

PROJECT NAME:	SECONDARY EDUCATION PROJECT – SEP*
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LOAN AMOUNT: EURO80 million
DURATION: Five Years (2006-2010)

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BACKGROUND: The need to raise the educational qualifications of the population is one of Turkey's highest priorities. In line with the focus of the World Bank's assistance program in Turkey, that revolves around sound macroeconomics and governance, as well as equitable human and social development- the project would support: (a) reforms in general secondary and vocational education content, including improving teacher training and educational materials; (b) strengthening of career guidance and counseling programs to help individuals assess their personal interests as well as identify the needs of the economy; and (c) assessing and benchmarking education programs and institutions to national and international norms so that increased access will be strengthened by improvements in quality and relevance.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: The main development objective of the project is to improve the quality, foreign language capability and economic relevance of secondary education in Turkey.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project will support Turkey's reform of its secondary education system by helping to revise and implement new secondary general and vocational curriculum programs, implementing intensive training programs for foreign language teachers (especially English teachers) providing secondary school students with equipment and competencies in information and communication technologies, by providing training to secondary school teachers, and by implementing improved career guidance and counseling services to secondary students.

The Project will have three main components: Secondary Education Reform, Quality Assessment, and Staff Capacity /Development.

IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING: The Project support studies and other actions to assess the outcomes of the Program against several categories of performance indicators, and to provide continuous feedback to Program management to improve the effectiveness of the Program.

BENEFITS: The direct beneficiaries are expected to be the secondary education students, both in vocational/technical schools and general secondary schools, who will gain from an improved curriculum, better education materials, and more motivated and qualified teachers. Teachers will also benefit from the improved training in new curricula and foreign language teaching. Indirect beneficiaries of the Project

* Project is in the process of being restructured; this description is based on the restructured project.

would include employers because of an improved match between skills and the employment needs, and higher education institutions, who will receive better qualified entrants.

PROJECT STATUS: Project was approved by the World Bank Board on February 16, 2005, signed by the government on February 22, 2006 and became effective on May 8, 2006. The Ministry of National Education has been working closely with World Bank to restructure the project and the restructuring is expected to be completed and approved in early 2008.