



**PART 1: BASIC DATA**

<b>Title of the experience:</b> Declaration of Urban Ethics of the Sakarya		
<b>Name of the city/region:</b> Sakarya		
<b>Country:</b> Turkey		
<b>Institution presenting the candidacy:</b> Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality		
<b>Start date of the experience :</b> 29.06.2020		
<b>End date of the experience :</b> 18.06. 2021		
<b>Type of candidacy</b>	New experience	<b>X</b>
	Innovation on an existing experience	
<b>Type of experience</b> ( <i>you may choose more than one</i> )	Participatory budgeting	
	Urban planning	
	Council	<b>X</b>
	Workshop/meeting for diagnosis, monitoring, etc.	<b>X</b>
	Audience/forum	
	Poll/referendum	
	Citizen jury	
	E-government/open government	
	Citizen initiative	<b>X</b>
	Other (specify):	<b>X</b>
<b>Objective of the experience</b> ( <i>you may choose more than one</i> )	To achieve higher levels of equality in terms of participation and to incorporate diversity as a criterion for inclusion	<b>X</b>
	Community empowerment	
	To empower non-organised citizens	
	To increase citizen’s rights in terms of political participation	
	To connect different tools of participation within a participatory democracy “ecosystem”	<b>X</b>
	To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the mechanisms of participatory democracy	<b>X</b>
	To improve the quality of public decision-making through the mechanisms of participatory democracy	<b>X</b>
	To improve the evaluation and accountability of the mechanisms of participatory democracy	<b>X</b>
<b>Territorial area</b>	All the territory	<b>X</b>



	District	
	Neighbourhood	
<b>Thematic area</b>	Governance	<b>X</b>
	Education	
	Transport	
	Urban management	<b>X</b>
	Health	
	Security	
	Environment and/or urban agriculture	<b>X</b>
	New social movements and associationism	
	Culture	<b>X</b>
	Housing	
	Job creation	
	Decentralization	
	Local development	
	Training/learning	
	Economy and/or finances	
	Legal regulations	
	Social inclusion	<b>X</b>
	All	
Other	<b>X</b>	

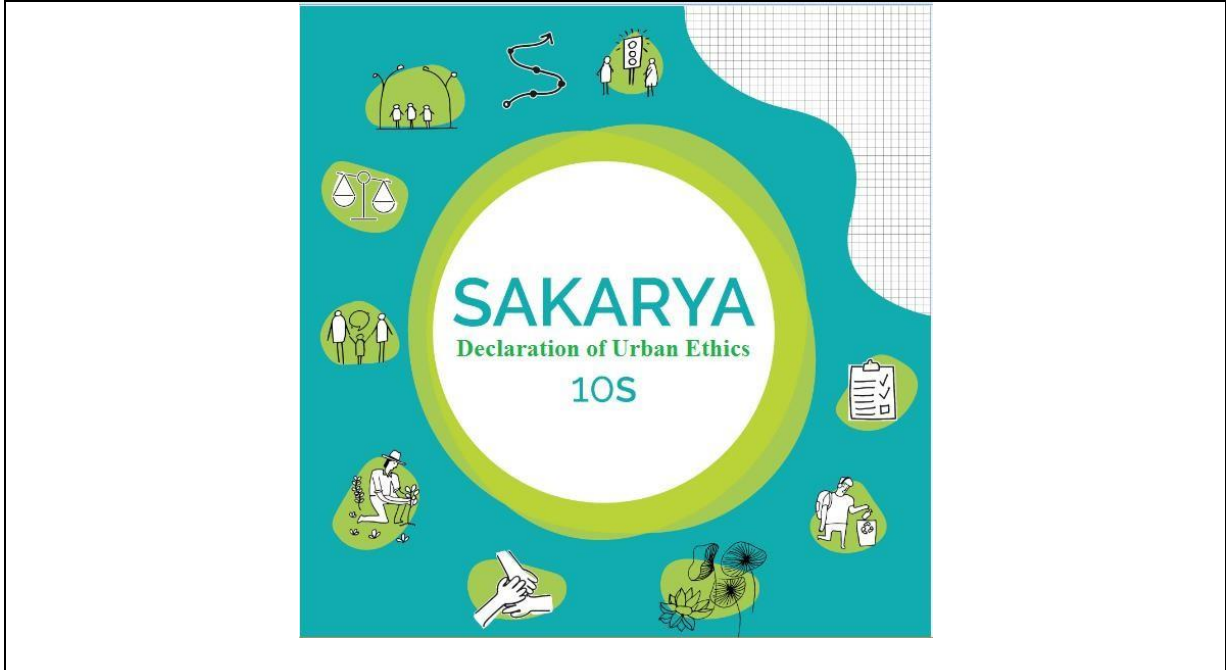
## PART 2: DESCRIPTION OF THE EXPERIENCE

### Objectives

**Main objective of the innovative experience:**

**To improve the quality of public decision-making through the mechanisms of participatory democracy.**

Urban awareness and common life principles were determined with the participation of city residents. The ethical declaration of the city was prepared by revealing the accountability of the city administrators to the public and deciding what the upper ethical values for common life in the city together with the citizens. It is also necessary to fulfill its obligations for the protection of the rights of the city and its citizens, sustainable development and sensitivity to the environment and climate. Sakarya Urban Ethics Declaration was prepared through focus meetings held with NGOs, private sector representatives and public institutions in Sakarya.



**How have you achieved this objective?**

In order to prepare the Sakarya Declaration of Urban Ethics, first planning was made and the process design was prepared. Common governance principles were determined in a participatory manner with all the actors in the city, by obtaining opinions from all segments of the society. A roadmap has been created for the sustainability of the higher norms to be included in the declaration of urban ethics and the sustainability of the studies on the subject and the necessary organizational structure. Within the scope of the project, five “Focused Meetings” were held with stakeholders in Sakarya. The meetings were held on digital platforms due to the Covid -19 outbreak.

1st Meeting: Academicians and NGOs

2nd Meeting: Private Sector Representatives

3rd Meeting: Local Authorities’ Representatives (Mayors and Council Members)

4th Meeting: Public Institutions (Provincial Managers)

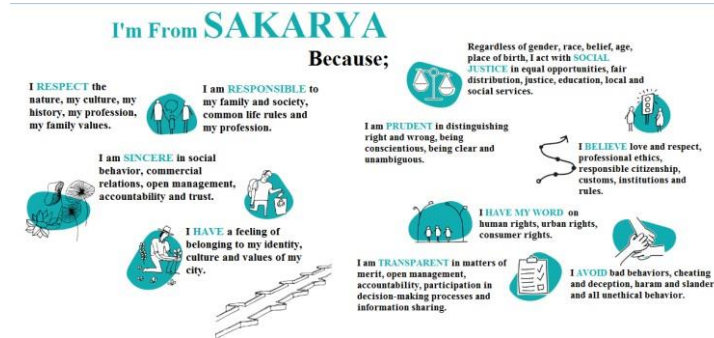
5th Meeting: Tradesmen and Craftsmen Representatives

The Declaration of Urban Ethics consists of five sections: Conceptual Framework, Participatory Framework, Process Design, Preparation of the Declaration and Creating a Road Map.



**To what extent has this objective been achieved?**

In order to achieve the goals, workshops were held with academicians, NGOs, private sector representatives, council members and district mayors in the city. In the workshops, the upper norms to be included in the declaration of urban ethics were determined. In line with the opinions of the participants, it was decided what an organizational structure should be established in order to ensure sustainability in the project. In order to inform the citizens within the scope of visibility and dissemination, the basic principles were explained with the words of the people who direct the world with their schools. 10S (In Turkish) cards were prepared. An “Ethics Committee” was established within the Sakarya City Council. Within the framework of the determined directive, the training program that complies with the 10 Basic Principles at a reasonable level was designed. A cooperation call was made through billboards and social media to act jointly. With the decision of Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality Council, it was decided to give a “City Appreciation Plaque” to the person and group representatives who abided by the ethical rules and were nominated by the Ethics Committee. Our process continues dynamically.



Dimensions of the experience

**Which is the most innovative aspect of the experience?**

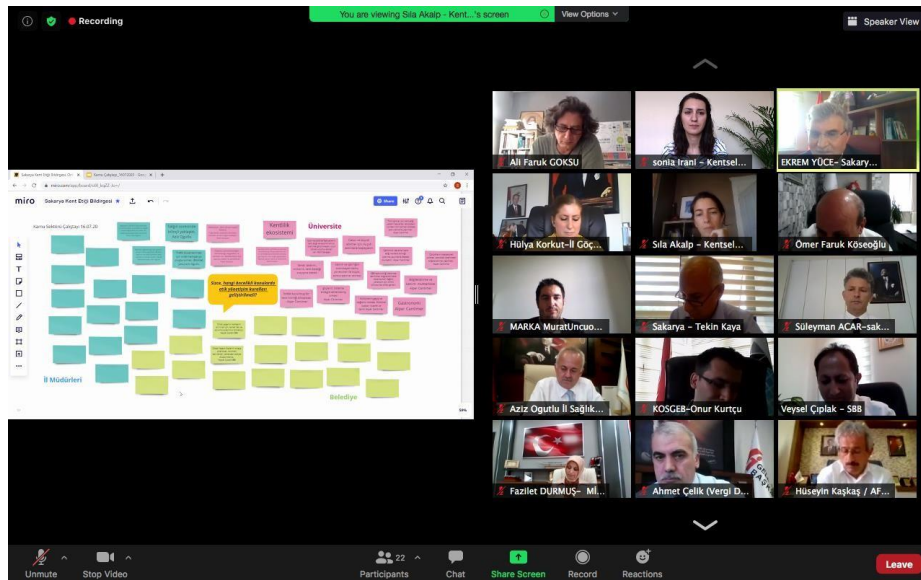
Laws are required to run the city. However, it is not enough. Humans have obligations to other creatures, the environment, water, nature, the city and all components of our planet. At this point, ethical rules come into play. Together with the citizens, the upper norms of common life have been determined. Although "Declaration of Urban Ethics of Sakarya" is the first study conducted for Sakarya, no examples were found in the world in the literature review. Our application is an innovative project that supports governance. The innovative aspects of the project include determining the city's common governance principles, determining the common governance principles by all actors in the city in a participatory manner, determining the rights of the city dwellers as well as the environmental and nature responsibilities, emphasizing the accountability of the city administrators to the public, and determining the common life principles. The fact that municipal services in the conventional sense are no longer considered sufficient by the citizens have led our municipality and local administrators to alternative ways in which the public can actively participate in the administration of the city. One of these ways have been encourage more active participation. The project named Sakarya Declaration of Urban Ethics, which we define as the right of the city over people and the key to common life, is also the first project in the name of participation and governance among local governments.

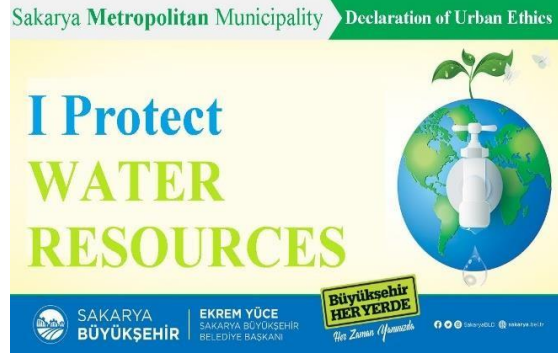
**To what extent is the procedure transferable?**

As cities have grown, it has become difficult to manage them. It was necessary to produce and implement new governance approaches in addition to infrastructure and superstructure. This model is an example that can be adopted by other local governments in our country as a new social participation strategic model. This is a social consensus. Although ethical values are universal, each society has its own culture, customs, and local values. The actors of each society can come together and determine their symbiosis culture through social consensus. The road map determined in the project has been an important key point here.

**Why do you consider that the experience is feasible?**

The main purpose of urban rights is to provide a life worthy of human dignity. The characteristic of urban rights is that these rights are included within the scope of the rights within the rights of solidarity with first and second generation rights like other human rights; For its applicability, it requires cooperation and solidarity. The existence, recognition, protection and development of rights, the environment in which democratic values exist and the existence of sensitive and conscious urban dwellers who are capable of using them and their assurance are the existence of a whole of norms that are valid for all human rights. In societies where these are not recognized or realized, human rights. In particular, urban rights will remain largely in the form of abstract principles and regulations. Urban rights are very important in increasing the efficiency of local services, creating economic, social and cultural opportunities, developing a sense of solidarity among citizens and promoting effective citizen participation in local governments. Realization of urban rights; It is essential for democracy to operate locally, to spread human rights and to make urban administrations efficient.





**How has the experience been coordinated with other actors and processes?**

While preparing the Sakarya Declaration of Urban Ethics, the processes were determined, and a road map was created to determine the upper norms to be included in the declaration of urban ethics and the organizational structure required for the sustainability of the studies on the subject. Within the scope of the project, five focus meetings were held with stakeholders operating in Sakarya. The meetings were held on digital platforms due to the Covid 19 outbreak.

1st Meeting: Academy and NGOs

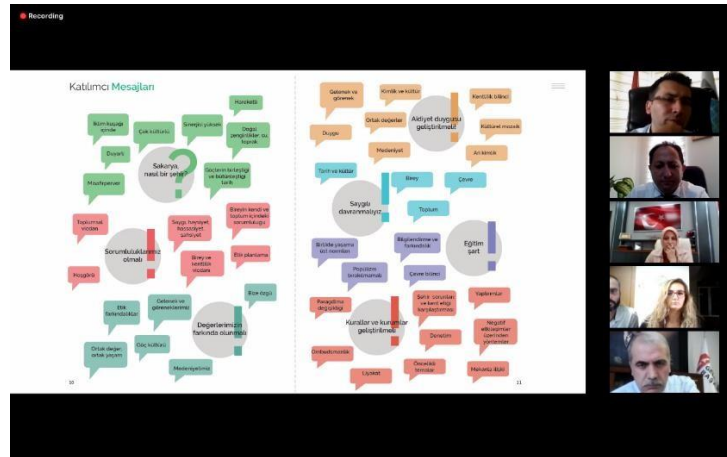
2nd Meeting: Private Sector

3rd Meeting: Local Governments

4th Meeting: Public Institutions

5th Meeting: Tradesmen and Craftsmen Representatives

The presentation and management of the meeting content was implemented in the five meetings held by the Strategy Development Department, by writing the participants 'basic questions of' what should be done and how should it be done? has been made. Reporting was made after each focus meeting. Representatives of our partners will take part in the "Ethics Commission". In addition, our partners will contribute to raising awareness on our citizens by sharing on their web pages and social media accounts for the visibility and dissemination of all activities.



**What has been the level of co-responsibility?**

During the preparation phase of the project, as a result of the meetings with the institution managers and academicians, it was determined that there was a problem of belonging in the city. While designing the project, both academic studies and experiences were taken into consideration. In the implementation phase of the project, studies were carried out with all local partners in Sakarya. The declaration was drawn up after five workshops based on social participation. The first workshop was held with academicians and representatives of non-governmental organizations and the conceptual framework was determined. The second workshop was held with private sector representatives. The third workshop was held with provincial directors serving the city. The fourth workshop was held with local administrators who serve in every field towards the city and have higher accountability because they come by election. The fifth workshop was held with tradesmen and craftsmen. The Mayor of Metropolitan Municipality participated in all five workshops that had to be held by teleconference method due to the pandemic. Participants have also made the dissemination of the project from their own social media accounts.

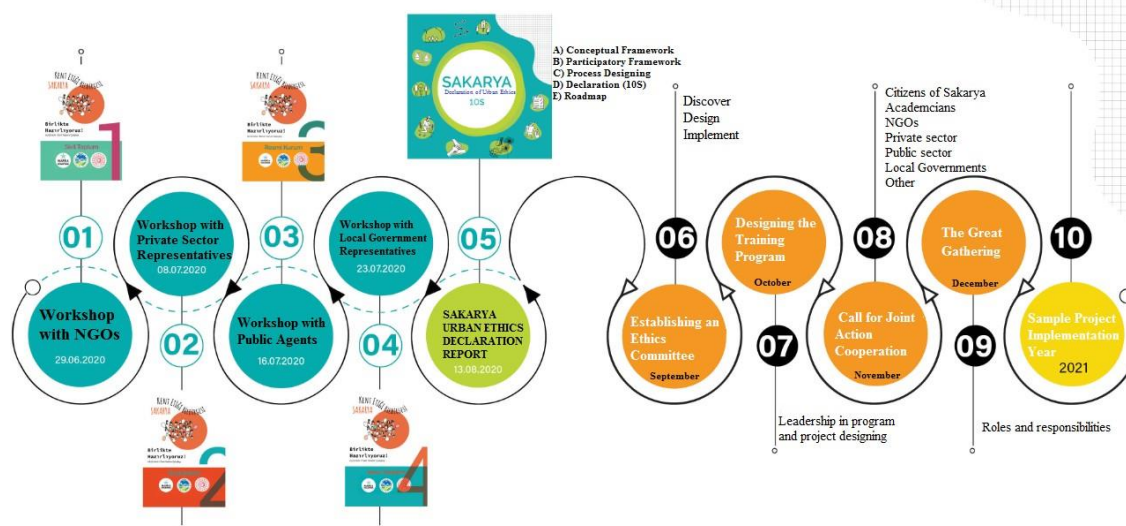


**Which evaluation and accountability mechanisms were used?**

While the project was being carried out, common life principles were determined by taking into account the city's multiculturalism, lifestyle, history, culture, education and gender equality. The procedure for reaching the upper norms was determined. It was announced to the public. Scientists discussed the ethical priorities appropriate to the local needs of our city. 4 basic frameworks were determined as Ethical Governance, Ethical City, Ethical Planning, Ethical Business. A set of questions was prepared for these. Workshops were held with groups representing citizens such as NGOs, chambers of commerce and tradesmen, local administrators, taxpayers, political party representatives, city council, and professional sub-chambers to ensure full participation as much as possible. The top names that determine our rights and obligations in the city were discussed openly. 10 basic principles that emerged were determined. These were coded as "10 S of Sakarya". It was declared with full consensus as respect, sincerity, common sense, responsibility, social justice, ownership, loyalty, transparency, keeping promises, avoiding. And this process was carried out transparently and managed in an accountable way. It created awareness in the public opinion by announcing the words of artists, philosophers, scientists, leaders who direct the world through social media and billboards and appreciate the society.

<p><b>RESPECT</b> "Respect is key to order" M.Kemal Atatürk</p>	<p>I'm from Sakarya, I <b>RESPECT</b> the nature, my culture, my history, my profession, my family values.</p>	<p><b>PRUDENCE</b> "Do not be afraid to tell the truth," M. Kemal Atatürk</p>	<p>I'm from Sakarya, I am <b>PRUDENT</b> in distinguishing right and wrong, being conscientious, being clear and unambiguous.</p>
<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b> "Every one is really responsible to all men and for everything." Dostoyevsky</p>	<p>I'm from Sakarya, I am <b>RESPONSIBLE</b> to my family and society, common life rules and my profession</p>	<p><b>TO HAVE MY WORD</b> "The word glorifies or degrades the person," Yunus the Dervish</p>	<p>I'm from Sakarya, <b>I HAVE MY WORD</b> on human rights, urban rights, consumer rights.</p>
<p><b>SINCERITY</b> "Ethics appear as you are or he as you look." M.J. Rumi</p>	<p>I'm from Sakarya, I'm <b>SINCERE</b> in social behaviour, commercial relations, open management, accountability and trust</p>	<p><b>TRANSPARENCY</b> "The person whose essence is right will have the right word." Hz. Ali</p>	<p>I'm from Sakarya, I am <b>TRANSPARENT</b> in matters of merit, open management, accountability, participation in decision-making processes and information sharing.</p>

### Summary of the experience



The ethical declaration of the city was prepared by revealing the accountability of the city administrators to the public and deciding what the upper ethical values for common life in the city together with the citizens. In order to prepare the Sakarya Declaration of Urban Ethics, first planning was made and the process design was prepared. Common governance principles were determined in a participatory manner with all the actors in the city, by obtaining opinions from all segments of the society. A roadmap has been created for the sustainability of the higher norms to be included in the declaration of urban ethics and the sustainability of the studies on the subject and the necessary organizational structure. Within the scope of the project, five “Focused Meetings” were held with stakeholders in Sakarya. The meetings were held on digital platforms due to the Covid -19 outbreak.

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