

• **Beyşehir Lake - Yeşildağ (Storks Valley) Development of Ecotourism Infrastructure Project 2017**

Within the scope of the project with the financial support of the United Nations, GEF/SGP-Turkey; healthy food production and nature guidance trainings were given to housewives and secondary school students, respectively in order to support ecotourism. Population and breeding successes of the storks in the colony were observed. Stork nests can be monitored on the website of the Municipality of Beyşehir with a camera system established to view the stork nests. Eight artificial nests were placed in the breeding area of the storks. The power lines causing stork mortality were isolated by MEDAŞ and a bird observation tower in the Storks Valley were constructed by the National Parks.

• **Environmental Protection and Ecotourism (Storks Hill) Project in Beyşehir (Adaköy-Yeşildağ) 2019**

Within the scope of the project with the financial support of the United Nations, GEF/SGP-Turkey; secondary school students were provided with nature guidance training and housewives with diversification of dairy products, good agriculture and organic agriculture practices and certification in order to support ecotourism. Storks and breeding were monitored on Adaköy Storks Hill. Live images of stork nests are provided through a camera system established for viewing on the website of Beyşehir Municipality. An observation tower was built by Beyşehir Municipality. The totems pointing to the stork observation towers on highways and stork information boards were placed near the observation towers.



Members of our Society in the project area

Our Association is a member of Ankara Metropolitan Municipality City Council General Assembly.

Our Association participated in the Central Hunting Commission of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to represent NGOs. (2013-2014)

PUBLICATIONS

- Çağa Town Promotion Booklet
- Environmental and Human Education Booklet
 - Beyşehir Travel Guide
 - Nature Guidance Guide
- Getting to Know the Storks Booklet
 - Stork Protection Guide



This brochure has been prepared with the support of the European Union within the scope of the European Union Civil Think Program. The question of its content belongs entirely to the Ecological Balance Society and does not reflect the views of the EU.



Menekşe 2 Sokak No: 19/17 Kızılay/ANKARA-TURKEY

Telefon: +90 312. 425 30 25 • www.dogaldenge.org

f Doğal Denge Derneği @dogaldenge @dogaldengederneği



“The balance of nature is the balance of life.”



Mounting the artificial nest platform (Sept. 2017)



A stork nesting on the artificial platform (Sept. 2019)

ABOUT US

Founded by a group of experts in various fields in Ankara in 2004, Ecological Balance Society is a civil society organization which has been actively operating on issues such as nature conservation, sustainability, organic agriculture, nature and cultural tourism, biodiversity, protection of cultural diversity, environmental education, advocacy and awareness raising in order to contribute to the protection of the environment.

VISION

Ecological Balance Society's vision is to ensure the sustainable management of the natural and cultural assets for conservation in existing and potential environmental protection areas in Turkey.

MISSION

To establish advocacy capacity to activate public institutions, educational institutions and local administrations to prevent air, water, soil pollution and wetland losses in environmental protection areas,

- To develop alternative proposals against decisions and policies that will adversely affect environmental protection areas,
- To contribute to the sustainable transformation of economic sectors operating in the fields of environmental protection,
- To increase the efficiency of environmental protection efforts by institutionalizing the Ecological Balance Society.

OUR WORKING FIELDS

- To prepare and implement projects on eco-tourism, organic agriculture, biodiversity, cultural diversity, nature conservation, sports and health, and to provide consultancy services,
- To organize awareness raising activities training seminars, courses, etc. on environment, sustainability, climate change, ecological lifestyles, ecological balance and natural resources,
- To introduce, adopt and promote sustainable lifestyle, production and responsible consumption understanding at local and national scale, at individual and social level, and to encourage income generating activities that will provide protection,
- To develop and support alternative eco-friendly income generating activities,
- To work in cooperation with international nature protection organizations to contribute to the implementation of international conservation criteria in our country.
- To prepare and implement training programs on physical and mental health, substance addiction for children, young people and elderly people, especially for disadvantaged groups,
- To improve civil society dialogue.

Local secondary school students trekking in nature under the guidance of our Society



OUR ACTIVITIES

• Ecotourism and Organic Agriculture Training Project in Gündül District, Ankara 2006

In the project realized with a grant from the World Bank; The Ministry of Tourism, Ankara University and experts of our Association provided training for farmers and women of the region on home boarding, organic agriculture, product processing and marketing.

• Environmental Awareness Raising in Primary Education Project 2009

In cooperation with Ankara Provincial Directorate of National Education and our Association, environmental education materials were prepared for environmental protection, savings and solid wastes. Through the Gölbaşı District Governorship, environmental protection trainings were given to the 4th and 5th grade students of two primary schools, one urban and the other rural in Gölbaşı District.

• Rural Tourism Development Project in Çağa Town of Ankara Province 2012

Within the scope of the project supported by Ankara Development Agency, a management plan was developed for the development of rural tourism in the region. In addition, a recreation

area on the bank of İlhan Creek and a market place were projected. Women of the region have been trained by experts on hygiene in food production and healthy nutrition. The old laundry house of the town has been restored and converted into a cultural center as designed as a place for women's social activities.

• Vocational Qualification Transfer Systems in Ecology (ECO-MATRIX) 2011-2013

The objective of the project, which is supported by the National Agency under the Lifelong Learning Program is to promote a desire more about the natural environment further and to equip the target groups with the knowledge and skills need to apply the basic principles and practices of resource management and ecology to complex environmental issues.

• Environmental Youth Project 2015

With the financial support of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, trainings were given to 9th and 10th grade students of 11 high schools in Çubuk District in Ankara to develop their attitudes, value judgments and sense of responsibility. In addition, natural areas, solid waste dumping ground, drinking water treatment plant of the District were examined on site. A photography contest on environment was organized among students.