Charting and Changing Terra Incognita: The New LIFE of the Municipal Public Libraries in Turkey
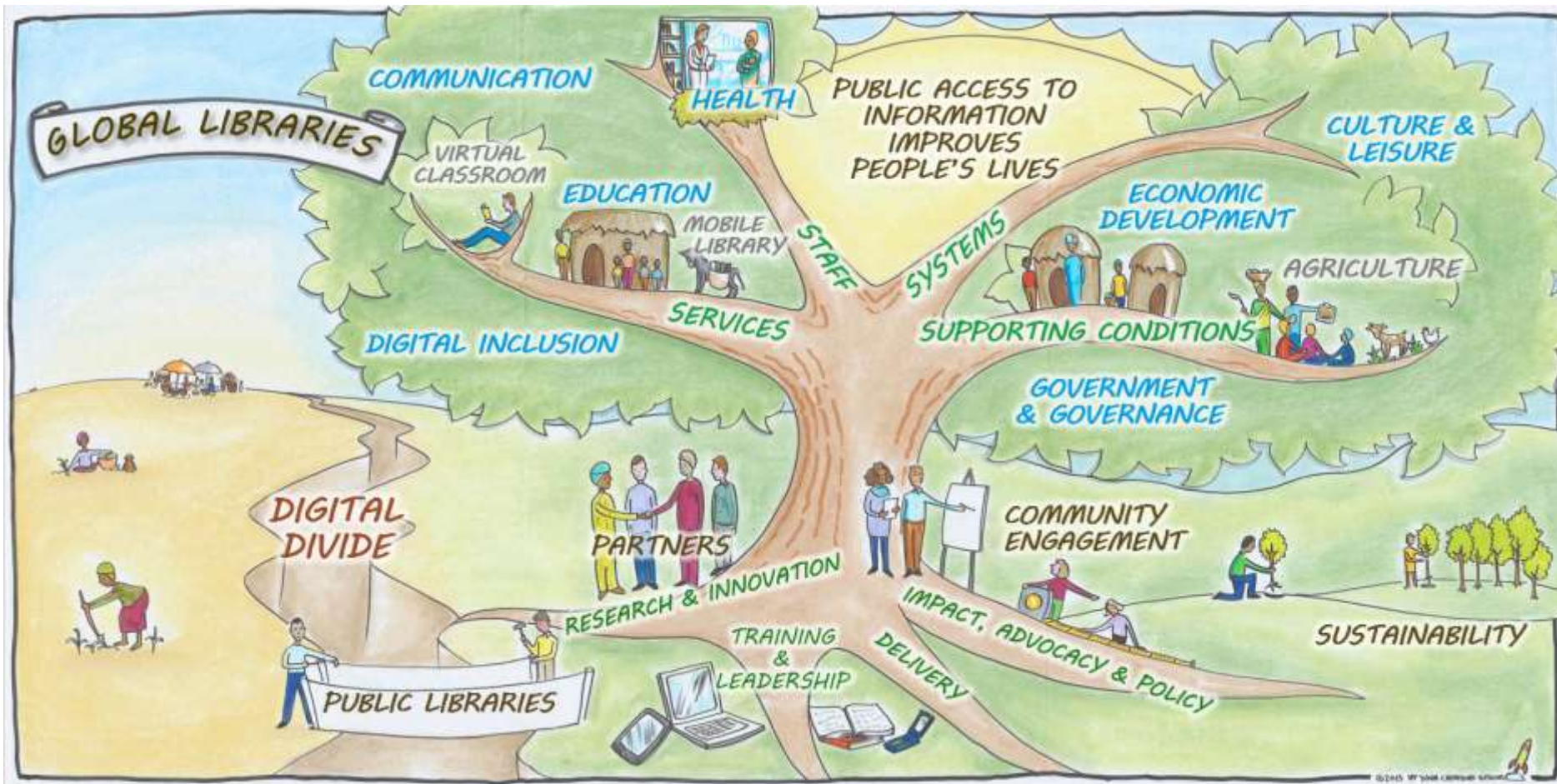
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Outline

❑ Global Libraries Initiative

❑ Libraries for Everyone - LIFE

❑ Importance of the Project LIFE

❑ Achievements

❑ Conclusion

Global Libraries Initiative

Source: Dorrr, 2014

Global Libraries Initiative

- 1997=> First grant

- 1997-2017 => more than 1000 institutions get grants

- Some partners

    - READ Global

    - eIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries)

    - IREX

    - IFLA

    - OCLC

Source: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, 2016

About Libraries for Everyone (LIFE)

- ❑ Started as of February, 2016

- ❑ Duration: 29 Months

- ❑ Willingness and eligibility are prerequisites

- ❑ 32 provinces

- ❑ 163 municipal public libraries

Project Libraries

Source: Herkes için Kütüphane, 2017

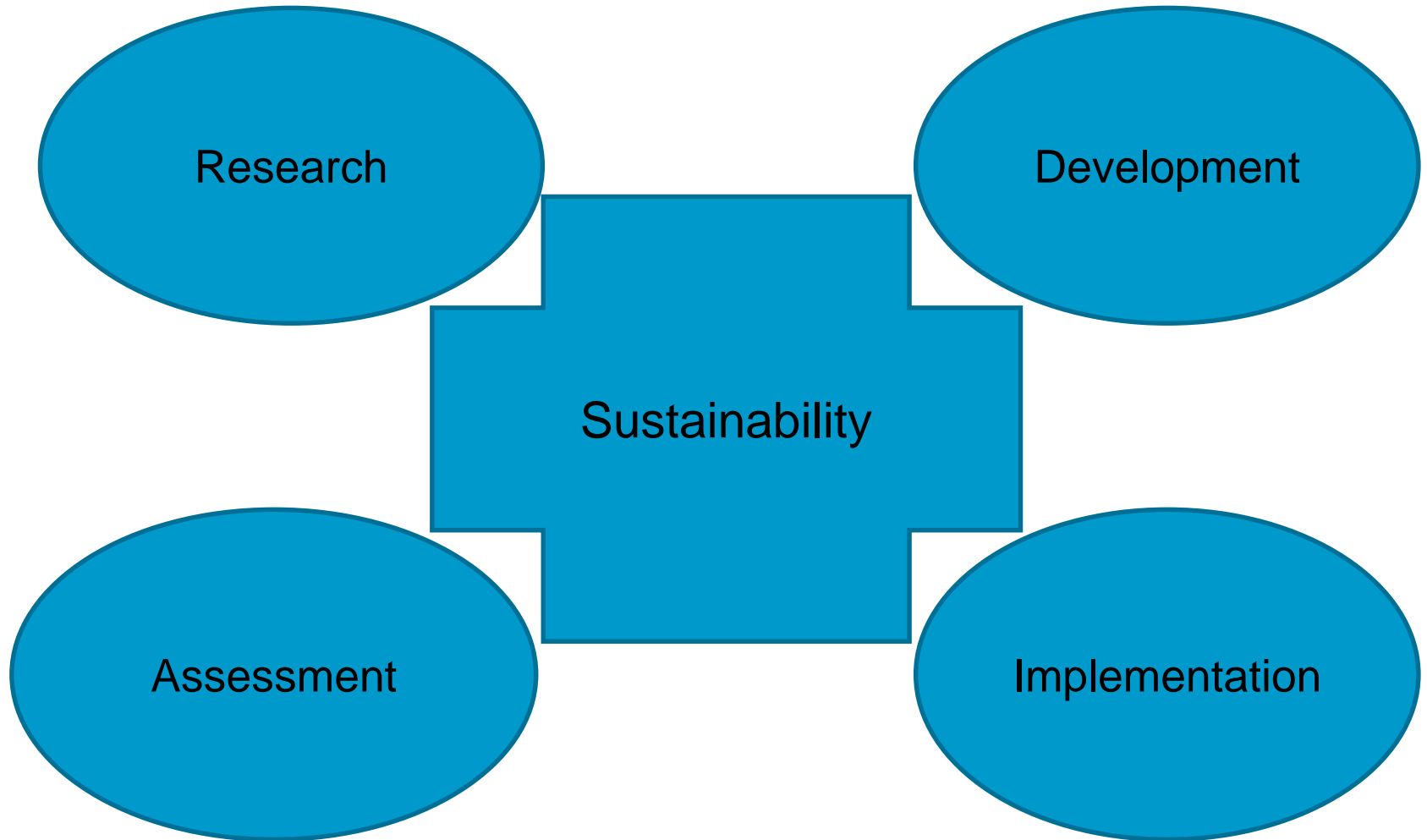# Partners

Working Strategy

- Four working groups
  - Advocacy
  - ICT (Information & Communication Technologies)
  - Training
  - Impact Assessment
- Needs assessment
- Library visits
- Meetings and webinars

Design of the Project LIFE

Research

Development

Sustainability

Assessment

Implementation

Importance of the Project LIFE

❑ Exploring *terra incognita*

❑ The most comprehensive library usage studies

   ❑ 2016 => 140 libraries - 4317 participants

   ❑ 2017 => 147 libraries - 4566 participants

❑ Increase of visibility and awareness in local governments

Achievements

Impacts of the Project LIFE

❑ Impact on libraries

   ❑ Changing role

   ❑ Radical transition of libraries into more relevant centers that address modern community needs

   ❑ Hardware and software

❑ Impact on users

   ❑ Changing of library perceptions

   ❑ Meeting of user needs

First Place

Third Place
Library

Second Place
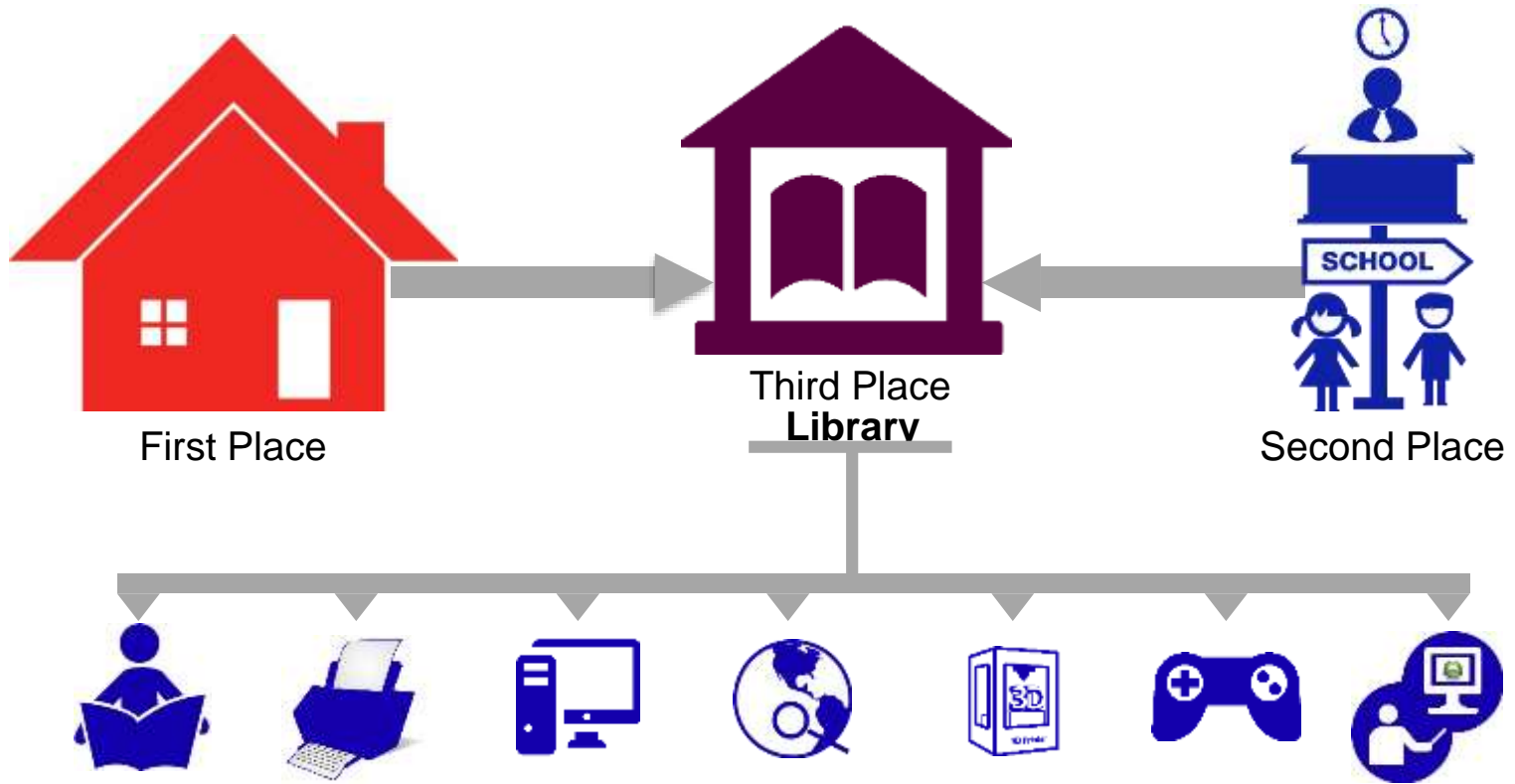
Libraries as Learning Centers

LIFE Project Team

Webinars

Face to Face Trainings

Library Staff

Library

Users

Feedback - Questionnaires

HİK AKADEMİ
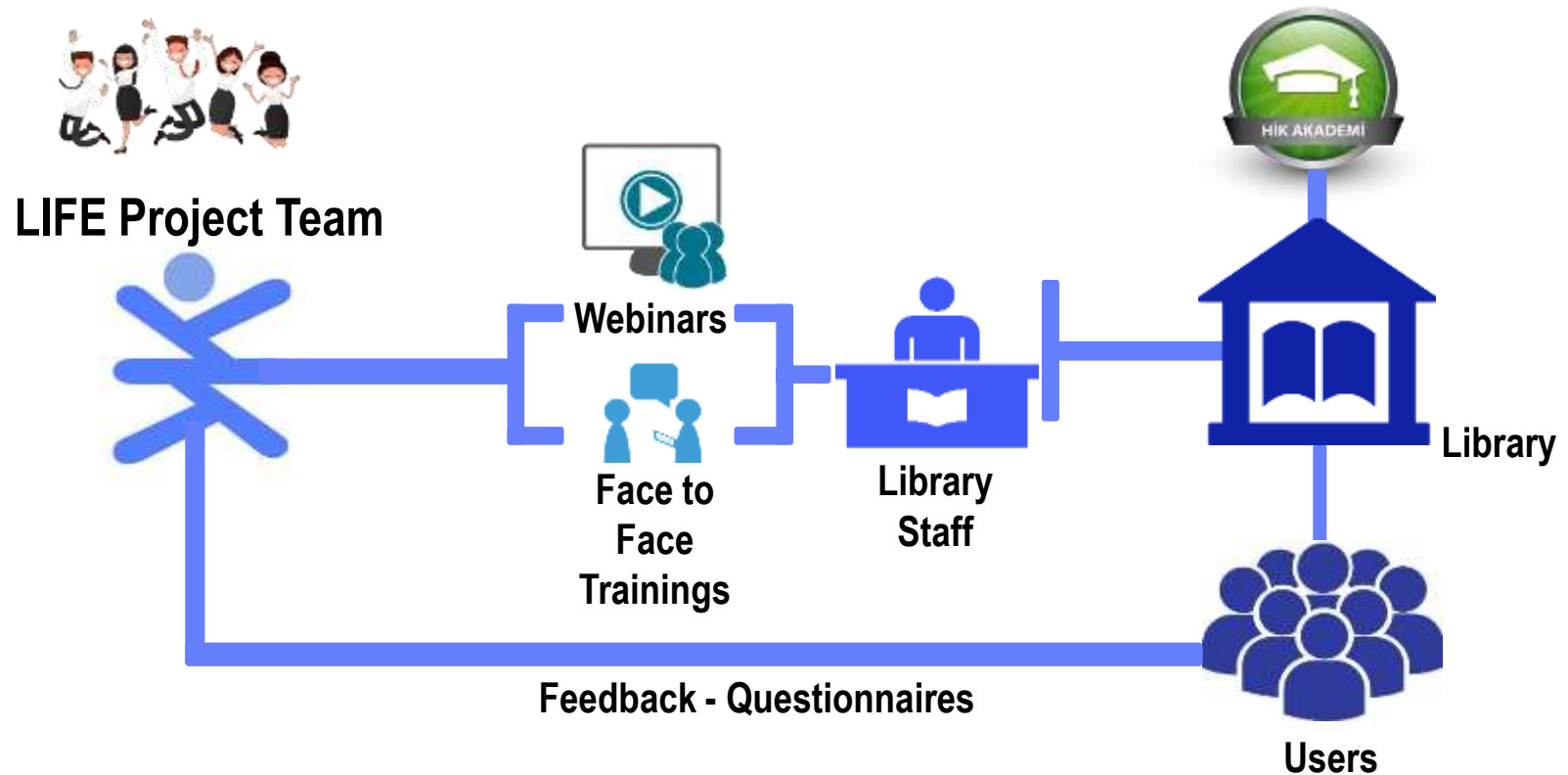
First Makerspace in Municipal Public Libaries

Awards

Conclusion

❑ Potential for creating awareness about municipal public libraries

❑ Demand for new library services

❑ LIFE bridging the gap

Local transformation, global access: If not now, when?

Umut Al, Zehra Taşkın & İrem Soydal

Scan the code for video!

LIFE
(Libraries for Everyone)

"transforming the municipal public libraries in Turkey to centers of attraction for citizens"

6.196.720 Number of internet users
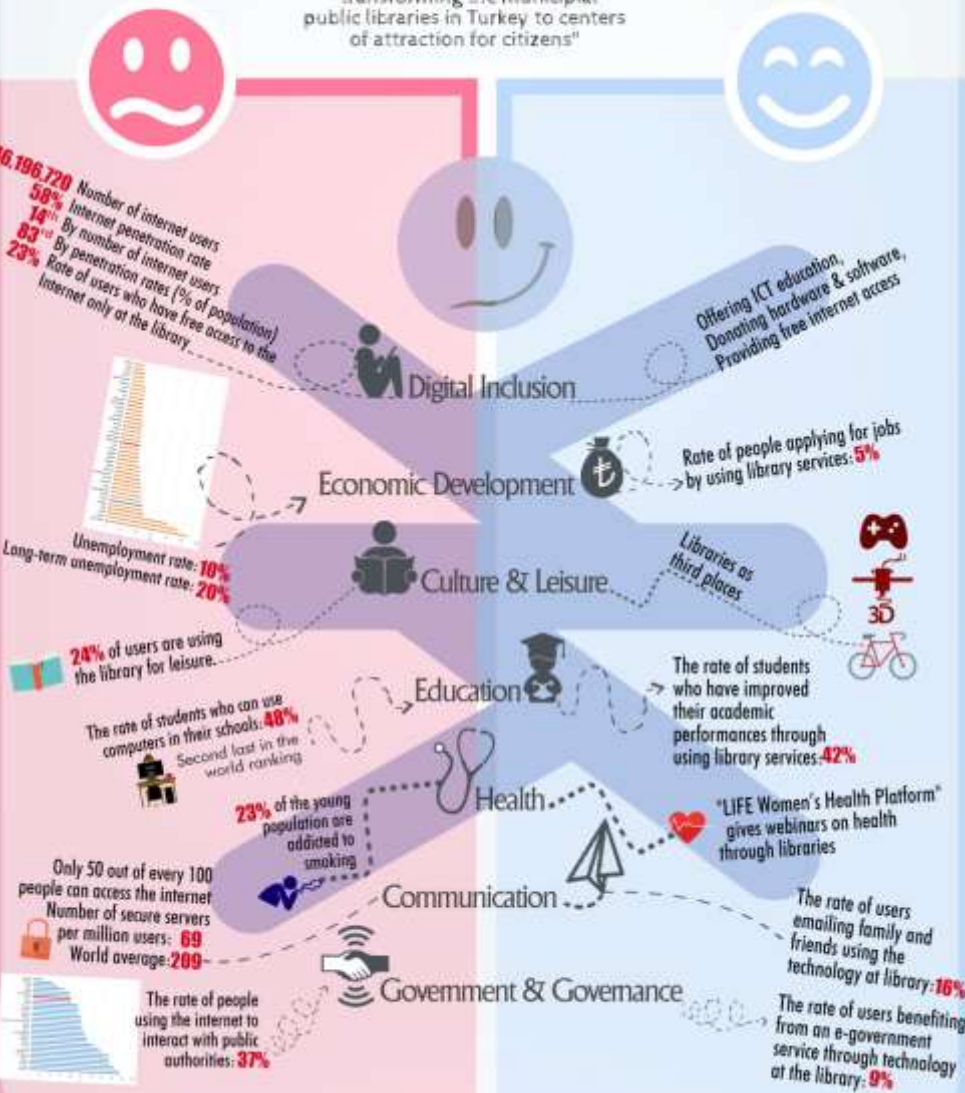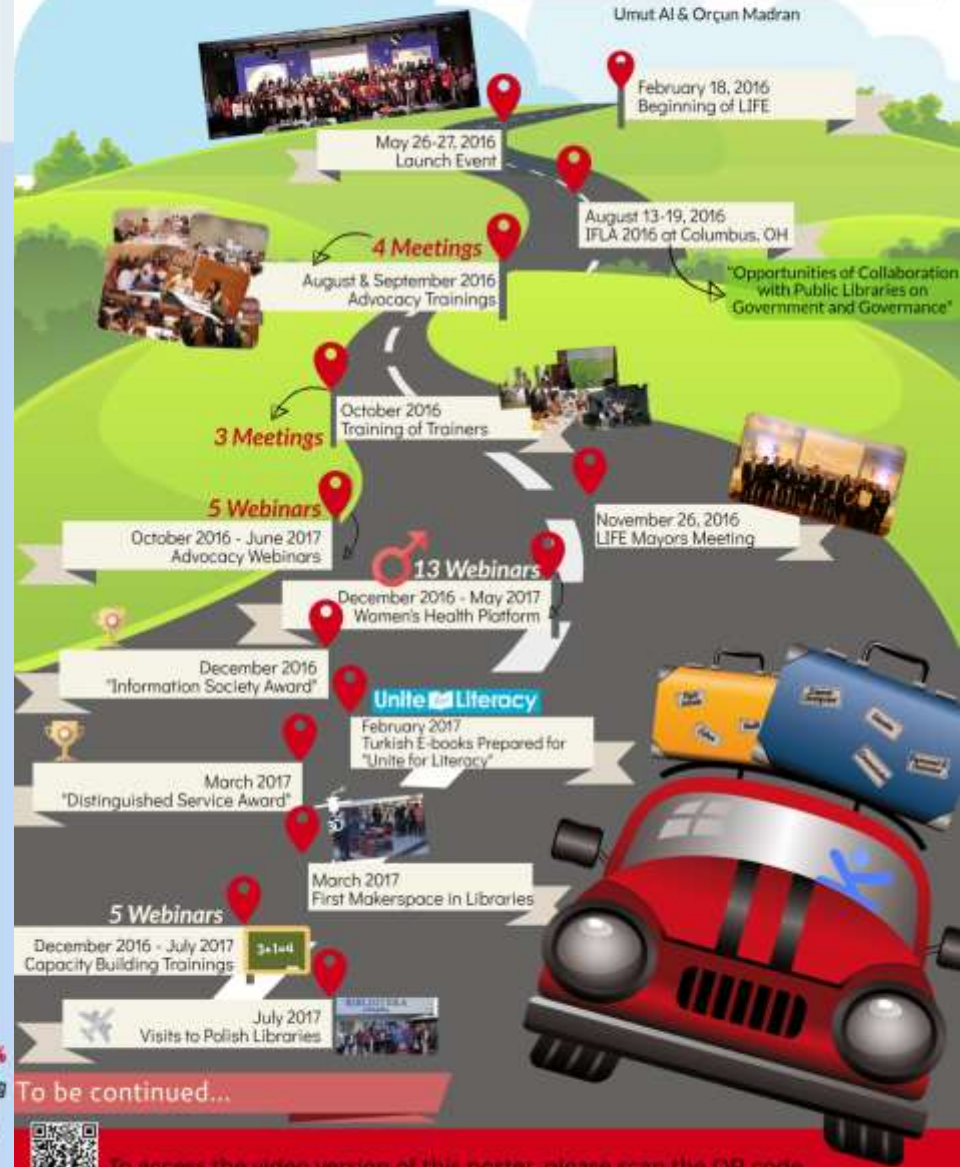58% Internet penetration rate
14th By number of internet users
83rd By penetration rates (% of population)
23% Rate of users who have free access to the Internet only at the library

Digital Inclusion
Offering ICT education, Donating hardware & software, Providing free internet access

Economic Development
Rate of people applying for jobs by using library services: 5%

Unemployment rate: 10%
Long-term unemployment rate: 20%

24% of users are using the library for leisure.

Culture & Leisure
Libraries as third places
3D

The rate of students who can use computers in their schools: 48%
Second last in the world ranking

Education
The rate of students who have improved their academic performances through using library services: 42%

23% of the young population are addicted to smoking

Health
"LIFE Women's Health Platform" gives webinars on health through libraries

Only 50 out of every 100 people can access the internet
Number of secure servers per million users: 69
World average: 209

Communication
The rate of users emailing family and friends using the technology at library: 16%

The rate of people using the internet to interact with public authorities: 37%

Government & Governance
The rate of users benefiting from an e-government service through technology at the library: 9%

LIBRARIES FOR EVERYONE (LIFE)

Inspirational Applications for Municipal Public Libraries

Umut Al & Orçun Madran

February 18, 2016
Beginning of LIFE

May 26-27, 2016
Launch Event

August 13-19, 2016
IFLA 2016 at Columbus, OH

"Opportunities of Collaboration with Public Libraries on Government and Governance"

4 Meetings
August & September 2016
Advocacy Trainings

3 Meetings
October 2016
Training of Trainers

5 Webinars
October 2016 - June 2017
Advocacy Webinars

13 Webinars
December 2016 - May 2017
Women's Health Platform

November 26, 2016
LIFE Mayors Meeting

December 2016
"Information Society Award"

Unite for Literacy
February 2017
Turkish E-books Prepared for "Unite for Literacy"

March 2017
"Distinguished Service Award"

March 2017
First Makerspace in Libraries

5 Webinars
December 2016 - July 2017
Capacity Building Trainings

July 2017
Visits to Polish Libraries

To be continued...

To access the video version of this poster, please scan the QR code

References

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. (2017). Awarded grants. Retrieved from: https://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/Quick-Links/Grants-Database

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. (2016). Partners. Retrieved from: http://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do/Global-Development/Global-Libraries/Global-Libraries-Partners

- Dorr, J. (2014). Global Libraries Illustration with Talking Points. Retrieved from: https://spaces.gatesfoundation.org/docs/DOC-5647

- Herkes için Kütüphane. (2017). Member libraries. Retrieved from: http://www.herkesicinkutuphane.org/uye-kutuphaneler/

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