



**OPEN SPACE ASSOCIATION  
DEEP POVERTY  
NETWORK**

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**ACTIVITY REPORT**

**JANUARY 2020 - DECEMBER 2021**



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# WHO ARE WE?

## OPEN SPACE ASSOCIATION DEEP POVERTY NETWORK

As the Open Field Association established in 2018, we aim to raise awareness about social, economic and urban problems; to be in solidarity with groups that have difficulty in accessing their rights and needs and are exposed to social exclusion; to strengthen these groups through various activities; to support these groups' access to public rights and services. We aim to reduce barriers to their access to basic human rights, including education, health, employment and social security. Çimenev Science and Art Center, which was established in this direction, is our first neighborhood-based study.

As a result of Çimenev workshops and experiences and observations from the field, a group of researchers, sociologists, psychologists and journalists came together to investigate deepening poverty and reveal its dimensions, monitor human rights and open poverty to discussion as a human rights violation, creating the Deep Poverty Network (DPN). DPN is the main active project of the Open Field Association.

**Vision:** A country where there is no more poverty which causes human rights violations and social exclusion.



# WHO ARE WE?

## OPEN SPACE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND AUDIT (2021-24)

Şevval Şener, Chairwoman of the  
Board of Directors

Selen Yüksel, Vice President of  
Board of Directors

Elif Göçmen

Şeyma Duman, BM (noble)

Nilüfer Çomak, BM (full)

Ozan Can Ak, BM (substitute)

Hülya Kurt, BM (substitute)

Damla Özlüer, BM (substitute)

Hatice Kapusuz, BM (substitute)

Funda Oral, BM (substitute)

Derya Kap, BM (substitute)

Gülay Aydın, BM (substitute)

Board of Auditors

Mine Güliz Baykal,

Amine Güntay,

Güliz Kalender,

Kubilay Solak

## DEEP POVERTY NETWORK EMPLOYEES

Hacer Foggo, Field Studies  
Consultant

Şeyma Duman, Field Studies  
Project Coordinator

Servet Kaplan, Social Worker

Selen Yüksel, Research &  
Advocacy Studies Project  
Coordinator

Şevval Şener, Research &  
Advocacy Studies Project  
Coordinator



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# DEEP POVERTY

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*As the Deep Poverty Network; in a **multidimensional framework**, we consider poverty as a phenomenon that restricts people's access to their basic rights and needs, as well as hinders their access to their economic, social, political and cultural rights.*

*In the fight against poverty; we believe fight against poverty should be:*

***rights-based  
believing in solidarity  
with sustainable policies  
with an emergency  
protecting human dignity  
participant  
open  
transparent & accountable.***

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# FIELD WORK



*We visit to all districts of Istanbul, mainly Ataşehir, Çekmeköy, Ümraniye, Sancaktepe, Beyoğlu, Şişli, and Fatih.*



*The visits are paid by DPN staff consisting of social workers, clinical psychologists, sociologists and psychological counselors.*

*In neighborhood-based visits, we visit people and their families who apply to the Deep Poverty Network for support.*

*We sometimes make these visits to follow our social work guidance, sometimes to provide various supports, and sometimes to monitor human rights within the scope of a research.*



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# ACTIVITIES

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**SOLIDARITY**

**RESEARCH**

**SOCIAL SERVICE**

## *Why Solidarity?*

*We believe that solidarity should be shown in line with the principle of emergency response with people who cannot access basic food and care products in extraordinary situations such as pandemics and economic crises.*

## *Why Research?*

*As a non-governmental organization, we believe in the importance of conducting research, human rights monitoring and advocacy activities.*

## *Why Social Work?*

*We believe that social service planning should be done by taking into account the needs of every individual living in poverty conditions and the empowering effect of providing social service support for each individual's access to their rights.*

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# SOLIDARITY

## *What was done?*

*As of March 2020, through more than 2,000 individual donors, we reached people living in conditions of deep poverty, mostly in Istanbul, **food, diapers, baby food, rent, bills, medicine, stationery and toys** to more than 15,000 people in over 3,000 households.*





# SOLIDARITY

*At the initial stage, individual supporters made direct purchases to households through online markets.*

*We have transformed the solidarity campaign **#ChangefromHome** to provide the increasing number of support and changing needs over time, in a faster and safer way.*

**TEMEL GIDA/TEMİZLİK ÜRÜNLERİ LİSTESİ**

<u>Az fertli aileler için</u>	<u>Kalabalık aileler için</u>
<p><b>Temel Gıda:</b> Ayçiçek yağı(1L), Salça(830gr), Un(2kg), Tuz(750gr), Şeker(1kg), Pirinç(1kg), Bulgur(1kg) Mercimek(1kg), Nohut(1kg), Makarna(2 paket), Kıyma(500gr)</p> <p><b>Kahvaltılık:</b> Süt (2L), Yumurta (15li), Peynir(1kg), Zeytin, Çay</p> <p><b>Temizlik:</b> Şampuan, Sabun, Çamaşır suyu, Bulaşık Deterjanı, Çamaşır Deterjanı(1kg), Tuvalet Kağıdı, Ped</p>	<p><b>Temel Gıda:</b> Ayçiçek yağı(2L), Salça(830gr) Un(4kg), Tarhana, Tuz(750gr) Şeker(1kg) Pirinç(1kg), Bulgur(1kg) Mercimek(1kg), Nohut(1kg) Makarna(3 paket) Kıyma(1kg)</p> <p><b>Kahvaltılık:</b> Süt (3L), Yumurta (30lu) Peynir(2kg), Zeytin, Çay</p> <p><b>Temizlik:</b> Şampuan, Sabun, Çamaşır suyu, Bulaşık Deterjanı, Çamaşır Deterjanı(3kg), Tuvalet Kağıdı, Ped</p>
<b>~200 TL</b>	<b>~350 TL</b>

Liste örnek olarak hazırlanmıştır. Ekleme çıkarma yapabilirsiniz  
twitter:yokulluk.ag Instagram:derinyokullukagi

**TAZE ÜRÜNLER/KAHVALTILIK LİSTESİ**

<u>Az fertli aileler için</u>	<u>Kalabalık aileler için</u>
<p><b>Sebze (1kg) :</b> Domates, Kabak, Havuç, Patlıcan, Patates(2kg), Soğan(2kg) Dondurulmuş Bezelye vs.</p> <p><b>Meyve (1kg):</b> Muz, Limon, Portakal, Elma vs.</p> <p><b>Kahvaltılık:</b> Bal(1kg), Süt(2L), Yumurta(15li), Peynir(1kg), Zeytin(400gr), Çay(500gr)</p> <p><b>Diğer:</b> Un(2kg), Çikolata, Ped (10lu)</p>	<p><b>Sebze (2kg) :</b> Domates, Kabak, Havuç, Patlıcan, Patates(4kg), Soğan(4kg), Dondurulmuş Bezelye vs.</p> <p><b>Meyve (2kg):</b> Muz, Limon, Portakal, Elma vs.</p> <p><b>Kahvaltılık:</b> Bal, Süt (4L), Yumurta (30lu), Peynir (3kg), Zeytin (800gr), Çay (1kg), Pekmez(1kg), Yağ(2L)</p> <p><b>Diğer:</b> Un (5kg), Çikolata, Ped (24li), Şeker(2kg)</p>
<b>~200 TL</b>	<b>~350 TL</b>

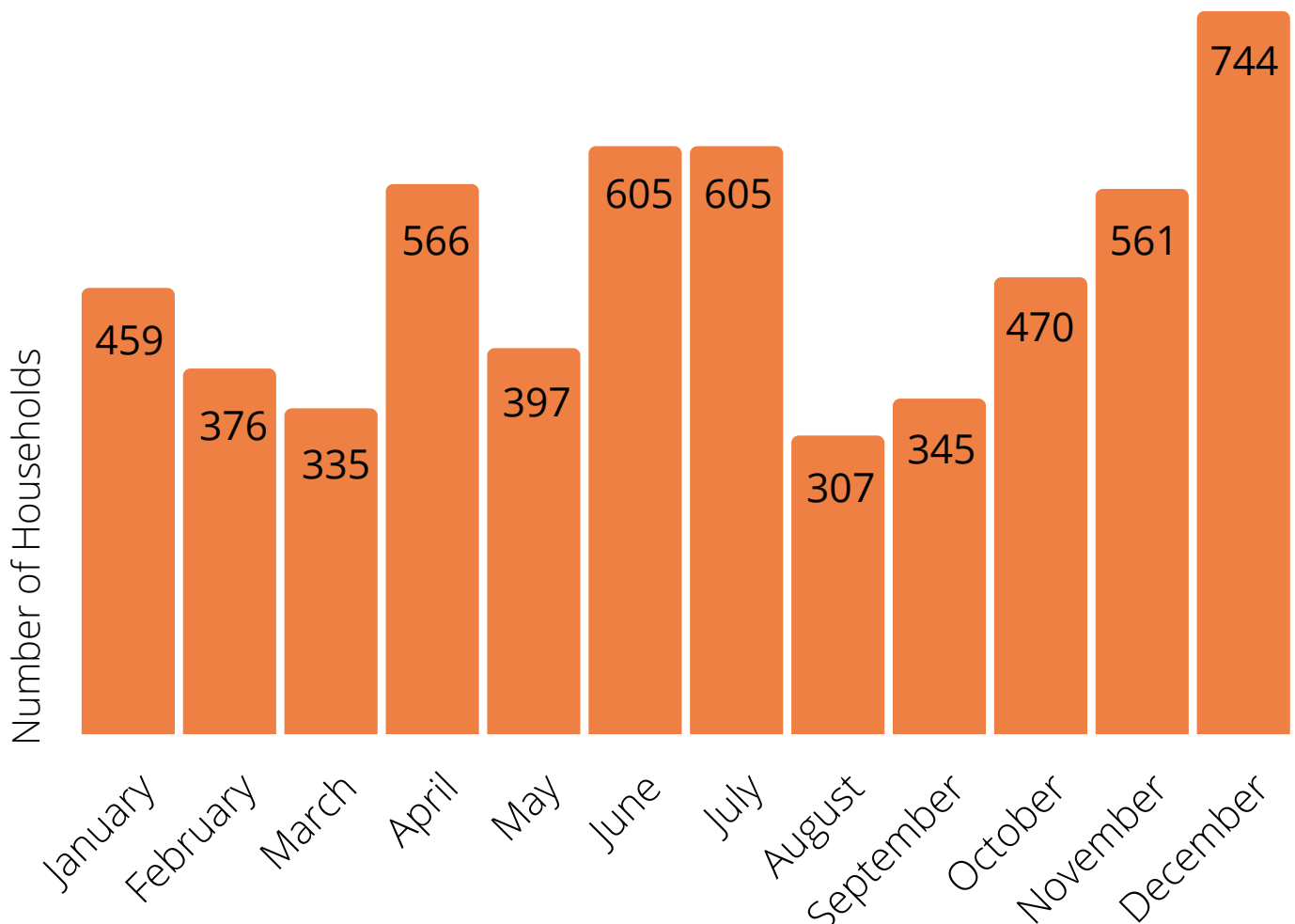
Liste örnek olarak hazırlanmıştır. Ekleme çıkarma yapabilirsiniz  
twitter:yokulluk.ag Instagram:derinyokullukagi

# SOLIDARITY

As of 2021, we started sending **a refillable grocery card/grocery code with a monthly balance of 400 or 600 TL**, that supported households can use in certain markets;

Thus, people who do not have a refrigerator at home, do not have a specific residence address or who want to shop daily according to their needs can shop according to their special circumstances.

In addition, we also provide with periodic campaigns or collaborations, clothes, stationery and hot food supports.



**Deep Poverty Network, 2021 Distribution of supported households by months**

# SOLIDARITY

Risk / Risk Value	
Family with working child	3
One individual in the household has/is exposed to violence	3
Individual over 65 years of age responsible for the family's livelihood	3
Individual at risk of being stranded	3
At risk of hate attack/discrimination in the region	3
Children are at risk of dropping out of education/starting to work	3
No adults over 18 in the household / child living alone	3
Adult and child in the home have a life-threatening illness	3
The child or children have developmental disorder	3
Single parent	3
Individual stranded, got nowhere to go	3
No regular income	3
Child in the household who dropped out of school due to economic insufficiency	3
Woman leaving the guesthouse/shelter	3
Person/couple over 65 years old living alone	2
House conditions involve physical risks (mouse/scorpion, leaking roof, lack of clean water, tent, etc.)	2
Child with special educational needs	2
A child who has returned to the family after being taken into government care	2
The family cares for the child or children who are not their biological child	2
There is more than one household member who needs home care (elderly, infant, sick, child, disabled)	2
There is a chronic illness/disability/psychiatric disorder that affects the survival of the adult or child at home	2
Large family (6 and more)	2
Child at risk of early marriage	2
Adult ex-con in the household/has a criminal record	1
Can't get support from other institutions for certain reasons (registered car, unregistered person etc.)	1
The adult or adults in the household are illiterate	1
Water and electricity cut off during the year	1

## How are the households to be supported determined and prioritized?

*In the in-depth interviews with the people who reach us through the association contacts, we record with the questionnaire we prepared to understand how much that household has access to their basic rights. Then, a priority order is formed according to the sensitivities in that household.*

## SUPPORT

Very High Priority	6+
High Priority	4-6
Priority	1-3
No Risk	0



# RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

## *What was done?*

***Since March 2020, in order to expose the unsustainable conditions of poverty and to argue that it is a human rights violation, to mobilize the media and public institutions***

*We prepared five research reports, four information notes, two emergency calls, one storybook – audiobook.*

*We translated four policy documents into Turkish and we also monitored the poverty agenda in the media and parliament.*



# RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

## Reports:



- 30 October 2020 İzmir Seferihisar Earthquake, Children Rights Based Observation Report
- Deep Poverty Network – Combating Deep Poverty in the Pandemic
- Deep Poverty and Access to Rights Research during the Pandemic Period: Suggestions for Local Governments in Crisis Period Social Support Programs
- We Talk Poverty with Local Authorities: Outputs & Suggestions
- Decriminalizing Poverty\*



## Information Notes:

- Our Agenda: Women Poverty
- Our Agenda: Children Poverty
- Schools are opened today, so who is the education for?
- Children Poverty in Turkey\*\*

## Emergency Calls:



- Call to Civil and Local Authorities: Contingency Plan for Individuals Living in Deep Poverty
- Fight Against Poverty, Not Against Poor
- Open Call to Central and Local Governments: 29 April-17 May 2021 Pandemic Closure Process and Access to Rights by People Living in Deep Poverty



## Books

- Absent Stories

ALL   
REPORTS

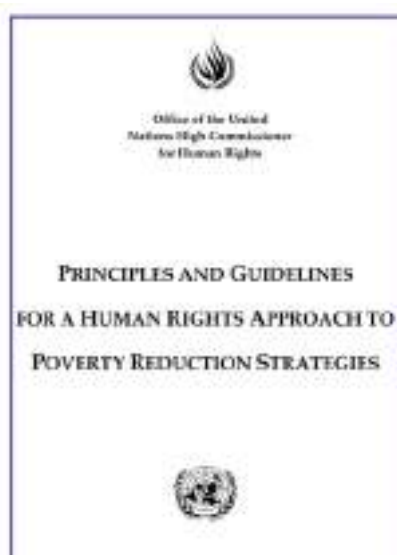
\*Prepared for the Call for Contribution to the Joint Report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights on "Decriminalizing Homelessness and Extreme Poverty".

\*\*Prepared to be submitted to the European Committee of Social Rights as an NGO report.

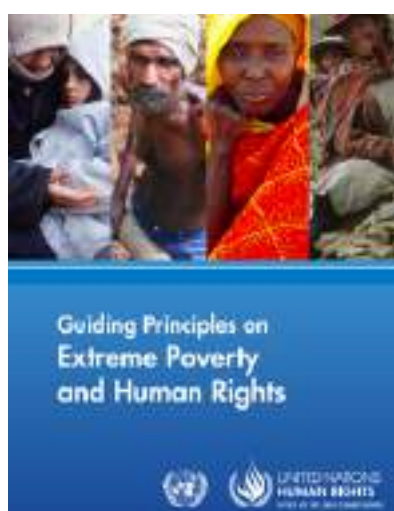
# RESEARCH & ADVOCACY



*We translated four policy documents prepared in the field of human rights and poverty from English and French to Turkish.*



- *Principles and Guidelines for Human Rights-Based Approach in Poverty Reduction Strategies*
- *Council of Europe, Committee of Social Rights 2019 decision on Turkey, articles on poverty*
- *Deep Poverty and Human Rights: Guiding Principles*
- *Protecting the Children from Poverty: The Role of Rights at the Council of Europe*





# RESEARCH & ADVOCACY

*With the belief of best storytellers are the ones that we encounter while working in the field of poverty; we have prepared the "Absent Stories" to make the voices of those who directly experience poverty be heard in this book.*

*The first part of the book consists of the stories of 14 people who are part of the Deep Poverty Network. These stories were told by these people, narrated by the Deep Poverty Network team.*



## ABSENT STORIES



*Please fill the form to obtain the book, which was published on October 17, World Day for the Elimination of Poverty and is not available for sale anywhere. You can fill the form out, or **download it for free**.*

# RESEARCH & ADVOCACY



We prepare the monthly poverty agenda monitoring in the parliament, as a series where you can see the **questions, research commission proposals** and law proposals themed on poverty and human rights violations caused by poverty .



We prepare the weekly media monitoring every Monday, as a series where you can see the **news about poverty and human rights violations caused by poverty published on online media channels.**

# SOCIAL WORK



## *What was done?*

*Families were visited in the neighborhood and individual interviews were held.*

*As a result of interviews, the needs of the individuals and the obstacles they face in accessing public resources that can meet these needs were determined.*

*Information and guidance to reach Social Service Centers, SYDV and various NGOs were given to people living in poverty, in line with their needs.*

*With the cooperation with various institutions, people were directed to employment and trainings.*



# MEDIA

*We were guests of Fox TV, Public TV, KRT TV, Artı TV, Çevre TV, Açık Radyo, Kısa Dalga channels, Bianet, T24, DuvaR, Universal, Plus real, tele1, Thorn, New York Times, Berria, La Repubblica, El País newspapers, Oxygen, Fişek, Ot ve Kafa magazines and many more.*



# CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT



We participated in workshops to establish a transparent, accountable, non-hierarchical and organized organizational structure under the coaching of Hatice Kapusuz.



We conducted **Child Safety Policy** workshops under the consultancy of Ayşe Beyazova and published the outputs on our website.



We held the Participatory Decision-Making Workshop under the facilitation of Funda Oral.



As of October 2021, our Open Open Platform membership has been completed. [Click](#) to visit our profile.



As of November 2021, our TPF membership has been completed. [Click](#) to visit our profile.

# OUR SUPPORTERS





# FINANCIAL STATUS\*



*The main **source of income of the Open Space Association** is individual and corporate donations and grants from funding institutions. Institutions that we received grants as of 2020:*

- *Civil Society Support Foundation*
- *Heinrich Böll Stiftung Turkey Representative*
- *Dalyan Foundation*
- *Etkiniz*

*The finance of the Open Field Association are covered by these grants and individual & corporate donations.*

### **Major expenses:**

- *support for people living in conditions of deep poverty,*
- *social investigation expenses,*
- *human resource,*
- *project operating expenses and association expenses.*

# WOMEN'S LABOR

*We act as an intermediary for the local producers to participate in the Women's Labor Markets organized by the Istanbul Volunteers, so that the handmade products done by households that we have met during the fieldwork meet with the buyers.*

*Women sell and promote their products, they keep all the income and prepare for the next market .*



# 2022 CALENDAR





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*We wish to grow hope and solidarity together in the new year...*



*"I was born and do this naturally. I'm 30 years old, that's a family job. We call the only red ones squeaky clean. When you get on the thorn, it's called kokina."*





# CONTACT US



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