

MERİÇ BIÇAKCIOĞLU

Personal

Date of Birth : 17.06.1968
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Profile

- Diverse background in Reorganization projects, entrepreneurship (agriculture, education), Strategic management and consulting for SMEs and public institutions.
- Focused on Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Technology-Organization Issues, Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship, Process Analysis, Organizational Sociology, Corporate Culture, Learning Organizations & Training.
- Skilled in Academic research tools and methods.

Experience

2018-	Entrepreneurship Dept., Faculty of Business, Özyeğin University	Part Time Faculty Member
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Delivery of the following courses: Social Entrepreneurship Course and Project Work, Business Plan Course and Project Work, Creativity, Ideation and Opportunity Recognition	
2017-	Hicelerate Accelerator-New York, USA& Istanbul, TR	Founder, Local Mentor & Project Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Hicelerate acts as accelerator and incubator for start-ups.▪ Act as Project Scout and mentor for selected projects in Istanbul▪ Project manager of incubated projects	
2018-2020	Technolera & Ventourage	Operating Advisor
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A venture-building company operating in Turkey, The Netherlands and UK▪ Management of startup processes▪ Planning of curricular events (workshops, meetups etc)▪ Mentoring of in-house and external startups	
2015-	Entrepreneurship	Mentor/ Team member
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Acting as team member in two start ups▪ Mentoring in Business Model preparation and commercialization▪ Planning scalability of products▪ Ecosystem building efforts	
2014-Feb 2016	Istanbul Kemerburgaz University-Continuing Education Center	Director
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Re-organization of the unit to conform to current issues▪ Planning of potential courses with stakeholders (trainers, faculty, companies), the marketing and promotional strategy of these.▪ Negotiating contracts with potential partners and trainers▪ Preparing yearly budget.	
	Istanbul Kemerburgaz University-Strategy Group	Strategy Team member
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Took part in primary strategic discussions and goal settings▪ Active member of "Research Strategy Council"	

2010-2014	Freelance Consulting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Acted as freelance consultant for various groups and companies ▪ Focused on organizational design, Process excellence, Change Management, Strategy, Knowledge Management, Process and Company Culture ▪ Performed training sessions to mid-high-level management teams ▪ Industries covered: Media, Entertainment, Event Management, Food production, FMCG Sales, Law, NGOs 	
2007-2010	Law Firm	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinated international network relations of the Firm Management ▪ Acted as strategic consultant and approach potential network firms ▪ Negotiated and brought potential network firms to contractual level ▪ Took part in the due diligence process by looking at firm 	
2005-2012	MF Organik Ltd. & Agricon Ltd.	Founder
	<p>The companies were active in the consulting and production business. MF Organik has completed its cycle by establishing growing fields for blackberry and strawberry production as alternative investment for farmers due to lack of local economic development.</p> <p>The main activities of Agricon are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural Project evaluation as part of financial due diligence process. ▪ Advising on and providing specific data on agricultural investments to interested investors ▪ Supervising agricultural projects ▪ Coordinating a network of agricultural engineers ▪ Coordinate producer-farmers to shift to alternative production and advising these on organic agricultural issues through expert training and practical implementation. 	
2001-2003	Istanbul Chamber of Industry	WEB Project Coordinator & Consultant
	<p>Web Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinated a web team of 10-12 people and acted as interface between technical staff and departments. ▪ Analysed existing web and information structure (to assist the integration of legacy systems) ▪ Negotiated with potential value-web partners and service providers. ▪ Supervised the web content <p>ISO-ÜSİB NET (University-Industry Network)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Managed a virtual networking environment called "USIB-Net". ▪ Coordinated a think tank named "University and Industry Relations Council" which ▪ Devised training for SMEs, sector-specific or general <p>Training Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Head of Training Unit and fulfilling necessary requirements 	
1999-2000	Istanbul Chamber of Industry	Training Consultant and Manager
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinated the reorganization of the Training efforts of the institution. ▪ Analysed internal-external (i.e. member companies) training needs and demands, which also included the training needs of industrial sectors to provide solutions in Industrial issues. ▪ Established the yearly and quarterly training programs. ▪ Prepared the Marketing Plan and the Marketing Mix and designed Training Products and evaluation instruments. 	
1995-1998	GTZ-ICI Project	Project Team Member

- Acted as Team Member of an international project, which aimed to reorganize the Turkish Chamber structure (incl. Database, workflow, and staff training, business processes).
- Coordinated the planning and implementation of change processes for certain Business Units.
- Performed “Target Oriented Project Planning” workshops for other Chambers and Industrial groups.

1993-1995 METU College English Teacher and Curriculum Developer

- Coordinated yearly curriculum of the department.
- Led a Drama Club with performances twice a year.

1986-1992 Part time Jobs in tourism agencies as tourist guide

- Worked as Agent Assistance for Setur and Marmara during summer vacation
- Planned, coordinated transfers and hotel relations
- Supervised tours and daily planning efforts
- Managed account (vendor) and Customer relations

Education

2020 Bilgi University, Pdh

- PhD. in Organizational Studies, focusing on Strategy, Organizational Analysis, Network Theory, Organizational Culture, Technology and Organizations.
- **Thesis Topic: Social Dynamics of the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Turkey**

2000-2001 University of Nottingham

- Master of Business Administration-core modules and electives such as E-Commerce and IT Strategy, Management Consulting, Strategic Management.
- **Dissertation Topic: Knowledge Management Practices in Turkey**

1994-1996 Hacettepe University Department of Translation and Interpreting Studies

- Incomplete due to change of residency

1988-1993 Middle East Technical University

- Faculty of Education-Foreign Language Education- Focusing on Curriculum Development and Methodology, Education, Training and Motivation of Trainees and Students. Electives from Business Administration.

Pro Bono, Training & Projects

2019-	TÜSİAD Global Compact Mentor
2019	ITMO and ITMO Incubation Center, St.Petersburg, Russia
2018-	Member of Digital Transformation Center, TURKONFED
2018-	Mentor, Trainer at Hackquarters Incubation
2018-2019	Think Tank, Research Council on Social Entrepreneurship (British Council and various Universities)
2018-	Training to various cooperatives, social initiatives (exhaustive list on demand), K12 groups and schools on social entrepreneurship and social change

Training & Workshops/ topics delivered

Business Planning and Implementation
 Business Model innovation
 Corporate Innovation & Corporate Entrepreneurship
 Innovation & Culture
 Creativity and Innovation
 Organizational Change and Culture

Pitch Presentation
 Process Enhancement and Development
 Project Management and Moderation
 Resilience & Business Strategy in Crises and under
 Uncertainty
 Social Change and Social Entrepreneurship
 Social Business Model Canvas Training
 Social Entrepreneurship
 Social Networking for Ecosystem Building
 Value creation and value proposition

Training

11-12,2002	Web Design (Jscript, HTML)
12,1999	Project Cycle Management, Monitoring &Evaluation Training
11,1999	New Implementations and Approaches to Human Resources
03, 1999	Project Planning and Evaluation Training
03, 1998	Project Management Training

Workshops (not exhaustive)

06,2018	Doctoral Colloquium, Annual EURAM Conference,	Reykjavik, Iceland
10,2018	Doctoral Colloquium, Annual RENT Conference	Toledo, Spain
05,2016	Entrepreneurial Ecosystems Workshop (Academic)	Izmir
10,2017	Entrepreneurial Ecosystems Workshop (Academic)	Ankara
2011	Project Mentoring	London
05,2002	E-Business Forum	Istanbul
04,2002	E-Business Change	Istanbul
01,2003	CRM Roadmap	Istanbul
02, 2000	1 st Int'l workshop on Integrated Marketing Communications (World Bank Inst.)	Cairo
03, 1999	Project Planning Workshop (as Co-Moderator)	Istanbul
06, 1997	Project Planning Workshop (as Co-Moderator)	Kayseri
03, 1997	Organization and Reorganization Workshop	Istanbul
10, 1996	Project Management Training and Planning Workshop	Istanbul

Language Skills

- Native Turkish Speaker
- Advanced Written and Spoken command in English and German
- Basic Italian and French

Computer Skills

- Windows and Office series, Open Office
- RQDA (Qualitative research software)
- Photoshop user, Music Software (FL, Audacity)
- Computer-based qualitative research tools

Other

- EU Scholarship student for the year 2000-2001
- Best 2nd Paper in EURAM, 2018
- Former Member of the Student-Staff Consultative Committee and the MBA Society

Interests

- Philosophy, Linguistics, and 20th c. Literature, Modern Music History
- Collector of Jazz and Rock albums, animation and comics
- Trekking, scuba diving (PADI open water), Basketball (license), Kick Boxing (license)
- Basic Flute/Drum Skills