

UNDP Turkey Monthly Magazine

JUNE 2019 - ISSUE: 162

NEW HORIZONS

**HEAD OF UNDP
VISITS TURKEY**

**WHAT DOES
MARATHON TO DO
WITH SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT?**

**STATES OF
WOMANHOOD
IN DIRGINE**

*Empowered women
protect forests*



WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

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Cover: Bikem Ahıska @UNDP Turkey

DANGER MINES

A SHORT FILM ABOUT THE STORY OF HUMANITARIAN DEMINING IN TURKEY

A short film titled "Danger Mines" was produced on the humanitarian demining operation conducted under the project co-funded by the European Union and the Republic of Turkey and implemented with the first partnership of UNDP Turkey, the Ministry of National Defense, Turkish General Staff and Ministry of Interior in the field of mine clearance.

On the occasion of 4 April International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, European Union Delegation to Turkey in close cooperation with the UNDP Turkey and National Mine Action Centre of Ministry of National Defense held a gala screening of the film which tells how the first humanitarian demining operation in Turkey is being conducted and the human stories around it.

Since the launch of the "Socioeconomic Development through Demining and Increasing the Border Surveillance Capacity at the Eastern Borders of Turkey" project in 2016, over 4.1 million m² has been released with the destruction of over 38,000 anti-personnel mines. More than 500 personnel from National Mine Action Centre (TURMAC), Land Forces Command and Ministry of Interior were trained through formal capacity development activities focusing on mine action and Integrated Border Management (IBM) topics. More than 200 jobs were created for local people who were trained to become assistant health personnel and mine clearance personnel. A national land release policy for Turkey was prepared.

Follow this link to watch Danger Mines.

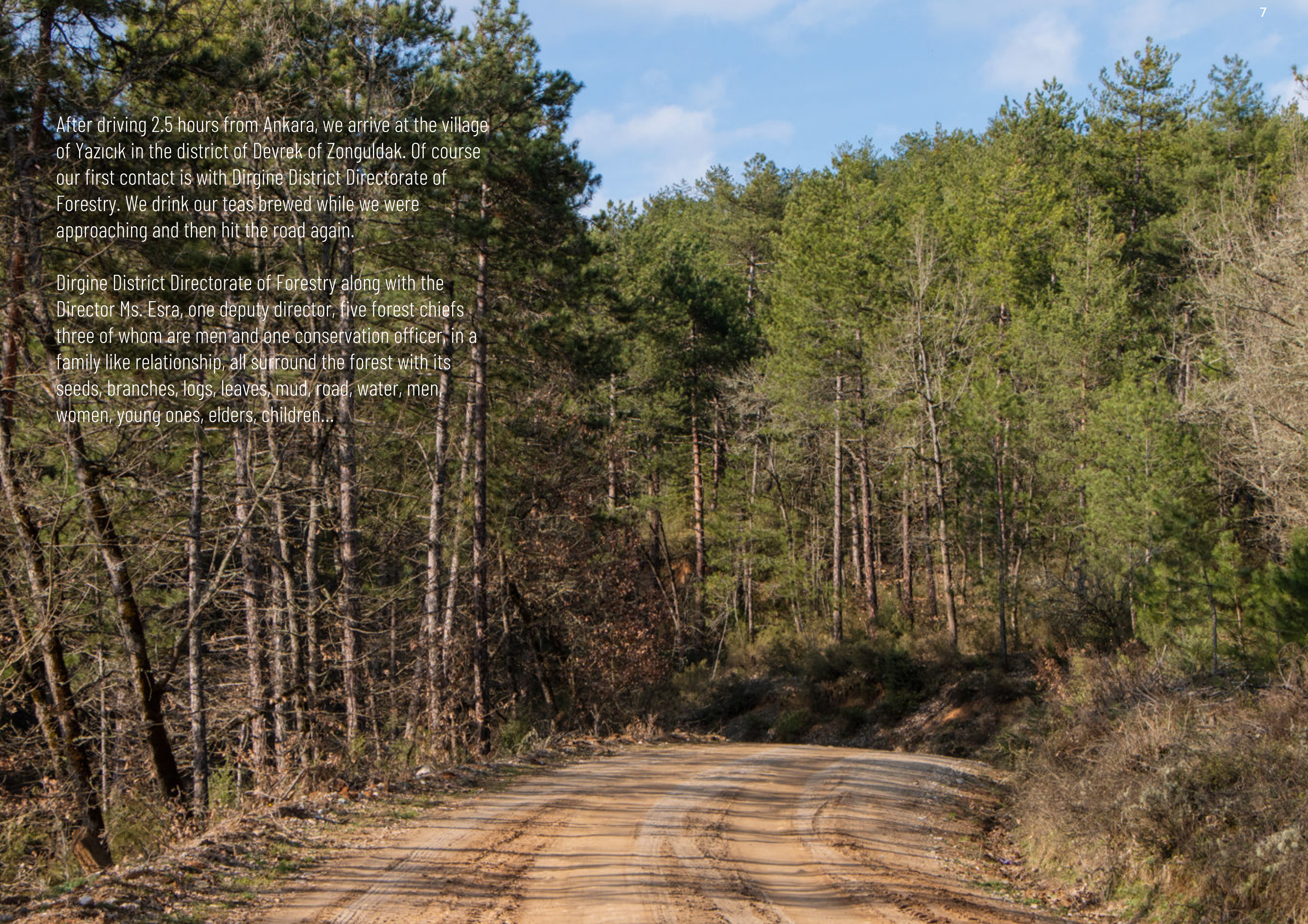


STATES OF WOMANHOOD IN DIRGINE

*Story of Esra Karali,
Dirgine Forestry Director*

After driving 2.5 hours from Ankara, we arrive at the village of Yazıcık in the district of Devrek of Zonguldak. Of course our first contact is with Dirgine District Directorate of Forestry. We drink our teas brewed while we were approaching and then hit the road again.


Dirgine District Directorate of Forestry along with the Director Ms. Esra, one deputy director, five forest chiefs three of whom are men and one conservation officer, in a family like relationship, all surround the forest with its seeds, branches, logs, leaves, mud, road, water, men, women, young ones, elders, children...





There were three women in the life of our director Ms. Esra that had inspired her. One of them is her mother who raised her three children single-headedly. While talking about her mother she emphasizes how powerful and hardworking she was and her work discipline. "When I was little, sometimes I missed my mother when she was at work..." she says, while expressing how she was proud of her mother back then, as well as today.

Then she adds smiling bitterly, just like every woman who has a profession. *"We do the same. But it is necessary. Sometimes I think about my children. I suppose they are going to understand me too".* And joyfully she adds, *"Both my sons say they are proud of me. Then I get so happy seeing that nothing I did is in vain, my efforts, devotion do not go down the drain. Seeing that my children understood this even at this age makes me feel that the thing I do is right and I will never regret it".*

A woman with short brown hair, wearing a bright orange and blue high-visibility jacket, dark blue pants, and black rubber boots, is walking away from the camera on a dirt path in a pine forest. The path is slightly elevated and appears to be a recently cleared or maintained trail. The forest is dense with tall, thin pine trees, and the sky is blue with some white clouds. The lighting suggests it's daytime, with sunlight filtering through the trees.


The ones who follow, walk with the courage of knowing where to step, and the one who leads them, by knowing that she is being followed.

Ms. Esra, whose mother also worked in the directorate of forestry as well as her father, had spent her childhood among the foresters. While she was in high school, a woman who visited their house used the words *"I am the forest engineer..."* when she was introducing herself. This impressed Ms. Esra so much. Another person who was also impressed by this word at that day was the grandmother of Ms. Esra. She had said to her granddaughter by showing the visiting forest engineer, *"Esra, my little one, your mother could not make it, at least you can become a forest engineer"*.

Then Ms. Esra had attended to the faculty. She had come to the grade 3. This time the person who had inspired her was a forest chief whom she came into contact with only one day during her internship. With the words of Ms. Esra, *"that one day"* had changed everything. She remembers how she admiringly observed the chief, the way she sat in the tent drinking tea, her clothes, her relations with the villagers and then she recalls saying to herself *"I will also be like this woman"*.

Years had passed, this time it was Ms. Esra's turn to give inspiration to other women. She had met young colleagues who said *"I want to be like you"*. One of the woman chiefs in the team says pointing her *"They are opening the way for us, we follow their steps"*. There is solidarity hidden in these words.

The ones who follow, walk with the courage of knowing where to step, and the one who leads them, by knowing that she is being followed.



Ms. Esra's message to those who follow is: *"All the girls, all the women who want to become a forester, believe me, this profession is so pleasing; it is so pleasing that you do not get scared. When you do it with love it is not difficult, just like any other profession. Man or woman, it does not matter. As long as you work with devotion. Yes, it may need some devotion. But if you like it, believe me, you will care nothing at all. Neither the problems nor the road you make, nothing... Just do not give up".* She points herself and says *"We are here!"*

We are inside the common beech forests that have not yet flourished. We see bushes, branches, some reaching out to our belly, and some to our knees. To our surprise, these are those young saplings they took care meticulously which came out of the seeds taken from the old trees with great difficulty. Mr. Emrah, one of our chiefs, tells how the young saplings are treated and how the women from the village work for this. Then Ms. Esra tells the tasks which the women take on in various areas of production not just taking care of saplings in regeneration works.

Forestry is a profession where 417 different tasks which change according to the season, are assumed. The teams at the sub-district directorates are the staff who carry out all these tasks, meet the needs and implement the practices.



Pointing to all her workmates, Ms. Esra says: *"This is a team work. I am very fond of my team. I look out for my team also. And they look out for me. We are like a family. I never want them to get into trouble, I do not want them to get hurt. In my 22 years of career I was with my team both in active work and on the site. As long as I remain in this profession I will always look out for my team whichever team I work with."*



From district director to the conservation officer, an important part of the shift of the forester is spent with the villagers. Relations with the forest villagers is of vital importance, especially in the Dirgine District Directorate of Forestry, which is administered by a director like Ms. Esra who gets involved personally with the whole process, knows the site very well and follows the things going on. The villagers are satisfied. They say, "You never know where our director is. All of a sudden she appears in the forest" speaking of her with love and respect.

Getting on well with the villagers, strengthening the relations, convincing them to the new practices can be easier for woman forest chiefs. "We never heard any insult from the villagers; a possible conflict or a fight that could normally take place is avoided when there is a woman forester", says Ms. Esra.

"This job" says Ms. Esra, "is not an easy job, some can do it, others are eliminated. It is a job requiring devotion as well as competency". I understand from all these talks and the things I saw that there is nothing women cannot do related to the forestry.

However, in more than 254 directorates of forestry, the number of women directors can be counted on the fingers of two hands. Women directors, whose number reach eight, administer 3.36% of the all district directorates. And only 13.64% of all the chiefs are women. This ratio is unfortunately under 30% which is foreseen for providing equal participation in any field and known as the "critical threshold". And in decision-making positions and higher levels of the hierarchy, this number decreases. This number will be higher as long as the examples and role models like Ms. Esra increase and become visible, competent and equipped directors like the ones in Dirgine are raised and the supporting approach of the administrators for the progress of women in the field of forestry is maintained.

UNDP Turkey, General Forestry Directorate in Turkey and the Global Environment Fund (GEF) are working together to protect Turkey's forests.

Follow this link to read the full story.



HEAD OF UNDP VISITED TURKEY TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP AND DISCUSS FINANCING FOR THE GLOBAL GOALS

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner held an official visit to Turkey to participate in this year's Istanbul Development Dialogues (IDD) themed "Financing the Sustainable Development Goals" and to reinforce UNDP's collaboration with the Turkish Government.

UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner visited Turkey on 27-28 May to inaugurate an annual global development forum organized in Istanbul. During his visit, he met with high-level government officials and business leaders to discuss the partnership of UNDP and the Government of Turkey.

Making a statement on his visit, Achim Steiner said, "Turkey and UNDP have been partners for over 50 years and more recently Turkey has been a beacon of hope for more than 3.6 million Syrian refugees. I appreciated the frank exchanges on the future direction of UNDP's work in Turkey and I look forward to our continued partnership."

In his official visit to Istanbul and Ankara, Mr. Steiner, accompanied by UNDP Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia Mirjana Spoljaric Egger, met with Vice President of Turkey H.E. Fuat Oktay and Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu to discuss Turkey's continued support for UNDP's work in Turkey, the region, and globally. The meetings served to assess the rapid progress of the collaboration since 2011 when Turkey and UNDP signed a landmark partnership agreement and discuss Turkish Government's contributions to UNDP's national, regional and global budgets.

They also discussed the continued need for supporting Turkey in its work hosting refugees from Syria. "Turkey provides both immediate life support for Syrians and an opportunity for them to plan for the future. It is an exemplary model for other countries to emulate," Mr. Steiner said.

In Istanbul, Achim Steiner delivered keynote address at the 5th Istanbul Development Dialogues (IDD) on Financing for Development on 27 May, speaking to more than 200 investors, business leaders, development experts and government representatives alongside Mr Naci Ağbal, Head of the Strategy and Budget Presidential Office, Presidency of Turkey. IDD is a flagship development policy event organized annually in Istanbul by UNDP's Istanbul Regional Hub. This year's conference addressed how to fund sustainable development in the 21st century.



In Istanbul, Mr. Steiner also met with business leaders, stressing their role in creating innovative partnership and models to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. "Turkish businesses have been playing a key development role within the country and in the Balkans, Central Asia, and Caucasus, and there are significant new opportunities for them to scale up their engagement towards achieving the SDGs" said Mr. Steiner.

Stressing that the SDGs are possible in Turkey and beyond if the connection can be made between the 2030 Agenda and financial markets, Mr. Steiner added, "Aligning trillions of dollars in private assets with public policies to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals is an urgent necessity and the way of the future."



As a reflection of Turkey's role as the largest donor of humanitarian aid in the world in proportion to its national income, and most rapidly growing donor among OECD members, UNDP and the Government of Turkey had signed an agreement in 2011 to elevate their collaboration to regional and global levels. Following the adoption of this agreement, UNDP's Regional Hub for Europe and the CIS moved to Istanbul in 2015, and Turkey has been a co-financier of the UNDP's Regional Programme for Europe and the CIS since 2014.

"As we look to the future, I hope we continue to build on this foundation as Turkey supports programmatic work of UNDP both at regional and global level. The latest commitments are a welcome signal of this partnership." said Mr. Steiner.

Working with more than 40 Turkish and international agencies, UNDP contributes to Turkish Government's efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development

Goals by 2030. It supports Turkey on the three components of the development agenda, namely inclusive and sustainable growth, inclusive and democratic governance, and climate change and environment. UNDP also contributed to the preparation of Turkey's 11th National Development Plan for 2019-2023.

Focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment in all projects, UNDP also closely collaborates with the private sector to achieve the development goals. The Business for Goals (B4G) Platform and Connecting Business Initiative (CBI), both launched in 2018, were important steps to mobilize the business world to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in Turkey.

UNDP provides support to the preparation of Turkey's Voluntary National Review (VNR) report on progress towards the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals to be presented at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum in New York on 15 July 2019.

UNDP has in recent years been implementing resilience building projects to alleviate the impact of Syrian crisis on Turkey. Hosting the largest number of refugees in the world, Turkey is the country where 3.6 million Syrians have taken refuge. Under the Turkey Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), UNDP's work on response to the Syrian crisis has recently further diversified through transition from a humanitarian dimension to a development-based approach. UNDP works with a diverse range of local and regional development actors to develop inclusive and sustainable policies to empower Syrian refugees and host communities.

Pursuing practical and innovative solutions to support Turkey's development efforts, UNDP works on a mission of leaving no one behind through an inclusive approach.

Contributing to UNDP's regular funds globally, Turkey is also the co-founder of Istanbul International Centre for Private Sector in Development (IICPSD) and provides support to the development projects of Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

About Achim Steiner

Achim Steiner leads the work and country offices of UNDP in 170 countries and territories across the world since April 2017. He also chairs the UN Development Group, which unites 32 UN funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other bodies that work to support sustainable development.

Bringing more than three decades of leadership experience in global development issues and international cooperation, Mr. Steiner is a passionate advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals and the need for unprecedented global cooperation to deliver on this ambitious agenda.

Prior to joining UNDP, Mr. Steiner served in roles across the UN, non-government organizations and high-level advisory bodies shaping public policy. This included tenures as United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme; as Director-General of the UN Office at Nairobi and as Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.





AHMET CEMAL DÖRDÜNCÜ ELECTED BOARD CHAIR OF UN GLOBAL COMPACT TURKEY

The 7th Ordinary General Assembly was held on 6 May 2019 at Zorlu PSM Sky Lounge, Istanbul for the UN Global Compact Turkey, the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative that promotes collaborative action of enterprises to create a sustainable, inclusive global economy. Convened to elect the new Management Board for 2019-2022, Mr. Ahmet Cemal Dördüncü, Board Member and Chair of Executive Committee of Akkök Holding, was elected as the Chair of the Management Board of UN Global Compact Turkey.

To serve through 2022, Mr. Dördüncü took over the post from Mr. Mustafa Seçkin, Board Chair of Unilever Turkey, Middle East and Iran.

In his acknowledgment speech, Mr. Dördüncü said: "Once the business community directs all knowledge on collaboration, agility and resources to generating solutions for goals and makes what it knows best i.e. "doing business" responsible, there remains no reason that it may fail to be the driver of transformation. We have a long way to march, but we believe that Global Compact Turkey is the right place for stakeholders who make an impact."

Mr. Paul Polman, Vice-Chair of UN Global Compact and the guest speaker at the meeting, noted that humanity still lived in contradictions in many respects and said: "People today have longer and healthier lives. With more people than ever receiving training, the global economy boomed incredibly. However, such unparalleled global growth has a cost. To face the truth, our world today is in a deep crisis on account of growing climate change and huge inequalities."

The UN Global Compact is the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative with more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries. Launched in 2000, the UN Global Compact promotes collaborative action of enterprises to create a sustainable, inclusive global economy.

The UN Global Compact supports companies across the world to align strategies and operations with the 10 principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and leads the business community in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals.

View the full list of Management Board and Supervisory Board of the Global Compact Turkey for 2019-2022 at www.globalcompactturkiye.org



GOLDEN COMPASS UNDP SPECIAL PRIZE GOES TO METRO GROSSMARKET

The Turkish Public Relations Society (TUHID) awarded the 18th Golden Compass Turkish Public Relations Prizes at a ceremony on 29 April 2019 at Zorlu PSM Sky Lounge.

Of the nearly 300 projects from the public and private sectors as well as young communicators competed this year in 21 main categories and 27 subcategories, 49 were awarded prizes. The Grand Prize went to “2018 Year of Troy” project of the Governorship of Çanakkale.

This year, UNDP Special Prize was given for the 8th time in Golden Compass Awards. The prize was granted to Metro Grossmarket for their Food Traceability Project to appraise their highly meaningful efforts in using innovative methods to improve their food security, supply chain management and consumer information systems.

In his speech at the awards ceremony, UNDP Turkey Resident Representative a. i. Claudio Tomasi mentioned that Metro Grossmarket is setting a very important example for its own business category and the whole business world. Mr. Tomasi explained the initiative as follows: “With the system that is developed and implemented by Metro Grossmarket, with a simple QR code, customers can track all processes and details of meat and fish products from the very beginning until their own kitchen. The project has links with

Sustainable Development Goals number 2 and 12, which are ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and ensuring responsible consumption and production patterns.”

The UNDP Special Prize is a unique prize that rewards the companies with the best perspective on environmental and social impacts since 2012. This year, more than 200 projects have been reviewed based on businesses’ impact on sustainable development in Turkey.

“From women’s employment to education of disabled individuals, from biodiversity to sustainable agriculture, all of them provides invaluable support towards achieving 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The high quality of the company initiatives made the selection process harder and we would like to thank all applicants for their commitments to achieve Sustainable Development Goals through responsible business models. Not just the winners, but all companies considered for the award are showing us a glimpse of a better future, a sustainable future for our children and their children.” said Mr. Tomasi.



FROM THE HANDS OF THOUSANDS OF WOMEN TO THE WARDROBES OF TENS OF THOUSANDS

“Koton Handicraft Collection” introduced under the inclusive business model generated revenues of more than 2 million TL to 6,500 women in 18 CATOMs in 8 provinces. Led by the Multi-Purpose Community Centre (CATOM) under GAP Regional Development Administration, a collection was created in the hands of thousands of women that reached the wardrobes of tens of thousands of women. Thereby, women not included in the economic system or having low income were enabled to participate in economic and social life.

“Koton Handicraft Collection” introduced under the inclusive business model generated revenues of more than 2 million TL to 6,500 women in 18 CATOMs in 8 provinces. Led by the Multi-Purpose Community Centre (CATOM) under the Southeastern Anatolia Project (GAP) Regional Development Administration, a collection was created in the hands of thousands of women that reached the wardrobes of tens of thousands of women.

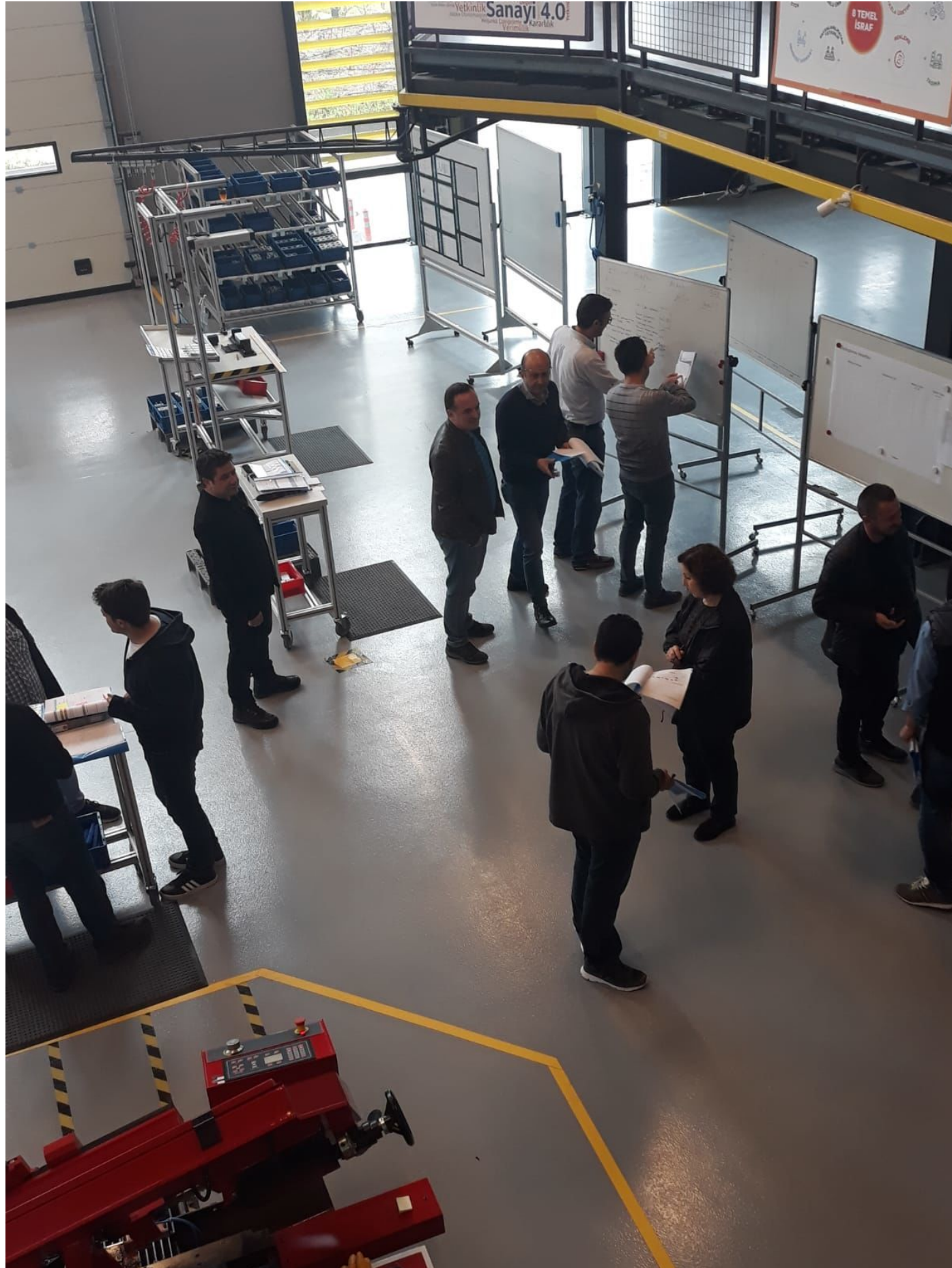
Under the project “Innovations for Women's Empowerment in GAP Region” implemented by GAP Regional Development Administration and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), Koton Handicraft Collection which commenced in Spring 2016 and produced 11,645 pieces in Summer 2016 has now reached a product volume of 291,086. Reaching the wardrobes of tens of thousands of women from the hands of thousands of women for seven seasons, the Collection now boasts 37 different designs to offer Koton customers through 127 Koton stores with 90 in Turkey and 37 abroad, and through koton.com online sales channel.

Having started in 5 provinces through CATOMs, this cooperation model goes on

today by 18 CATOMs in 8 provinces namely Adiyaman, Batman, Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, Kilis, Mardin, Şanlıurfa and Şırnak where the work on Koton Handicraft Collection continues under the component of developing inclusive business models of the project “Promoting Women's Empowerment and Social Integration” implemented by GAP Regional Development Administration and UNDP.

An important example of inclusive business models and local economic development

UNDP and GAP Regional Development Administration have since 2008 undertaken many works to socially and economically empower women in the Southeast Anatolia. The Argande brand was created in this context that brought together the labour of regional women and creativity of designers, which provided work for hundreds of women. Inspired by Argande, the collaborative work for Handicraft Collection with Koton sets a good example for inclusive business models which have in recent years become important to create new markets, promote entrepreneurship, increase employment by quantity and quality and strengthen value chains. Through such collaboration, the handicraft of women of various provinces under CATOMs in GAP is supplied to customers in stores.



KÜTAHYA SERAMİK & PORSELEN IS THE FIRST COMPANY THAT USES ANKARA MODEL FACTORY

Ankara Model Factory, Turkey's first-ever SME Competence and Digital Transformation Centre, continues its training programmes of lean production to boost the efficiency of companies.

In that context, Kütahya Seramik ve Porselen [Kütahya Ceramics and Porcelain] has been the first company that procured the services of Ankara Model Factory, venturing into the world of lean production through a training session attended by managers and engineers working in the ceramics and porcelain factories.

Participants in the training had an opportunity to learn, in theory and practice, how to identify and remove 8 basic waste experienced in the production sector, and how to make waste-free production sustainable by instructions of experienced trainers of the Model Factory. Participants experienced not only the lean production methods but also human-centred effective communication techniques based on case scenarios during the training.

Ankara Model Factory awaits all enterprises in Ankara which wish to increase productivity and get to know lean production.

VALUE OF LOCAL, FUTURE OF TOURISM!



Yerele
Değer

Having introduced many local values across Turkey to tourism and contributed to local development, "Future is in Tourism" looks for new projects. Those who wish to cast light onto the future by sustainable tourism ideas may apply by 14 June 2019. Implemented jointly by T.R. Ministry of Culture, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Anadolu Efes, the project transforms sustainable tourism ideas into Turkey's success stories.

Implemented jointly by T.R. Ministry of Culture, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Anadolu Efes, "Future is in Tourism" has to date supported local development through 16 sustainable tourism projects. Some of those projects made a brand of local products or traditional flavours; some promoted the recognition of the hidden antique settlements of Anatolia; some rejuvenated fading occupations... Turkey's butterfly sites and geographies where hundreds of bird species lived were protected by biodiversity and handed down to future generations; employment opportunities increased for women through protected local values; lavender gardens were visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists.

Many sustainable tourism projects across Turkey were implemented; local people cast light onto the future, changing both their fate and that of their region. "Future is in Tourism" has for 12 years unearthed and protected the local values what makes us and introduced them to the Turkish tourism.

"Future is in Tourism" has to date won many awards including the Gold Medal in The Stevie International Business Awards Europe's Best Social Responsibility Project, Turkish Public Relations Society (TUHID) Golden Compass Turkish Public Relations Prizes Best Social Responsibility Project, and Refik Baydur Special Prize for Sustainability by the Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations (TISK).

Those who have innovative ideas to introduce, protect and hand down to the future the nature, culture, historical sites and product diversity of their locality may file their applications for the new period by following the detailed steps at www.gelecekturizmde.com. Those interested need to fill in the application forms in the website and file at bilgi@gelecekturizmde.com by 14 June 2019.



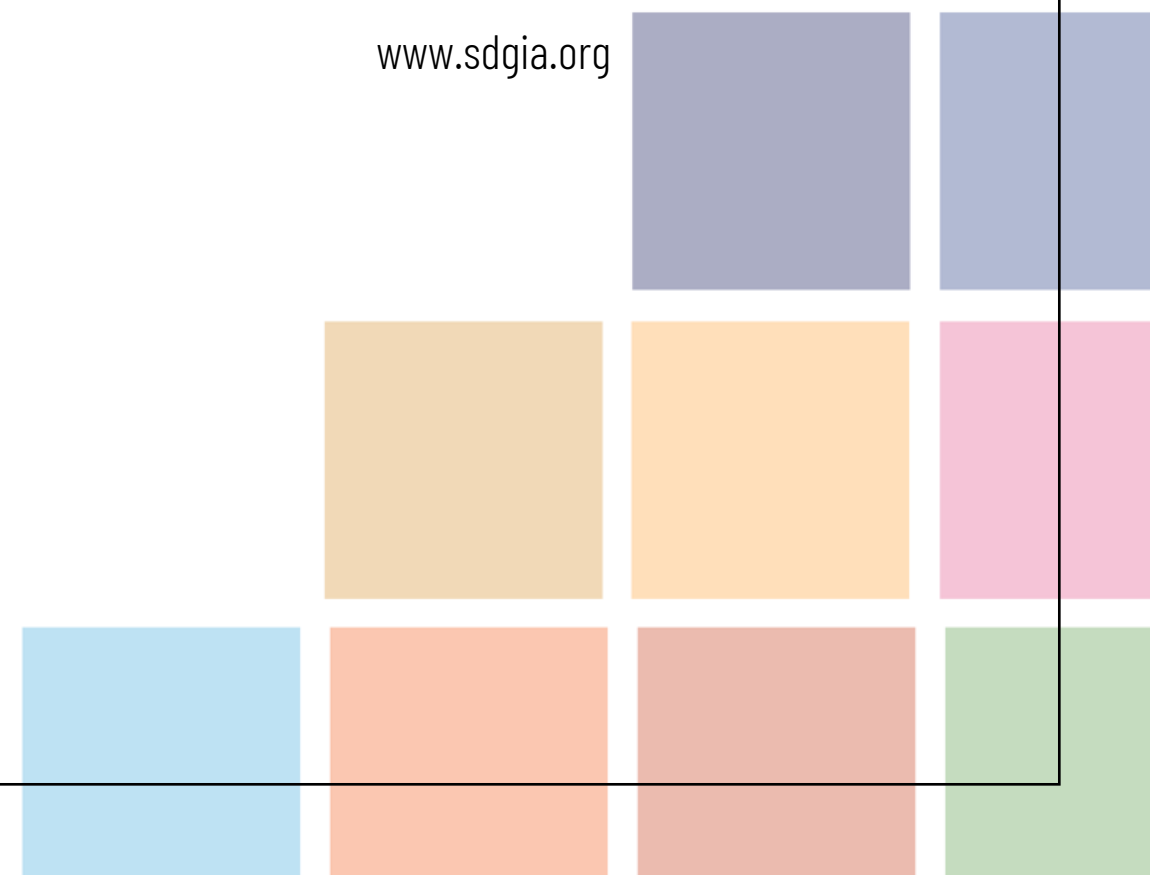
SOLVING BIG CHALLENGES: SDG IMPACT ACCELERATOR KICKS OFF

The SDG Impact Accelerator (SDG IA) has been initiated by the Government of Turkey together with the funding of UNDP, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Eczacıbaşı Group and Limak Foundation for the feasibility study and the pilot phase. The central function and aim of the SDG IA is to accelerate the impact of Sustainable Development Goals through the acceleration of “systems entrepreneurs” for market-creating innovations offering solutions that strengthen the resilience of refugees and of its communities and relevant institutions.

SDG Impact Accelerator will be looking for passionate and productive teams from all around the world with a focus on commercializing their inventions and building sustainable business models to solve big challenges of Livelihood Opportunities and Access to Basic Services, Clean Water and Sanitation. The Call also specified Innovation challenges around “Digital ID” and “Portable Non-sewage Toilet” to be implemented by applicants under the initiative. The pilot stage will have the objective to simultaneously enhance the livelihood conditions of refugees and host communities.

Teams or individuals working on new technologies or products offering a solution to a big problem or wanting to propose an innovative solution to the innovation challenge topics of the pilot projects, will be able to apply.

www.sdgia.org



WHAT DOES MARATHON TO DO WITH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

This year, as contribution from us at the UNDP to the main theme of TED X Reset event of becoming "+1", I had the opportunity to speak, with excitement, at Maslak TIM Show Center on 27 April 2019. With the inspiration I got from the radiant audience sitting in their chairs to acquire new knowledge and perspective and to almost get a "reset", I told them, by referring to my own personal story, what we must do for development in spite of the refugee situation in our hands...



TEDxReset

+1

As ultra-marathon runners, we challenge ourselves and life by running, we push the limits. While doing so, we move on two main philosophies: “finishing” and “racing ourselves”. That is why, it is very important to know yourself and accept.

Marathon requires long-term preparation and strategic planning when the race day comes. At the end of the run the effort that was put in and the distances covered grow and enrich the runner. This great feeling almost creates an addiction, we want to sustain it and we keep putting in our effort.

Long term running creates a resilient soul and body. In a way, it develops the person.

So, really, what does marathon do with sustainable development?

Because, development also requires long-range goals just like the marathon. Because, development and even the sustainability of development requires resilience.

Being resilient means being

enduring, almost like a bobo doll. Those who get shaken but do not fall after being hit are called resilient. Resilience requires mechanisms that ensure the restoration of strength under stress. Being strong is not enough; those who also have flexibility are the resilient ones. Adapting to changing conditions and changing and shaping the strategy when necessary requires flexibility. Resilience requires effort, smart planning and patience. Just like us marathon runners.

Turkey shelters the highest number of refugees in the world. Over 4 million refugees, 3,6 million are the ones arriving from Syria... The world has never faced a humanitarian crisis of this size and duration, that involves millions of displaced persons. Turkey is almost a migration laboratory that the practices are tested, developed and lessons learned for the future.

Turkey, during the early years of the crisis, pursued an open-door policy towards Syrians and masses were accepted to the country without seeking any visa. In 2014, Turkey has granted under a legislation, a “temporary protection” status to the Syrians, providing access to basic humanitarian services and guaranteed non-refoulement as long as the risk of persecution and violation of fundamental human rights persists. All Syrians under temporary protection that are registered have access to basic services. Syrians are granted access to free of charge emergency and basic health services with the help of an interpreter as well as right to education, employment and access to social aids.

We can foresee that most of the Syrians will continue to stay in Turkey. This underlines the necessity of intensifying the development focused interventions in order to support the inclusion of Syrians to economic and social life by having access to decent work opportunities and hence becoming self-reliant individuals that are not anymore dependent on humanitarian aids. Right now, we are

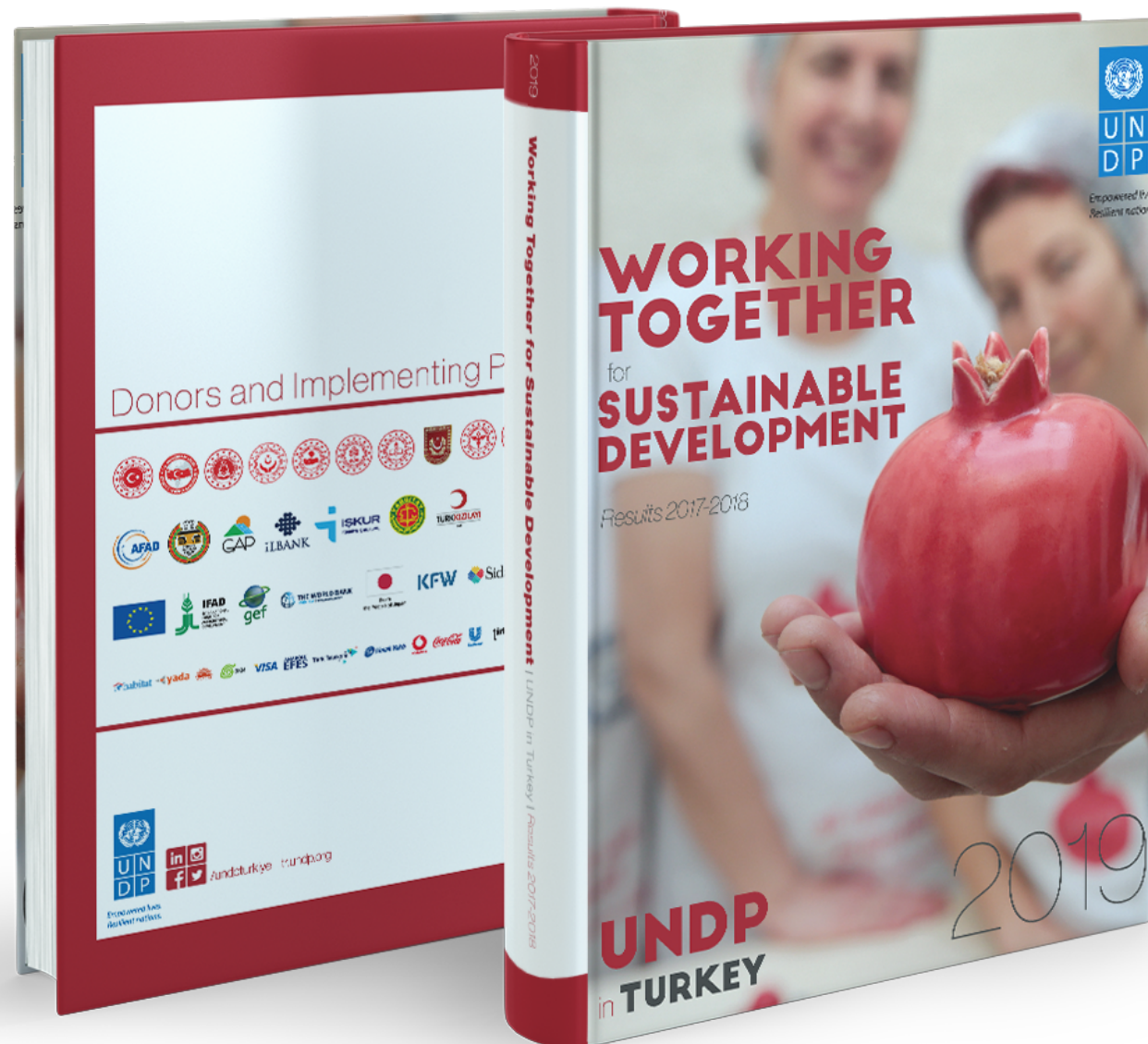
at a check point in the ultra-marathon. At this point, we need to work more for economic and social integration. At crisis times, development-based approach requires managing the available resources wisely and using them as opportunity for development. In this connection, in Turkey, solutions should strive for enlarging the cake, rather than pushing to share the already small sized cake. Resilience building is possible in Turkey by way of expanding efficient production in areas where needs are identified. However, the pre-condition for that is to develop inclusive policies and advocacy. We need to show examples of solidarity in which we will patiently plant the seeds and have results in time.

The journey of development does not end, but it is up to us to cross the “finish line” in this marathon as strengthened rather than depleted.

[Click here to listen to Burçe DüNDAR's complete speech.](#)

Reset

WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN TURKEY



2017 and 2018 were hectic years both globally and in Turkey. Many changes have taken place. Turkey, for instance, changed its governance structure, many ministries and government agencies have been completely renewed.

UNDP Turkey Country Office published its 2019 report that features the results of the initiatives that were supported in these two years.

The report also features transformational human stories from the last two years.

UNDP supported hundreds of development projects in Turkey since 1957. UNDP also is the only international organization of uninterrupted presence in the Southeast Anatolia Region, working in collaboration with local authorities.

To download the report, you can follow this link:
bit.ly/undpturkey2019

JUNE NE 2019 CAL- END AR-

3 June

World Bicycle Day

4 June

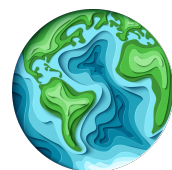
International Day of Innocent
Children Victims of Aggression

4 June

Election for President of 74th UN
General Assembly

5 June

World Environment Day



8 June

World Oceans Day

12 June

World Day Against Child Labour

17 June

World Day to Combat
Desertification and Drought

17-19 June

International Soil Congress 2019 Ankara, Turkey

17-21 June

EU Sustainable Energy Week 2019 Brussels, Belgium

17-27 June

Bonn Climate Change Conference Bonn, Germany

18-19 June

European Development Days 2019 Brussels, Belgium

20 June

World Refugee Day

26-28 June

Resilient Cities 2019 Bonn, Germany

28-29 June

G20 Summit Meeting Osaka, Japan



VACANCIES FROM UNDP IN TURKEY

Research Intern

Research and Communication Intern - Private Sector in Development

Programme Support Intern

Project Associate

Knowledge Management and Communication Intern

Driver to the Head of Office

Project Officer

Data Science Research Intern

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