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## DETERMINE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN IZMIR

### INTRODUCTION

Globalization



Economic pressure



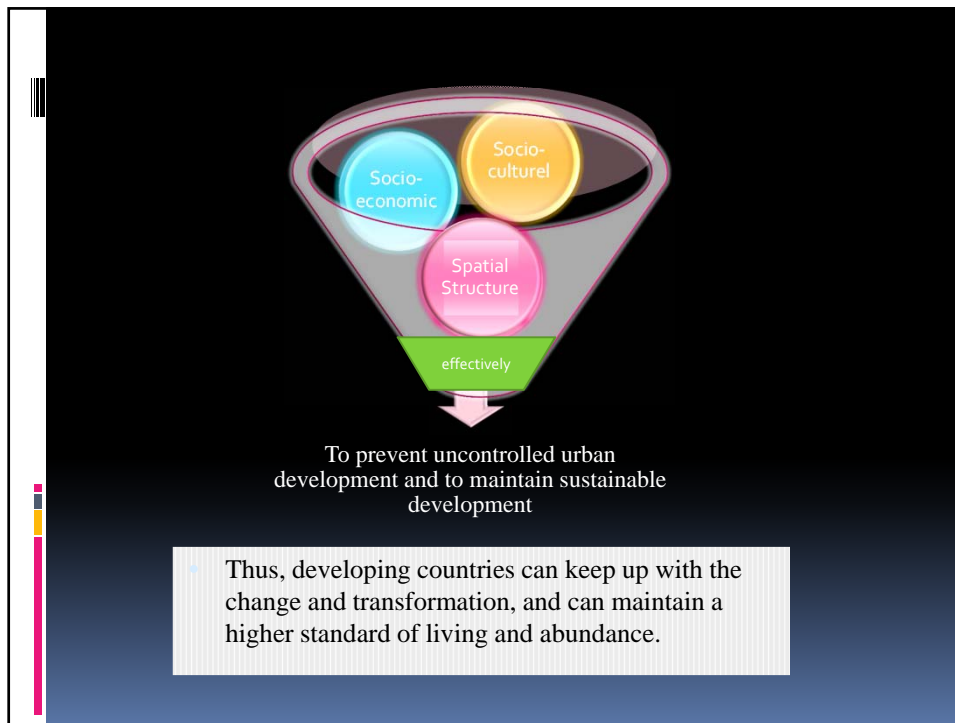
Economic migration



Spatial organizations  
Spatial identity changes

This affects especially the social  
topography of cities and causes  
uncontrolled urban development





## Necessities for Regional Planning and Organization in Turkey

Regional planning and organization are needed in Turkey for the purposes of

- Resolving regional problems which cannot be solved remaining in between decentralization and local administration mechanisms,
- Settling regional scaled urban-rural formations, economic, demographic, social and cultural inequality not in a political way but in a way which shall provide sectoral and social balance,
- Spending less time and less labor for interinstitutional information transfer by providing a database standardization which shall be fundamental to both local and regional planning,

## Necessities for Regional Planning and Organization in Turkey

- Providing an objective evaluation and control mechanism for problems between residential areas in the region,
- Updating detailed statistics that are appropriate for the region, for the needs and expectations of the region and for the changes, and by this way creating a regional planning approach to serve national interest,
- Increasing international competitiveness and local specializing to become a global brand,
- Establishing statistical databases in line with the EU Regional Statistics System within European Union accession process.

### Regional Development Policies in Turkey's European Union Accession Process



Looking into regional development studies which are tried to be carried out in Turkey

- Regional development policies are not reflected to the applications,
- Investment accumulation in certain areas causes imbalance between regions,
- There are inter institutional authority confusions.



There have been attempts to apply the EU regional policies to the current administrative structure of Turkey; however all have failed as a result of different local characteristics and information and infrastructure deficiencies

### **Determination of Regional Planning Strategies in Turkey's European Union Accession Process**

In general, main strategies which are necessary to be created within the scope of regional planning in Turkey consist of:

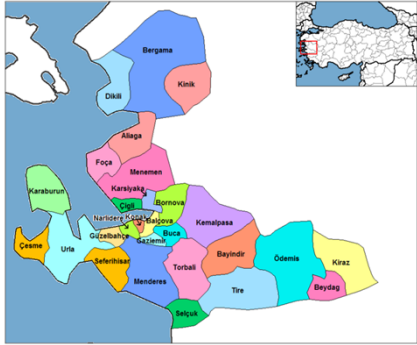
- Making use of the funds provided by the European Union (SAPARD (Special Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development), IPARD (Instrument for Pre Accession Assistance for Rural Development)etc.) to design rural development projects, and preventing migration by producing strategies within rural settlement and development plans,
- Making sectoral analysis and redirecting the development with regards to featured sectors and increasing new employment opportunities,

### **Determination of Regional Planning Strategies in Turkey's European Union Accession Process**


- Protecting environmental and natural values within the context of national and international agreements and conventions (Ramsar, basin protection, wetland conservation etc.),
- Determining urban historical structure strategies, and conserving and maintaining urban and archaeological sites.
- Improving transportation and connections to promote trade and increase export both in national and regional scale,
- Providing supports and incentives to make local specialization possible,
- Creating statistical data and information infrastructure in compliance with the European Union standards,
- Precluding intra-regional inequalities in socio-cultural sense,

## DEFINING SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE PROVINCE OF IZMIR

### 1. General Overview of Izmir Region



The map shows the following districts: Bergama, Kınık, Dikili, Alipaşa, Menemen, Karaburun, Karşıyaka, Bornova, Karamanmaraş, Buca, Bayındır, Ödemiş, Kiraz, Çeşme, Urla, Seferihisar, Menemen, Torbalı, Tire, Baydağ, and Seferihisar.



3. Largest city in socio economic development




Socio-economic and socio-cultural center of Aegean Region

Metropolis qualifications

Historical background

Brandization ability and innovational views

## Socio-cultural Structure of the Province of Izmir



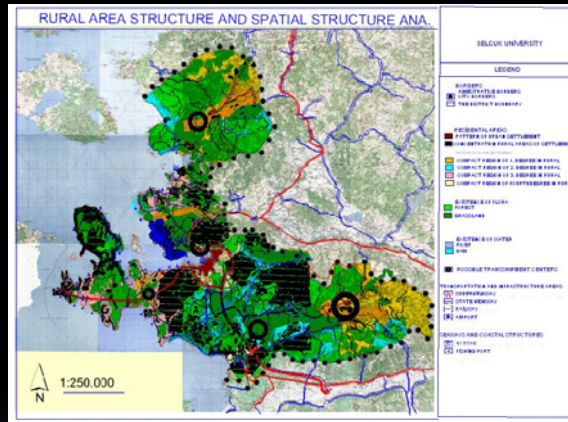
History and cultural structure

Seaport town characteristic

Agro tourism, winter, coastal, sea, thermal, cultural, convention, nature, religious etc.

Original production which can make local specialization.

## Socio-economic Structure of the Province of Izmir



- On sectoral basis, the largest contributions of Izmir are in service (54,4%), industry (37,5%) and agriculture (8,1%).
- Izmir has got efficient river basins for rural development. Also there are huge forest areas. So Izmir rural policies are important for rural area development and safe the existence of plant as shown in (Figure 2.2).
- Though regional specialization in Izmir is below the country average, sectoral diversity is above Turkey average value. Izmir, thus, needs policies concerning regional specialization.

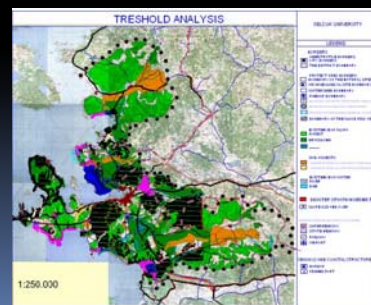
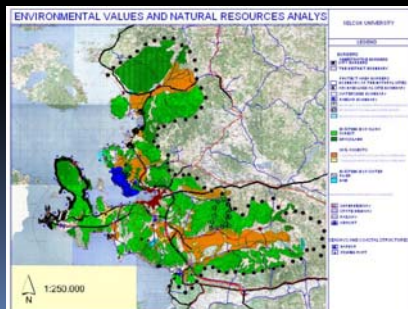
## Environmental Values of the Province of Izmir

Karaburun and Foca especially are the most important coastal areas where Integrated Coastal Zone Management approach must be adopted.

Kucuk Menderes, Gediz and Bakircay are the most important basins located in Izmir. Having an international importance, Gediz Basin has also been designated as a Ramsar site to protect rare bird species

Foca district also hosts very important ecosystems. Environmental values and national resource analyze is us etc.

Izmir is an important earthquake zone.





## Defining the Problems and the Potentials Socio-Cultural Structure

- **Problems**
- High rate of elderly population,
- Concentration of educational facilities in metropolitan municipality borders and, as a result of this, increase in the educational immigration within metropolitan municipality borders,
- Rural to urban migration for a variety of reasons,
- Concentration of healthcare institutions in the center,
- Lack of infrastructure for cultural activities,
- Deficiency of the museums in terms of quality and quantity,
- Lack of regional planning at the local, regional and international level.

## Socio-Economic Structure

- **Problems**
- Lack of local specialization and expertise,
- Small and multipartite structure and inefficient use of agricultural lands in rural areas,
- Negative influences which occur in environmental structure as a result of basin usage and industrial activities.
- Inadequate publicity on Izmir in terms of tourism and investment,
- Identification problem on convention and exposition tourism,
- Inadequacy of transportation infrastructure despite of the potential in logistics sector,
- Negative effects of environmental pollution on the ecosystem, which is caused by industry,
- Absence of Izmir within the scope of Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance Rural Development (IPARD) which is financed by the EU.

## DETERMINATION OF SECTORAL AND SPATIAL AIMS FOR THE PROVINCE OF IZMIR

- The main aim can be determined as "becoming a global brand, thus increasing competitiveness, within the principles of sustainable development and environmental consciousness, using information technologies at the highest level and specializing locally."

## DETERMINATION OF SPATIAL STRATEGIES

- **Spatial Strategies**
- Providing seaports specialization on transport connections for human and goods transportation,
- Rearranging public transportation and routes between the districts within the metropolitan municipality,
- Improving transport connections between Aegean Region, Izmir and nearby cities,
- Renovating and rearranging the coastal protection areas of the province of Izmir and determining protective structuring conditions in line with the EU standards,
- Enhancing the works on culturally and historically important archeological sites which are situated on coastal areas,
- Constructing treatment facilities within industrial areas for protecting environmental values,
- Taking Bakircay, Gediz and K. Menderes Basins into the scope of basin protection and regional scaled projects.
- Preserving the basins and encouraging rural development.



### Spatial Strategies

- Rearranging incomplete upper scale plans,
- Providing upliftment to local public to achieve the improvement of potential on local and regional basis,
- Determining the functions using strategic planning for the development of Izmir region and sub region, locating primary investment areas and improving institutional structure,
- Making investments on current energy potentials in sub regions,
- Determining comprehensive and disincentive policies to prevent the environmental impacts of second home use,
- Providing suitable, regular and adequate social infrastructure services which fulfills public expectations,
- Completing all river rehabilitation works in Izmir Bay,
- Performing cadastral renovation together with land arrangement works to prevent land partialism problem in the rural areas,
- Making arrangements in the seaports for the improvement of aquaculture products,
- Improving the economic potential for cruise tourism not only in Izmir but also in the other coastal residential areas in Aegean Region.

### DETERMINATION OF SECTORAL STRATEGIES

- **Sectoral Strategies**
- Defining strategic aims in industrial investments and completing infrastructure investments,
- Improving R&D services which are devoted to increase labor force and employment that depends on economic structure,
- Achieving institutionalization in terms of qualified manpower on high technology based production,
- Improving other infrastructure and transportation systems within free trade zone and, thus, promoting foreign trade,
- Increasing international competitiveness by specializing on convention and exposition tourism,
- Creating projects with the cooperation of producers to improve long-standing agricultural production mechanism of Izmir within the scopes of rural development projects and EU funds,
- Encouraging to turn the renewable energy producing potential of the city into investments,
- Maintaining the competitiveness by using advantage of Izmir's closeness to foreign market,
- Enabling brandization for the featured products of industrial sectors (such as textile) and agricultural sectors (such as cosmetics, organic products, pharmaceutical products).

## CONCLUSION

- Evaluations showed that in order to provide sustainable regional development, it is very important for Izmir to gather its potential around a main vision instead of different specializations, and to support it. The most important elements which helped Izmir to make its own image are cultural tourism with ancient cities and mythological stories, culinary tourism with local dishes in which olive oil is held in high esteem, cosmetics and medical tourism with thermal springs, and the natural flora
- Commercializing those kinds of environmental and cultural values and obtaining international competitiveness for the province of Izmir require an urban image. It is very important that exposition tourism has always been highlighted for the specialization of the urban identity of Izmir. As a support of this main vision, other elements related to Izmir's potentials should also be featured.
- All these aims must be achieved within the context of sustainable regional planning in compliance with the European Union standards, with the help of strong governance and definitive judgment and control on the implementation of plans.