

Health and Safety
Executive

Turkey

FISEK INSTITUTE - SCIENCE AND ACTION FOR FOUNDATION ON CHILD LABOUR

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Status: Fisek Institute Science and Action Foundation for Child Labour is a non-governmental organisation and does not get contributions from the government. The organisation was founded on 31 March 1997 with the contributions of Fisek Institute on Health Services and Research, which itself started its activities in 1986 after four years groundwork. The two organisations are organised under a single roof and together they create funds for themselves through the services they provide to the society.

Principal functions and activities: The Institute has multidisciplinary studies on the issues of occupational health and safety, community health, child labour and gender inequality. It has pioneered studies and activities in many issue areas in Turkey. It has been providing group occupational health services to more than 300 small-scale establishments in four centres through its Fisek model and its mobile units. Child workers can easily receive health services at Apprenticeship Education Centres and small-scale establishments. Its study on female employees in Denizli has brought new evidence on the roots of gender inequality in occupational life to light. Moreover, the Institute engages in consulting, education and measurement studies in large-scale establishments through its occupational safety support service system. Multi-purpose exhibitions, seminars and talks are held in the Foundation headquarters. Between 1992 and 1999, ILO/IPEC (International Labour Organisation/ International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour) supported four projects on child labourers that have been carried out by the Institute; these projects still maintain their sustainability after the termination of the support. The studies of the Institute have been presented in international congresses such as XIII and XV World Congress on Occupational Safety and Health (New Delhi 1993 and Sao Paulo 1999), first International Congress on Priorities in Health Care (Stockholm 1996), XXII International Congress of Paediatrics (Amsterdam 1998), Promoting Gender Equity in Public Health in Europe (Dublin 2000) besides many national congresses. One of the studies by the Institute had been among the eight projects that represented Turkey in the "Best Practices Exhibition" of United Nations Human Settlements Conference (HABITAT II), which was held in Istanbul in 1996. The Institute's efforts and studies have been recognised by the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey when they were awarded the "document of admiration". The Institute is currently continuing its groundwork on two projects named "Youth Centre for Working Girls" and "Summer Camps for Child Workers".