

**Turkish Enterprise and Business
Confederation UN Global Compact
Communication of Engagement
2018-2021**

July 2021

TÜRKONFED

Refik Saydam Caddesi Akarca Sokak No: 41 Tepebaşı, Beyoğlu – İstanbul

Message from Chairman of the Board



Orhan Turan

Having set out with the vision of becoming the leading representative institution for the business world in Turkey, which is to be in top 10 most competitive and prosperous economies and achieve level of contemporary civilization, TÜRKONFED is celebrating its 17th year. The idea of a confederation rose in the 1990s with the Movement of Industrialists and Businessmen Associations (Sanayici ve İşadamları Dernekleri Hareketi) and led to the establishment of TÜRKONFED in 2004. Until 2021, TÜRKONFED went through a period of enlargement. Today, TÜRKONFED has 30 federations in each of the 26 regions with development agency and it is the biggest CSO founded by businesspeople coming together on the principle of independency and volunteering. Incorporating 30 federations (26 regional and 4 sectoral), 274 associations and 40.000 firms, TÜRKONFED also represents the biggest organized women's power in Turkey with 42 member women's associations. In addition to being a member of the European SME Union (SME United) representing 12 million and 500 firms and 55 million workers, TÜRKONFED serves as a bridge between its members who are the production power of Turkey and the world through its Brussels Representation. Building new trade bridges in the international arena with 15 business associations who are TÜRKONFED International members in 70 countries, TÜRKONFED has published close to 50 research reports in 17 years and will continue to work as think-tank.

After our 13th Ordinary General Assembly in May 2018, we started the third term at TÜRKONFED. In TÜRKONFED, which focused on deepening between 2018 and 2021, we followed the 5K Vision for this purpose. We will be creating added value to our members and country with an inclusive approach through our 5K Vision where we focus on Institutionalization (Kurumsallaşma), Global Competitiveness (Küresel Rekabetçilik), Inclusiveness (Kapsayıcılık), SME (KOBİ), and Women (Kadın) issues.

At the 14th Ordinary General Assembly, we held in June 2021, we started a new term in TÜRKONFED with our Executive Board of 52 members. From regional income disparity to local development, middle-income trap to middle democracy and middle education traps, from access to finance for SMEs to digital transformation and Industry 4.0, we will keep contributing to Turkey's export and production with high benefit with our 12 working commissions. With our common values, we will continue to develop partnerships raising awareness via national and international projects reaching all parts of society during this term. We will work and produce for Turkey with national and universal common principles of humanitarianism, equal and fair distribution, responsibility; with economic values of quality, competitiveness, branding, entrepreneurship, competence and prosperity; with democratic values of rule of law, human rights, freedom of thought and expression, judicial independence, freedom of the press and participatory-inclusive New Constitution; with civil society values of leadership, volunteering, independence, transparency and public interest.



About TÜRKONFED

TÜRKONFED (Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation) is a non-governmental business organization, aiming to contribute to the development of regional, sectoral and national economic policies. TÜRKONFED is an associate member of The European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (UEAPME) since 11th of February 2014. UEAPME is the employers' organization representing the interests of European crafts, trades and SMEs at EU level. UEAPME is a recognized European Social Partner. It is a non-profit seeking and non-partisan organization.

TÜRKONFED was established in 2004 as a nation-wide confederation, representing 6 federations and 69 associations. Today, 30 federations and 274 associations fall under TÜRKONFED, through which over 40,000 companies are represented.

Member federations are established as regional and sectoral organizations. 26 regional federations of TÜRKONFED widely cover the country, allowing a national representation. In order to be in accordance with the European Union (EU), the confederation's geographic distribution for these federations is based on "Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics Level 2" (NUTS 2).

Regional development, vocational education and employment, competitiveness and innovation are TÜRKONFED's main areas of activity. With the overriding goal of improvements in these fields, TÜRKONFED leads academic and field studies, identifies problems, generates targeted solutions and shares its opinion with stakeholders and policy makers. Furthermore, TÜRKONFED focuses on enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs.



GOALS

- To be the common voice of the business world, to establish a strong organization with a wide representation base that will take care of the problems of the business world,
- To determine to economic policies, to produce solutions to the problems that concern the business world,
- Contributing to international integration and increasing competitiveness by developing regional and sectoral development visions.

VISION

- To be the umbrella organization trusted and preferred by the business world throughout the country,
- To increase the competitiveness of its members with policies and activities that will reduce the interregional development gap,

MISSION

- To contribute to the creation of regional, sectoral and national economic policies as a voluntary, independent representative and common voice of the business world,
- To help increase national competitiveness and international integration.

OUR VALUES

- Independence
- Transparency
- Volunteering

OUR 5 VISION K

INSTITUTIONALIZATION

Increasing the level of institutionalization in firms, associations, federations, our confederation, private sector and public sector.

GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Contributing to Turkey's becoming top 10 biggest and most powerful economies in the world by increasing its global competitiveness.

INCLUSIVENESS

Embracing a participatory approach in order to end regional inequalities and spread inclusive policies in Turkey.

SMEs

Increasing the capacity and use of high technology of SMEs who are the basis of Turkish economy and most of whom are family companies, ensuring quality and sustainable growth and transforming them within the framework of "Think Small First!" principle.

WOMEN

Developing policies based on gender mainstreaming and equal opportunities to increase women's active participation in various spheres of life from economy to politics and making sure these policies are implemented.



FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES

Leader business world representative organization vision

- Strengthening of TÜRKONFED's Institutional and Financial Structure
- Improvement of TÜRKONFED Member Federations and Increasing Member Commitment
- Enhancement of TÜRKONFED's Corporate Communication and Partnership with National and International Organizations
- Promoting Reports, Activities and Forums in line with TÜRKONFED's Vision and Goals
- Contributing to Development Based Public Reforms in Turkey
- Contributing to Elimination of Regional Development Disparities in Turkey
- Contributing to the Advancement of Turkey's National, Industrial and Sustainable Competitiveness and SMEs' Growth



TÜRKONFED Activities and Global Compact Principles

Human Rights

Principle 1: The business world should support and respect proclaimed human rights.

Principle 2: The business world should not be complicit in human rights abuses.

Labor Standards

Principle 3: The business world should support workers' freedom of association and collective bargaining.

Principle 4: Forced and compulsory labor should be stopped.

Principle 5: All forms of child labor should be stopped.

Principle 6: End discrimination in recruitment and placement.

Environment

Principle 7: The business world should support precautionary approaches to environmental problems.

Principle 8: It should support all kinds of activities and formations that will increase environmental responsibility.

Principle 9: Support the development and dissemination of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

Principle 10: The business world should fight all forms of corruption, including bribery and extortion.

REPRESENTATION POWER & EFFICIENCY

November 2004

Established in November 2004 by federations consisting of member associations of Turkey Industrialist and Businessmen Associations Platform and Industrial Associations Platform.

Strong Voice of Anatolia

The most widespread business world organization building a bridge between large enterprises and SMEs in Anatolia.

Umbrella Organization

The voice of Turkish enterprise and business world, the UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION for all Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Turkey.

National and Regional Research Reports

A civil society organization with a think-tank mission with 33 national and 13 comprehensive regional research reports and policy documents published in 17 years.

26 Regional 4 Sectoral Federations

The most inclusive and participatory business organization in Turkey with its associations and businesspeople affiliated to its 26 Regional – 4 Sectoral Federations.

SME United Membership

Member of the European SME Union (SME United) incorporating business organizations representing European SMEs; 80 federations, 12 million firms and 55 million employees. SME United membership provides TÜRKONFED with the ability to contribute to EU policies and regulations indirectly.

Representation at the Heart of Europe

A bridge between its stakeholders who are the production power of Turkish economy and the world via TÜRKONFED Brussels Representation opened in 2014.

15 Turkish Businesspeople Associations in 4 Continents

An international network connecting 15 Turkish Businesspeople in 4 continents under TÜRKONFED International.

ACTIVITIES

Enterprise and Business Schools

From 1997 until 2004, up until the establishment of the confederation, TÜRKONFED organized many “Board of Presidents” meetings under various titles hosted by the Turkish Industrialist and Businessmen Associations Platform and Industrial Associations Platform. After the confederalization the name of the meetings were changed to “TÜRKONFED Council of Presidents”. These meetings are held under the name of “TÜRKONFED Council of Enterprise and Business” once a year since 2011.

65 Platform endeavors (1997) and council and summit meetings organized until today

300 The number of minimum participants who are TÜRKONFED member businesspeople, public representatives, academics, national and local press

Enterprise and Business Summits

Enterprise and Business Summits are the biggest events bringing TÜRKONFED members together. At these summits, which are held in a different city every year, topical economic and political issues are discussed. For 15 years of its existence, issues such as political system, judicial independence, unemployment and regional development have been discussed at the summits.

22. Enterprise and Business Summit – Hatay



Projects

Digital Transformation Center Project



Developed by TÜRKONFED with the aim of introducing the SMEs, the very heart of economy, to the future the Digital Transformation Center project is supported within the scope of Istanbul Development Agency (İSTKA) 2018 Innovative and Creative Istanbul Financial Support Programme. Under the coordination of TÜRKONFED the project is carried out in an inclusive way with various stakeholders such as Türkiye İş Bankası, Governorship of Istanbul, Tüm Girişimci ve İş Mentorları Derneği, Boğaziçi University and Endeavor Turkey. 150 SMEs are given trainings on “production”, “administration” and “marketing-sales” in addition to mentorship support. The SMEs are paired with 30 techno-SMEs who produce service and products helpful to digitalization upon their needs and specific road maps are prepared regarding these SMEs’ digitalization needs.

DTC 2019 Program:

- Digitalization Report – Digitalization Roadmap
- Over 2,000 hours of mentoring support
- “Production”, “internal management” and “marketing-sales” training

DTC 2020 Program:

- 24 different cities
- One-to-one coaching service to more than 125 companies

Digital Anatolia Project



The project, coordinated in stakeholdership with Türkiye İş Bankası, aims at guiding and contributing to the digitalization process of SMEs focusing on production in Anatolia in order to prepare them for Industry 4.0. Initiated in 2018 and held in Antalya, Izmir, Bursa, Kocaeli and Adana, the Digital Anatolia project was held in Denizli, Elazığ, Diyarbakır and Eskişehir in 2019 and reached 3000 SMEs. Reaching SMEs with series of meetings throughout the country, the project aims at recovery in business processes and profit increase with the support of prominent experts in digitalization processes, from digital marketing to social media usage. The Digital Anatolia project will continue the awareness activities focusing on new codes of digitalization in 4 cities in accordance with Sustainable Development Goals in the year 2020 as well.

Starting year: 2018

- 9 provinces, 3000 participants
- 14 Live Streams, 12.000 access

Digital Trade Summits



Organized in partnership with SAP Turkey, Digital Trade Summits aim at bringing leaders of e-trade, e-export and e-transformation with SMEs and contributing to the digital transformation of enterprises in Anatolia. Leaders in digital trade share tips for transformation at these summits held in Izmir, Gaziantep, Konya and Gebze organized industrial zone.

Customs Union for SMEs Project



Carried out under the Civil Society Dialogue Program 5th Period, the Customs Union for SMEs Project has been initiated so that SMEs can take a more active role in and benefit more from the modernization of the Customs Union process between Turkey and the EU. The project aims at identifying the needs of SMEs resulting from lack of modernization, designing financial instruments specific to SMEs, analyzing potential industrial effects of modernization and introducing solutions to visa problem.

2019

- İstanbul
- Hatay
- Gaziantep
- İzmir
- Ankara

Youth Education Projects (Worth-YEP-Level-up Project)



Erasmus+ projects with stakeholders at national and international levels are coordinated by TÜRKONFED within the scopes of youth, education, entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship and corporate social responsibility. These projects were organized together with young people from different countries. (Bulgaria, Spain, Italy, Greece and Slovakia)

Resilient SMEs, Strong Tomorrows Project



The overall aim of the project realized with the partnership of TÜRKONFED and SPARK, is to matchmake 50 SMEs (25 SME's operating in Turkey whose majority partnership is Syrian capital will be matched with 25 SME's with Turkish capital) with the Turkish business ecosystem to respond to unprecedented circumstances and complex emergencies such as pandemic and economic shrinkage as well as boost the impact of social cohesion through the creation of jobs for increased economic inclusion and livelihood development and to facilitate access to the labor market. In the scope of the project, training, coaching and matchmaking activities are organized in line with needs analysis, business plans for the growth targets of participating companies are prepared through coaching.

- 14 training sessions and 1000 hours of coaching
- 1.5 Million TL grant support to 50 companies

I Can Manage My Business Project



The project has been initiated with the support of 27 banks and in partnership with TÜRKONFED, Visa and UNDP in order to enhance the capacity of SMEs and support their sustainable growth. Aiming to reach 3000 SMEs in 18 provinces, the project trainings include increasing digital skills of SMEs, financial literacy, basic accounting, financial statement, financial analysis and techniques, digital marketing, e-trade, innovative business models and mentorship.

Starting year: 2019

- Access to 6 different provinces, more than 1000 SME representatives
- Access to 550 SME representatives with 6 webinar trainings
- 6-Month Boss to Boss Mentoring Program
- Free Digitalization Supports in E-Commerce and Digital Marketing
- I Can Manage My Business Online Training System for SMEs

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

TÜRKONFED International

As part of our confederation, we established the TÜRKONFED International platform, which includes 17 associations of Turkish businesspeople operating in 70 countries.

In this way, we strengthen our connections with our businesspeople who carry out their activities all over the world, and share the political, economic and social developments in the countries we are in and the work we do.

Our TÜRKONFED network is growing with our businesspeople at home and abroad, getting stronger as it grows.

Member associations and countries: European Turkish Businessmen and Industrialists Association (ATIAD, Germany), Azerbaijan - Turkey Businessmen Association (ATİB, Azerbaijan), Georgian-Turkish Businessmen's Association (GÜRTİAD, Georgia), Cyprus Turkish Businessmen's Association (İŞAD, KKTC), Romanian Turkish Businessmen Association (TİAD, Romania), Turkish - Arab Countries Businessmen Association (TURAB; Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Sudan, Somalia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Comoros, Iraq, Djibouti, United Arab Emirates), Turkish Bosnia-Herzegovina Businessmen's Association (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Turkish-Ukrainian Businessmen's Association (TUID, Ukraine), Turkey-Iraq Industrialists and Businessmen's Association (TISIAD, Iraq), World Sustainable Energy Institute (WSEIN, Austria), Latin American Business Development Council (33 Latin American countries), Croatian-Turkish Businessmen Platform (Croatia), Polish Turkish Businessmen Association (POTİAD, Poland), Montenegro Turkish Business People and Managers Association (KTID, Montenegro), Turkey Luxembourg Business Club (TLBC, Luxembourg), Moldova Turkish Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Moldova) and Turkish Thai Association (Thailand).

Business for Goals Platform



Established by TURKONFED, TUSIAD and UNDP in 2019, the Business for Goals Platform serves as a platform open to all large-, medium- and small-sized enterprises willing to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into their corporate policies and strategies, all public agencies keen on public-private partnership, local governments, academia, international organizations and non-governmental sector.

The Business for Goals Platform is a joint action platform established by the private sector to promote the Sustainable Development Goals and forge new partnerships.

The Platform fosters joint learning, development and work with its stakeholders. It takes steps to strengthen all stakeholders so that all can participate in the economy of the future working towards the Sustainable Development Goals in a sustainable development perspective.

Connecting Business Initiative - CBI



Business for Goals Platform, established in partnership with TÜRKONFED, TÜSİAD and UNDP, has joined the Connecting Business Initiative (CBI) network as part of Resilience Against Climate Change and Disasters efforts. The platform aims at lowering private sector's risk in disaster- crisis situations, enhancing its preparation, intervention and recovery process capacity as well as increasing the participation of private sector in such processes.

Women Summits

TÜRKONFED Women in Business Commission (İDK) works on increasing the number of women in business world both as entrepreneurs and as employees, strengthening the place of women in economy, following up on legal legislation and practices in this regard and supporting best practices. It organizes women summits consisting of thematic meetings with international stakeholders each year.



THEMATIC MEETINGS

Summit, Conference, Seminar and Trainings

Each year, TÜRKONFED organizes a variety of seminars and activities in partnership with various institutions on different topics of need of its members and the country. Launching meetings of reports and projects in national- international partnerships are organized in different cities, bringing the academia, civil society, business world and public sector together. **200 Thematic Meetings, 45.000 Total participants.**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, TÜRKONFED has moved all thematic meetings to digital platforms. Hours of trainings, coaching and seminars have been organized online since the beginning of 2020.

TÜRKONFED also organized the 23rd Enterprise and Business Summit online with the main theme “Transition Time”. At the online summit, where people from public, business world and international arena came together and addressed issues about green transformation, digital transformation and next generation production through panels and keynote speeches. Where in relation to the theme, “European Green Deal and SMEs” was launched.

•çevrim içi

TÜRKONFED

23. Girişim ve İş Dünyası Zirvesi

Dönüşüm ZAMANI

ORHAN TURAN
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
TÜRKONFED

SIMONE KASLOWSKI
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
TOSIAD

ALBAN MAGGIAR
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Avrupa KOBİ Birliği

GÖLDEN YILMAZ
Yönetim Kurulu Üyesi
KOSGEB

ALİ SABANCI
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
ESAG Holding

MUHAMMED YILMAZ
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
SÜTAS

MURAT ÖZYEĞİN
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
FİBA Grubu

VAHAP HUNYAR
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Etiler Sentez

NIKOLAUS MEYER-LANDRUT
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Avrupa Birliği Türkiye Delegasyonu

DOÇ. DR. NAZLI KARAMOLLAĞLI
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
TÜRKONFED

HAKAN GÜLDAĞ
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Etiler Sentez

JAN-WILLEM VAN DE VEN
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
ESSE

MUSTAFA SEÇKİN
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Finans Dışi Açılış ve Yatırım Yatırımcıları

ŞÖKRÜ ÖNLÜTÜRK
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Hedefler Açılış İşletmeler Platformu

BASAK TAŞPINAR DEĞİM
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Anadol

MERVE TEZEL
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
Vesta Türkiye

ALİ ÇAĞATAY
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
EYRULUK TV

BARİŞ HOCAOĞLU
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
İstanbul Portföy Yatırımcıları

LEVENT KIZILTAN
Yönetim Kurulu Başkanı
TOSIAD

27 Nisan 2021

Platin Destekçimiz

turkonfedzirve.org

Patronajımız: CİPE, KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG, İSİMSİ, TÜRKİYE

Medya Destekçimiz: İstanbul Portföy

Destekçilerimiz: İZOCAM, DFDS, OKKA

13st July 2021
TÜRKon/ant/21-072

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that TÜRKONFED reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,



Arda Batu
Secretary General & Board Member