

UNIT 6.3

EXPANDING RURAL EDUCATION AND SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

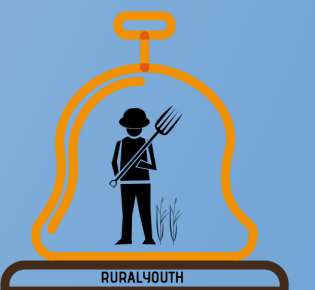
MODULE 6: RURAL ALLIANCE FOR ENTREPRENEURS

OBJECTIVES

In Unit 6.3 you will learn about rural education and ways to expand it.

Keywords:

- Rural education
- Generalizing education
- Educated entrepreneurs
- Inequality



AT THE END OF THIS UNIT, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO...



Be familiar with the rural education



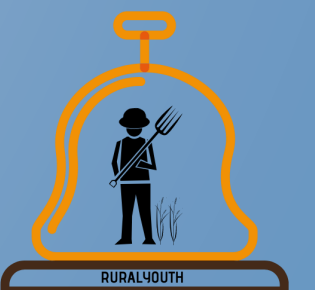
Understand how rural education can be improved



Recognize the common problems about rural education



Understand why entrepreneurs need to be educated about rural areas





TOPICS

1. What is rural education?
2. Main problems
3. Expanding rural education
4. Educating entrepreneurs

What is Rural Education?



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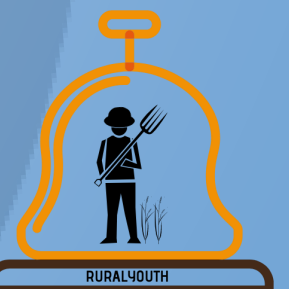
UN CHEF D'ÉTAT MAITRE D'ÉCOLE

Moustapha Kemal, président de la République turque, ayant décrété la suppression des caractères arabes, donne sur une place publique de Sivas (Anatolie) une leçon d'écriture suivant l'alphabet latin, désormais seul officiel.

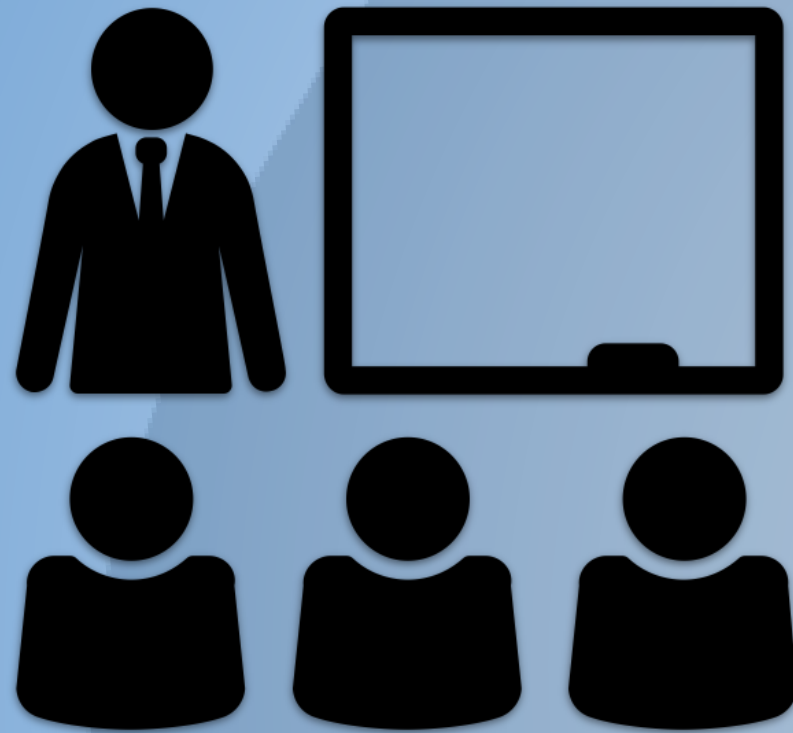
Phot. Ab. — Voir l'article page 404.

In some countries:

- Rural schools have conventionally been firmly linked to their communities, e.g., in the USA.
- In the past, education in rural areas mirrored local morals, values and ways of life.
- But lately, the curriculum of rural schools are getting more generic, and even some places they become the same curricula of the different types of urban schools.
- It is advantageous for local development, however, without investigating the needs of rural area thoroughly, applying the exact same curricula of urban schools to the rural schools might not be the best way to enhance the education levels therein.
- Because the culture as well as the needs of rural people and their financial condition are way more different than the urban counterparts.



The differences between the curricula of rural education and urban education can be classified as follows in some countries:



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Rural schools create a sincere environment due to the presence of fewer students compared to their urban counterparts.



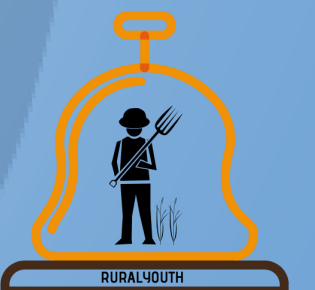
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Rural students tend to have lower expectations from life because they live in mediocre and harsh conditions.



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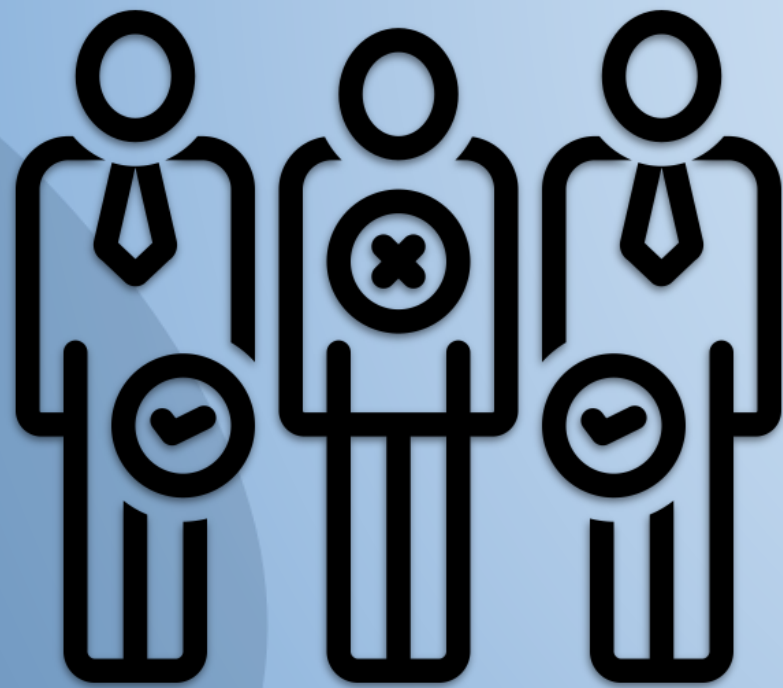
Rural students tend to have humble opinions about their future generally.



- It is very common in some countries that issues in rural areas are ignored and underestimated.
- There has never been enough investigation and research on the situation and problems of countryside.
- It doesn't seem like cost efficient to invest in these areas for central governments since they tend to have a limited foresight.
- However, development should be considered as whole and inclusive.

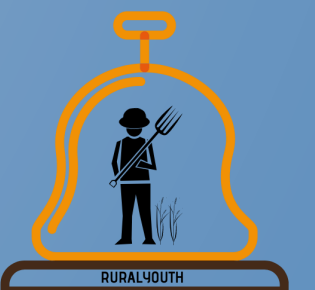


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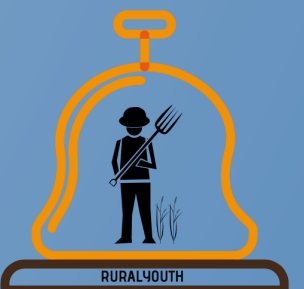
- Henceforth, the differences amongst development, care, economy will be minimized, and cultural interaction between rural and urban areas will be enhanced.
- As a result, discrimination, i.e., the most terrible and insidious problem, can be eliminated from veins of the society.



RURAL4YOUTH

It is necessary to evaluate the country in terms of science, culture, economy and public enterprises and it is a must to develop the skills of our nation in many fields in order to give a strong, constant and positive character to forthcoming generations. Teachers stand foremost front amongst the forces that fight for these sacred aims.

– MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATÜRK (1923) (ATATÜRK'S T.T.B. IV, P. 487)



Main Problems

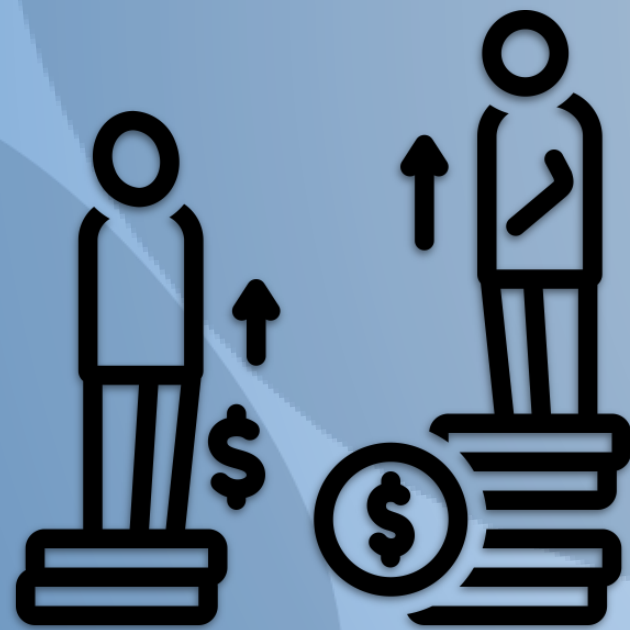


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- There are several factors that affect rural education in a bad way.
- Firstly, emigration of the working-aged people to cities critically damages the workforce in rural areas.
- Therefore, the economy gets worse, and more people are forced to leave.

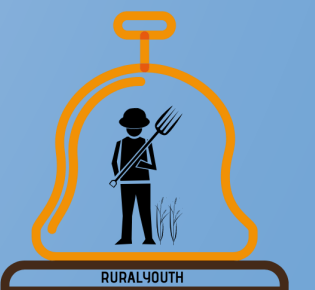


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- Another factor is the income difference between job positions in metropolitan and rural areas.
- In the metropolitan areas, the density of technical and managerial jobs are plenty compared to the rural areas.
- In contrast, most of the working-aged people are poor in rural areas, and they stuck in low-wage, low-benefit jobs.

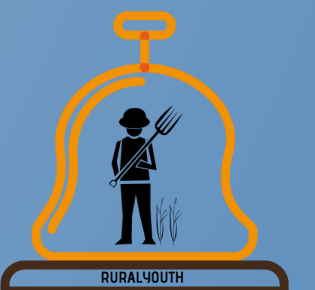




Even if you know a thousand things, still consult someone who knows one.

– TURKISH PROVERB

(English Equivalent: Give and take is fair play.)

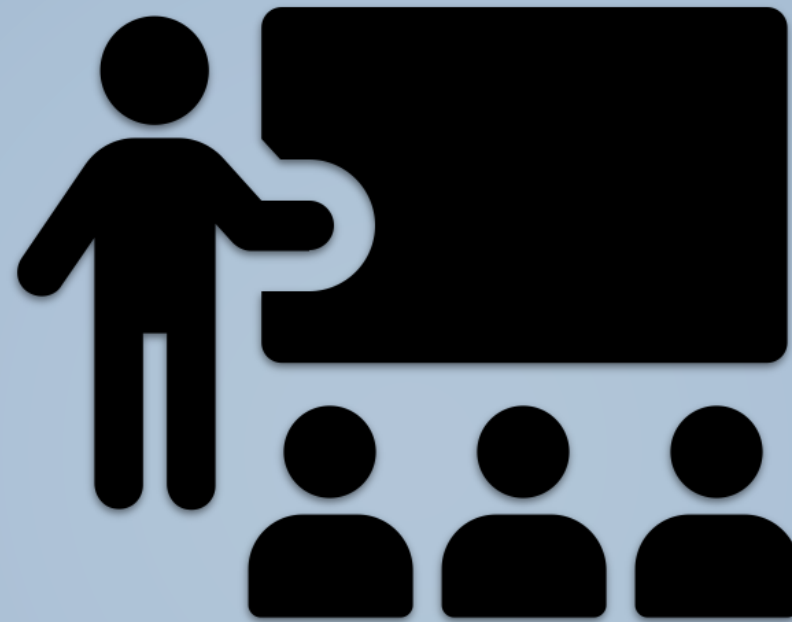


Problems unique to rural schools:



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Financial inequality between rural schools and their urban counterparts.



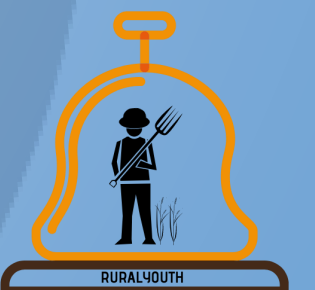
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Low levels of attendance.



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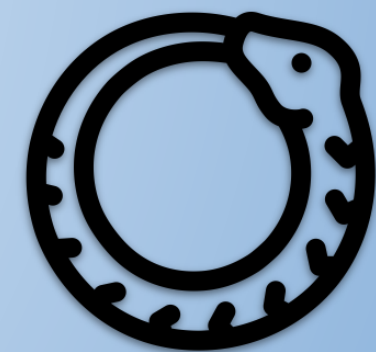
Inexperienced and/or undereducated administration personnel having low salaries.



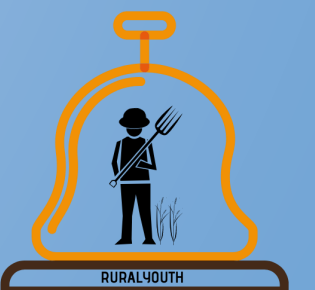
- One of the common situations that rural students face is the negative attitude of urban citizens against them.
- Urban people tend to underestimate, and they have a lot of strong prejudices against the rural people.
- Unfortunately, rural students could internalize those prejudices and they show an inferiority complex about where they came.
- They accept that they are naive, slow-witted, unsophisticated, ignorant, ultraconservative people, and thus, they keep being slow-witted and ignorant.
- This vicious cycle needs to be terminated in order to accelerate the rural development.



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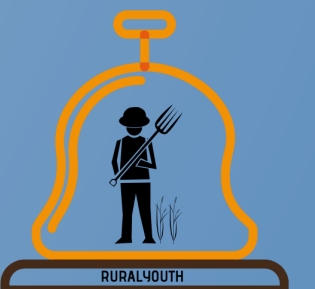


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Because one believes in oneself, one doesn't try to convince others. Because one is content with oneself, one doesn't need others' approval. Because one accepts oneself, the whole world accepts him or her.

– LAO TZU



Expanding Rural Education

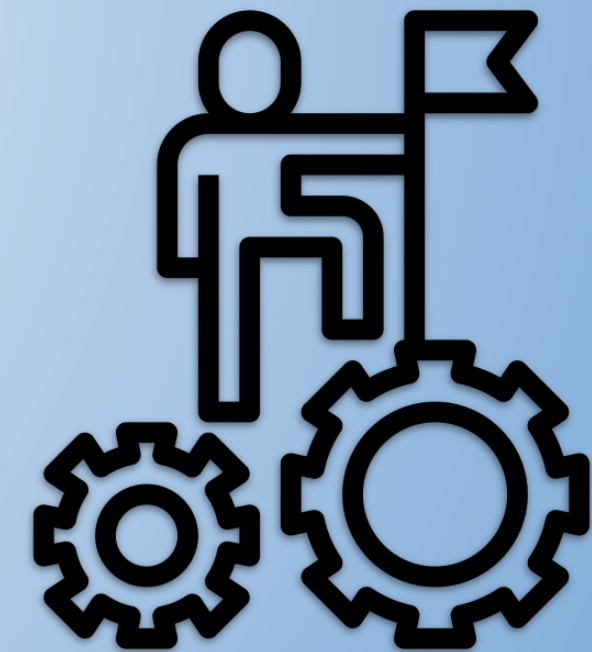


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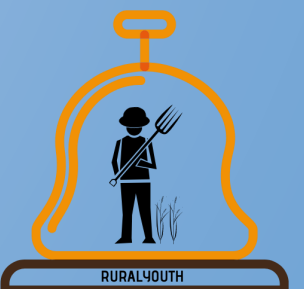
- When it comes to educational reform, people tend to make mistakes of thinking just the urban schools.
- Therefore, rural education generally overlooked and doesn't get the attention it needs.
- Policymakers and the public should give much more attention to rural education and even make it priority if the nation is eager to thrive in education as a whole.
- Some leaders understand the importance of rural education and act accordingly.
- In this matter, there are several instances of success that whole world needs to take lessons from.



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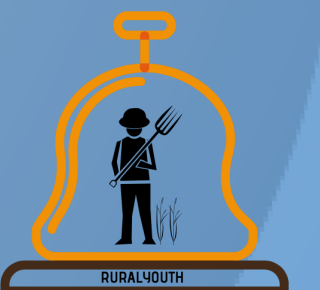
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- One of the best examples of rural education is the “Köy Enstitüleri” (Village Institutes) in Turkey.
- Turkish Republic established village institutes at rural areas for the purpose of educating people to be teachers in those areas in 1940.
- Here, the Turkish Government aimed to increase the percentage of literate people.
- These institutes educated primary school graduate students about modern agriculture techniques with practical lessons.
- Consequently, these institutes led to a massive local development and created a rural population well informed and educated.



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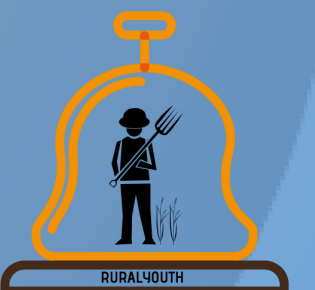
A picture of music class in one of the village institutes in Turkey



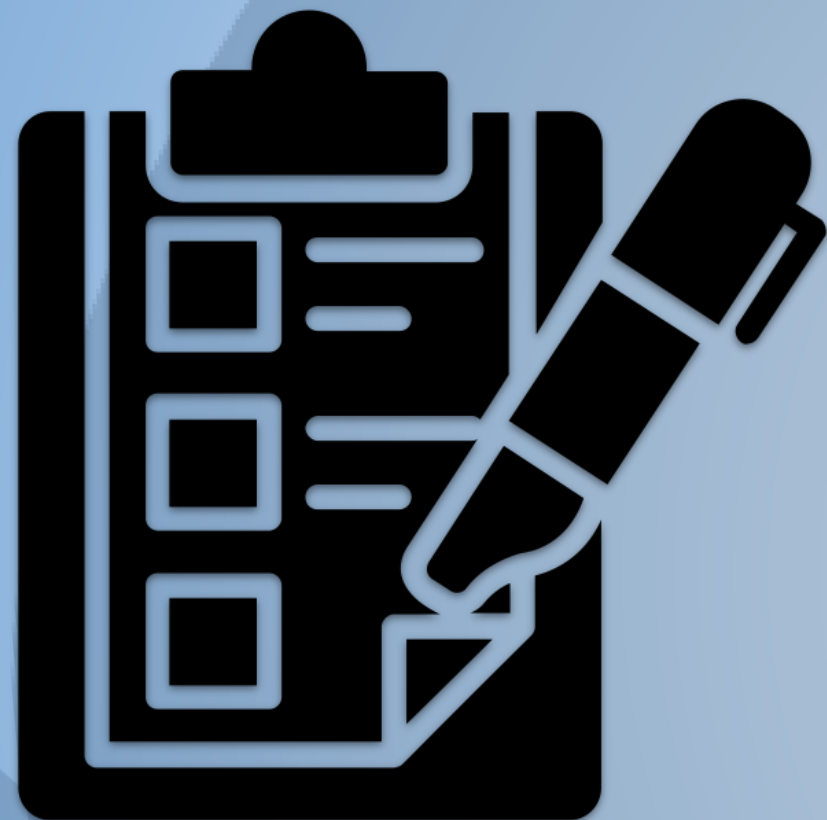
- Village Institutes is characterized as one of the most successful applications of the Turkish education history.
- “Life-long Learning” approach which constitutes the focus point of today’s educational system is associated with some concepts like new basic skills for everyone, more investment in human resources, innovation in learning and teaching, supporting learning, rethinking guidance and counseling, making learning close to houses (human life).
- As a result, in the educational systems of today, particularly emphasized practices and principles of life-long learning have been successfully applied in the Village Institutes.



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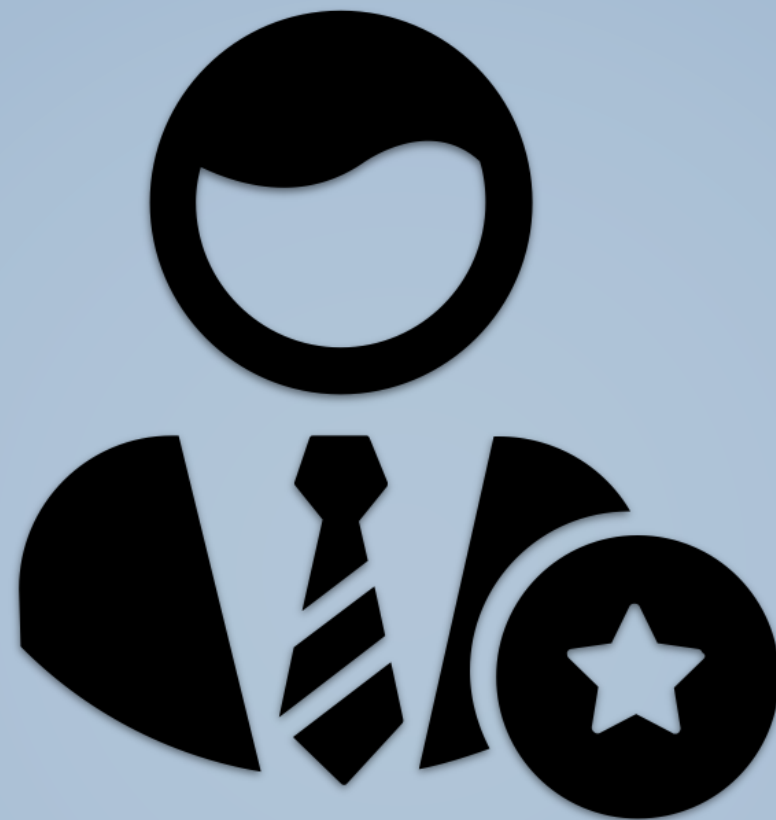


These kinds of projects require some conditions.



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Knowledge of local needs
and the area.



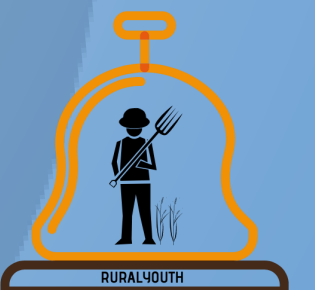
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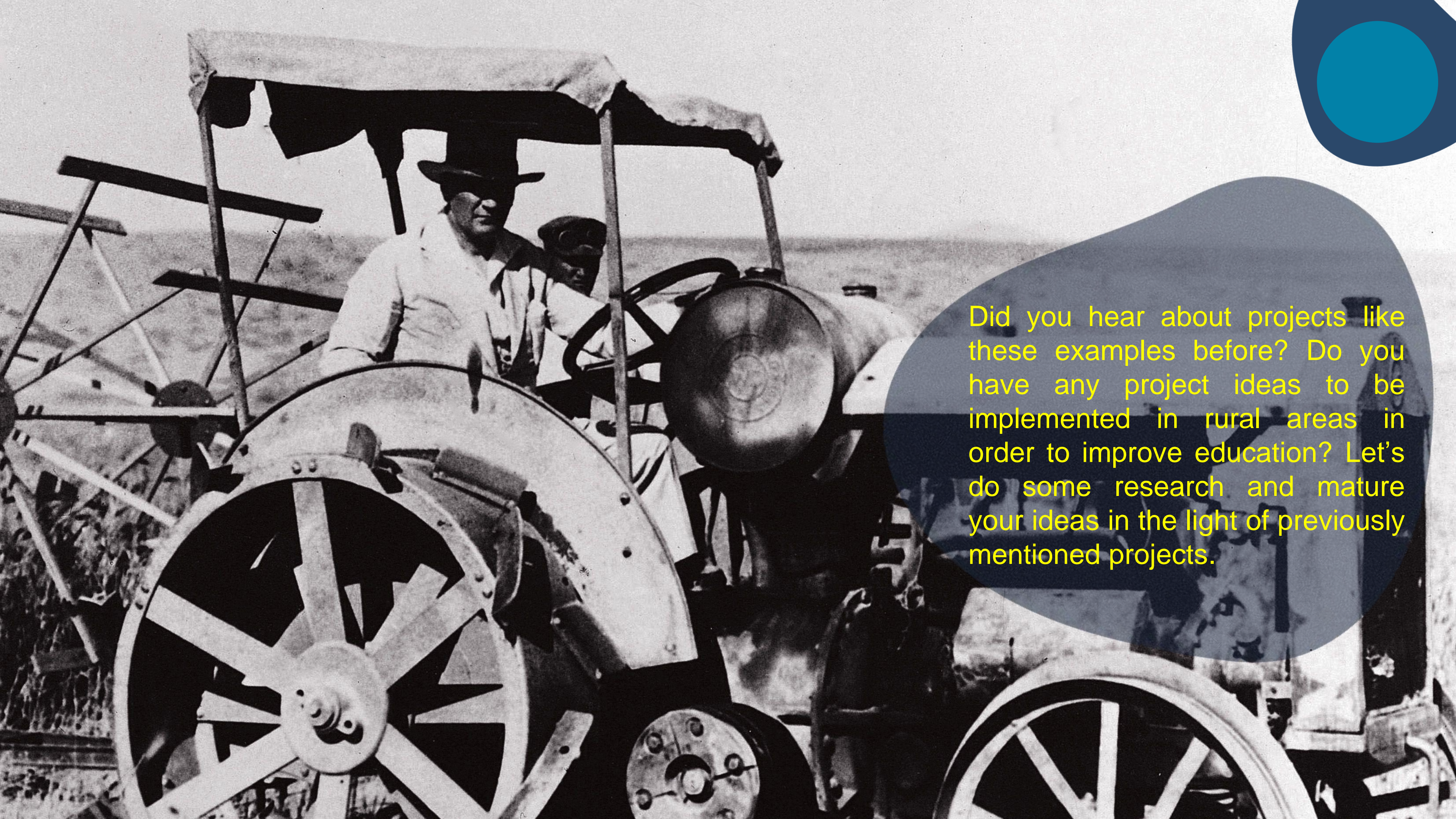
Qualified teachers or
instructors who are well-
established in the local
community.



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Support from the
municipalities and
decentralized public
services.

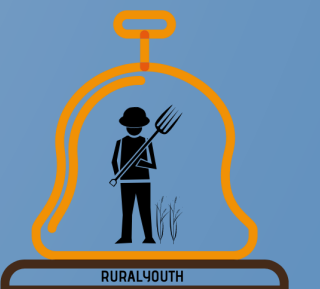




Did you hear about projects like these examples before? Do you have any project ideas to be implemented in rural areas in order to improve education? Let's do some research and mature your ideas in the light of previously mentioned projects.

In the intellectual discipline as well as in the political and social life, our guide will be science and technology of our nation. The Turkish nation, its art, its economy, its poetry and literature will develop only with science and technology.

– MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATÜRK (1922)



Educating Entrepreneurs



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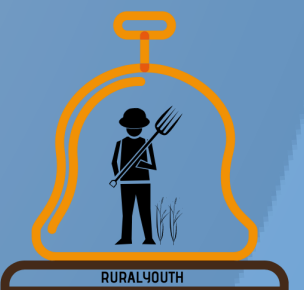
- Many aspiring entrepreneurs think that ideas are enough to launch a successful business.
- However, achieving success can be achieved not only with the idea, but also with the right business plan.
- Education is the most important factor in the development of entrepreneurship.
- The aim is to reveal the potential of young entrepreneurs and to make them aware of some of their characteristics.
- For those who will operate in rural areas, besides entrepreneurship training, tourism training is also required in order to use resources more efficiently.



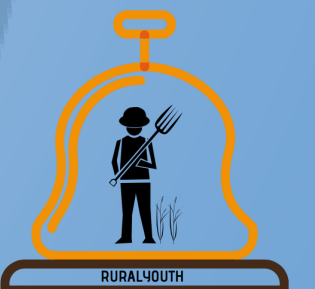
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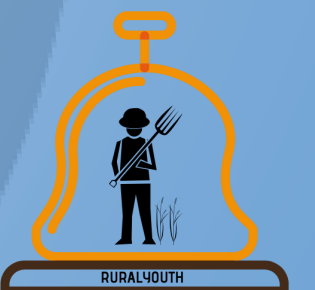
- Education is one of the major factors for entrepreneurs to success in rural areas.
- There is countless opportunities for rural entrepreneurs if only they educated and experienced enough to see them and choose the right one among them.
- A postal questionnaire of rural microbusinesses show that the education level and previous experiences of business owners have a great impact on their success.
- Moreover educated entrepreneurs can teach valuable lessons to local actors for future development.



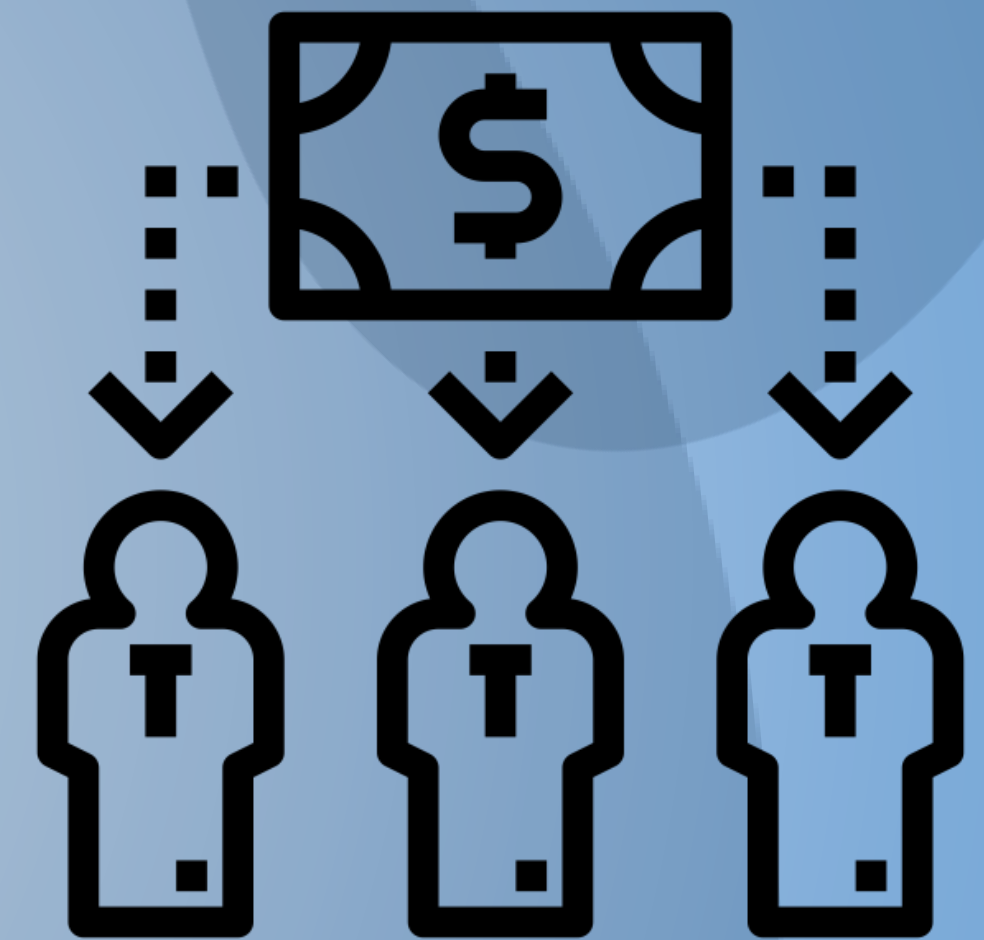
- The percentage of the companies established in the rural areas is much lower than the percentage of the people living in countryside.
- One of the reasons behind this idea is the lack of education given to entrepreneurs about rural areas.
- Therefore, most of them could not be able to see the options and opportunities that rural areas can present for them.
- Entrepreneurs should be well informed about rural economy.



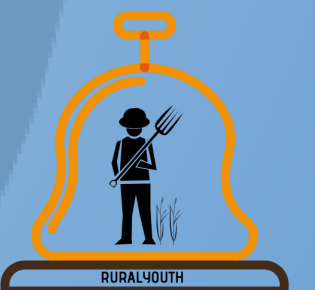
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- Conscious entrepreneurs should be trained in order to seize opportunities and achieve success.
- In the survey and oral interviews conducted in Kozbeyli, an Aegean village in Turkey, it was emphasized that one of the things that should be done in order to make the most of rural tourism is to provide tourism education.
- In order to increase the attractiveness of the region, a sustainable success can be achieved by both local people and entrepreneurs receiving tourism training course.
- Also, education is needed to make good use of the regional potential, and to protect the cultural heritage in the region.

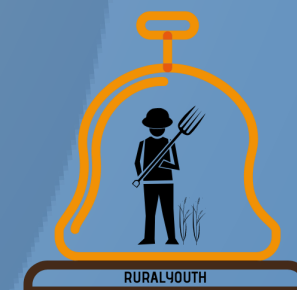


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It is education that either deserts a nation to slavery and poverty or enables the nation to live in freedom and independence as an esteemed society.

– MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATÜRK (1925)





SURF
TO FIND OUT
MORE

- ☞ There is a good example for rural education!
- ☞ Read this article emphasizing the significance of Köy Enstitüleri (Village Institutes) in Turkey!
- ☞ Examine these documents for further information!
- ☞ Bulungulaincubator is a website about local development and education!
- ☞ There is a TED talk video about re-imagining education from India!
- ☞ Read this article emphasizing the importance of education in countryside!
- ☞ Another article containing detailed information about Köy Enstitüleri (Village Institutes) in Turkey!

MATCH THE PARAGRAPHS!



A postal questionnaire of rural microbusinesses show that ...

... issues in rural areas are ignored and underestimated.

It is very common in some countries that ...

... if the nation is eager to thrive in education as a whole .

Policymakers and the public should give much more attention to rural education and even make it priority...

...affects rural education in a bad way.

Emigration of the working-aged people to cities ...

... the education level and previous experiences of business owners have a great impact on their success.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

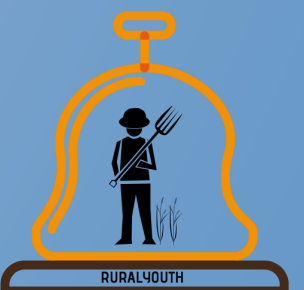


1- Which one below is not a common problem for rural schools?

- A.) Low budget
- B.) Students beaten by teachers**
- C.) Low attainment
- D.) Less educated teachers

2- Which one below cannot be counted as an improvement for rural education?

- A.) Building laboratories for rural schools
- B.) Founding nurseries
- C.) Searching ways to improve tourism**
- D.) Assigning highly educated teachers to rural schools



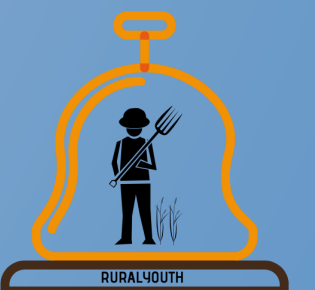


3- Which one below is a good example for local education?

- A.) Ignoring the local needs when preparing curriculum.
- B.) Provide shuttles to local schools**
- C.) Investing only in urban schools
- D.) None of above

4- Which one below should be considered by a well educated rural entrepreneur when starting a business?

- A.) What kind of resources region has to offer?
- B.) Are the people who live in the area aware of the importance of my business ?
- C.) Is there the workforce I need?
- D.) All of above**





5- Education is needed to make good use of the regional potential and to protect the cultural heritage in the region.

(**True/False**)

6- Applying the exact same curricula in both local schools and urban schools is the best way to improve rural education.

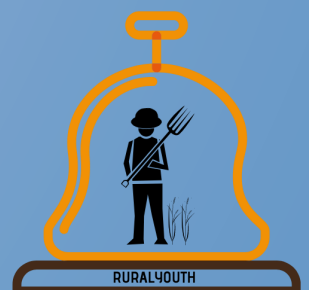
(**True/False**)

7- Emigration of the working-aged people to cities from countryside has a positive effect on rural education.

(**True/False**)

8- Knowledge of area and the local needs are required to create meaningful projects in countryside.

(**True/False**)



9- An original business idea is enough for a entrepreneur to achieve success.

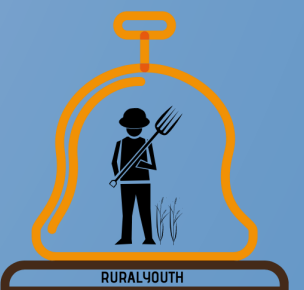
(True/False)

10- A postal questionnaire of rural microbusinesses show that the education level and previous experiences of business owners have a great impact on their success.

(True/False)

11- In rural areas, most of the working-aged people are poor and they stuck in low-wage, low-benefit jobs.

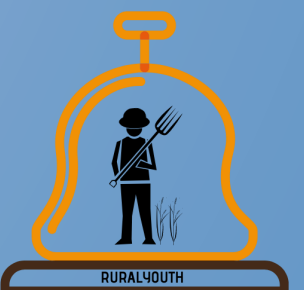
(True/False)



One of the best examples of rural education is the “Köy Enstitüleri” (Village Institutes) in Turkey. Turkish Republic established village institutes at for the purpose of people to be teachers in those areas in 1940. Here, the Turkish Government aimed to increase the percentage of people. These institutes educated primary school graduate students about modern with practical lessons. Consequently, these institutes led to a massive and created a rural population well informed and educated.

Fill the blanks with appropriate words.

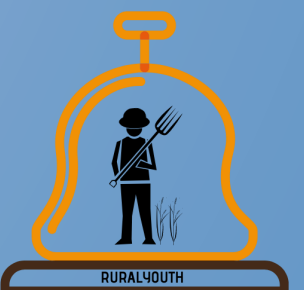
- 1- Rural Areas
- 2- Educating
- 3- Literate
- 4- Agriculture Techniques
- 5- Local Development



DISCUSSION



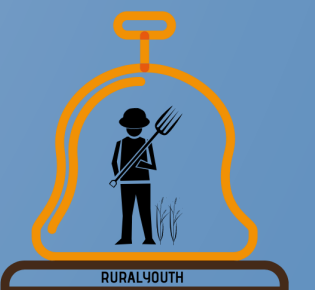
1. What is the right solution to improve rural education: generalize education with one curriculum or make different curriculums for different regions or something else?
2. Let's discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the examples at slide 14, and find ways to improve the situation.



If a nation does not have a cultural army, no matter how glamorous victories its armies achieve on the battlefield, sustainable results of these victories depend solely on the presence of the cultural army.

The productive results of the first army will disappear if the second army does not exist.

– MUSTAFA KEMAL ATATÜRK (1923)



SUMMARY

- In this unit, you have learned the current state and the common flaws of rural education, and how it can be matched with urban education.
- You have also learned why entrepreneurs should be educated about rural areas and rural tourism.
- In Unit 6.4, you will learn about the significance of regional evaluations on rural development.
- Additionally, you will learn how these evaluations affect the entrepreneurial activities in rural areas.

