



# Empowering Young Migrants ICT Migrants

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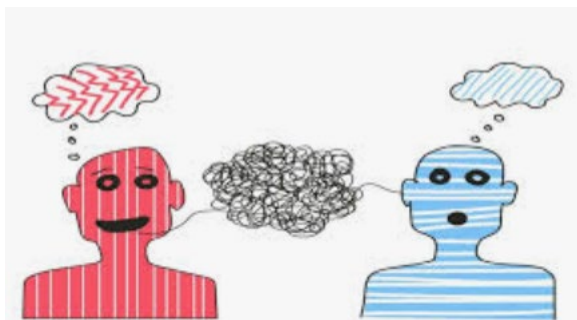
## Current challenges faced by young migrants in accessing digital technologies:

### The role of youth workers in promoting social inclusion through ICT

The challenges faced by young migrants in accessing digital technologies focuses on the role of youth workers in promoting social inclusion. Some key points in this regard are:

#### ***Language Barriers:***

Young migrants face various challenges in accessing digital technologies, with language barriers being one of the main ones. Language barriers are an important factor that makes it difficult to exist effectively in the digital world and use technology efficiently. Let us address this issue in a more comprehensive way:



#### ➤ **Education and Learning Challenges**

A large proportion of digital technologies require the user to be literate in a particular language. Educational materials, written instructions, software interfaces and online resources are often presented in the majority language. When migrant youth do not adequately understand these languages, they face serious barriers to learning and using technology. This is especially true for digital tools and e-learning platforms integrated into the school curriculum.

#### ➤ **Social Connections and Community Support**

Digital technologies play a big role in building social connections and providing community support. However, language barriers can make it difficult for migrant youth to communicate effectively on social media platforms, forums and online communities. This can lead to social isolation and reduced community support.

#### ➤ **Technological Support and User Experience**

When faced with technological problems, access to user guides and support services is vital. However, these services are often provided in the majority language, making it difficult for migrant youth to benefit from this support. Furthermore, when user interfaces are limited in language, it is difficult to use technological devices and software.

#### ➤ **4. Personal Development and Career Opportunities**

Language barriers also affect the ability of migrant youth to develop their digital skills and compete in the professional world. Online courses, certificate programs and professional networks are often offered in a specific language. Young people who do not speak the language find it difficult to take advantage of these opportunities, which negatively impacts their career development.

#### ➤ **5. Security and Privacy Risks**

In the digital world, security and privacy are critical for users to protect their personal information. However, language barriers can make it difficult for migrant youth to understand security policies, privacy settings and user agreements. This can make them more vulnerable online.

### **Solution Suggestions**

Various strategies can be developed to overcome language barriers. These can include creating multilingual platforms and applications, making educational materials available in various languages, providing language training programs, and organizing special digital literacy courses for migrant youth.

Language barriers are an important barrier for young migrants to access digital technologies. Overcoming these barriers will enable them to exist more effectively and safely in the digital world.

### ***Economic Distress :***

Young migrants face many challenges in accessing digital technologies, with economic limitations being one of them. Economic limitations can severely restrict the capacity of migrant youth to



exist in the digital world. We can address this issue more comprehensively:

➤ **Device and Equipment Costs**

Access to digital technologies often requires expensive devices and equipment. Devices such as smartphones, tablets, laptops and desktop computers can be a huge financial burden for low-income migrant families. Without such devices, migrant youth are disadvantaged in many areas such as education, social connections and access to information.

➤ **Internet Access and Connection Fees**

Internet access is a basic requirement for participating in the digital world. However, high-speed and reliable internet connections are often costly. Migrant families may struggle to make regular payments for internet services. Migrant youth, especially those living in economically disadvantaged areas, may therefore be deprived of online education, information seeking and social interactions.

➤ **3. Software and Application Licenses**

Many digital tools and software charge users a license fee or subscription fee. Educational software, professional tools and various applications can contribute to the education and career development of migrant youth. However, the cost of this software may not be affordable for low-income migrant families, making it difficult for young people to develop their digital skills.

➤ **Maintenance and Repair Costs**

Digital devices may require maintenance and repair from time to time. If they break down, the cost of repair can be high. When migrant youth do not have the financial resources to get their broken devices repaired, they may be disconnected from the digital world for long periods of time. This can seriously harm their education and social connections.

➤ **5. Economic Pressures and Priorities**

Migrant families often live under economic pressures and struggle to meet their basic needs. This can cause investing in digital technologies to fall behind in priorities. Basic needs such as food, shelter and health take precedence over technological needs such as digital devices and internet access. This limits migrant youth's access to digital technologies.

## **Solution Suggestions**

Various strategies can be developed to overcome economic constraints. These include:

- **Public and Private Sector Partnerships:** Governments and the private sector can collaborate to provide affordable or free digital devices and internet access to low-income families.
- **Community Support Programs:** Local communities and civil society organizations can organize digital technology support programs for migrant families.
- **Educational Institutions and Scholarships:** Schools and universities can provide free or low-cost digital tools and internet access to students in need.
- **Libraries and Community Centers:** Public libraries and community centers can facilitate migrant youth access to these services by offering free internet access and digital devices.

Economic limitations are a significant barrier to young migrants' access to digital technologies. Overcoming these barriers will greatly contribute to their education, personal development and social integration.

### **Lack of Education:**

Young migrants face many challenges in accessing digital technologies, the main one being lack of education. Lack of education is an important factor that makes it difficult to participate effectively in the digital world and use technology efficiently. We can address this problem in a more comprehensive way:

- **Lack of Digital Literacy**

Digital literacy refers to individuals' ability to understand, use and evaluate digital technologies. Migrant youth may not have received adequate digital literacy education in their countries of origin. This can lead to significant deficiencies in using the internet, understanding basic software and applications, and knowing online security measures. These deficiencies create disadvantages in many areas from education to the world of work.

- **Integration Challenges into the Education System**

Migrant youth may have difficulties integrating into the education systems in their countries of origin. Different curricula, language barriers and cultural adaptation issues can make it difficult for them to receive training in accessing and using digital technologies. These integration challenges are particularly pronounced in educational settings where digital technologies are used extensively.

- **Lack of Teachers and Resources**

Schools with migrant youth may lack teachers and resources with adequate knowledge of digital technology. When teachers lack digital skills, it becomes difficult to guide students in these subjects. Furthermore, the lack of resources in schools, such as digital devices, software and internet access, makes it even more difficult for young migrants to access digital technologies.

### ➤ **Lack of Education of Parents**

The role of parents in migrant youth's access to digital technologies is also important. However, parents' low level of digital literacy may prevent young people from receiving adequate support in these matters. When parents do not have sufficient knowledge about the risks and opportunities their children may face in the digital world, it is difficult for young people to use digital technologies safely and efficiently.

### ➤ **Problems of Access to Educational Materials**

Migrant youth may also have problems accessing digital educational materials and resources. Linguistic incomprehension of educational materials, cultural incompatibilities and economic limitations make it difficult to benefit from them. Furthermore, the lack of accessibility of online educational platforms and digital libraries further exacerbates the lack of education.

### **Solution Suggestions**

Various strategies can be developed to overcome the lack of training. These include:

- **Digital Literacy Programs:** Digital literacy training programs can be organized for migrant youth. These programs can offer a wide range of training, from basic computer skills to online safety.
- **Teacher Training and Resourcing:** Increasing teachers' digital skills and providing schools with adequate digital resources can facilitate young migrants' access to digital technologies.
- **Parent Training:** Digital literacy trainings for parents can be organized to help them better support their children.
- **Online Education Platforms:** Online education platforms can be created to provide migrant youth with culturally relevant and culturally appropriate educational materials in the appropriate language.

Lack of education is an important barrier to young migrants' access to digital technologies. Overcoming these barriers will greatly contribute to their education, personal development and social integration.

## ***Lack of Social Network***

Young migrants face many challenges in accessing digital technologies and one of the main challenges is the lack of social networks. Social networks play an important role in the integration of individuals into the digital world and their effective use of technology. Let's take a closer look at how the lack of social networks affects migrant youth's access to and use of digital technologies:



### **➤ Lack of Community and Support Groups**

Migrant youth may have difficulty accessing local communities and support groups in their countries of origin. Such communities provide important guidance and support on accessing and using digital technologies. However, migrant youth can be isolated in terms of engaging in the digital world due to the lack of such networks. The lack of support groups can negatively impact their ability to develop digital literacy and use technology efficiently.

### **➤ Communication and Connecting Challenges**

When migrant youth arrive in a new country, they may find it difficult to communicate and connect with local people due to language and cultural barriers. These challenges can also manifest themselves in building digital networks and participating in online communities. Without adequate skills in the local language, it is difficult for them to participate in online forums, social media groups and other digital communities.

### **➤ Lack of Social Capital**

Social capital is the resources and support that individuals have within a network of social relationships. Migrant youth may lack social capital in their countries of origin. Without the support of family, friends and community, they may not have an environment to access and be guided in using digital technologies. Lack of social capital makes it difficult for them to develop digital literacy skills and take advantage of online opportunities.

### **➤ Insecurity and Social Isolation**

Migrant youth may experience social isolation and insecurity in the process of adapting to a new country. This can also manifest itself in being active on digital platforms and building new social ties. Social isolation can lead to reluctance to participate in digital communities

and create online networks. Feelings of insecurity may also make them hesitant in online interactions.

### ➤ **5. Lack of Role Models**

Migrant youth may lack role models who are successful in digital technologies. People who are successful in the digital world inspire and motivate young people. The lack of role models can reduce young migrants' interest in digital technologies and their desire to develop themselves in this field.

### **Solution Suggestions**

Various strategies can be developed to overcome the lack of social networks. These include:

- **Community Centers and Support Groups:** Community centers and support groups can be established for migrant youth. These centers can facilitate the integration of young people into the digital world by organizing digital literacy trainings and social events.
- **Mentoring Programs:** Individuals who are successful in the digital world can mentor migrant youth. These programs can help young people develop their digital skills and expand their social networks.
- **Language and Cultural Education:** Programs that encourage migrant youth to learn the local language and culture can help them integrate more easily into local communities and digital networks.
- **Online Communities and Forums:** Creating online communities and forums for migrant youth can support them to expand their social networks in the digital world.

## **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORKERS?**

The role of youth workers is to organize educational programs for young migrants, provide mentoring and refer them to digital resources. It is also an important task to help them overcome language barriers and encourage them to expand their social networks.

### ***What can youth workers do?***

Youth workers can perform the following tasks for young migrants:

**Organizing Training Programs:** Youth workers can organize training programs to develop digital skills.

**Providing Mentoring:** By mentoring young migrants, they can share their experiences and provide guidance.

**Referral to Digital Resources:** Youth workers can help young migrants acquire knowledge and skills by referring them to digital resources.

**Overcoming Language Barriers:** They can strengthen their communication by helping them overcome language barriers.

**Expand Social Networks:** They can make efforts to include young migrants in social networks and increase their connections.

### ***How can digital skills trainings be organized?***

You can consider the following methods to organize digital skills trainings:

**Creating a Conceptual Framework:** A national conceptual framework for developing teachers' digital competences should be established. This framework should be designed in accordance with the needs of teachers and the current situation

**Training Programs:** Digital skills trainings should equip teachers with the skills to use digital tools effectively. These trainings can be organized remotely or face-to-face

**Individual Support and Mentoring:** Teachers should be provided with individual support and mentoring. This aims to provide customized solutions to teachers' needs.

**Practical Trainings:** Digital skills trainings should be supported by practical applications. Teachers should gain experience using digital tools in real scenarios

**Continuous Evaluation and Feedback:** Teachers' progress should be regularly evaluated and feedback given during trainings. This encourages continuous improvement

Sources :

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2. [ONLINE TRAININGS FOR IMPROVING TEACHERS' DIGITAL SKILLS AT ÖBA \(meb.gov.tr\)](https://www.meb.gov.tr/online-trainings-for-improving-teachers-digital-skills-at-oba)
3. [Digital Skills Development | HEMBA](#)
4. <https://europass.europa.eu/tr/how-describe-my-digital-skills>
5. [Learning Skills in the Digital Age | IENSTITU](#)

### ***Which topics related to digital tools can be covered in courses?***

There are many topics and methods to organize lessons on digital tools. Here are some digital tools and topics you can use to enrich the lesson content:



**Interactive Presentation Tools:** Interactive presentation tools such as PowerPoint can be used to visually enrich course materials. By adding animations, graphics, videos and audio files, you can capture students' attention and enhance the learning experience.

**EBooks and Digital Resources:** You can diversify the course content by using e-books and digital materials from digital libraries or online resources. These materials can offer students different perspectives and allow them to conduct in-depth research.

**Training Videos and Animations:** You can explain topics more effectively by using educational videos and animations from YouTube or other educational platforms. You can provide students with visual elements to help them better understand complex topics.

**Online Interactive Lesson Tools:** You can use tools such as surveys, quizzes, discussion panels and virtual class rooms to encourage active student participation and make learning more fun.

**Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality:** Virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies can enrich course content by providing students with experiential learning opportunities. Applications such as virtual labs, historical simulations and geographical explorations can help students explore topics in greater depth.

**Blogs and Social Media:** You can create a blog or social media platform where students can share and discuss course-related content. You can encourage students to express their own thoughts and keep the course materials up to date.

**Digital Portfolios:** You can create digital portfolios to track and assess student learning. Portfolios containing students' project work, visual media products and other learning materials allow you to visually track students' progress.

Digital tools can deliver course content more effectively as well as make students' learning experience more engaging and interactive.

Sources :

1. [Enriching Course Content with Digital Tools \(karatay.edu.tr\)](http://karatay.edu.tr)
2. [MERSİN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF EDUCATION DERGORY \(dergipark.org.tr\)](http://dergipark.org.tr)

### ***Successful digital tools:***

Some examples of digital tools:

**Prezi:** A digital software used to create interactive presentations. Prezi helps you create effective and engaging presentations thanks to its zoom feature.



**Haiku Deck:** A tool for creating presentations on iPad, iPhone and the web. It helps you create visual-based slides and can be integrated with Google Classroom.



**Scratch:** A programming platform designed especially for students aged 8 to 16. Scratch is used to develop coding skills.



Sources :

1. [20 Digital Tools for Classroom for Innovative Teachers & Students \(graphicmama.com\)](http://graphicmama.com)
2. [MERSİN UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF EDUCATION DERGORY \(dergipark.org.tr\)](http://dergipark.org.tr)