, Music)
- Psychosocial Support Teacher Activity Preparation Guide that enables teachers to prepare activities focused on psychosocial support for lesson objectives in line with their lessons.



CURRENT PROGRESS

"The first transnational project meeting was held on 19 July, 2024 in İstanbul. At the meeting, partners discussed the project implementation, especially the curriculum analysis and selection of learning outcomes."







All the partners in the Reach Out Project held several online meetings and working sessions to complete the selection of common learning outcomes and present a draft template for lesson planning."



Next Steps

The second translational face-to-face meeting will be held in Volos, Greece hosted by UTH on the 20th of January 2025. Partners will present the draft form of WP3 during the meeting.

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