



**PART 1: BASIC DATA**

<b>Title of the experience:</b> <i>Social, Economic and Physical Structure Analysis, Identification and Prioritization of Spatial Projects in Istanbul Province, Fatih District</i>		
<b>Name of the city/region:</b> Fatih/Istanbul		
<b>Country:</b> Turkey		
<b>Institution presenting the candidacy:</b> Fatih Municipality		
<b>Start date of the experience:</b> December 13, 2019		
<b>End date of the experience:</b> December 13, 2020		
<b>Type of candidacy</b>	New experience	X
	Innovation on an existing experience	X
<b>Type of experience</b>	Participatory budgeting	
	Urban planning	X
	Council	X
	Workshop/meeting for diagnosis, monitoring, etc.	X
<b>Objective of the experience</b>	To connect different tools of participation within a participatory democracy “ecosystem”	X
	To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the mechanisms of participatory democracy	X
	To improve the quality of public decision-making through the mechanisms of participatory democracy	X
	To improve the evaluation and accountability of the mechanisms of participatory democracy	X
<b>Territorial area</b>	District	X
<b>Thematic area</b>	Governance	X
	Education	X
	Urban management	X
	Security	X
	Environment and/or urban agriculture	X
	Culture	X
	Housing	X
	Decentralization	X
	Local development	X
	Training/learning	X
	Other	X



## PART 2: DESCRIPTION OF THE EXPERIENCE

### Objectives

#### **Main objective of the innovative experience:**

The main goal is to increase the quality of public decision-making and ensure participation planning through participatory democracy mechanisms. In other words, it is to give the local people the right to express themselves, to define the problems of the neighbourhoods they live in and to participate actively in the interventions to be made in the city. It is aimed to reveal the socio-demographic, cultural, economic and physical problems determined with the participation of citizens and the factors that cause these problems in a cause-effect relationship, and to adapt the projects to the city by establishing the relationship of the projects with the space for these problems.

#### **How have you achieved this objective?**

In the process of determining the problems that have been designed in a multidimensional and gradual manner, many data sources were used to determine the socio-demographic, cultural, economic and physical problems in Fatih district and the factors that cause these problems.

As the data source with the greatest impact on citizen participation, the results of the household, workplace and visitor surveys conducted within the scope of the project were evaluated, and the perception of different types of users about the district, their level of satisfaction and their view of the city's problems were revealed.

By using face-to-face questionnaires with a total of 1932 households, 379 businesses, 390 local visitors and 385 foreign visitors, it was ensured that the projects were used at different stages of the project, to establish the relationship of the projects with the space, to develop the proposals and to create the inputs for the project prioritization to guide the implementation.

As the second step, in the analysis process, a database consisting of survey data and associated with the geographic information system was created. By using this database, approximately 1500 analyzes and syntheses have been prepared by overlapping the data that may be related to the scale and detail appropriate to the subject of analysis. With the syntheses, the areas that need to be intervened were determined and which intervention methods would be applied in these regions.

Finally, according to the surveys, projects serving different themes in regions where the problems are concentrated were evaluated and the interventions to be made throughout the district until 2028 were determined.

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

The perception of the different types of users who living, working and visiting the district, their level of satisfaction and their view of the problems of the city were systematically collected and the whole process proceeded in the light of these data. By adopting a participatory planning approach, citizens were included in the decision-making process and a district-scale strategic plan was prepared. At this point, it is extremely important to listen and consider the citizens in terms of public policies and to plan the future of Fatih together, in terms of serving sustainable urban development.

With the spatial strategic plan prepared, 13 strategic axes, 61 strategic focuses, 13 urban renewal focuses that will contribute to the urban and social development of 57

neighbourhoods of the district were determined, and 100 project areas were defined in the light of face-to-face interviews with 3086 citizens.

## Dimensions of the experience

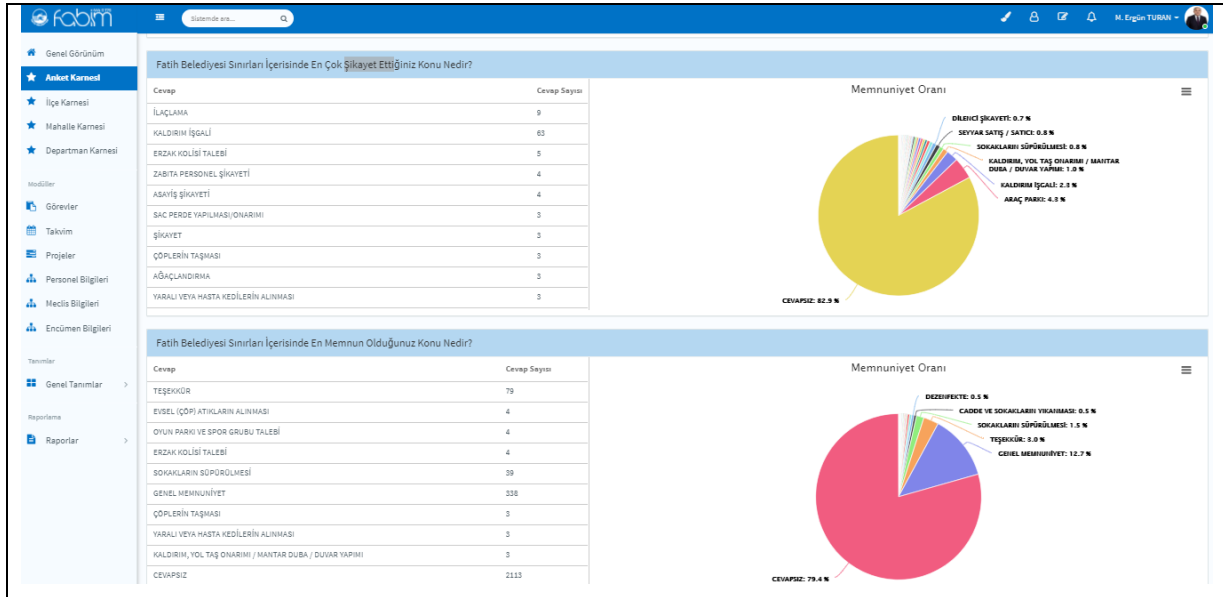
### Which is the most innovative aspect of the experience?

The most innovative aspect of the experience is that the future of the district is planned together with the residents, employees and even visitors, and in a way that responds to their problems, needs and expectations.

In addition, the data obtained from Fatih Municipality's citizen participation platforms have been integrated into the project, so requests and suggestions from different ways have also provided input for the analysis. Each request and complaint received by the citizens to the Fatih Municipality Communication Center and recorded in digital environment has been included in the evaluation. In addition, by analyzing incoming demands and complaints, the gender of the citizens, age groups and the neighborhoods and streets they reside in, evaluations have been made specifically for social groups and strategies and projects have been developed in this direction.

In addition, with the Suriçi Card application, a survey was conducted with young people using libraries and young people were included in the process and their demands and expectations were evaluated. All survey results collected in the Fatih Municipality Communication Center pool are stored digitally and statistically included in the project processes.





### To what extent is the procedure transferable?

The three basic elements of this project can be repeated by other institutions and organizations.

1. Public-Citizen Cooperation: Shaping the strategic decisions about the future of the district with the participation of citizens is the most important part of the process.
2. Survey: The method is one of the most effective ways to analyse the perceptions and expectations of the users about the city.
3. Spatialization of Problems: It is important to analyse the spatial sub-regions of the problems and expectations according to the responses of the users and to develop strategies and projects at the point of intensifying the interventions in these regions.

In the whole process, the mentioned elements can be repeated and applied by various public institutions and organizations.

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

In this project, the perception of the problems and people living in the district, employees and visitors to the district were evaluated under 4 themes with various questionnaires.

1. Spatial Attractiveness: While spatial attractiveness is measured by citizen participation, factors such as "quality of function areas", "socio-demographic and cultural structure", "urban security" and "environmental stress" and the indicators related to these factors are evaluated separately.
2. Urban Degradation, Renewal and Disaster Risk: Their views on understanding the physical structure of the district from the eyes of the user and the measures to be taken against the disaster risk have been analysed in depth.
3. Urban Conservation, Identity and Tourism: The visitor profile and behaviours coming to the district were examined according to their responses in the planning to be made regarding visitor management and the strategies to be developed in this direction.
4. Sustainable Urban Mobility: Participants' behaviours on transportation and mobility were analysed.



This process, which includes the evaluation of different themes and factors together, can be effectively applied by different institutions and organizations as they are common components of each city.

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

1. Academics: Urban planner expert academics from Istanbul Technical University supported the spatialization, analysis and synthesis of different factors under themes.
2. Relevant Directorates: The relevant directorates of the institution came together and made evaluations at stages such as developing strategies, prioritizing and scheduling projects throughout the entire process.

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

Although the most important actors of the whole process were the participants, academics and relevant actors of the institution came together to analyse the data, evaluate the results and develop suggestions.

Households are the actors whose opinions and evaluations are taken to analyse the issues such as understanding the problems of the inhabitants of the city and their perceptions about the district, social solidarity, neighbourhood relations, security perception, perception towards immigrants, the level of satisfaction with the services and the environment they live in, environmental pollution.

Business owners are the actors whose opinions and evaluations are taken to analyse issues such as general information about working areas, the quality of workplaces, perception towards immigrants and urban renewal.

Visitors are the actors whose opinions and evaluations are taken to analyse issues such as the image of the city, security and livability.

Academics supported the process at the stage of collecting and analysing all data, synthesizing them according to the determined themes, and determining the action areas where problems were concentrated and needed to be intervened.

Relevant Directorates: Views and evaluations were received from the internal units of Fatih Municipality.

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

After the preparation of the Spatial Strategic Plan, a face-to-face activity presentation was made to the members of the city council and the citizens and the process of the project was explained in detail. In addition, the process was included in the Fatih Municipality 2020 Annual Report, and citizens were easily informed.

Apart from this, Mayor M. Ergün Turan made a live broadcast on social media with the program "After 2020" and explained the process of the project.



### Summary of the experience

In Fatih district, with the participation of citizens, the socio-demographic, cultural, economic and physical structure problems and the factors that cause these problems are revealed in a cause-effect relationship, and the spatial strategic plan is prepared by establishing the relationship of the projects with the space for these problems and the project prioritization work that guides the implementation.

In the first phase of the project, which was set out to produce, the Logical Framework Approach, which is widely used in project development, was used in order to define the problems related to Fatih district and the project proposals related to these problems in a hierarchical structure with the data obtained from various sources.

The analysis setup of the project is based on grouping the problems obtained from the literature and citizen participation results under 4 themes. The problems obtained from the literature review conducted for Fatih district, determined by survey studies and compiled from the in-house opinions of Fatih Municipality were first listed in the problem pool. As a result of the examination of the existing problems collected in the problem pool, a simplification was made and the problems observed in Fatih district were grouped on the basis of themes. These main themes have been determined as 'spatial attraction', 'urban collapse, renewal and disaster risk', 'protection and survival of historical and cultural heritage' and 'sustainable urban mobility' respectively, and each theme has been examined within the scope of sub-themes / problems affecting it.

Within the scope of the project, analytical studies conducted on four main themes were evaluated together in order to examine the interactions with each other and to make a multi-criteria evaluation.

In addition, all requests and complaints received from the Fatih Municipality Communication Center "Write to Mayor" platform were included in the process by analysing gender, age and location information, and what kind of expectations different social groups had was examined in depth.

Immediately after the analysis process, in the light of the data obtained with the participation of citizens, synthesis studies were carried out with the aim of providing input at the stage of project proposals.

According to the answers given by the citizens during the synthesis phase, it is in different themes such as satisfaction with the housing environment, workplace problems and satisfaction, social infrastructure areas, use of open public space, neighbourhood-based problems, environmental stress, socio-demographic structure, belonging-loyalty, immigrant perception, perception of urban security. evaluations have been made.

After all these evaluations, spatial project proposals were presented according to the demands, complaints and satisfaction levels of different social groups and the projects were prioritized. In addition, the "Spatial Strategic Plan" was prepared on the scale of the district and the projects of Fatih for the next 8 years were evaluated on 13 strategic axes.

As a result, while planning the future of Fatih, opinions of different actors living, working and visiting here were taken and strategies and projects were developed in line with their needs and expectations.

