



**ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY
THE UNION OF CHAMBERS AND COMMODITY
EXCHANGES OF TURKEY (TOBB)
IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS AND
RELATED ORGANIZATIONS**

“Looking ahead to 2015 and beyond, there is no question that we can achieve the overarching goal: we can put an end to poverty. In almost all instances, experience has demonstrated the validity of earlier agreements on the way forward; in other words, we know what to do. But it requires an unswerving, collective, long-term effort.”

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.



H.E. Mahmood A. Ayub, Former UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Turkey and M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu, President of TOBB

I. United Nations Millennium Development Goals and TOBB's Contribution to the Achievement of these Goals

TOBB has attached great emphasis on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals since the year 2000 and has worked in cooperation with the national authorities, policy makers and the international organizations aiming to contribute the efforts to raise the global awareness for cooperating to achieve better development throughout the region and the world.

Actually, TOBB pays efforts to encourage and contribute to sustainable development, establish global partnerships, raise people's welfare, reduce poverty, and foster peace and stability for development.

Within this framework, TOBB as the apex organization of the Turkish private sector in Turkey, assuming the mission to lead and guide the business world and being aware of its social responsibilities, proactively has taken outstanding initiatives and has carried out numerous national, regional and international projects and activities in line with the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

Within this context, the "Millennium Development Goals Turkey 2005" Report, presented to the UN Member Country Representatives at the 60th General Assembly on September of 2005, was prepared with the contribution of our Union.

I. United Nations Millennium Development Goals and TOBB's Contribution to the Achievement of these Goals

TOBB has conducted numerous projects in line with the United Nations Millennium Development Goals

GOAL 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

- Within the context of this goal, TOBB has donated food aid to those in need in poorer regions of Turkey and the neighbor countries.
- TOBB contributed in kind grants to the Makassed Islamic Charitable Hospital, built to serve the Palestenians in Jerusalem in 2007.

GOAL 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education

- TOBB provides educational assistance both domestically and abroad.
- TOBB continuously contributes to the construction of primary schools all over the country and in this process, 42 primary schools have been built already.



- TOBB has made in kind contributions to the “All Girls to School” Campaign, carried out by UNICEF, in Turkey, and President of TOBB, Mr. M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu, the Honorary Member of the UNICEF National Committee of Turkey.

- TOBB is in the process of donating fabric and drapery goods to sew school uniforms for 101,000 students between the ages 6-11 in Gaza, Palestine, which will also provide employment, as the school uniforms will be sewed in Palestine.



GOAL 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

H.E. Recep
Tayyip Erdoğan,
Prime Minister of
Turkey, M.Rifat
Hisarcıklıoğlu,
President of TOBB
and TOBB Women
Entrepreneurs
Council



- TOBB established the most comprehensive women network in Turkey, the “Women Entrepreneurs Council,” which targets not only improving the contribution and economic power of the women entrepreneurs in Turkey but also raising awareness on how valuable they are both for the society and for the economy.
- TOBB, assuming the Presidency of Economic Cooperation Organization Chamber of Commerce and Industry, covering Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, also established ECO CCI Women Entrepreneurs Council where women business representatives of the respective countries come together, aiming to share an interactive cooperation platform.

GOAL 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

- TOBB conducts environmental programs with Tema Foundation, which works on forestation and erosion prevention.
- TOBB is also actively involved in the numerous national activities on Climate Change and carries out works in cooperation with, national agencies, UNDP, UNIDO and UNEP.

GOAL 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

- TOBB works in close cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank on organizing various capacity building training programs for developing countries.
- TOBB has founded Ankara Forum among Turkey-Israel-Palestine aiming to contribute the peace and cooperation in the region.
- Within the framework of Ankara Forum, aiming to establish an industrial estate so as to create employment in the West Bank, TOBB has developed the “Industry for Peace (TOBB-BIS) Project”.
- TOBB has founded Istanbul Forum among Turkey-Afghanistan-Pakistan aiming to formulate a trilateral dialogue and cooperation mechanism.
- Aiming at the development of a well-functioning chamber system and to promote the development of a regional network of business organizations in the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA), TOBB carried out the “*OECD MENA Business Development Project*”.



7th Ankara Forum, Ankara: (front row, from left to right) H.E. Shimon Peres, President of Israel; H.E. Abdullah Gül, President of Turkey; H.E. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the Palestinian National Authority. (back row, from left to right) H.E. Beşir Atalay, Minister of Internal Affairs of Turkey; Shraga Brosh, President of the Manufacturers Association of Israel; H.E. Ali Babacan, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey; M.Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu, President of TOBB; Ahmed H. Azzghayar; President of the Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture

- The platform of the G - 20 Chambers was proposed by the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) with the idea of filling the need of a forum for the private sector representatives of G - 20 countries. “*G - 20 Chambers Summit*” intends to function as a platform that would enable a network of dialogue among the private sector representatives of the G - 20 countries, which would in turn contribute to the discussions on the international financial architecture.

The initial introduction of the G – 20 Chambers Summit was made on the occasion of the 6th World Chamber Congress, organized by the World Chamber Federation in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in a session held on June 4, 2009.

The G-20 Chambers Summit aims to provide a new perspective on global governance of economic system that is in the formation process. The summit will also contribute to the global coordination of crisis measures as well as enhance the dialogue between chambers of the G-20 countries.

- TOBB is now contributing in building three new operating rooms for spine, prosthesis and endoscopic surgeries in Sarajevo Faculty of Medicine in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in co-operation with Istanbul Florence Nightingale Hospital.

Istanbul Forum,
Istanbul: (from left to right)
Muhammed Qurban Haqjo,
CEO of Afghanistan
Chamber of Commerce;
Sher Khan Farnood,
President of Afghan
Chamber of Commerce and
Industry; H.E. Hamid Karzai,
President of Afghanistan;
H.E. Abdullah Gül,
President of Turkey;
M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu,
President of TOBB;
H.E. Asif Ali Zardari,
President of Pakistan;
Ahmed Chawla, President of
Federation of Pakistan
Chambers of Commerce
and Industry





II. TOBB Participated in United Nations Global Compact

TOBB, whose purposes include enhancing the development of the professions in conformance with general interest, is a participant of UN Global Compact since 2007. Global Compact seeking to build a global culture in the business world which is aligned with the ten universal principles as well as Millennium Development Goals of United Nations, has 161 participants from Turkey.

III. TOBB in Cooperation with the UNDP within the Framework of Localizing Millennium Development Goals Project

The “*Localizing Millennium Development Goals Project*,” developed by the UNDP, was carried out in Turkey in cooperation with our Union. In this respect, TOBB aimed at implementing the millennium development goals at the local level through the Local Agenda 21 and encouraging partnerships among city administrations, the private sector and civil society.

Furthermore, to achieve these goals at the local level, TOBB granted a fund of 500,000 US Dollars in order to encourage active participation of these institutions.



H.E. Kemal Derviş, Head of the United Nations Development Programme and M.Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu, President of TOBB

Totally 19 projects from our local Chambers and Commodity Exchanges were successfully completed in conformity with the United Nation Millennium Development Goals:



→ Goal 1

Afyonkarahisar Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: Training and Employment of Tourism and Hotel Management Personnel

Aim: To provide employment opportunities to 40 people in tourism sector after giving them vocational trainings.

Partners: Afyonkarahisar Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Afyonkarahisar City Council; Afyon Education, Health and Scientific Research Foundation; Afyon Foundation of Thermal Touristic Hotel Owners and Managers, Afyonkarahisar Local Agenda 21



→ Goal 1

Van Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: Marketing and Sales Principles

Aim: To increase the living conditions of young people in Van through giving 40 youths marketing and public relations trainings. Furthermore they received trainings about entrepreneurship and developed their ability to integrate into business life.



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Partners: Van Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Yüzüncü Yıl University; Public Education Center Provincial Directorate of Van; Turkish Employment Agency Provincial Directorate of Van; Secretariat General for Van Local Agenda 21.



→ Goal 1

Adana Chamber of Industry

Project: Resource from Negative to Positive

Aim: To integrate 10 unemployed young people to employment through giving them welding business training.

Partners: Adana Chamber of Industry; Adana Foundation for Homeless Children; Children Platform of Adana City Council, Adana Local Agenda 21



→ Goal 1

Adana Chamber of Commerce

Project: Adana Young Entrepreneurs Council and Support Center Project

Aim: To train 25 young people in terms of capacity development and to effectuate their enterprising spirits through establishing Adana Young Entrepreneurs Committee and Support Centre.

Partners: Adana Chamber of Commerce; Adana Local Agenda 21 Civil Youth Assembly; Development Initiative Group Cooperative; Mediterranean Youth Foundation.



→ Goal 1

Çanakkale Commodity Exchange

Project: Friendly Operators

Aim: To provide job opportunities to 30 people through training them about how to use operators and give them heavy machinery operator certificates at the end of the trainings.

Partners: Çanakkale Commodity Exchange, Mehmet Pehlivan Vocational Training Center



→ Goal 1

Orhangazi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: One Job, One Bread

Aim: To gather 20 unemployed people, give trainings of whitewash and reparation and provide them employment opportunities.

Partners: Orhangazi Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Municipality of Orhangazi, Local Agenda 21 Office.



→ Goal 1

Mersin Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tarsus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Adana Chamber of Commerce and Mersin Chamber of Maritime Commerce

Project: Becoming Innovative and Productive Women

Aim: To increase the living conditions of 60 women through giving manual skills development trainings.

Partners: Mersin Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Adana Chamber of Commerce; Adana City Council Local Agenda 21; Tarsus Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Tarsus Local Agenda 21; Mersin Chamber of Maritime Commerce.



→ Goal 1

Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: Pharmaceutical Apprentice Training

Aim: To provide employment opportunities to 15 people through giving pharmaceutical apprentice training and a pharmaceutical apprentice certificate at the end of the project.

Partners: Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Chamber of Diyarbakır 11th Zone Pharmacists; Social Services and Child Protection Agency; Foundation of Physically Handicapped People; Public Prosecutor of Diyarbakır; Diyarbakır Local Agenda 21.





→ Goal 1

Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: Let's Overcome the Obstacles

Aim: To help children, who have someone handicapped in their family, by providing them professional education to save them from having to work in the streets.

Partners: Antalya Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Antalya City Council Society Working Group; Local Agenda 21; Antalya Private Family Consultation Center.



→ Goal 1

Zonguldak Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: Nursing Training for Old and Sick People

Aim: To create employment for 15 women in poverty, by educating them for 8 months on nursing the elderly and the handicapped.

Partners: Zonguldak Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Zonguldak Local Agenda 21; Public Education Center (National Education Directorate); Foundation for Protection of Old People and Improvement of Social Services.



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→ Goal 3

Aegean Region Chamber of Industry

Project: Leader Women of Izmir Project

Aim: To gather women from business life, NGOs and local administrations to increase the interaction between them and increase their leadership qualifications. (20 women from business life, 20 women from NGOs and 20 women from local administrations)

Partners: Aegean Region Chamber of Industry; İzmir Governorship; İzmir Metropolitan Municipality, Local Agenda 21 Office



→ Goal 3

Sinop Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Project: Sinop Women's Crafts Development, Training and Support

Aim: To increase the living conditions of 30 women through giving manual skills training.

Partners: Sinop Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Municipality of Sinop; Sinop City Council Local Agenda 21 Women Board; Public Education Center of Sinop.



VI. World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

TOBB became a member of the UNWTO, On November 2009, in order to contribute the works of UNWTO, to represent and share the experiences of the Turkish tourism sector in this international platform.

VII. United Nations Economic and Social Council-ECOSOC

TOBB was granted with Special Consultative Status by the UN Economic and Social Council, NGO Section, on July 28th of 2009. In this respect, with its vast experience and capacity to conduct projects on social development, peace building, gender equality, global public health, etc., TOBB will be a perfect partner for ECOSOC to work with. Moreover, TOBB will have a chance to cooperate with the other NGOs which are also granted with the consultative status of ECOSOC.

M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu,
President of TOBB and
the IMF Delegation



VIII. International Monetary Fund (IMF)

TOBB is in close contact with the IMF. The Union has received various delegations on different occasions, during which top current issues regarding the Turkish and world economy are evaluated. In addition, the Union actively participates in the events of the IMF, such as the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings and the Civil Society Forums organized in this context.



Robert Zoellick,
President of the
World Bank and,
M.Rifat Hisarciklioğlu,
President of TOBB

IX. World Bank (WB) / TOBB-WB Projects

TOBB and the World Bank have worked together in close cooperation on various projects, such as;

- *Creative Ideas on Development Contest,*
- *Investment Climate Assessment Project in Turkey*
- *The Competitive Power of Turkey, Attracting Foreign Direct Investment to Turkey, the Role of Competitiveness Policies.*

X. World Trade Organization (WTO)

TOBB, aiming to follow the negotiations and works of WTO on implementation and monitoring of multilateral agreements and to represent the opinions of Turkish private sector applied to WTO and was accredited on December 2005 to WTO.