



CIP REPORT

2025-26 FALL TERM

cip.sabanciuniv.edu

INDEX



4

Numbers
CIP 101 Records

7

CIP 101 Projects

15

End of Semester Evaluation
Results

16

Extracurricular Activities

26

CIP Team



The core strength of CIP lies in its transformative impact. Students participate in this process not merely as contributors, but as individuals who learn, question, and rethink their own roles. Every project becomes a space for lasting learning and transformation—not only for the groups being reached but also for the students leading the project.

During this period, we have seen once again that social responsibility is not limited to good intentions; it evolves into a journey deepened by knowledge, effort, and continuity. Every connection made—both on and off campus—returns as a small spark of awareness, a powerful bond, or a fresh perspective. All of these experiences offer tangible contributions toward the dream of a more inclusive, more just, and more sustainable world.

This report offers only a snapshot of that journey. Its true value lies not between the lines, but within the relationships built, the experiences shared, and the sphere of influence created by learning together.

We sincerely thank all our students, advisors, stakeholders, and teammates who made this process possible.

With love and respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. P. ...'.

Civic Involvement Projects

Civic Involvement Projects is a training program that aims to learn and practice participatory democracy by individuals. With the awareness of active citizenship, it is aimed that university students are aware of the society they live in. Civic Involvement Projects (CIP) develop projects in the field of social responsibility through the CIP 101 course and extracurricular activities.

The CIP 101 course is a mandatory course within Sabancı University's curriculum that every student must complete to graduate. Students who wish to do so can voluntarily participate in the CIP 101 course throughout their university years. CIP 101 is a field-based course, allowing students to engage in experiential learning rather than just theoretical knowledge. The course is automatically added to students' programs upon their enrollment at the university. Students choose and participate in one of the available projects based on their interests.

Beyond the CIP 101 course, various projects such as the Human Library, conferences, and Discover Yourself are organized, offering opportunities for anyone interested in different topics over time.

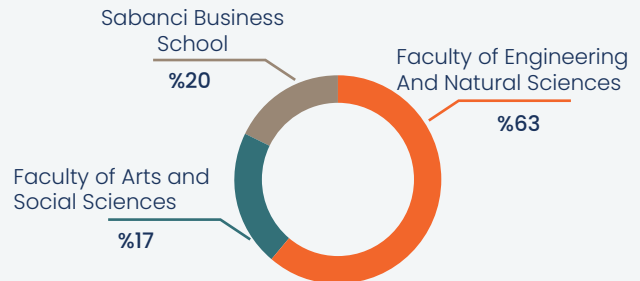
Civic Involvement Projects



CIP 101

• In the Fall 2025–26 semester, 582 students enrolled in the CIP 101 course. The distribution of students is as follows:

FACULTY	STUDENT
Faculty of Engineering And Natural Sciences	365
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	101
Sabanci Business School	116

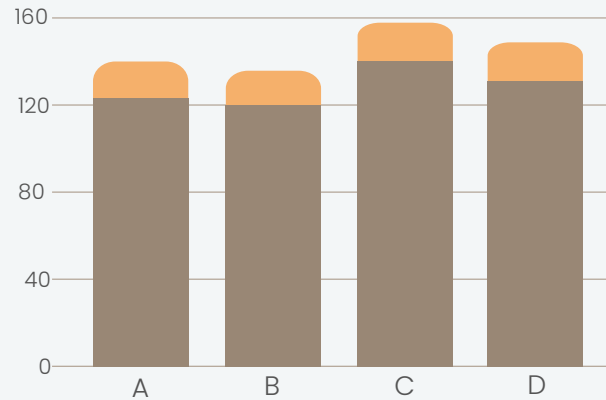


Woman	222
Man	360

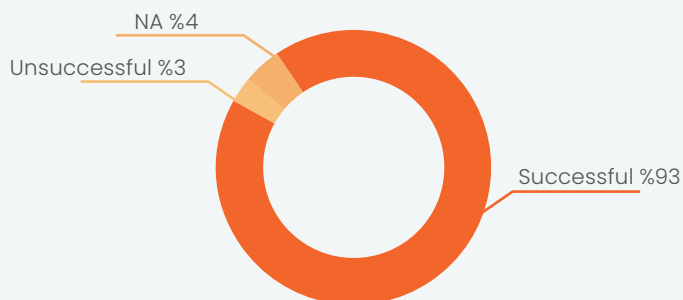


The CIP 101 course has been divided into four groups. Group A is on Monday, Group B is on Tuesday, Group C is on Wednesday, and Group D is on Thursday. International students have also been registered across all four days. The student distributions are as follows:

	TURKISH	INTERNATIONAL
Section A	124	18
Section B	120	15
Section C	135	21
Section D	136	13
TOTAL	515	67

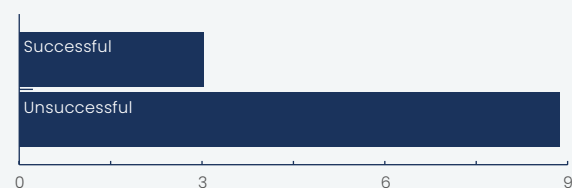


Course Success Rates



	International	Turkish
S (Successful)	61	478
U (Unsuccessful)	2	17
NA (Not attending)	4	20

Repeating Students for the Course



	International	Turkish
S (Successful)	3	
U (Unsuccessful)	3	
NA (Not attending)	5	2

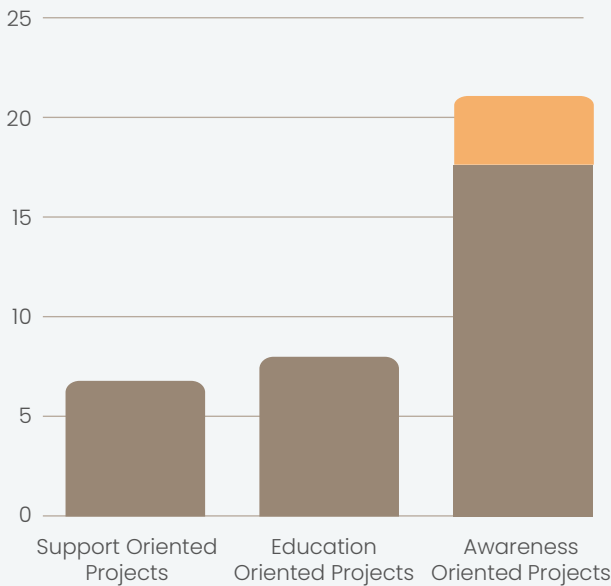
First Lecture

In the first class, information about CIP and the projects was presented by Zeynep Bahar. In the second week, project presentations were conducted by the overvisors.



CIP 101 Projects

In the Fall 2025-26 semester, 36 projects were launched as part of the CIP 101 course. Four of these projects were conducted in English for international students.



PROJECTS	International	Turkish
Education Oriented Projects		8
Projects in Primary Schools		4
Sign Language Project		4
Support Oriented Projects		7
Nursing Home Visits Projects		3
Animal Rights Projects		2
Projects in the School of Disabled Children		1
Tom@University		1
Awareness Oriented Projects	4	17
Disaster Awareness Project		2
CIP 101 Project	4	
Digital Citizenship		1
Human Rights Project		4
Urban/Environmental Awareness Project		3
Health Projects		2
Gender and Sexual Health Projects		3
Consumer Awareness Projects		2

Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015, World Leaders agreed on 17 Global Goals to achieve 3 key challenges by 2030.

- Ending extreme poverty
- Tackling inequality and injustice
- Fixing climate change

Within the scope of CIP 101 course, we explain Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to all students in our collective lectures. We also explain the relevant SDGs and the context in which we relate to these SDGs to the students during the practice and discussion weeks within the scope of the course. In this report, you can follow which SDGs our projects are associated with by the relevant numbers at the end of the project description.



Sustainable Development Goals

1	No Poverty	
2	Zero Hunger	
3	Good Health and Well-being	
4	Quality Education	
5	Gender Equality	
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	
7	Affordable and Clean Energy	
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	

9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	
10	Reduced Inequality	
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	
12	Responsible Consumption and Production	
13	Climate Action	
14	Life Below Water	
15	Life on Land	
16	Peace and Justice Strong Institutions	
17	Partnerships to achieve the Goal	

Education Oriented Projects

Projects in Primary Schools



Within the scope of the Projects in Primary Schools, activities were carried out at Çayırova Türkan Göktürk Primary School, Gebze Bilgi Primary School, Tuzla Ulubatlı Hasan Primary School, and Tuzla Peyami Safa Primary School. The project involved educational and interactive activities designed and implemented by different student groups, aiming to support children's social and emotional development, foster awareness of rights, and increase their environmental and social awareness.

- Çayırova - Türkan Göktürk Primary School - 3rd Grade, 5 classes
- Gebze - Bilgi Primary School - 4th Grade, 6 classes
- Tuzla - Ulubatlı Hasan Primary School - 5th Grade, 5 classes
- Tuzla - Peyami Safa Primary School - 3th Grade, 4 classes



Sign Language Project



Within the scope of the Sign Language Project, a Sign Language Training was delivered by Ferdi Emir Çelik from the CIP Office. During the training, students gained knowledge of basic expressions and the alphabet in Turkish Sign Language.



Support-Oriented Projects

Nursing Home Visits Projects



The students came together with older adults at the Tuzla Municipality Elderly Center, İBB Darülaceze, and Kızılay Zeynep Nedim Oyvar Nursing Home. As part of the visits, film screenings and music activities were organized, along with felt New Year ornament-making and frame painting workshops, fostering intergenerational interaction and meaningful shared experiences.

- Tuzla Municipality Elderly Center
- Kayışdağı – Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Hospice
- Kızılay Zeynep Nedim Oyvar Nursing Home



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Special Education School Projects



The activities were carried out with children with autism who are enrolled at the Yumrukaya Special Education Practice Center. Throughout the project, inclusive, educational, and interactive activities were planned and implemented in line with the children's individual needs and abilities. The project also contributed to raising awareness among the course participants on disability, inclusivity, and living together with differences, aiming to strengthen empathy and social responsibility through mutual interaction.

- Yumrukaya Special Education Practice Center



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

TOM@University



Within the scope of the TOM@University project, a student experiencing chronic pain was worked with. It was identified that, due to this pain, the student needed to continuously carry a specially designed cushion and to periodically stand up and sit down at certain intervals. In response to this need, a portable chair design was developed that allows the user's own cushion to be integrated and, unlike standard chairs used on campus, features adjustable lumbar support, length, and openness. Following the completion of the final design, prototype production is planned.



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Animal Rights Projects



Within the scope of the Industrial Animal Farming theme, students conducted a debate activity by researching news articles and opinion pieces to support their viewpoints, creating a discussion space grounded in current data and diverse perspectives. Focusing on animal rights journalism, students analyzed news examples to evaluate how animal rights are represented in the media. An informative poster was designed on rabies vaccination and displayed across the campus. In addition, a session held with the participation of Engin Arıkan from Cage-Free Türkiye (Kafessiz Türkiye) provided an in-depth discussion on methods to mitigate the negative impacts of industrial animal farming and how these approaches could be implemented at the campus level.

- Cage-Free Türkiye – Engin Arıkan



Awareness-Oriented Projects

Disaster Awareness Projects



Through the Basic Disaster Awareness Training, participants gained essential knowledge on disaster preparedness, risk reduction, and individual responsibilities. Miray Bozburun, a Psychosocial Support Specialist from the Yan Yanayız Project, delivered a session titled Disaster Psychology and Psychological First Aid, which addressed post-disaster psychological processes, stress and trauma responses, and psychological first aid approaches applicable during crises. The program was further enriched through sessions organized in collaboration with TAKIM Search and Rescue, featuring practical and informative contributions on basic medical intervention for casualties, disaster volunteering, and the role of civil society in disaster response and recovery processes.

- Yan Yanayız Projesi – Miray Bozburun
- TAKIM Search and Rescue



Gender and Sexual Health Projects



Sexual Health Education was conducted by CIP supervisors İlayda Holinoğlu and Alican Derviş, complemented by the preparation and display of informative posters across the campus. These efforts facilitated students' access to accurate information and supported the promotion of peer awareness. The "Healthy Sexuality" session, led by İremsu Yıldız, a volunteer from Bahçeşehir University Voluntary Counseling and HIV Testing Center, addressed sexual health topics—particularly HIV/AIDS—within a rights-based and inclusive framework. The "Take a Step Forward" game utilized an experience-based methodology to highlight gender-based inequalities. Furthermore, students participated in a Dating Violence Seminar conducted by Gökçesu Özgül from SU Gender and a Sexual Health Education session organized by the Pozitif-iz Association.

- Volunteer at Bahçeşehir University Voluntary Counseling and HIV Testing Center - İremsu Yıldız
- SU Gender - Gökçesu Özgül
- Pozitif-iz Association - Önder Bora



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Urban and Environmental Awareness Projects



Through both theoretical and practical studies, students addressed the themes of sustainability, accessibility, and environmental responsibility from a multidimensional perspective. During the Accessibility Workshop, awareness-raising activities were conducted on spatial accessibility, inclusive design, and the various obstacles encountered in daily life. The OpenStreetMap Workshop highlighted the role of open data and mapping in urban and environmental awareness; by mapping selected areas, students experienced firsthand the contributions of municipalities, public institutions, and initiatives such as Missing Maps in generating environmental and social benefits. A coastal cleanup event was carried out at Tuzla Kamil Abduş Lake. With the participation of Sabancı University Sustainability Manager Pelin Nur Karaçal, a comprehensive session was held covering core sustainability concepts, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), water consumption, efficient use of resources, and audit mechanisms for the environmental and social impacts of corporations. The session also examined sustainability practices on campus, the preservation of biodiversity, and recycling processes. Additionally, a trash collection event took place at Tuzla Şehit Ömer Halisdemir Park in collaboration with Tuzla Municipality. Within the scope of the project, students also attended a seminar organized by the Mind Your Waste Foundation (Çöpüne Sahip Çık Vakfı).

- Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality
- Mind Your Waste Foundation - Emrah Bilge, Gökçen Karaçocuk, Tolga Güleç
- Sabancı University Sustainability Manager - Pelin Nur Karaçal
- Tuzla Municipality



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Human Rights Project



The Dating Violence Seminar, conducted by Gökçesu Özgül in collaboration with the Sabancı University Gender and Women's Studies Center of Excellence (SU Gender), raised awareness on healthy relationship dynamics, gender-based violence, and rights-seeking mechanisms. Within the scope of the 'From Problem to Solution Workshop' led by Kaan Tanıdır, students had the opportunity to develop innovative and applicable solutions to social problems. The Inclusive Language Workshop, conducted by Aslı Yolcu, Buket Kapısız, Deniz Tuncel, Liana Erişsever, and Yasemin Canbaz from the Hrant Dink Foundation, focused on recognizing hate speech and discriminatory language, as well as the importance of using language in a human rights-based and inclusive manner; thereby supporting students in questioning their linguistic habits and developing diverse perspectives. Through the Sexual Health Education provided by Önder Bora from the Pozitif-iz Association, HIV/AIDS awareness was increased, and an inclusive and informative discussion environment was created regarding the access to health for individuals living with HIV, the challenges they face in daily life, and their participation in social life. Within the scope of the project, students also participated in the 'Consumer Awareness Workshop' by the Clean Clothes Campaign and the 'Disaster Psychology and Psychological First Aid Training' by the Side by Side Project (Yan Yanayız Projesi).

- SU Gender - Gökçesu Özgül
- Hrant Dink Foundation- Aslı Yolcu, Buket Kapısız, Deniz Tuncel, Liana Erişsever, Yasemin Canbaz
- Pozitif-iz Association - Önder Bora
- Clean Clothes Campaign- Abdulhalim Demir, Pelin İpek Boyacı
- Yan Yanayız Projesi - Miray Bozburun



Health Project



Within the project, an interactive event was held in the field of mental health, and an informative poster on addiction was prepared. Additionally, topics such as student health, sleep patterns, and meditation were addressed. A seminar on 'Recognizing Emotions and Self-Compassion' was conducted with Pınar Türker from the Individual and Academic Development Center (CIAD). Within the scope of the project, students also participated in the Dating Violence Seminar conducted by Gökçesu Özgül from SU Gender, as well as the 'Healthy Sexuality' session led by İrem Yıldız, a volunteer at the Bahçeşehir University Voluntary Counseling and HIV Testing Center.

- SU Gender - Gökçesu Özgül
- Volunteer at Bahçeşehir University Voluntary Counseling and HIV Testing Center - İrem Yıldız
- SU CIAD - Pınar Türker



Consumer Awareness Projects



Students addressed responsible consumption practices from a multidimensional perspective by participating in interactive activities aimed at strengthening consumer awareness. During the process, discussions were held on consumer rights and the application procedures to consumer arbitration committees, increasing knowledge and awareness regarding situations that may be encountered in daily life. A seminar titled 'How to Mind Our Waste' (Çöpümüze Nasıl Sahip Çıkarız) was conducted with the Mind Your Waste Foundation. The seminar covered the concept of waste, the relationship between waste generation and consumer behavior, and individual responsibilities. Best practices regarding recycling rates in different countries were shared, and applicable methods to increase these rates were evaluated. A 'Consumer Awareness Workshop' was held in collaboration with the Clean Clothes Campaign (Temiz Giysi Kampanyası). The workshop addressed the fundamental issues of the textile industry, responsible consumerism, ongoing campaigns, and 'Just Transition' (Adil Geçiş); in the practical session of the workshop, students had the opportunity to transform their theoretical knowledge into practice by developing campaign strategies. Through the food ingredient comparison and label reading exercise conducted during the application week, it was demonstrated that safe food is accessible. By comparing the taste, ingredients, and prices of products purchased from markets, it was emphasized that reaching healthy and high-quality products is possible. Within the scope of the project, students also attended a seminar organized by Cage-Free Türkiye (Kafessiz Türkiye).

- How to Mind Our Waste - Emrah Bilge, Gökçen Karaçocuk, Tolga Güleç
- Clean Clothes Campaign - Abdulhalim Demir, Pelin İpek Boyacı
- Cage-Free Türkiye - Engin Arkan



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

CIP 101 - Projects with International Students



Within the scope of the project, the relationship between nutritional habits and health was addressed through an application involving snacks and sugar. The importance of a healthy lifestyle and physical activity was emphasized through events held in the gymnasium. Students participated in the 'Intercultural Interaction Workshop' organized by the Sabancı University Career Development and Internship Office and conducted by Zeynep Bostan, the Education and Development Coordinator of AFS Turkey - Turkish Cultural Foundation (Türk Kültür Vakfı). Through the coastal cleanup activity carried out at Tuzla Kamil Abduş Lake, the sense of environmental responsibility was strengthened. Digital poster studies were conducted on the topics of addiction and gender; furthermore, students' creative expression skills were supported through videos produced on these subjects.

- SU Career Development and Internship Office - The Education and Development Coordinator of AFS Türkiye - Turkish Cultural Foundation Zeynep Bostan
- Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Fall Bazaar

The CIP Fall Bazaar took place on November 5, 2025, at the Sabancı University campus. Throughout the day, the campus lawns were filled with music, games, delicious snacks, and plenty of entertainment. For one day, the campus was transformed into a complete festival area.

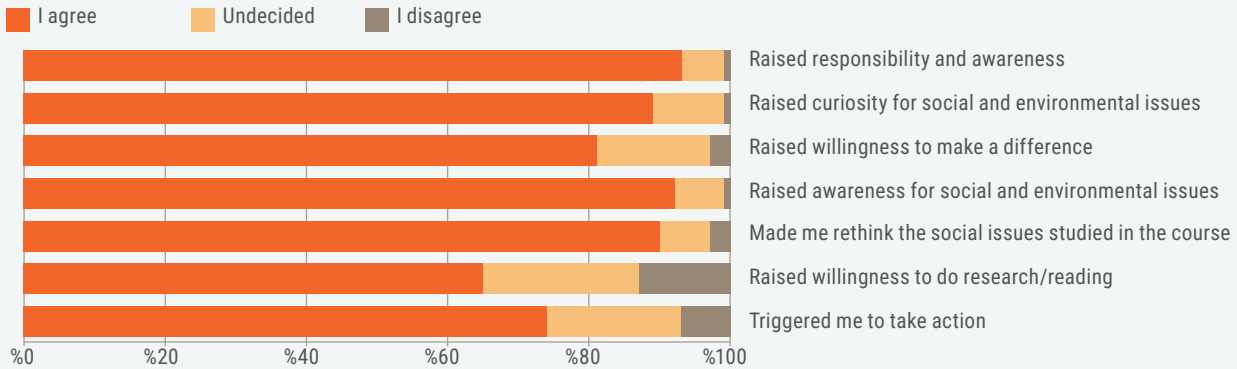


The full list of 2025–26 Fall semester CIP Projects is as follows:

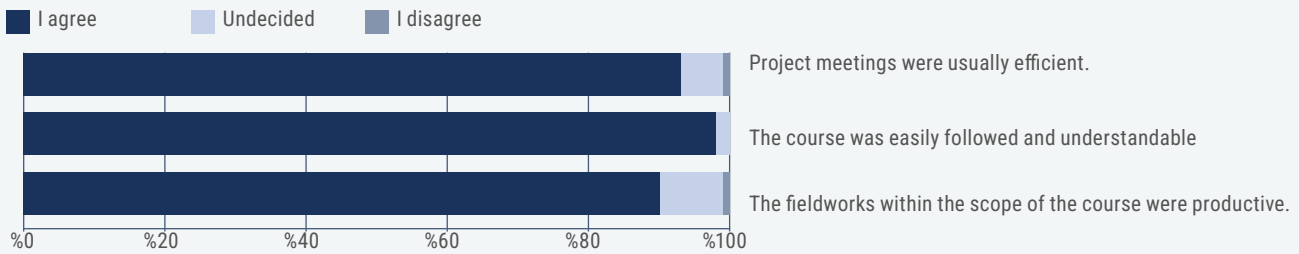
	Main Topic	Project's Name	Institution	Day	Time
P01	Education Oriented Projects	Projects in Primary Schools	Tuzla - Ulubatlı Hasan Primary School	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P02	Awareness Oriented Projects	Human Rights Project	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P03	Education Oriented Projects	Sign Language Project	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P04	Awareness Oriented Projects	Urban and Environmental Awareness Projects	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P05	Awareness Oriented Projects	Health Project	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P06	Awareness Oriented Projects	Gender/Sexual Health Awareness Project	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P07	Awareness Oriented Projects	Consumer Awareness Projects	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P08	Awareness Oriented Projects	CIP101 Project	Campus	Monday	12:40 - 15:30
P09	Awareness Oriented Projects	Disaster Awareness Projects	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P10	Support Oriented Projects	Animal Rights Project	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P11	Support Oriented Projects	Nursing Home Visits Projects	Tuzla Municipality Elderly Center	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P12	Education Oriented Projects	Projects in Primary Schools	Tuzla - Peyami Safa Primary School	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P13	Awareness Oriented Projects	Human Rights Project	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P14	Education Oriented Projects	Sign Language Project	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P15	Awareness Oriented Projects	Urban and Environmental Awareness Projects	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P16	Awareness Oriented Projects	Gender/Sexual Health Awareness Project	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P17	Awareness Oriented Projects	Consumer Awareness Projects	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P18	Awareness Oriented Projects	CIP101 Project	Campus	Tuesday	12:40 - 15:30
P19	Awareness Oriented Projects	Disaster Awareness Projects	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P20	Support Oriented Projects	Animal Rights Project	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P21	Support Oriented Projects	Nursing Home Visits Projects	Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Hospice	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P22	Education Oriented Projects	Projects in Primary Schools	Çayirova - Türkan Göktürk Primary School	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P23	Awareness Oriented Projects	Human Rights Project	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P24	Education Oriented Projects	Sign Language Project	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P25	Awareness Oriented Projects	Health Project	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P26	Awareness Oriented Projects	Gender/Sexual Health Awareness Project	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P27	Awareness Oriented Projects	CIP101 Project	Campus	Wednesday	12:40 - 15:30
P28	Support Oriented Projects	Projects in the School of Disabled Children	Yumrukaya Special Education Practice Center	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P29	Support Oriented Projects	Nursing Home Visits Projects	Kızılay Zeynep Nedim Oyvar Nursing Home	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P30	Education Oriented Projects	Projects in Primary Schools	Gebze - Bilgi Primary School	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P31	Awareness Oriented Projects	Human Rights Project	Campus	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P32	Education Oriented Projects	Sign Language Project	Campus	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P33	Awareness Oriented Projects	Urban and Environmental Awareness Projects	Campus	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P34	Awareness Oriented Projects	Health Project	Campus	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P35	Support Oriented Projects	TOM@University Project	Campus	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30
P36	Awareness Oriented Projects	CIP101 Project	Campus	Thursday	12:40 - 15:30

CIP 101 Student Evaluation Results

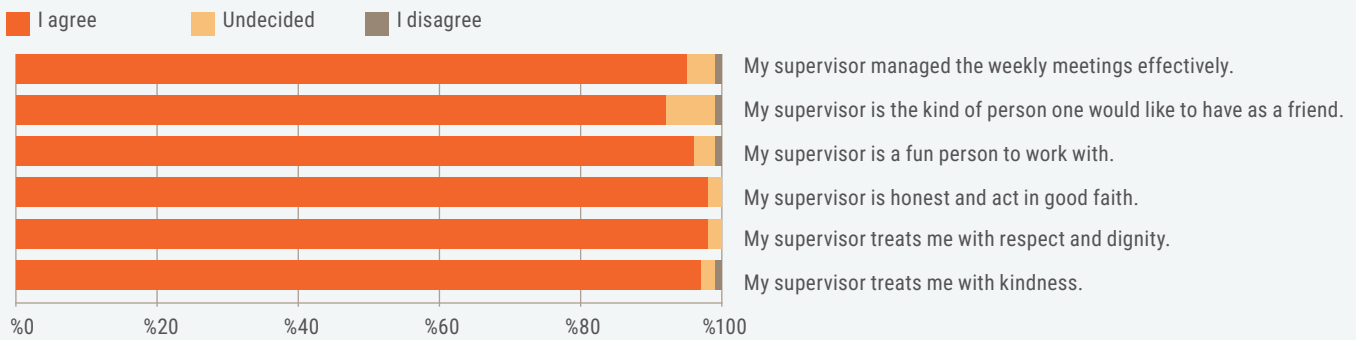
What are the benefits of the CIP 101 project for you?



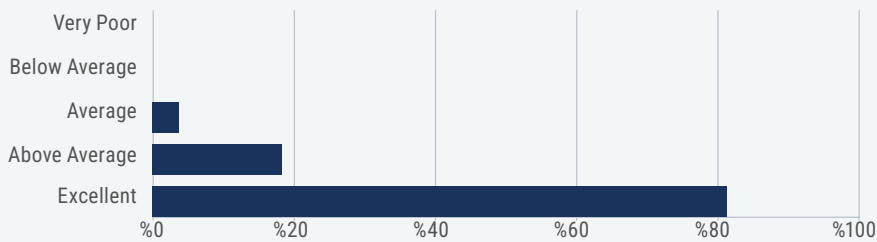
Please evaluate your project:



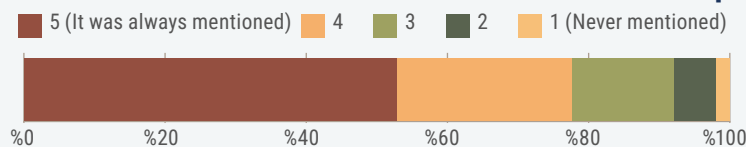
Please evaluate your CIP supervisor:



Please evaluate the performance of your supervisor:



To what extent were the Sustainable Development Goals mentioned in your project?



Extracurricular Activities

Core Curriculum Summer Retreat 2025



Amsterdam University College (AUC) and the Foundations Development Directorate of Sabancı University came together for the Core Curriculum Summer Retreat 2025, held at Sabancı University from August 15 to 19, 2025. Throughout the event, the opportunities and challenges that generative AI presents for higher education were thoroughly explored. Participants engaged in discussions on how universities can adapt to this rapid technological transformation and how they might play an active role in shaping it. As part of the program, Zeynep Bahar, Civic Involvement Projects Manager, organized various team-building activities to foster communication and collaboration among participants, adding an interactive dimension to the retreat.

Major Works Courses - Team Games Workshop



As part of Sabancı University's Orientation Week, a Team Games Workshop was held on September 25, 2025, for the instructors and teaching assistants of the Major Works Courses. The workshop was facilitated by Aslı Acar Geliş. Through games designed to strengthen teamwork, participants engaged in practical activities focused on communication, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. Taking place in an interactive and dynamic setting, the event provided participants with the opportunity to reflect on and evaluate both individual and group communication processes.

Talloires Engaged Members Roundtable Discussion



On 23 October 2025, an online meeting was held with the participation of member universities of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities to discuss global transformations and pathways for collaboration on shared challenges. The event explored how universities can serve as symbolic and practical sanctuaries for displaced individuals in an era of displacement, conflict, and migration. Participants shared diverse perspectives on how higher education institutions can support these groups while sustaining their research, educational, and civic missions. The discussion also focused on the Network's collective capacity for action, examining how goals that may be difficult to achieve individually can be accomplished more effectively through cooperation. The meeting provided a valuable platform for global exchange, solidarity, and the development of shared strategies.

CIP 25th Anniversary Reunion

On CIP's 25th anniversary, we came together on September 27, 2025, at Postane with all our supervisors and overvisors who have made CIP what it is; those who have served as team leaders and project supervisors. The gathering began with an opening speech by Zeynep Bahar, Civic Involvement Projects Manager. Afterwards, Yaşar Adanalı, one of CIP's first supervisors and the founder of Postane, joined the event online and shared his reflections on CIP's 25-year journey and how this journey continues to shape his life through different channels. Tara Hopkins, CIP's first instructor, was also with us on this special day. She shared her memories of CIP's founding years at Sabancı University. At the events held in Postane Hall, ideas, wishes, and plans for CIP's next 25 years were shared. To grow and shape this journey together, former supervisors and overvisors who have served at CIP contributed their insights to the process. The gathering concluded enjoyably with a cocktail held at the Postane Terrace. The gathering concluded with a delightful cocktail reception on the Postane Terrace. We sincerely thank all our supervisors and overvisors for their dedication, contributions, and the value they have brought to this long journey.



Extracurricular Activities

8th USRN Executive Committee Meeting



On October 29, 2025, the 8th USRN Executive Committee Meeting was held with the participation of members of the University Social Responsibility Network (USRN) board. During the meeting, a key strategic theme emerged around deepening student engagement to sustain the network's impact and cultivate future leaders in social responsibility. Members emphasized the importance of creating a vibrant community where students can connect across institutions, share their experiences, and collaborate on social responsibility projects. Zeynep Bahar, Director of the Social Responsibility Projects, presented Sabancı University's structured peer facilitation model, which develops empathy and civic engagement skills among first-year students, noting that this model could be replicated in other universities.

Seminar on Foster Care and Adoption



On 6 November 2025, a seminar on Foster Care and Adoption was held on the Sabancı University campus for university staff, delivered by Hakime Aslan, Yasin Genç (Social Worker), and Selman Yıldırım (Psychological Counselor) from the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services Foster Care Unit. The seminar covered the foster care process, application requirements, and shared experiences.

Seminar on Dating Violence



As part of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November, a Seminar on Dating Violence was held on the Sabancı University campus with Gökçesu Özgül from SU Gender. The seminar discussed different forms of dating violence, the behaviors that may fall under these categories, and emphasized that violence is not limited to the physical. It was highlighted that violence often escalates gradually, making early recognition and setting boundaries crucial. The differences between unsafe (violent) relationships and safe relationships were explored, and participants engaged in a discussion on healthy boundaries.

Tarhan College CIP Training



CIP Trainings was held on December 10, 2025, at the Sabancı University campus for high school students from Tarhan College Başakşehir and Kartal campuses. The training covered key topics such as the purpose and structure of the CIP, team leadership roles, peer leadership approaches, and shared responsibility. Through interactive activities designed to foster experiential learning, students had the opportunity to strengthen their communication, collaboration, and collective decision-making skills by actively engaging in teamwork. The training process was structured to support young people in developing social responsibility awareness and thinking from an active citizenship perspective.

Companion to Brave Girls Project



The Companion to Brave Girls Project, carried out in collaboration with the author Aslıhan Dağıştanlı Aysev, provides online English lessons to students living in socio-economically disadvantaged regions through volunteer students from Sabancı Üniversitesi. In the Spring 2025 semester, 8 volunteer students supported primary, middle school, high school, and university students living in Batman, İzmir, Kırşehir, and Şanlıurfa.

Effective Altruism Workshop



As part of the workshop, a donation-based simulation was implemented, given that donating is one of the most common ways of creating impact. In this context, three participants represented three different non-governmental organizations and delivered presentations to persuade others to donate. Following the simulation, a collective discussion was held on the criteria behind participants' donation decisions. Subsequently, the impact levels of the represented organizations were shared with participants based on current data, and the implications of different donation choices in terms of impact were discussed. Within this framework, the perspective of Effective Altruism—maximizing impact with limited resources—was introduced, and key criteria for maximizing impact were evaluated together with the participants.

Extracurricular Activities

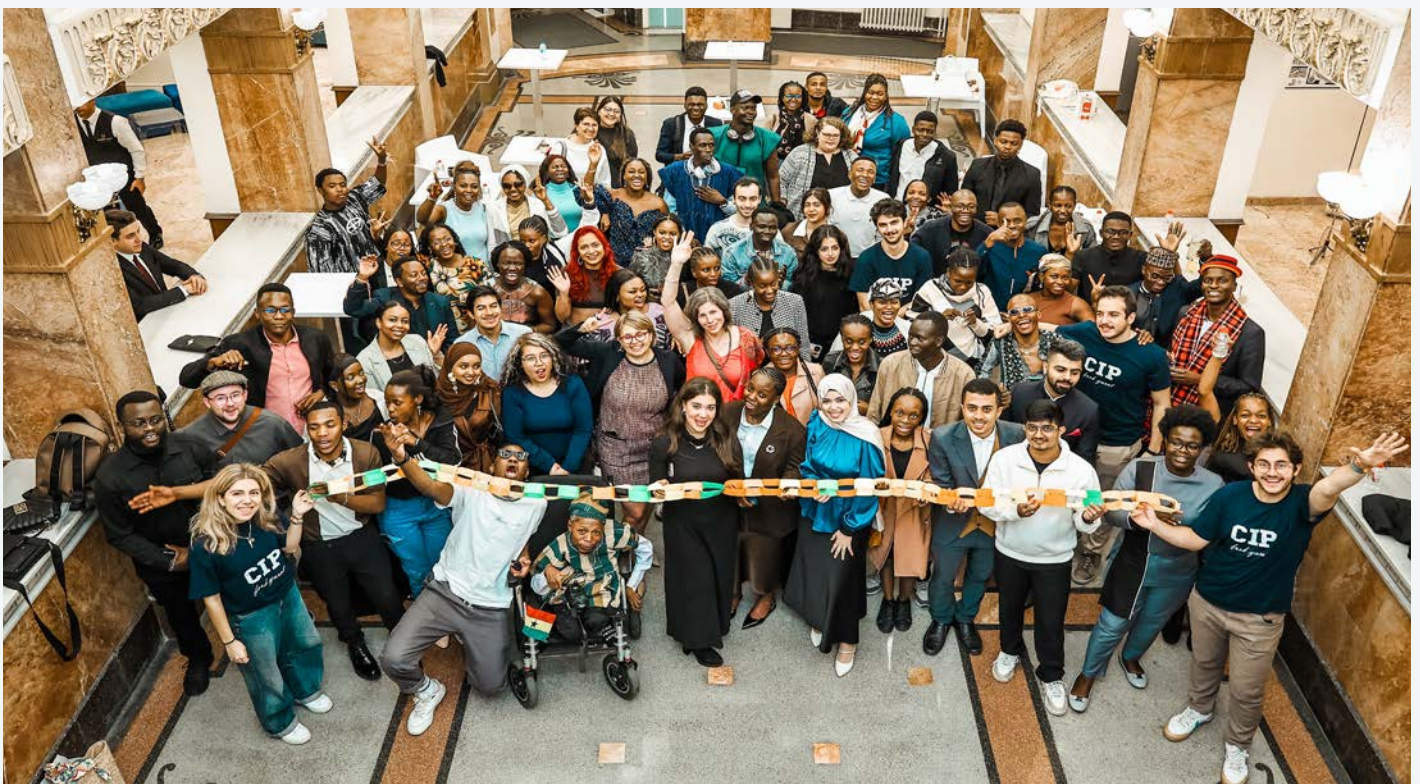
For Youth, By Youth International Conference

The For Youth, By Youth International Conference took place at Radisson Blu Pera in Istanbul from 16–19 November, in collaboration with Sabancı University Civic Involvement Projects, the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities, Next Generation Alumni Leaders, paNhari, and the Mastercard Foundation.

The Conference brought together young leaders from more than 25 countries to explore conscious leadership, global solidarity, inclusive education, and the power of youth-led action. Hosted in the heart of Istanbul, the Conference created a shared space for youth leaders to reflect, imagine, and co-create solutions around justice, peace, inclusive AI, climate action, and the future of higher education. Over two days, participants engaged in roundtables, workshops, storytelling sessions, and the creation of the first youth-written Talloires Network Declaration.



Sabancı University Civic Involvement Projects' student team leaders also played an active role in the conference, facilitating interactive activities that strengthened cultural exchange among participants, encouraged reflection on self-care and community care, and fostered a deeper sense of global solidarity.



The gathering culminated in a closing ceremony at Sabancı University's Karaköy Campus, celebrating Sabancı University's 25th anniversary and the Talloires Network's 20 years of civic engagement and global collaboration.

At the closing ceremony, Sabancı University Vice President Cem Güneri and Civic Involvement Projects Manager Zeynep Bahar emphasized that youth-led movements and civic engagement lie at the heart of Sabancı University's values. In their remarks, they highlighted that this conference—and the For Youth, By Youth movement as a whole—stands as a powerful example of how these values come to life through collective action, leadership, and solidarity.

After their remarks, Lorlene Hoyt, Executive Director of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities, joined online to deliver a closing speech, underscoring the critical importance of youth-led movements in shaping more just, inclusive, and engaged universities and communities.



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all stakeholders involved in the event. The collaborations between the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities and Sabancı University Civic Involvement Projects, aimed at fostering and expanding youth engagement, will continue to grow and develop.

Extracurricular Activities

The Award Ceremony for High School Students

The Award Program for High School Students, launched by Sabancı University Civic Involvement Projects (CIP), were presented to their recipients at a ceremony held on December 5 at the Sabancı University Performing Arts Center (SGM). Now in its second year, the award program recognizes social responsibility projects developed by high school students with the aim of contributing to social change. This year, the program received 95 project applications from 202 students representing 86 high schools across 25 cities.



Awards were presented by Emre Erol, Sabancı University Director of Foundations Development; Zeynep Bahar, Manager of Civic Involvement Projects Manager; Mutlu Bozkurt Besimzade, Director of Marketing and Corporate Communications; Mine Gökna, Deputy General Manager of TURMEPA; Nil Memişoğlu, Secretary General of the Sani Şener Foundation; Nevgül Bilsel Safkan, General Manager of the Sabancı Foundation; and Emre Başkan, Founder of Azor Brand & People Solutions. All award recipients earned the opportunity to attend the Sabancı University Summer High School Program.



The First Prize was awarded to "Kitap Bağı: Bilgiye Giden Köprü" developed by Ayşe Karadeniz, Demir Özdemir, and Zehra Işıl Kayalı from Istanbul Çevre College Anatolian High School.



The Second Prize went to "Biyçeşitliliğin Korunmasında Kril Farkındalığı" developed by Selen Türkkan and Azra Deniz from Tekirdağ Çorlu Science and Art Center.



The Third Prize was awarded to "Haklarımızın Hikayeleri" a project developed by Öykü Balbars from Manisa Salihli Sekine Evren Anatolian High School and Duru Yıldız from İzmir Konak Atatürk High School.



The Sustainability Special Award was presented to "DÊBAF İnek Sütü Yemi," developed by Ela Naz Yavaş, Hacer Ela Yamaç, and Büşra Karacı from Antalya Erünal Social Sciences High School.

The opening remarks of the ceremony, held on December 5, International Volunteer Day, were delivered by Emre Erol and Zeynep Bahar. During the award ceremony, Nil Memiřođlu delivered a speech on volunteering, while Nevđul Bilsel Safkan moderated a panel introducing the award-winning projects.

Emphasizing that civic engagement projects are not only exemplary in Trkiye but also internationally, Emre Erol stated:

“Civic involvement projects hold a critical place within Sabancı University’s unique educational model. This initiative has inspired institutions such as Columbia University to launch new programs. It is a structure that works closely with civil society organizations and continues to engage its students even after graduation. I first encountered these projects not as an academic but as a student in 2002. I volunteered and discovered myself. Seeing this collective effort—built by students, alumni, and academics—expand to include high schools is a great source of pride. I congratulate our students and thank everyone involved, especially the Civic Involvement Projects team.”



Zeynep Bahar shared the following remarks:

“Seeing young people, teachers, parents, and our partners gathered here on December 5, International Volunteer Day, gives me great hope. This ceremony is not merely an award program; it is a meeting point for young people who say, ‘I want my voice to be heard, I want to take action.’ The students participating in this program have shown us that sensitivity is not just a feeling—it is about noticing, seeing, making visible, and taking action. Our high school students are brave enough to place issues such as inequality in education, environmental challenges, equality, inclusion, and human rights at the center of their projects. Today, we are here to celebrate precisely this courage and dedication. Regardless of whether they received an award, I believe all participating students gained valuable experience. I sincerely thank our jury members, the team that refined the evaluation process, the teachers, parents, partners who supported the students, and the Civic Involvement Projects team. We are truly fortunate to explore how the world looks through young people’s eyes.”

Extracurricular Activities

The Discover Yourself Project - Van

The Discover Yourself Project was carried out at Van Hacı Ömer Sabancı Primary School between January 19-23, with the support of the Sabancı Foundation and the participation of 11 volunteer students from Sabancı University.

Within the scope of the project, workshops were conducted with fourth-grade students at Van Hacı Ömer Sabancı Primary School on the themes of children's rights, cultural interaction, approach to disability, urban awareness, gender equality, and conflict-reconciliation-peace. In addition, artistic and cultural activities supported children's participation and creativity, while aiming for university volunteers to serve as role models as older brothers and sisters.



Participating Sabancı University students shared their experiences as follows:



"It was a full and unforgettable week with an amazing team and wonderful children. In Van, we experienced long, tiring yet incredibly enjoyable days from early morning until evening. Saying goodbye to the children at the end of the week was very difficult for all of us. It was truly a project I can say 'I'm so glad I joined.'" (Ege Tarık Sağıroğlu)

"The project we carried out with children in Van turned into a fun and educational experience thanks to the communication we built through games while learning together. The children's curiosity and energy made the process even more meaningful. Being part of this project made me truly feel the value of shared moments and collective effort." (Efe Kuşcu)

"Discover Yourself allowed me to create value by connecting with children living in different regions of my country. Seeing their smiles in return for our efforts washed away all of our exhaustion. I'm so glad I took part in this project!" (Kerem Altunbaş)



"Throughout the project, I encountered countless different stories and dreams. Learning, sharing, and discovering together with the children added so much to my life. Their questions, curiosity, and laughter motivated me all over again. I'm grateful to have been part of this journey." (Enes Mercan)

"Discover Yourself was an experience where we were both playmates for the children and role models, acting as older siblings while conducting educational activities. Contributing to a dream in their minds or a smile on their faces at the end of one week was a deeply meaningful experience for me. I'm so glad I was part of this project." (Egemen Günay)

"Through the Discover Yourself Project, we establish one-on-one communication with children, get to know them, and teach each other many things along the way. Listening to their lives and trying to contribute to their awareness of social and environmental issues allowed us to create beautiful memories together. Kendini Keşfet Van was a very valuable and meaningful project. I believe it contributed to my personal growth and transformed me." (Eylül Yalıtır)

"Discover Yourself is a very special project that brings us together with children from cultures we might never otherwise encounter in our lives. Seeing their curiosity during the activities we designed to raise awareness, and feeling excited by their questions, was incredibly valuable. I feel very lucky to have carried out this project with my team." (Dicle Ezgi İlhan)

"The Discover Yourself Project gave us the opportunity to come together with the next generation and see how we can work in harmony. Building a deep connection with them in such a short time and being a reason for their excitement to come to school every day was an incredible experience." (Ayşe Eda Alaca)

"This project not only increased my awareness of different social issues but also contributed greatly to my personal development. Together with the children, we explored topics such as gender equality, cultural heritage, and urban life through hands-on activities. Being both a facilitator and a learner throughout this process was a highly educational, productive, and inspiring experience for me." (Bora Kalaycı)

"Spending time with children was incredibly valuable to me. Regardless of where they live or their cultural background, this experience reminded me once again how unique, precious, and special each child is. During the time we spent together, I learned so much as well. I hope that as I left, I was able to leave behind beautiful memories for them too." (İdil Işıl Yıldırım)

"Discover Yourself was a project I had always thought about but never dared to join. Looking back, all I can say is 'I'm so glad I did.' Working in a completely different city with different children and people gave me far more than I had imagined. On the last day, when the children came to hug us, everything else faded away, and all that remained was the happiness of having touched their lives." (Ferhunde Feyza Karayel)

On the closing day, Gökçen Göksel, founder of Oyun Atlası, one of the Sabancı Foundation's 14th Season Changemakers, taught children the traditional Nine Stones game, offering a fun and educational experience.

We would like to sincerely thank the Sabancı Foundation for its support and valuable contributions to the project.

Supervisors

The projects carried out within the scope of the CIP 101 course are conducted by CIP supervisors. After leading projects for four semesters, each supervisor takes on the role of an overvisor and continues to work by specializing in their preferred areas within the CIP. Three of our supervisors for the Fall 2025-26 semester are international students.



	Overvisor	Supervisor	Total
Freshman		10	10
Sophomore		51	51
Junior	1	14	15
Senior	10	2	12
TOPLAM	11	77	91

The faculty and program distribution of our supervisors and overvisor is as follows.

		Overvisor	Supervisor	Total
Faculty of Engineering And Natural Sciences	Computer Science and Engineering	5	14	19
	Electronics Engineering		3	3
	Industrial Engineering	2	29	31
	Mechatronics Engineering		2	2
	Molecular Biology, Genetics and Bioengineering	1	1	2
	I haven't declared yet.		8	8
TOTAL		8	57	65
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	Psychology	2	1	3
	Political Science and International Relations		2	2
	Economics		4	4
	Visual Arts and Visual Communication Design		1	1
	I haven't declared yet.		1	1
TOTAL		2	9	11
Sabancı Business School	Management	1	11	12
	TOTAL	1	11	12



Trainings for the Team

ALL CIP



ALL-CIP was held on October 5, 2025, at Sabancı University with the participation of our supervisor and overvisor students.

The event began with an opening meeting held with the overvisor students. In this session, experiences from previous semesters, goals for the new term, and the commitments made to CIP and to one another were shared through the “Goal Tree” activity.

During the gathering, Zeynep Bahar, Civic Involvement Projects Manager, shared CIP’s core principles, the roles of supervisors and overvisors, the projects carried out during the 2025 Spring Semester, the new term plan, and key dates.

Afterwards, a comprehensive training session was conducted by the overvisor students for the supervisors. The training covered key supervisory responsibilities, including preparing project content, developing semester project plans, managing meetings effectively, attendance procedures, organizing fundraising events, evaluation, and reporting.

Throughout the event, important information about the new semester was shared, and an interactive and collaborative learning environment was created through the exchange of experiences among students.

CIP Team

CIPs Academy



CIP supervisor and overvisor students came together with Kokopelli Şehirde (Kokopelli in the City), one of the Changemakers of the 15th Season of the Sabancı Foundation, on October 11, 2025, at Akmerkez Terrace. Titled "Rethinking the City and Food: An Example of Terrace Farming," the event began with an inspiring opening speech by Prof. Dr. Zafer Yenil, Faculty Member at Sabancı Business School, focusing on the right to food. As part of the event, our supervisor and overvisors, together with the Kokopelli Şehirde team, toured the terrace farming area; listened on-site to practices in composting, permaculture, and urban gardening; learned about edible plants; and gained hands-on experience in routine gardening tasks such as seed sowing, seedling care, and compost management. This experience demonstrated that it is possible to connect with nature within the city and to rethink our relationship with food from a new perspective. We extend our sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. Zafer Yenil and the Kokopelli Şehirde team for their valuable contributions.



CIPs



CIP trainings, known as CIPs, are organized every semester with the aim of improving the technical and non-technical skills of CIP supervisors and overvisors and equipping them more comprehensively. This semester, the CIPs designed by supervisors and overvisors offered students short, intensive, and theme-based learning experiences structured around specific topics. The trainings conducted this term are as follows:

- Metalog Games - CIP Overvisors
- Effective Altruism - Yaşarhan Saraloğlu
- Stress and Well-Being - Sinemis Işık İlday, Sude Çaylı

2025-26 Fall semester CIP team list is as follows

SUPERVISORS

Ada Dila Akbulut	Hasan Efe Denizli
Ada Yılmaz	İlayda Holinoğlu
Ahmet Efe Aydoğdu	İrem Çakmakçı
Ahmet Talha Buzul	Kaan Tanıdır
Alican Derviş Aslan	Kerem Altunbaş
Alp Ege Küpelioğlu	Mehmet Kerem Gazioğlu
Altyn Jytdanova	Mehmet Rafet Yıldırım
Ayça Sezgin	Mercan Saygı
Ayşe Eda Alaca	Mert Çağlar Baycık
Aysu Duru Şişman	Merve Gün
Başar Koçkar	Mısra Ünlü
Beyza Bükra Işık	Nayat Darçin
Bilge Erdoğan	Naz Çıklaçifci
Bora Kalaycı	Nehir Ünal
Cansu Yıldırım	Ömer İhsan Balcı
Cem Şahin	Osman Senih Demirci
Ceylin Ertuğrul	Özge Akbal
Damla Kemal	Reyhan İrem Demirci
Defne Demir	Rtykgul Halmuhammedova
Derin Alaçal	Rüveyda Otu
Dicle Ezgi İlhan	Sana Zarei
Duru Kuvvetli	Sedef Erol
Duru Zeynep Çullu	Sefa Soylu
Ece Bilgiç	Şemse Doğa Atılğan
Efe Kuşcu	Şevval Aydın
Ege Tarık Sağıroğlu	Sude Temizkan
Egemen Günay	Tahsin Can Dundar
Ekin Ada Çalık	Talya Naz Migirdiçoğlu
Ekin Henden	Uygar Yenigün
Enes Mercan	Yağız Büyükakkaş
Eren Medetoğlu	Yağmur Ögetman
Eylül Yaltır	Yağmur Özkan
Ezgi Nur Göceklı	Yağmur Uludeveci
Farah İftikhar	Yaşarhan Saraloğlu
Fatma Duymaz	Zeynep Duru Sezer
Ferhunde Feyza Karayel	Zeynep Güngör
Furkan Gönen	Zeynep Lal Genç
Furkan Tuğrul	Zeynep Taştan
Furkan Yiğit Bakım	

OVERVISORS

Annajemal Meredova
Arda Biçer
Bensu Ünal
Berkay Çamlıyurt
Ekin Toprak
Hüseyin Avşar
Öykü Örsmen
Özgür Oğulcan Yanar
Rüzgar Renklioğlu
Sinemis Işık İlday
Sude Çaylı
Tolga Tektunalı

CIP OFFICE

Zeynep Bahar
Aslı Acar Geliş
Selen Avcı
Neşe Aktuğ Okumuş
Ferdi Emir Çelik

Prepared by Aslı Acar Geliş
Contributed by Selen Avcı

Sabancı
Universitesi

CIVIC
INVOLVEMENT
PROJECTS
SABANCI UNIVERSITY



**A QUARTER CENTURY OF
CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:
CIP EXPERIENCES**

In our 25th year, we are bringing
together 25 alumni in our
podcast series.



cip.sabanciuniv.edu

Sabancı University
Tuzla, İstanbul

cip@sabanciuniv.edu

t: +90 0216 483 3627