



**SOCIAL
INNOVATION
COMMUNITY**

SIC Summer School: Regions as Social Innovations Ecosystems? Rural Ecosystem and Institutional Capacities

#SUMSIC

In collaboration with:



The Social Innovation Community SIC project is excited to announce the programme of 3rd Summer School hosted together with the [Middle Black Sea Development Agency \(OKA\)](#) - a regional public body located in Samsun, Turkey.

What is the SIC Summer School in Turkey about?

"Regions as Social Innovations Ecosystems? Rural Ecosystem and Institutional Capacities"

Together with the Middle Black Sea Development Agency (OKA), a regional public body located in Samsun, Turkey, SIC will host a Summer School between 9-11 May, 2018 exploring the theme of "Regions as Social Innovations Ecosystems? Rural Ecosystem and Institutional Capacities".

The main theme of this event is the correlation between social innovation and rural development.

SIC Summer Schools (SUMSIC) are participatory learning events that happen all over Europe. Each Summer School includes inspirational keynote speakers, problem solving exercises and local site visits. Participants can include e.g. researchers, policy-makers, practitioners, social entrepreneurs and students.

SUMSIC provide a chance for you to meet your peers, learn about local and global case studies, share your challenges and work with other participants to develop solutions together. During the 2,5 days, participants - e.g. researchers, policy-makers, practitioners and rural social entrepreneurs will find an opportunity to discuss their (development/action) goals, how to ignite new ideas on social innovation, what are the 'social' elements of this transformation process, etc. During the event, participants will also observe and even experience some examples in the region, through a number of site-visits.

The Middle Black Sea Region has a geographical dilemma among 4 city centers combining urban and rural areas and a total population of 2.773.386 inhabitants. There are economical and social differences between inner regional areas which is also the main focus of the Middle Black Sea Development Agency to decrease inner regional differences among the region.

In Turkey the breakdown of the population on the basis of the rural areas and cities has changed in favor of the cities and this trend continues developing. The ratio of urban population will continue increasing as the rural population will scale down. The method of establishing a new balance between the rural areas and cities will continue being determined by the characteristics of the region. There is a developing agricultural technology ideal for being capable of achieving adequate production by means of a smaller rural population versus a larger urban population. Turkey and the Middle Black Sea Region are in a position to shift to this technology rapidly. Moreover, investments aiming at improving the quality of population and enhancing the living quality in the rural areas need to be planned in a more rational manner.

The Middle Black Sea Regional Innovation Strategy 2013-2023, puts emphasis on *encouraging and disseminating social innovation and innovation in public services* in order to overcome social challenges and encourage the regional society to be part of the regional development process.

The objectives of SUMSIC Turkey are:

- To get an understanding about social innovation tools and approaches to design and develop initiatives in different countries and different regional settings.
- To have a hands-on effective solutions, specifically in the field of rural development.
- To create a group learning experience through a participative process on analysing rural social initial experience of using key social innovation and design-centred tools and approaches (including idea generation tools, stakeholder mapping, user journey mapping, prototyping)
- To enable participants to reflect their ideas and offer solutions for social problems.
- To support/favour new ideas through making comparisons between different approaches,



- To offer the opportunity to meet possible partner groups and to make contacts in other countries

Accommodation & Transportation

Accommodation

The Park Inn by Radisson Samsun Hotel is an ideal choice if you're looking for a hotel near the Tekkeköy industrial zone. The hotel is only 7 kilometers from the airport and 11 kilometers from Samsun city center, putting you within easy reach of the city's many attractions, including museums, restaurants and the Black Sea coast.

The Park Inn Hotel in Samsun, Turkey features 140 well-equipped hotel rooms ranging from 27 to 32 square meters in size. Enjoy the convenience of our on-site Brasserie restaurant and terrace, which serves up a traditional Turkish breakfast, as well as tasty lunches and dinners. Our lobby bar is also perfect for a relaxing cocktail after a long day of work.

Address:

Cumhuriyet Mahallesi Değirmenci Caddesi No:4

Zip Code: 55310

Tekkeköy – Samsun

Tel : +90 362 312 55 55

Fax: +90 362 312 55 85

E-mail: info.samsun@rezidorparkinn.com

Transportation

Hotel (Radisson) – OKA Building

Take the tram from stop number 35 “Tekkeköy” and get off at the stop number 31 “19 Mayıs Sanayi.”

Take the bus number R22 and get off in front of Middle Black Sea Development Agency.

City Centre – OKA Building

Take the tram from stop number 20 “Cumhuriyet Meydanı” and get off at the stop number 31 “19 Mayıs Sanayi.” Take the bus number R22 and get off in front of Middle Black Sea Development Agency.

OR

Take the minibus (Bor-San) from Cumhuriyet Square and get off in front of Yeşilyurt Vocational High School. Middle Black Sea Development Agency is 2 minutes by walking.

Hotel (Radisson) – City Centre

Take the tram from stop number 35 “Tekkeköy” and get off at the stop number 20 “Cumhuriyet Meydanı.”

Hotel (Radisson) – Atakum District

Take the tram from stop number 35 “Tekkeköy” and get off at any stop in Atakum (Türkış, Denizevleri, Atakum Belediyesi, Ömürevleri...)



Day 1: Setting the Scene and Framing

Wednesday 9th May 2018

08:30	Registration and coffee
09:00	Welcome and getting to know each other
Regional development and social innovation - a local lens	
09:20	Opening address: <i>OKA President, Vice-President EURADA <u>Mevlut ÖZEN</u></i>
09:30	Setting the scene: Rural Development and Regional Innovation in Turkey <i><u>Meltem Yilmaz</u> and <u>Ibrahim Ethem Şahin</u>, experts & project managers, OKA</i>
Regional Innovation and Rural Development - a Global Perspective	
09:45	Talk: Future cities defining future regions. Scenarios for sustainable urban development. <i>Justyna Król, CEO, Urban Workshop (Pracownia Miejska), Poland</i>
10:05	Talk: Enabling socio-economic development in rural communities <i><u>Vano Grigolashvili</u> and <u>Nelly Revazishvili</u>, Rural Development for Future Georgia (RDFG)</i>
10:25	After session reflections exercise
10:45	Short break
Social Innovation Deep Dive	
11:00	Talk: What is Social innovation and how do we mobilise networks for collaborative movements <i>Louise Pulford, Director SIX</i>
Local Challenges	
11.45	Learning from local challenges - getting ready for workshops <i>3 presentations on 3 different challenges (these are also the workshop cases)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Medine ALKOÇ, Amasya Bee Women Cooperative</i><i>2. Bilgi Bulus, Civil Society Consultant</i><i>3. Meltem Yilmaz, Expert in the Planning, Programming, and Coordination Department</i>
12.15	Workshop session 1 <i>Break-up in 3 groups - 3 different rooms</i> Workshop 1: Increasing collective production by local women: towards rethinking idle village schools Workshop 2: Preventing women abuse in the family: all season employment for both men and women Workshop 3: R(ur)ban transportation: Connecting rural to urban by innovation solutions



13:15	Lunch
14.00	Workshop session continued
15.15	Quick coffee
15:30	Site visit to Sürder, Sürmeli Village Surder is an non-governmental organisation supporting the “Open Marked” in the village by organic products and is mostly a women developed cooperation. (50 km distance. A rural example.) www.surmelikoyu.com and Facebook group .
19.30	Dinner

Day 2: Co-Creating

Thursday 10th May 2018

9:00	Morning and energizer
Deep Dive into Examples of Social Innovation Practices	
09:20	Talk: Women/gender and innovation, social innovation in practice <i>Radhika Bynon, The Young Foundation, UK</i>
09:40	Talk: The Impact of Ecotourism on Local Social and Economic Development <i>Emre Karabacak, CEO, Buğday Derneği</i>
10:00	Exercise
10:30	Short break
Tools for Social Change	
10:45	Social Platforms Connecting the Innovators of Social Good and Co-design as practice <i>Dr. Hamza Zeytinoglu, Senior Consultant and expert, Bogaziçi University</i>
11:05	Talk: The role of Design in Social Innovation: an introduction to design for non-designers <i>Saniye Fısgın, Industrial designer Ph.D. candidate. University of Bologna & Istanbul Technical University</i>
11:20	After session reflections exercise
11:35	Workshop session continued
13.00	Lunch
13:45	Workshop session continued
14:15	Quick coffee



14:30	Drive and Talk Getting to know each other and exploring emotions
16:30	Site visit: AMESIA - Amasya Women Bee Cooperative- they are 1 hour far from Samsun by bus/car, but they can involve and present their cooperative as a best practice in women practice of the rural in the Middle Black Sea Region, needs etc, a case-visit option. http://www.amesia.com.tr/
18:30	Dinner

Day 3: Sharing

Friday 11th May 2018

09:00	Morning and energizer
Making the Case	
09:10	Keynote: Social Innovation in Rural and Prosumer Economy: The example of 'good4trust.com' <i>Dr. Uygur Özsesmi, Founder of good4trust.org, Ashoka Senior Fellow, Adjunct Asst. Professor at Kadir Has University</i>
09:40	Talk: The Social Innovation Landscape <i>Dmitri Domanski, senior researcher at Sozialforschungsstelle – TU Dortmund University</i>
10:00	After session reflections exercise
10:15	Workshop session continued Last pitch and round-off
Sharing and reimagining the future	
12:30	Fish Bowl - sharing together
13:10	Closing panel: Reimagining the future
13:30	Lunch
14:30	Festival (free of choice) Festival visit: Open Market Samsun Venue: http://samsunotfestivali.com/
16.00	Shuttle to airport



Workshop challenges

The objective of the workshops is for participants to have the opportunity to apply social innovation and design thinking methodologies tools to generate innovative ideas for 3 concrete local challenges that the region of Samsun is facing.

Challenge 1:

Increasing collective production by local women: towards rethinking idle village schools

The schools in the rural areas are mostly closed, and students must go schools in the nearest urban area. Lots of families migrated from their land and settle down in the nearest urban area because they don't want to let their children go too far away to get education. Therefore there are lots of idle schools in the rural areas of the region. Some cooperatives want to turn them into collective production centers, however the headman of the villages often do not permit them.

Some questions to help guide innovative solutions:

1. *How to convince local decision makers to rearrange idle schools to workshops?*
2. *How to design idle schools as collective production workshops?*
3. *There is an increasing demand from the women to be a member of the cooperative and join the production. What can be the alternative places in villages to provide them convenient collective working spaces?*

Challenge 2:

Preventing women abuse in family: All season employment for both men and women

The main agricultural product in the Black Sea region is hazelnut. However, the total production process of hazelnut is taking at most 3 months. In the rest of the year, men are going to other cities to find a job. A side effect of this is that most of the married couples are living with the elder members of the man's family. In some cases, 2 or 3 families shares a house. Unfortunately, it is frequently seen that this situation leads to women are abused by other men in the house.

Some questions to help guide innovative solutions:

1. *How to prevent men to go far away for work?*
2. *What are the employment areas that can be available for all seasons?*
3. *How to take women outside from their home by providing them some social and economic activities to do?*
4. *What sort of actions can be taken into account to prevent abuse in family?*

Challenge 3:

R(ur)ban transportation: Connecting rural to urban by innovative solutions

Transportation from rural areas to the city centre is a common problem in the Black Sea Region. The public transport is very insufficient and the number and frequency of the vehicles are low. Basically, transportation is a service that municipality is providing, but it is not being developed with the pace needed.

Some questions to help guide innovative solutions:

1. *How can people get the most out of current transportation facilities to enhance them with their own means?*
2. *How can we gather people together suffering from the same issue to help and learn from each other?*



3. *In what ways can these people reach the local public authorities to express their problems regarding transportation?*

Site Visits

Site Visit #1: Sürder (Samsun, Bafra, Sürmeli Village)

The residents of Sürmeli Village, which is 50 km away from the city center of Samsun and 15 km away from the center of Bafra district, have been living for more than 80 years, especially with tobacco production and livestock production activities. Agricultural production in the village is still ongoing and remains a primary sectoral activity. In 2010, due to the institution of İkizpınar Pond dried out, the problems of the villagers brought them together, they collectively decided to make organic farming by using a drip irrigation technique in the village. In this process, trainings on organic farming techniques were taken with the support of relevant public institutions and organizations. In summary, villagers used initiative to produce solutions for their own problems.

The potential of entrepreneurship and innovation in social issues have emerged with the problems of in 2010, but some works have still been done in the village in the leadership of Sürmeli Village Association (SÜRDER). SÜRDER was established in 2014 in order meet the common needs of the people of the Sürmeli village; to provide social assistance and solidarity among its members; to work on the promotion and development of the common cultural values of the community; to work for the economic and social and cultural development of its members; to bring solutions to their social problems; ensuring the participation of women in social, cultural and economic life; is an association established to raise women's ecological products, participate in ecological tourism, and provide education and training. Today, all members of the Board of Directors of SÜRDER consist of women.

In November of 2014, the first organic market in the village was established and marketing activities of organic agricultural products were started. Today, in Sürmeli village, an organic market is established every Sunday and the products of the sellers whose majority of women are organized by SÜRDER are brought to the consumer. In addition, the association has agreed with a cargo company and has begun the delivery of organic products at the door of other consumers across the country.

The Sürmeli Village Development and Solidarity Association is continuing its efforts to develop the village economically, socially and culturally in order to create solidarity, commonality, mutual benefit and entrepreneurship culture. National and religious holidays celebration events, food organizations and festivals are organized. In order to increase the knowledge of the villagers engaged in agriculture and to increase the agricultural productivity, SÜRDER Board of Directors attended in the education programs of the various institutions and organizations. Then practical trainings and seminars are organized for members of the association. Within the scope of the dissemination activities carried out by the association, stands are opened at agricultural fairs and the villages organize trips to the surrounding districts.

Sürmeli Village Association has made an initiative to increase the implementation of organic agriculture on national and even international scale and with the support of Ondokuz Mayıs University and declared First World Organic Day with a meeting with protocol meeting and press members.

Site Visit #2: Amesia Bee Women Cooperative (Amasya, Merzifon)



Amesia Bee Women Cooperative was established on May 2015 by 16 partners consisting of women living in the rural areas of Amasya. The story had begun with the partners of the cooperative realized that women in the region are produce localized homemade products in their homes with their own facilities, but they have no opportunities to market them. So the cooperative aimed to help women in the region to contribute their family incomes by producing healthier and hygienic products in the production centers that will be established in the village centers, to come together in coherency and market their products in a systematic way via a cooperative, to develop economically and express themselves better in their family and to prevent migration from rural to urban.

The number of partners has reached 20 today. Amesia Bee Women Cooperative's production activities are carried out in the production workshops in 5 villages. The workshops are built by renovation of the storerooms located in cooperative member women's gardens. Now, Amesia Women's Cooperative is trying to hire idle schools in the villages for 49 years and turn them into production workshops, thus providing employment opportunities for more women residing in their service areas, as the capacity of current workshops of cooperatives is not sufficient due to the constantly increasing demand to their products. Cooperative has 6 sales points in Merzifon, Ankara and 9 different airports of our country.

While the cooperative members continue to produce, they evaluate every opportunity for their personal development. They participated project cycle management trainings, computer courses, hygienic and healthy production trainings and cooperative management trainings. The Amesia Bee Women Cooperative, recognized for its activities at the local, regional and national level, received awards at a ceremony held at the Ministry of Customs and Trade on December 21, World Cooperatives Day.

Site Visit #3: Traditional Raw Food Festival (Samsun, Bafra, Sürmeli Village and Amasya, Merzifon, Gökçeboğaz Village)




Middle Black Sea Region has a unique natural and cultural environment with its history, culture, verdant forests, lakes, rivers and Black Sea. Unfortunately, as times goes by, even locals have been started to fail to notice the uniqueness and beauty of where they live. Being aware of gastronomy has a crucial role in sustaining a localities culture, 3 public bodies and a NGO made an attempt on reminding the locals about that.

Since 2015, every year Samsun Governor's Office, Samsun Metropolitan Municipality, Middle Black Sea Development Agency and Samsun Tourism Association are organizing Traditional Raw Food Festival to bring the people who know the weeds growing in the Middle Black Sea Region with those who want to know and to keep this culture alive in the region. Participants are encouraged to take recipes of the various kind of foods. Thus, the miracles of nature and the food culture of the region can be transmitted to future generations. This year's fourth annual Traditional Raw Food Festival is held in Samsun between 9-13 May 2018 with the theme "Be Aware of the Beauties You Live in".


In festival, participants try to find grasses among hundreds of herbs one can see in rugged terrain of Black Sea region. This year Sürmeli Village (Samsun, Bafra) and Gökçeboğaz Village (Amasya, Merzifon) will host the Edible Weed Collection Competition. In addition, participants meet the people of Sürmeli Village who are organic farmers and struggle for healthy and natural life with the products they organically cultivate in their gardens and buy the products they want.






Speakers and Facilitators Overview

	<p>Bilgi Buluş</p> <p>Bilgi has a licence on business administration in Turkey and a master degree on agro-food economics in France. She started her career in a nation-wide NGO in Turkey for nature conservation in 1996 and continued in the United Nations as the National Coordinator of the Small Grants Programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF SGP) in 2000. During 8 years at the UN Programme, she worked for the empowerment of environmentalist movement in Turkey mainly on biodiversity conservation and mitigation of climate change and land degradation. Since 2008 she has transitioned for a more grassroots experience in the rural life of Turkey, now living in Central Black Sea region and is a farming apprentice, while at the same time continuing supporting international and national organisations.</p>
	<p>Dmitri Domanski</p> <p>Dmitri is senior researcher and lecturer at Sozialforschungsstelle – TU Dortmund University and a co-founder of the European School of Social Innovation (ESSI). He is also a co-author of “Rethinking Social Entrepreneurship” and “Social innovation: towards a new innovation paradigm” and co-editor of “Theoretical Approaches to Social Innovation – A Critical Literature Review,” “Innovación Social en Latinoamérica” and many others. Recently, he worked on the global research project “SI-DRIVE: Social Innovation – Driving Force of Social Change” and is currently participating in the Horizon2020 project SIC as well as the Erasmus+ projects Students4Change and SIKE. He is a Josef Hochgerner Fellow 2017, and was awarded by ZSI Vienna for the best research proposal on social innovation.</p>
	<p>Elif Muratoğlu</p> <p>Elif is currently continuing her graduate education at Middle East Technical University Urban Policy Planning and Local Governments Master Program. She began to work in Middle Black Sea Development Agency Planning, Programming and Coordination Department in November 2017. Between 2015-2016 she worked as project assistant in Regional Environmental Center Turkey Office, an international environmental organization for 4 months, as professional auditing officer in UCTEA Chamber of City Planners Ankara Branch Office for 3 months and as business development specialist in RKSoft Software Company for 3 months. She worked actively as a member of UCTEA Chamber of City Planners Ankara Branch Office Student Commission between 2012 and 2015. Since her graduation in 2015, she has participated in UCTEA</p>






	Chamber of City Planners Ankara Branch Office Women's Commission and she is still supporting the activities of the commission.
	<p>Emre Karabacak</p> <p>Emre has worked as managing partner in the tourism industry in his hometown, Fethiye, Muğla, since 2005 at Yonca Lodge, eco-hotel. He received his Masters in Cultural Management from Bilgi University in Istanbul and has worked as a consultant with diverse government and non-government institutions such as the United Nations Development Program, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and KEDV - Foundation for the Support of Women's Work. He served as Vice President of the Small Hotels Association of Turkey and of the Fethiye Eco-Tourism Association. He volunteers his time with the Muğla Environmental Platform for the actions in the region. He also founded Fotomobil Creative Agency in 2007. Both Yonca Lodge and Fotomobil are focused on improving the environmental, cultural, and social health of the Fethiye community through responsible and sustainable business practice.</p>
	<p>Dr Hamza Zeytinoglu</p> <p>Dr. Hamza Zeytinoglu (MD) is a senior consultant on informatics, social networks and healthcare services delivery derived from extensive experience in Ministry of Health of Turkey, Harvard Medical School/ Cambridge Health Alliance USA, National Health Service UK. In recent years he has been providing systems design and coordination services to EU projects SIMPOL (completed), DOLFINS and Open Maker on crowdsourcing and user/ citizens engagement around values/ trust driven collaborative action. As senior advisor to Computer Engineering Department of Bogaziçi University, together with partners in UZH and IMT he's currently leading the efforts for the design and implementation of online backend/ frontend services on data harvesting, semantics, psychosocial profiling and AI assisted movements facilitation.</p>
	<p>Ibrahim Ethem Şahin</p> <p>Ibrahim completed his undergraduate studies in Middle East Technical University Political Science and Public Administration Department in 2003. He is continuing his graduate studies at Ondokuzmayıs University, Department of Agricultural Economics. He began his career as a dealer inspector in Pepsi Cola Servis Dağıtım A.Ş. from 2003 until 2004. From 2004 until 2009, he worked as a financial analyst in the Financial Analysis and Intelligence Department of Ziraat Bankası A.Ş. at T.C. Ziraat Bankas. Since 2009, he has been the Head of Planning, Programming and Coordination Department at the Middle Black Sea Development Agency. His main responsibility include preparing the annual work program and budget, conducting regional strategic plan works, following activities in thematic areas, and managing and coordinating outsourced projects. During his time at the Agency, he took</p>



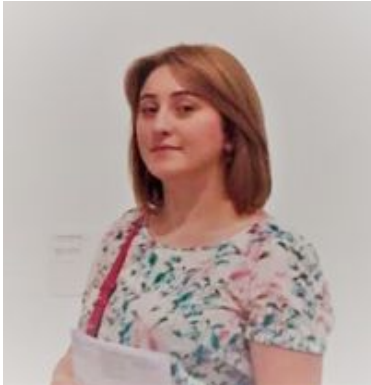


	<p>part in the implementation of the projects "Increasing Competitiveness of the Middle Black Sea Region" (OKA REKAP) and "OKA is Fighting Undeclared Employment".</p>
	<p>Julie Munk</p> <p>Julie is the Network and Project Manager at Social Innovation Exchange (SIX). She leads a number of development and innovation projects that aims to strengthen, connect and grow existing social innovation communities. Throughout her career, she has been exploring how to effectively run innovation labs, enable collaborative learning environments and co-design solutions to deal with complex social challenges. She has been doing this from multiple platforms – including in public institutions (engaging in innovation projects at Danish innovation unit MindLab), business (fostering start-up environments at Copenhagen Fintech Innovation and Research), academia (leading a Research in Society Lab at Copenhagen Business School) and NGOs (directing Social Responsibility programmes at Roskilde Festival as current board member at Transparency International). Julie holds a Masters degree in Political Sciences and a bachelor's degree in Social Sciences. She is a Prince 2 certificated project manager and a trained research fellow.</p>
	<p>Justyna Król</p> <p>Justyna is an expert in social innovation and urban development. She spent 3 years working for the United Nations Development Programme (Country Office in Poland and Bratislava Regional Centre for Europe and Central Asia) as Social Innovation and Communication specialist. She has created one of the first Polish crowdfunding platforms and has run several crowdsourcing projects in the region. She is the CEO of Urban Workshop (Pracownia Miejska) - a social enterprise specialising in sustainable urban development and future studies for municipalities. Their flagship project is <u>Miasta2050</u> [Cities 2050].</p>
	<p>Lisa Maria Seebacher</p> <p>Lisa studied International Development Studies and Sociology at the University of Vienna and did her master's degree in Socio-Ecological Economics and Policy at the Vienna University of Economics and Business. Her research interests include responsible research and innovation (RRI), ecological economics and sustainability, migration and integration, as well as gender studies and feminist research methodologies. Since 2017 she is working as social scientist at the ZSI – Centre for Social Innovation in Vienna.</p>



	<p>Louise Pulford</p> <p>Louise is the Director of the Social Innovation Exchange (SIX), the world's leading social innovation network. Louise has been responsible for building SIX over the last 6 years after it spun out of the Young Foundation in 2013. Louise is a seasoned speaker on the value of networks and social innovation globally, and regularly designs and facilitates social innovation training programmes for governments and universities around the world. Louise has worked on social innovation with the European Commission since 2010 when she co wrote a <u>Study on Social Innovation</u> for the Bureau of European Policy Advisors in 2010 and has since co -managed several large consortiums building communities of innovators across Europe, including the current Social Innovation Europe programme. Louise sits on the Mayor of Seoul's Advisory group for social innovation.</p>
	<p>Medine Alkoç</p> <p>Medine is a farmer, a handicrafts-woman and an entrepreneur living in a little village called Yolüstü located in Amasya, Merzifon. She is working in her family farm in summer with her husband and produce traditional handicrafts that she learned from her grandparents in winter. She is one of the founder members of Amesia Bee Women Cooperative and Vice President of the Board of Directors. She actively took part in the process of renovating unused storerooms in the village, turning them into collective production workshops. Since then she has been producing healthy, organic and traditional products such as erişte (a traditional Turkish pasta), dairy and bakery products, jam and molasses together with members of the cooperative. Her long-term goals are to prove that women are capable to do anything they want, create more employment opportunities for women and youth living in Yolüstü, reduce the unemployment in the region, prevent migration from the rural to urban, and deliver their products to more consumers at national scale.</p>
	<p>Meltem Yilmaz</p> <p>Meltem completed her graduate study at Ankara University Forest Engineering Master Program in 2010. She coordinated Yeşilirmak Basın Development Union '(YHKB)' Local Development Initiatives Grant Program: Samsun-Erzurum-Kastamonu Region. She served as a liaison for the project named "Amalia", which was carried out by YHKB between 2006 and 2009. She was on the board of directors of Amasya Civil Society Support Association (ASTODD). She started to work at Middle Black Sea Development Agency in October 2009. She took part in the implementation of the EU funded projects LOGIC, MOB-RED and " OKA is Fighting Undeclared Employment". She participated 3 trainings under Salto-Euromed Program took place in 2008 and 2012. Since 2004, she has been planning and carrying out Project Cycle Management Trainings at the regional level. She has publications on Water Management.</p>



	<p>Mevlut Özen</p> <p>Mevlut has been working as the Secretary General of the Middle Black Sea Development Agency since 23 July 2009. In Middle Black Sea Development Agency, beyond the identified working areas of the development agencies, Mr.Ozen managed to make Middle Black Sea Development Agency the most EU Project Implementing institution. Other than many IPA projects implemented, within the framework of the Regional Competitiveness Operational Program the Agency implements a project for Increasing the Competitiveness of TR83 Region and the unique major project of Samsun Logistics Center. In terms of preparing the Smart Specialization Strategy and Smart City Strategy of the region, Middle Black Sea Development Agency has been the pioneer among the development agencies in Turkey.</p>
	<p>Monica Nagore</p> <p>Monica is a European project manager at the Young Foundation. She has over 15 years of experience in the third sector in Spain and the UK. She is been involved in varied fields such as social economy, public housing, unemployment and social innovation, in association, local/regional authorities and charities. Monica is currently involved in two HORIZON2020 projects with the Young Foundaiton: Social Innovation Community where the YF led five experiments with five local partners in different European cities to test new models of cross-sector and multi-actor collaboration in addressing local societal challenges; and Dolfins where we are testing and look for new and more impactful ways of engaging the public in discussion about the role of finance in our society and the ways in which the finance system creates or sustain inequalities.</p>
	<p>Nelly Revazishvili</p> <p>Nelly is a seasoned project manager with an experience in Rural Development. Nelly joined RDFG when it was founded and has managed various projects to support social-economic development in Georgia, with the primary focus on youth and innovation. She has explored various innovative models to address social issues and tailored to the Georgian reality. She has also worked with government, international and non-governmental organizations such as the Parliament of Georgia, Tbilisi City Hall, OSCE, UNDP and World Vision International. She continues to conduct consultations and trainings in advocacy and youth development initiatives. Nelly has a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration from Georgian University, and holds the Certificate of Achievement in Humanitarian Response to Conflicts and Disasters from Harvard University. She is co-author and editor of Citizen Voice and Action, a community advocacy guidebook, and co-author of the World Vision youth club development manual and the Business Grant Support Scheme guidelines.</p>



Radhika Bynon

Radhika leads The Young Foundation's work in communities, working with change makers and innovators in cities and towns in the UK and Europe to develop solutions to tackling inequality. She leads a 'test and learn' programme across several European cities as part of Social Innovation Community. She also leads Reimagining Rent, the UK's only programme supporting innovation in the private rented sector, striving to make renting in cities like London and Birmingham fairer and more affordable. Radhika is also working on Rootslab, an innovation lab for young women's action, supporting social change driven by young women in tough places in the global south, starting with Lebanon. Working with Oxfam, the Global Fund for Women and FRIDA, Rootslab is testing how social innovation tools and approaches can support young women to advance gender justice.



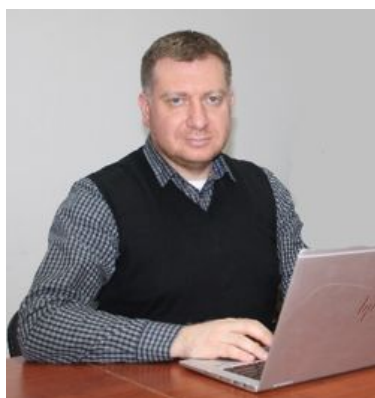
Saniye Fışgın

Saniye is an industrial designer and a Ph.D. Candidate at Istanbul Technical University. While her master dissertation was about service design in Turkey, her Ph.D. studies focus on design for public service innovation. Collaborating with Kadıköy Municipality, she organized several design events for problems of Kadıköy citizens like Global GovJam. Her research activities are mostly focused on introducing design to non-designers and the participative and human-centered design play key points in her research. Recently, she was a guest researcher at Politecnico di Milano and she continued her research in Milan with the support of Alessandro Deserti and Francesca Rizzo. She took part in Social Innovation Community Policy Masterclass in Turin, 2017, and her collaboration with SIC Summer School under Politecnico di Milano.



Dr Uygur Özmesmi

Uygur is a civil society activist and an Ashoka Senior Fellow. He is the founder and instigator of Good4Trust.org an online system for creating a prosumer economy for ecological and social sustainability. He is the board chair of the Prosumer Economy Association and founded the Environmental Engineering Department at Erciyes University, where he was Asst. Professor and Chair of Environmental Science. He joined the United Nations Development Program in New York as Environmental Specialist. He served as the Executive Director of TEMA Foundation and of Greenpeace Mediterranean. He founded Change.org in Turkey and was the Eastern Europe and West Asia Director. Uygur was also the founding chairman of Doğa Derneği in 2002, founding member of the Civil Society Development Center and served for two terms on the Board of CIVICUS – World Alliance for Citizen Participation. He currently serves as the Vice-Chair of ENIVA Foundation. He is currently an Adjunct Asst. Professor at Kadir Has University, Energy and Sustainable Development Program.



Vano Grigolashvili

Vano founded Rural Development for Future Georgia (RDFG) in December 2010 with the main goal to improve the conditions of the most vulnerable people, to prevent and alleviate human suffering, to protect and to respect human dignity, making no discrimination as to race, skin color, language, gender, religion, class or political opinions. Vano's professional experience covers over 14 years of working with national, regional and international NGOs from the USA, Europe and Caucasus, such as Save the Children International, World Vision International, Oxfam GB, AED, and Regional Environmental Center for Caucasus. He specializes in civil leadership development, rural development through promotion of modern, environmental friendly solutions, capacity building in disaster management, emergency response operations, promotion of human rights and livelihoods development. While he is based in Tbilisi, he remotely supports various civil society organizations in Eurasia, in particular Eastern Europe and Middle East. Vano's educational background is International Humanitarian Law strengthened through a range of educational courses, trainings and learning-by-doing approach.

A day in Samsun city...

What to do?

Samsun City Museum

Samsun City Museum is preserving everything about Samsun's history. In 2011, the lodgings belonging to TCDD and Demirspor Clubhouse building were restored. These buildings which reflects cities history and have a special place in the memories of citizens has been brought to the city. Now, the museum is a place where citizens of Samsun can go down memory lane. Trace the city's development from Amazonians ancient city to today's metropolis! <http://www.samsunkentmuzesi.com/>

The Kurtuluş Road and the Tutun Port

The piece of land the Great Leader Atatürk and 18 friends of him set their feet in Samsun to light the first torch of the War of Independence on 19 May 1919 has achieved the prestige it deserves. The road extending from the Tutun Port, on which Atatürk and his 18 friends set their feet, to the Mıntıka Palas hotel was made into the "Kurtuluş Road" by the Samsun Metropolitan Municipality and was put into the service of our people on 19 May 2009. See this place that witnesses the birth of Republic of Turkey!

Atakum District

The district's beach area which has the longest coastline in the Central and Eastern Black Sea Region is just for you if you are looking for some fun. Excursion and entertainment areas, beaches, coffee shops, bars&pubs, shopping malls are all placed in Atakum coastline. The mix of these functions contributes to the livability of Atakum, including the day-night rhythm of the district. Take a walk on the coastline of Atakum!

The Amisos Hill

The city of Samsun has a 7000-yearlong history. It was called Amisos in antiquity but the settlements in the region date back to even earlier times. Amisos Hill is the place where one can feel the history of the



city. Besides the most important historical areas - Baruthane Tumulusses and the Archeological Park- located in there, the city view from the hill also worth to see. You can take cable car from Westpark to Amisos Hill. Look down to Samsun from its ancient history!

Ottoman Bath (Hamam)

Ottoman Baths are the most known cultural heritage of Turkey in the World. Thanks to the Ottoman Hamam Project of Samsun Metropolitan Municipality, and Middle Black Sea Development Agencies support to the project, Atakum has one now. It is one of the best places to have a cultural experience. Take a relaxing break from your Atakum tour in Ottoman Hamam!

Bayraktepe Natural Park

Bayraktepe Natural Park is a place where cultural heritage and natural beauties are sharing the land. The peak area of the Natural Park holds the remains of the old Samsun Castle. You can reach there by walking through Samsun's natural beauties. Besides, it is just 8 tram stops away from your hotel.

What to eat?

Samsun Pitta Bread (Samsun Pidesi)

Though it has a reputation as Samsun Pitta Bread in general, in Samsun there are generally two different pittas are done. One is from one end of Samsun and the other is from the other end: Terme and Bafra. Each of them is unique in terms of taste and shape. You can eat whichever you want in Samsun City Centre. (Some places to eat Samsun Pitta Bread: Amisos Restaurant, Sevgi Restaurant, Venn Restaurant)

Fish

(Some places to eat fish in Samsun: Pamuk Kardeşler Restaurant)