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Ö. Burcu Özdemir Sarı  
Suna S. Özdemir · Nil Uzun  
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# Urban and Regional Planning in Turkey

 Springer

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# Preface

“Urban and Regional Planning in Turkey:” is a book which attempts to evaluate the essential topics in the urban and regional planning field and the challenges it faces through the case of Turkey. Urban and regional planning, as an institution, differs significantly from country to country depending on the legal and institutional contexts of each state. However, the issues which attract the attention of planners and the challenges which urban and regional planning attempt to tackle are highly similar throughout the world, regardless of the countries’ level of development. Among the cross-cutting considerations for countries, there are environmental and demographic issues as well as economic ones. The increasing share of the population in urban areas leads to the physical growth of cities, which requires action on the part of urban planning for managing the spatial and economic impacts and ecological footprints of urban growth as well as the transformation of the existing built-up areas. In this process, challenges such as managing the risks in densely populated urban areas, the capacities of which have exceeded their limits, or reducing greenhouse gas emissions and shifting to low-carbon urban development for a climate-resilient future are highly significant issues for all countries and societies around the world. Furthermore, the cities and the societies of the contemporary world are highly connected in such ways that are sometimes not easy to comprehend. Previous experiences such as the property market crisis in the USA, which turned into a global financial crisis, or the civil war in Syria, which resulted in global waves of mobility and migration, reveal this connectivity. Under these circumstances, issues and challenges of urban and regional planning display common grounds for different countries. With these considerations, we, as editors of the book, selected a range of topics which we believe to be interesting for the international reader. The authors were then invited, based on their research interests, to make tailor-made contributions to the book. The special focus of the book on the challenges of urban and regional planning introduces the reader to possible new directions for exploration in the field. Discussions on the case of Turkey, on the other hand, could provide useful examples both for developed and developing countries in terms of best or poor practices, and success or failure of the

market/government. The editors hope that “Urban and Regional Planning in Turkey:” will be a useful sourcebook for urban and regional planning students at all levels and planning professionals working either as practitioners or academics.

This book is absolutely an outcome of teamwork. The editors would like to thank the authors for their committed contributions to this publication. During the preparation of the book, the authors not only dealt with writing their chapters but also responding to reviewers’ and editors’ demanding comments and obtaining copyright permissions where necessary. We are grateful for the permissions. Every effort has been made to obtain permissions, but if any have been inadvertently overlooked, the author(s) of the related chapter(s) will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

We would also like to thank the following experts in the urban and regional planning field for reviewing initial drafts of the chapters and providing invaluable guidance and suggestions: Prof. Dr. Ayda Eraydın, Prof. Dr. Çağatay Keskinok, Prof. Dr. Ela Babalık, Prof. Dr. D. Burcu Erciyas, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tolga Özden, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pelin Sarioğlu Erdoğan, Asst. Prof. Dr. Tolga Levent, Asst. Prof. Dr. Yücel Can Severcan, Asst. Prof. Dr. Eda Acara, and Inst. Dr. Simge Özdal Oktay. We also appreciate the support given by Merih Saraçoğlu during the final stages.

We would like to acknowledge Juliana Pitanguy from the Springer team, the editor responsible for the Urban Book Series, for the encouragement and support she provided to us since the early phases of this book project. Thanks are also due to Sanjeev Kumar Mathiyazhagan, project coordinator for book production, for the practical support in bringing the book to publication.

Last but not least, we would like to thank our families for their considerable patience and forbearance throughout the book preparation process. Particularly, our children deserve special thanks, as we sacrificed the time we would have spent with them while preparing this book: Ece and Mete Sarı, Alp and Defne Özdemir, and Selin and Orhun Uzun.

In memory of our fathers, Atıla Özdemir, Cemal Yaşar, and Erol Duruöz.

Ankara, Turkey

Ö. Burcu Özdemir Sarı  
Suna S. Özdemir  
Nil Uzun

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