

# **IZMIR METROPOLIAN MUNICIPALITY**

## **The Report of “2022 Youth Strategies Action Plan” Meeting With Shareholders Interested In Youth Studies**

**2022**

**İzmir**

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**Employees:**

<b>Name &amp; Surname</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Department</b>
Anıl Kaçar	Field/Organisation	Social Projects Branch Office
Arda Acar	Reporter	Social Projects Branch Office
Barış Gökçe	Technical Support	Social Projects Branch Office
Behram Sağ	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Berfin Egeli	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Burcu Önenç	Field/Organisation	Social Projects Branch Office
Burcu Gülat Günaydın	Facilitator	Occupation Factory Branch Office
Can Bingöl	Reporter	Social Projects Branch Office
Çiğdem Kumova	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Çisem Ilgar	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Dila Boztepe	Facilitator	Occupation Factory Branch Office
Dilan Demir	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Eray Alagozoğlu	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office

Erdal Şimşek	Facilitator	City Council Branch Office
Fahri Öztürk	Reception	Volunteer
Feridun Kılıç	Technical Support	Social Projects Branch Office
Görkem Başaran	Planning	Social Projects Branch Office
Gülnur Dinçer	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Helin Melek Demir	Reception	Volunteer
İçten Aşıklar	Design	Social Projects Branch Office
İlker Gülçiçek	Reporter	Social Projects Branch Office
Nilay Özkasap	Reception, Registration	Social Projects Branch Office
Osman Tanrıverdi	Reporter	Social Projects Branch Office
Ozan Albaga	Facilitator	Disabilities Services Branch Office
Pelin Akbaş	Field/Organisation	Social Projects Branch Office
Samet Yıldız	Reporter	Social Projects Branch Office
Selda Taçmahal	Facilitator	Social Projects Branch Office
Serdar Çimen	Technical Support	Social Projects Branch Office
Sergenç İneler	Host	TARKEM

Sevinç Ustabaş Kara	Facilitator	Occupation Factory Branch Office
Yasin Özal	Technical Support	Social Projects Branch Office
Yaşar Kalkan	Reporter	Social Projects Branch Office

## **The Aim of the Meeting**

The main aim of this meeting organized by İzmir Metropolitan Municipality shaping its way of governance with the idea of participation is to constitute the “2022 Youth Strategy Action Plan” under the light of institutions running youth studies and youths.

Shaping the meeting with the participations of youths and the institutions running youth studies has a role to decrease the gap between government and public will. In addition, it contributes sustainability and functionality of the decisions as outcomes. Therefore, the necessity of listening to and considering youth’s ideas and shaping the actions through these ideas is important for İzmir Metropolitan Municipality that has a vision of “Youth City”.

In short, the actual goal of this meeting is to explore what the real problems what youths face with are and discussing on solutions of explained problems with criteria of participation. In addition, creating “2022 Youth Strategy Action Plan” with considering of the outcomes derived from the discussions on the last chapter of the meeting.

## **The Target of the Meeting**

The target of the meeting is to turn the data derived from youth participation, as the aim of the event indicates, into outcomes that contributes social benefits. The reason of this participation based pragmatic attitude indicates a social production process that subjects are affected by it. Aimed long-term consequences of this meeting is the actual subjects, which are youths, and related institutions, are located on the orbit of this production process. This is the actual reason this meeting is mostly built on the idea of participation.

Discussing the topics with youths and related institutions, which experience the related problems directly, have a great role to constitute an ultimate paper that guides İzmir Metropolitan Municipality's youth studies and exercises. This role has an influence on creating action strategy plan, which is proper for the aim and target of this meeting.

**Program:**

<b>İzmir Metropolitan Municipality</b>	
<b>2022 Youth Strategy Action Plan Meeting</b>	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Content</b>
09:30-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:15	Opening
10:15-10:40	President Tunç Soyer's Speech
10:40-11:20	Team Work-1
11:20-11:30	Break
11:30-12:15	Team Work-2
12:15-13:00	Team Work-3
13:00-14:00	Lunch

14:00-14:45	Team Work-4
14:45-15:30	Team Work-5
15:30-15:40	Break
15:40-16:20	Team Work-6
16:20-17:00	Evaluation & Closing

### **Methodology**

While done this meeting, a methodology called “Station” was used. This methodology consists of different tables matched with different topics and the discussion field is built on change and motion.

The reasons of using this methodology;

- To make participants take part in every discussions actively.
- To serve the opportunity of expressing ideas about every topic what participants interested in.
- To expand the spaces for small group discussions, and make discussions of topics deeply possible
- To give participants a space to move freely during the all-day meeting.
- To empower the communication and cooperation between participants.

Participants showed their presence up on all the tables and topics. The host and organisation of the meeting were careful about combining individuals from different working areas and interests. The aim was creating discussion process with heterogeneous groups. The time entitled for team works was determined in terms of the content and the program. Responsibilities and duties were shared between facilitators, which are officials from İzmir Metropolitan Municipality depended on their departments’ duties.

Participants moved around the stations named with letters “A-B-C-D-E-F” in terms of their own choices. During the movements, collecting different participants in tables was considered.

**Station Titles:**

- The Studies On Youngers’ Physical And Psychological Health
- The Studies On Employment Of Youngers
- The Mechanisms On Participation Processes Of Youngers
- Support Mechanisms for Youngers
- Capacity Building Programs for Young People
- Culture And Art Programs Aimed Youngers

**Determined Problems and Suggested Solutions**

**1. The Studies On Youngers’ Physical And Psychological Health**

Purpose: Supporting Youngers’ goodness of Physical and Psychological Health

- a) Works About Psycho-Social Support Aimed Youngers

Goal: Supporting youngers’ goodness of social and emotional situations

- b) Supporting works directed positive youth development

Goal: Supporting youngers’ self-improvement and expand sport culture among youngers

The main themes shaped by participants around title of the station are working on psychosocial support, disadvantaged groups, and spaces for sport activities, education and accessibility.

To increase participation among ongoing psychosocial exercises, participants suggested that volunteering activities and fieldworks should plan with students or school leavers from

department of sociology, psychology, psychological counselling and guidance, and social services from universities.

Another suggestion is that psychosocial guidance services should expand in manner of time and space. For example; expanding the time out of shifts and working hours determined by the municipality, or support these services online. The number of officers interested in this service should increase as well. In addition, psychodrama educations should be involved.

The İzmir Metropolitan Municipality should work with related civil society associations to create safe and unprejudiced zone for LGBTİ+ individuals, which want to attend all of these classes or activities. Additionally, focus group studies should involve disadvantageous groups and young refugees; subjects of the works aimed mentioned disadvantageous groups and subcultures should be exact target/focus group.

Suggestions to increase participation and comprehensiveness are to organize tournaments that consider gender equality. In addition to planning sport activities, extensification of thematic camps, creating sport teams consisted of university students within the municipality, diversifying and extending sea sports, starting activities on e-sports were the topics that participants talked.

Suggestions for educations, especially about sexual educations, included cooperation between the municipality and civil society associations and organizing common educations. Transfer of knowledge among same aged people should be considered as a method, this method should be expanded, and it is used with young refugees. On the other hand, organizing educations about dating abuse, sexual health and planning ongoing educations with using the workshop methods were suggestions.

Participants mentioned that the municipality has a great accessibility problem and they tendered certain suggestions. To reach university students, the institution should be in communication with student clubs or presidents of student councils. About social media, only an account should share youth events or activities of the municipality. In addition, the institution should collect the all departments about youth studies into a department and spreading the attitude of young friendly city is very important.

On the other hand, participants requested an early marriage research, increasing popularisation of HIV testing centres and working together with civil society associations from the municipality.

## **2) The Studies On Employment Of Youngers**

Purpose: Decreasing unemployment of young people, contributing city economy while exposing qualified labour power and expanding the capacity of employment of young people.

In this title, participants produced main themes derived from certain ideas about educations about working areas and sector, developments on rural areas and ruralisation, and improving and spreading cooperatives.

Participants remarked that the municipality should add extended education programs to its schedule in order to increase awareness about internship and working life. In addition, the municipality should provide additional placement for interns. On the other hand, about digitalisation, participants mentioned that it would be better to create a digital pool for younger people that they can apply for internship and this pool should be available for everyone. In addition, this digital platform should include educations about working life, worker rights, interviews and CV. Lastly; Local governments should provide employment based on upcoming projects.

One of roles that the municipality hold is to increase level of awareness about occupations belonging today's world. The institution should create areas to meet students, which are just graduated and business people and work as a bridge between these two sides of sector. Local governments should capitalize young entrepreneurs and this economic support should be long-term and sustainable. Youngers should take education from the municipality about occupations and they should shape their desires on their future profession as outcomes of these educations.

Another suggestion from participants was about climate change and sustainability. According to the meeting, the municipality should run workshops and educations on carbon sequestration and develop interdisciplinary training programs. In addition, workshops and education programs should include, not just occupational trainings, subjects related with sustainable and sustainable support politics as well. During the section, participants emphasized the importance of problems faced as global scope, and they advocated that the awareness about possible food crises in the town and sustainable studies against the climate change should be increased with the politics that will be produced. Lastly, they request to design programs in order to educate public about seasonal agricultural worker and agriculture.

Another topic was about ‘Occupation Factory’<sup>1</sup> and lack of information and accessibility of it among public.

To improve ruralisation and rural life, the awareness about these subjects, supporting employment in villages via cooperatives and guide young people to agricultural food production should be popularized. In addition, some participants mentioned agricultural modals from abroad and they indicate the importance of international presence of shareholders about this kind of activities. Localisation of workshops or education programs about agriculture and prioritization of activities happening in rural areas were outcomes of the arguments.

Another subject was about cooperatives and importance of cooperatives. They requested that the municipality should increase roles and supports to cooperatives. Also, helping cooperatives to increase and popularize employment space among villages and increasing the role of women cooperatives were subjects that derived from what participants argued.

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<sup>1</sup> Occupation Factory is a department of the Municipality which works on increasing of employment for youngsters.

To run inclusive projects, disadvantages people should be considered more, creating safe working zone for LGBTI+ individuals and popularize alternative ways of feed for vegans or vegetarians among the city was some of suggestions. In addition, for disadvantages individuals, training programs about healthy socialisation in working areas should be planned.

Another issue was accessibility. Rising communication with students clubs up and introducing youth works that run by the municipality via students clubs was considered as some solutions of this problem. Participants demanded that the municipality should work together with students clubs more and it should create a mechanism to inform youngers about activities and supports.

Participants suggested that making short films and sharing these to public is important to make what is run or done by municipality, especially about youth studies, visible.

### **3) The Mechanisms On Participation Processes Of Youngers**

Purpose: Increasing awareness of “active citizenship”, “public will”, “common mind”, participation to democracy, ability to use current technology, participation to media tools and volunteering activities.

The main themes of this section are problems that university students face with, agricultural production, digitalisation, visibility, accessibility and comprehensiveness.

Student clubs, non-governmental organizations and local governments should plan activities together. If the municipality faces bureaucratic problems to plan activities with universities, student clubs said that they could meet with responsible officials out of the university. Another problem was decreasing number of participations to activities because of student’s economic conditions, they said. For young people who cannot attend education

process because of certain reasons, educations based on right (such as discrimination, racism etc.) should be planned and their awareness about those should be increased. To inform and guide young people who just graduate from universities, a common academy should be built up and different educations and workshop should be planned in this academy with the cooperation of the municipality and student representative.

On the other hand, participants requested that volunteering activities should adopt agricultural production process and it should be popularized among rural areas. In addition, about digitalisation, all the activities' adaptation of digitalisation was one of suggestion.

According to outcomes of the meetings, the municipality has a great lack about presenting their works and visibility. To handle this lack, participants indicated the importance of social media accounts, and their passiveness. In terms of them, the municipality should be more active to use e-mail addresses, social media accounts and websites.

About raising accessibility of events, participants wished to be accomplished different kind of requests. One of them was a free zone from political pressures and bureaucracy for youngers and activities. For them it is very important to express youngers' opinions comfortably.

Besides these subjects, participants lastly support the idea of planning workshops and educations about peer victimisation and awareness of disable people.

#### **4) Support Mechanisms For Young People**

Purpose: Implementation of support mechanisms for the social and vital needs of young people

a) Financial Support Studies for Young People

Goal: Providing support for young people who need urgent and vital needs

#### b) Social Support Studies for Young People

Goal: Implementation of support mechanisms for young people's different needs

Participants who attend the main topic of this situation focused main subjects that communication problems, in kind and cash supports, visibility, comprehensiveness, accessibility, education and increasing sustainability.

Increasing cooperation with university students who have communication problems, establish of detection commissions that represent local administration and student societies, and working together on plans offers developed. Working together on services, which created for young people, is emphasized through communicating student clubs and relevant non-governmental organizations.

Planning and implementing a project similar meal plan of İstanbul Beşiktaş Municipality, including the weekend days to ongoing meal distribution days, increasing the visibility of supports, increasing multi-purpose spaces where young people can benefit, opening dormitories and expanding their capacities for housing problems topics are emphasized within the scope of support to young people. Also talked that distribution of sanitary napkins at universities and close environments and placing sanitary napkin machines.

Importance of digitalization emphasized to increase visibility and activities should be moved to digital media emphasized that with in the scope of "Genc İzmir". Establishment of joint networks with non-governmental organizations for increase the visibility of services by this means proposal for dissemination of announcements developed.

Inclusiveness, quality and quantity of all the activities that have been done and planned to be done must increase emphasized. Increasing food and milk aid for asylum seekers and refugees ,expanding sign language education in all districts for families with hearing-impaired individuals and young people who do not have access to education and who cannot be employed include more in youth work claimed in addition to the issue of inclusivity.

Suggestions such as planning awareness activities on different themes, carrying out protective studies on substance abuse for young people, planning trainings and seminars on early and forced marriages for refugee and asylum-seeking youth, organizing trainings and seminars on gender equality have been developed.

## **5. Capacity Building Programs for Young People**

Goal: Services, which have increasing the knowledge and skills of young people, affecting their attitudes and improving working practices in a positive way presentation in cooperation with relevant non-governmental organizations

Participants who attended the main topic of this situation focused main subjects that visibility, participation, comprehensiveness, accessibility, communication problem between local governments and other institutions and employment.

Inadequate announcements about the activities of local governments emphasized for visibility of work carried out also talked that the units of the municipality use of social media is insufficient.

There are too many young people can join to national and international programs for capacity building but there is a lack of information and communication about the subject, emphasized.

The participants who talked about the diversity and abundance of the programs and activities created talked over subject that was “Are the activities shaped according to the needs analysis of the subjects?”

There are different views about inclusiveness. For example, activities, which carry out at the centre, must progress towards the periphery, emphasized. Organizing events to include young people who studying in universities outside the city centre like İzmir Institute of Technology, necessity emphasized. Increasing sports activities for young people, the importance of comprehensive sexuality education and carrying out studies discrimination against LGBTI+, roman individuals and refugees and talked about promoting inclusiveness. Generally, activities for university students should revising and expanding for high school students.

Increase university representatives, student societies, communications of non-governmental organizations and cooperation for accessibility problems, emphasized. In addition, talked structural problems in accessing information and services and it has been pointed out that the local government bureaucracy hinders communication. Young studies should be centralized and gathered single directorate or department.

Rope access, which is new sector, must increase, youth studies must delivery to village and rural, increase and support cooperatives that will work on business lines, start joint youth camp with young people who live in abroad may beneficial and increase of project writing trainings suggestions, offered for increasing capacity of employment. Especially subject that young entrepreneurs and angel investors must meet, talked in the field of employment.

Expansion of events time and places and planning by collaborating with more stakeholders, suggestions offered within the scope of this main subject.

## **6. Cultural and Artistic Activity Programs for Young People**

Goal: Carrying out studies which are cultural and artistic for young people

Participants who attend the main topic of this situation focused be at a disadvantage, discrimination, education, visibility, participation, comprehensiveness and accessibility.

Creation of alternative programs that prioritizing cultural and artistic activities for disadvantaged groups, for neighbourhoods around the city have been suggested. In studies conducted on discriminated groups, attaching importance to the participation of subject, co-creation of events and programs and for co-implementation, suggestions have been developed. Contacting families to increase theatrical activities in the local area, carrying out more social and cultural activities in the villages have been suggested.

Establish of libraries for children and young people, creation of educational villages like Aziz Nesin Math Village, implementation of training programs with different contents (graffiti, theatre, traditional arts and digital arts)

The importance of active social media use was emphasized in terms of visibility and accessibility. Accessibility to relevant units of local governments was discussed. Conducting surveys in order to get the opinion of the society in the planning process in order to increase the quality of the activities to be carried out suggested for events to be held throughout the year. Support and participation of local governments that is important for events organized by non-governmental organizations, emphasized. Other suggestions are, creating joint working areas with non-governmental organizations, establishing a subject-based decision mechanism.

Inclusion of films with the theme of LGBTI+ Pride Month<sup>4</sup> in the contents created within the Cinematheque suggested for creation of inclusive programs. Digital resources and resources related to LGBTI+ are limited therefore it is necessary to studies about this in libraries. At the point of examining the relationship between inclusiveness and culture, refugees should be invited to cultural activities with cultural products that reflect their language and culture.

Another suggestion, which is making a suspended ticket campaign for theatres for cultural and artistic activities. Free participation of students in cultural events with their identity card that is among the recommendations. The municipality should act as a bridge for young artists and experienced artists to meet for support of culture and art. Establish of art cooperatives, opening

a digital studio for the development and production of digital arts, these are among the requests. Other suggest is making projects with abroad within the scope of European youth projects. Students who come with Erasmus European Union Program should be increased their participation in youth activities.

## **Discussion and Conclusion**

Non-governmental organizations who work in the field of young people, student societies, relevant local government representatives and activists who have common sense and considerations gathered and talked about problems which faced by young people, support mechanisms for young people, capacity building programs for young people also suggested different solution proposals.

In this context, in general;

- Increasing the visibility of the activities carried out for young people,
- Ensuring the accessibility of studies carried out for young people,
- Studies for young people to be inclusive
- Observing the principle of participation at studies for young people
- Developing business partnerships in the planning process of studies carried out for young people and establishing a communication network with relevant structures
- Gathering all the planning and executive processes of young people studies under a single unit
- The necessity of integrating the studies carried out for young people into digitalization emphasized.

General outputs of the meeting will contribute building “2022 Izmir Metropolitan Municipality Young People Strategy Action Plan”

<b>Participant List</b>	
<b>1</b>	AIESEC (Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Économiques et Commerciales)
<b>2</b>	Ateş Böceği Association
<b>3</b>	Avrupa Birliği ve Gençlik Çalışmaları Student Club
<b>4</b>	Bakırçay University - Genç Kızılay Bakırçay
<b>5</b>	Buca Kent Konseyi
<b>6</b>	Celal Bayar University - Görev Bende Club
<b>7</b>	Çağdaş Yaşamı Destekleme Association
<b>8</b>	Dokuz Eylül University - IEEE (The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers )
<b>9</b>	Ege Çağdaş Eğitim Foundation
<b>10</b>	Ege Girişimcileri Destekleme Eğitim Proje Association
<b>11</b>	Ege Teknoloji ve Başarı Foundation
<b>12</b>	Ege University The Media Department
<b>13</b>	EGİAD (Ege Genç İş İnsanları Derneği)
<b>14</b>	Geleceği Paylaş Platform
<b>15</b>	Genç Eşitlik Platformm
<b>16</b>	Genç Fikirler Association
<b>17</b>	Genç İşi Cooperative
<b>18</b>	Genç Kızılay
<b>19</b>	Genç LGBTİ+ Association
<b>20</b>	Gençİz Medya Association
<b>21</b>	Havva Kadın Komitesi
<b>22</b>	İstanbul Ekonomi ve Araştırma
<b>23</b>	İVME Hareketi
<b>24</b>	İZİKAD (İzmir İş Kadınları Derneği)
<b>25</b>	İzmir Alaybey Lions Eğitim İhtisas Club
<b>26</b>	İzmir Bulut Öncü Gençlik Centre
<b>27</b>	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality External Relations

28	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Services for Disabled Individuals
29	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Youth and Sports
30	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Urban Justice and Equality
31	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Art and Culture Department
32	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Social Services Department
33	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Social Health Department
34	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Ahmet Adnan Saygun Art Centre
35	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Family and Child Services
36	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Public Relations Department
37	İzmir Büyükşehir Belediyesi Hemşeri İletişim Merkezi
38	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Gender Studies Department
39	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Urban Economy and Innovative Professions Department
40	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Art and Culture Department; Activities and Planning
41	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality 'Occupation Factory' Department
42	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Social Projects and Youth Studies
43	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Agricultural Services Department; Rural Development
44	İzmir Democracy University Delegation of Faculty
45	İzmir Democracy University Entrepreneurship Club
46	İzmir Engelsiz Sanat Association
47	İzmir İnşaat Mühendisleri Odası
48	İzmir Kalkınma Ajansı
49	İzmir Kâtip Çelebi University European union and Youth Studies
50	İzmir Kâtip Çelebi University Music Club
51	İzmir Kâtip Çelebi University Student Representation
52	İzmir Kâtip Çelebi University Social Sensitivity Club
53	İzmir Kavram Meslek Yüksek School
54	İzmir Kent Konseyi Youth Court
55	İzmir Kent Konseyi Sekreteryası
56	İzmir Mağara Araştırma Association
57	İzmir Ticaret Odası

<b>58</b>	İZSİAD (İzmir Sanayici ve İş İnsanları Derneği)
<b>59</b>	Karşıyaka Kolektif Entrepreneurship Centre, Startup Market
<b>60</b>	Makine Medya
<b>61</b>	Momentum
<b>62</b>	Pİ Gençlik Association
<b>63</b>	Roman Toplumunu Gençlik Eğitim ve Kalkınma Association
<b>64</b>	Romanlar Gençlik Eğitim Kültür ve Yardımlaşma Association
<b>65</b>	S.S. BisiKoop Bisikletliler Hizmet ve Dayanışma Cooperative
<b>66</b>	S.S. İzmir Başka Bir Okul Mümkün Eğitim Cooperative
<b>67</b>	S.S. İzmir Eğitim Cooperative
<b>68</b>	S.S. Karşıyaka Kadın Girişimi Üretim ve İşletme Cooperative
<b>69</b>	S.S. Platformizmir Hizmet ve Dayanışma Cooperative
<b>70</b>	Sağlıkta Genç Yaklaşımlar Association
<b>71</b>	Sığınmacılar ve Göçmenlerle Dayanışma Association
<b>72</b>	SODEV Genç
<b>73</b>	Sosyal Sorumlulukta Kalite Association
<b>74</b>	SÜGEP Academy
<b>75</b>	Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma ve Girişimcilik Association
<b>76</b>	TEGEV (Türkiye Eğitim Gönüllüleri Vakfı)
<b>77</b>	Tobb İzmir Girişimcilik Kurulu
<b>78</b>	Turuncu Association
<b>79</b>	Türkiye Raporu

Photos:





