



# CALL for COORDINATORS

**Young Planning Professionals' Workshop**  
**Kocaeli, Turkey, 19-25 March 2022**

## **Change for Resilience . Resilience for Change**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Young Planning Professionals' Programme is a crucial component of ISOCARP's dedication to promote and enhance the planning profession and commitment to facilitate knowledge for better cities with the young generations, the future leaders of our profession. It was initiated in 1991 at the 26<sup>th</sup> ISOCARP Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico. Since then, it has become tradition to organise the workshops in the week preceding the annual world congress in order to provide unique opportunities to Young Planning Professionals (YPPs) to share their experiences in an attempt to resolve complex and multi-dimensional planning problems. The Programme has facilitated a unique creative spirit within the Society, and it has become a source of new ideas, innovation and rejuvenation not only for the Society but also for our partners; and has made a huge impact on participants' professional lives, in the name of the universal vision of promoting and enhancing the planning profession. It has also contributed towards making life-long friendships beyond borders, languages, cultures and professional backgrounds. According to this tradition, the Kocaeli YPP workshop on 'Change for Resilience . Resilience for Change' will be offered between 19 and 25 March. The workshop will be organised in collaboration with the Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, Marmara Municipalities Union, and the ISOCARP Institute, Centre for Urban Excellence.



## VENUE: KOCAELI

Kocaeli is a province located at the easternmost end of the Marmara Sea surrounding the İzmit Gulf and institutes the heart of Marmara industrial corridor. It is surrounded by four provinces: Istanbul in the west, Sakarya in the east, Bursa in the south and Yalova in the southwest; and by two seas: the Marmara Sea in the west, the Blacks Sea in the north. The metropolitan area of Istanbul extends to the Kocaeli-Istanbul provincial border. Kocaeli is the third-largest city by population of the Marmara Region which is the center of scientific, cultural, and high-value-added activities as well as commerce, finance, and industry in Turkey at the crossroad of international highways, railways, and maritime networks. The Marmara Region inhabits around 25 million residents, making up one-third of the population of Turkey. The size and natural conditions of the İzmit Gulf allow for extensive port facilities, including the Gölcük Naval Base. At the crossroads of roads connecting Asia and Europe, it looks at its past with pride and its future with a smile. It welcomes the Silk Road, rests its back on the Marmara Sea, its chest on the Black Sea. Kocaeli, with its 12 districts and 3505 km<sup>2</sup> area, encompasses two million people. With approximately 3000 industrial facilities, 18 of the 100 biggest industrial establishments of Turkey are in Kocaeli. It is the heart of production and labor where industry blends with technology and science. Kocaeli University, Gebze Technical University, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Technopark and many others support not only the city's and region's industry, but the country.





## **THEME OF THE WORKSHOP “CHANGE FOR RESILIENCE . RESILIENCE FOR CHANGE”**

Today, cities face multiple and often interrelated global problems such as natural disasters, climate change, biodiversity loss, wars, forced migrations, economic crises, water crisis, food crisis, and pandemics, in addition to disasters such as earthquakes. These problems become even more profound when combined with current urbanization practices and it becomes crucial to focus on the "resilient city" approach to tackle these challenges. With the help of this approach, cities can maintain their resilience in the face of risks, adapt to changes and develop their flexibility against predictable and unpredictable futures of cities and societies. Without a doubt, ensuring holistic and inclusive urban resilience is a compelling challenge itself since this means providing an adaptation process for all segments of society, especially vulnerable groups, to the new conditions while creating solutions to different problems that constantly evolve.

Resilient cities interact strongly with every component of urban and social life, such as production and consumption networks, population and demography, urban ecosystem, institutional organizations, and urban design. With this in mind, this workshop intends to discuss the concept of resilience through a transformation of urban public space, which can become a critical tool for a resilient city and society. With this respect, the present workshop aims to redesign and refunction an old Fair Area - in the center of Kocaeli- that lost its function recently due to constructional insecurities. Via this workshop, this semi-closed area will be turned into an open public space that regards the vulnerabilities, considers the needs, and embraces the diversity of the area. In this manner, the new function will improve the quality of life and health of its residents, protect the biodiversity of the environment, contribute to the transformation of the surrounding environment, and last but not least, create a resilient open public space that is ready for the global and local crises and challenges. In other words, this area that has to alter in need of being more resilient can also be a foundation of a more resilient city ready for changes.

With this respect, the workshop's theme has been defined as Change for Resilience, Resilience for Change - with a call to present future imperatives for a resilient city that meets the current needs of the city, improves the quality of life, protects and develops ecological values, and contributes to the transformation of the environment of the project areas with holistic approaches.

## **CASE AREA “INTERNATIONAL FAIR AREA OF KOCAELI”**

Located next to the Izmit Gulf and a wetland, the case area, which had been used as a International Fair Area until 2020, was surrounded by open spaces of a wetland under natural protection, a landfill site restored in 1996. With its diverse functions, the area is already a home for human and non-human mobilities and hosts more than 160 migratory bird species. The area which was put into service in 1998, was used as a logistics center during the 1999 İzmit (Kocaeli or Golcuk) earthquake - one of the major and most destructive earthquakes of Turkey's history. All of the open areas around the fair



building were used as temporary earthquake residences. These areas later served as an open car park for the Fair. It has hosted many events for the last 11 years including Book Fairs, Industrial Fairs and Children Festivals. Before the construction of the Fair, the site was a riverside wetland, and the water passing through the site made a long delta in the coastal part. After the interventions to the stream in the north and the construction of the artificial channel system, the shape of the coastal part has been altered. Unfortunately, the rapid industrialization and migration process that started in the 1980s created difficult problems for local governments to solve. One of them is the domestic waste storage problem. Some local governments have implemented wild storage landfill applications in the early 1980s to the first half of the 1990s. Although there is no record of the total storage, it is known that the case area remained in the wild storage landfill area. Eventually the sanitary landfill site was established in 1996 and the area was turned into a protected zone.

Today, this part of the coast consists of wetlands and natural protection zones and hosts migratory birds in migration seasons. The number of bird species observed in the Izmit Bay Wetland in the last 7 years recorded in the database (bird bank) is approximately 164. Among these, there are bird species at a very high risk of extinction in nature and under protection on a global scale. 102 of them are wetland birds and more than half are migratory bird species. Hundreds of species of ducks feed and shelter in the coastal part and islets where freshwater and saltwater mix in the Izmit Gulf Wetland. The area is intended to protect its role as a Fair and Exhibition Area function in the latest regional and local







plans, together with a Building Restricted Area restriction. The West is planned as the Central Business District (CBD) and the Small Industrial Area is in operation, while the East is the Wetland and Buffer Zone. There is a Commercial Area and a Municipal Service Area (Fire Brigade) in the north. This commercial area together with its shopping mall is an important attraction since it is close to the city centre and designed as open space. In the south, there are Accommodation and Entertainment Facility, Park and Recreation Areas.

At present, some part of the closed space of the Fair Area has been demolished in 2020 for safety reasons. As it was well understood that the building was not resistant to shocks such as earthquakes the demolition process started for the Fair Area. Kocaeli has had to struggle with the unplanned urbanization brought by rapid industrialization and migration for many years. In this context, the city does not want to be referred to only as the industrial capital. Kocaeli, has a vision of becoming a 'science city' using high technology and a vision of becoming a 'tourism city' that uses its natural potential in harmony with the environment. The new Fair Area will be constructed in another location in the city, and the existing fair area will be refunctioned and redeveloped in parallel to the city's needs. According to the Land Use study prepared in 2020, while this area can meet the city's needs, it can also contribute to Kocaeli in becoming a healthy, livable, and resilient city with its potentials such as reducing the urban heat island effect and flood risks.





## REQUIRED TASKS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Each coordinator will spend 5 full days working with the YPP group between 19-25 March. Within these dates, there may be a necessity of conducting meetings with local hosts and press. It is intended that the workshop will gather 15 International YPPs (together with nearly 10 young planners from Turkey), who are not older than 35 years and who offer a keen interest in the workshop theme. The selected ISOCARP experts will have a chance to work with the local coordinators from the Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, Marmara Municipalities Union, Kocaeli University and Gebze University. The required tasks of the workshop coordinators are as follows:

- coordination of the framework, the scientific and professional content of the workshop theme
- guidance on the work of the YPPs throughout the workshop, stimulate discussions, instruct on the presentation format
- guidance on the public hearing and exhibition
- coordination of the workshop publication 'BUZZ ©YPP'

The workshop results will be presented during the annual International Kartepe Summit organized in Kocaeli (March 24 - 27, 2022). The presentation will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Summit (25th March, 2022). Therefore, all participants should arrive on 19th of March in the early afternoon at the latest and depart not earlier than 26th March in the morning. The workshop results are encouraged to be presented during the 58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress to take place in Brussels, Belgium (October 3-8, 2022). It is expected that the workshop will be concluded with:

- preliminary presentation to local officials and other interested parties (if necessary)
- final presentation to congress audience, conducted during the Kartepe Summit
- programme exhibition conducted during the Kartepe Summit
- final publication 'BUZZ ©YPP'

## ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION

The call for WORKSHOP COORDINATORS is open to ISOCARP Members only. Two workshop coordinators will be selected from among the applications. The selected ISOCARP Coordinators will have a chance to work with local coordinators. ISOCARP welcomes applications from full members with proven expertise in urban design and planning and with academic experience and/or teaching experience in similar professional programmes, with no outstanding membership fees. Colleagues with experience in urban design and planning, landscape architecture and planning, urban engineering, regeneration and resilience are especially encouraged to apply. The most effective composition of the team will be taken into account for the final selection.



Candidates complying with the above criteria have to submit the compiling the set of documents below through the [Online Application Form](#):

- Clear statement of intent explaining why you want to apply. Please be specific and refer to prior workshop coordination or participation experience (maximum 1 page)
- Curriculum Vitae pointing out the relevant experience (please use the [ISOCARP Template](#))
- A portrait photograph (5x5 cm, in 300 dpi)
- A clear scan of your passport (photo page)
- All applicants are also encouraged to submit paper proposals for the 58<sup>th</sup> ISOCARP World Planning Congress.

Please upload the documents as follows:

Family Name\_Statement / Family Name\_CV / Family Name\_Photo / Family Name\_Passport

## CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENSES

There will be honorarium of €1500 for each of the international YPP Workshop coordinators for the duration of time they will spend guiding the YPPs and participate actively in the defined tasks, and particularly to encourage coordinators to attend the 58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress, where a presentation on workshop results may again take place in YPP special session. This sum will be paid directly by ISOCARP after the completion of the workshop tasks.

Our partners Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality and Marmara Municipalities Union will be in charge of arranging international tickets (return, economic fare). They will also be in charge of arranging accommodation, full-board and local transportation for the entire duration of the workshop within the agreed dates in Kocaeli. Information on the hotels will be out soon. Transportation from airport to hotel and vice versa will be arranged by the LOC. Coordinators are welcome to stay in Kocaeli longer than 25th March. However, their expenses for additional time spent in Turkey beyond the time required for the workshop have to be borne by themselves.

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Issue of Call	20 January 2022
Deadline - Reception of applications (Coordinators)	5 February 2022
Communication of selection results (Coordinators)	10 February 2022
Deadline - Reception of applications (Participants)	10 February 2022
Selection and Communication of results (Participants)	15 February 2022
Travel arrangements and Procedures	1 March 2022 at the latest
Arrival to Kocaeli	19 March 2022 noon the latest
Departure	26 March 2022

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## ANNEX

### PROVISIONAL TIMELINE FOR WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

DAY	SCOPE
March 19 Sday	Arrival and Official Welcome + Welcome Reception
<b>Day 1</b> March 20 Sday	Opening Ceremony [Introductory seminars on Host city / country / community and Workshop] Site visit Studio work & Discussion <i>Scope of 1st day:</i> How is the city perceived? Brainstorming, discussion on observations, discussion on SWOTs, strategic priorities, formulation of the design / planning problems and spatial development strategy
<b>Day 2</b> March 21 Mday	Seminar Session I (Invited Guests & Experts and/or Coordinators) Studio work, Pin-up & Discussion <i>Scope of 2nd day:</i> How is the city envisioned? Strategic objectives, Strategic solutions [from macro to micro scale] and developing key projects of intervention
<b>Day 3</b> March 22 Tday	Seminar Session II (Invited Guests & Experts and/or Coordinators) Studio work, Pin-up & Discussion <i>Scope of 3rd day:</i> Develop a strategy and action plan - Strategic solutions & design proposals, while exploring different means of visual representation and presentations
<b>Day 4</b> March 23 Wday	Studio work <i>Scope of 4th day:</i> Pilots and policy recommendation - Refinement of the proposed solutions, neighbourhood wide actions, determine strategic sites for pilots, defining the specific proposals and implementation methods, while exploring different means of visual representation and presentations & printing of posters
<b>Day 5</b> March 24 Tday	Studio work <i>Scope of 5th day:</i> Polishing presentations, rehearsal [Preparation of exhibition] Closing Ceremony Farewell reception / party
March 25 Fday	KARTEPE SUMMIT 2021 March 24-27, 2022 Presentation of workshop results on the plenary
March 26 Sday	Departure
October 3-8, 2022	58TH ISOCARP WORLD PLANNING CONGRESS Presentation at the Special Session, Brussels





**\*COVID-19 CONTINGENCY**

The health and safety of Young Planning Professionals' Programme attendees, partners, and staff is the top priority of ISOCARP and our Local Hosts. World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations will be followed by the Host; all facilities (hotel, workshop venue, etc.) will serve in accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. In this context, the following actions will be implemented during the entire stay: Free disinfectant and mask will be provided in workshop venue, accommodation and planning according to their timing, social plans, a maximum of 2 people will be accommodated in the rooms, rooms and workshop venue will be disinfected daily. The Turkish government has several travel restrictions that it uses to control its borders. This includes special measures to protect security and health in the country. Due to COVID-19, Turkey introduced travel restrictions on foreign visitors in the interest of public safety. Turkey's Covid restrictions have been reviewed and updated throughout the pandemic. The Turkish Ministry of Health releases Turkey's daily vaccination and COVID-19 numbers at <https://covid19.saglik.gov.tr/>. Our candidates should check the latest lockdown update and travel advisories. Turkey travel restrictions for tourists are under constant review as the international situation evolves. Please check out official information sites; <https://www.turkishairlines.com/en-gb/announcements/coronavirus-outbreak/travel-restrictions/> for the latest updates.

**QUESTIONS**

Any questions during these procedures and regarding the topic, on-site logistics and travel arrangement should be sent to  
ISOCARP Board, Director YPP, Zeynep Gunay: [gunay@isocarp.org](mailto:gunay@isocarp.org).

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