



Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality

City profile downloaded from CitiesWithNature

16 July 2025

Chapter 1

Profile overview



About

Istanbul is a city that attracts attention due to its location even when viewed from a satellite, where 4 seasons can be experienced, is a frequent destination for people from all over the world with its historical and cultural texture, as well as being the largest metropolis of Europe with unique natural beauties. Due to its location, Istanbul has a critical importance not only for humans but also for wildlife. In addition to many drinking water basins, Istanbul also includes the Terkos Basin, which was selected as one of the 100 hot spots in Europe that should be protected in terms of biodiversity within the scope of the "Gift to the World Project" carried out in cooperation with WWF. Istanbul, which acts as a bridge between the European and Asian Continents, is an important migration route for migratory birds, as well as being home to many exotic bird species and endemic plant species with its urban forests, groves and city parks. Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Parks and Recreation Department has started to work intensively with universities in recent years to increase the amount of green space per capita and to protect the wildlife and biodiversity in Istanbul. Our department, listening to the calls of academics, created natural flora and fauna protection zones, set up bee houses to increase biodiversity, created wildlife observation points to raise awareness and organized activities to raise environmental awareness. In addition, some of the green areas in our administration have been awarded the Green Flag awards, which is a non-profit international accreditation program that recognizes the best parks in the world. At the C40 summit of the big cities climate leadership group, the "Deadline 2020" Commitment was signed by our Metropolitan Mayor, Mr. Ekrem İmamoğlu, and the target of Istanbul's being a "carbon neutral" and "resilient city" for 2050 was accepted. In line with the objectives of the IMM Parks and Recreation Department, it is aimed to make existing public buildings powered by 100% renewable energy. In this direction, it was first implemented in the "İSMEK Pastacılık ve Fırıncılık Okulu" building. Projects design processes continue for more renewable energy. Sports and recreation areas are designed from recyclable materials within the scope of the sustainability principle, which is an important step in reducing the carbon footprint as well as protecting the raw material and reducing waste generation. Urban equipment is also produced from reuseable and recyclable materials.

Overview

15460000

Population size

Turkey

Country

Europe and the Middle East

Region

Ekrem İmamoğlu, Mayor of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality

Care for the city, respect for the people. We are working relentlessly to make Istanbul an innovative, green, inclusive, and fair city.

Platform engagement statistics



1

Nature Pathway engagements

Achievements

Profile awards

The city has updated their profile and achieved the following:



Starter profile
100% complete



Frontrunner profile
80% complete



Star profile
0% complete

The Nature Pathway

The city has engaged with the Nature Pathway to integrate nature throughout their city's plans, policies and operations.



Starter profile
100% complete



Frontrunner profile
0% complete



Star profile
0% complete

Tools & resources hub

The city has made uploads to the CitiesWithNature tools & resources hub, which provides a knowledge-sharing platform for cities to share information and inspire one another.



Starter profile
0% complete



Frontrunner profile
0% complete



Star profile
0% complete

Action Platform

The CitiesWithNature Action Platform is endorsed by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity for cities to make commitments, share their actions and set targets for people and nature to flourish.



Starter profile
0% complete



Frontrunner profile
0% complete



Star profile
0% complete

Chapter 2

The Action Platform



The Action Platform

The CitiesWithNature Action Platform is endorsed by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity for cities to make commitments, share their actions and set targets for people and nature to flourish.



Action area 1

Protect and restore nature

Other commitments under this action area

Protect, connect and restore ecosystems

Conserve and restore fauna and flora

Manage invasive alien species

Control Pollution

Climate change adaptation and mitigation



Action area 2

Use nature sustainably

Other commitments under this action area

Equitable benefits through sustainable use of wild species

Biodiversity in urban agriculture, aquaculture and forestry

Promote people's access to green and blue spaces



Action area 3

Develop tools and solutions

Other commitments under this action area

Mainstreaming biodiversity values

Sustainable production and consumption

Use relevant knowledge, including traditional knowledge, for effective biodiversity management

Equitable and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in biodiversity-related decision-making

Mobilize resources for biodiversity actions

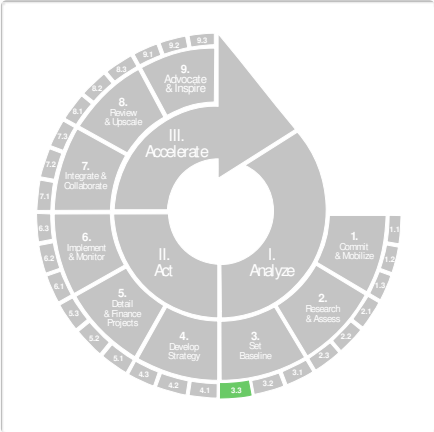
Chapter 3

Nature Pathway



Nature Pathway

The Nature Pathway assists cities with integrating nature throughout their city's plans, policies and operations.



I. Analyze

1. Commit & mobilize

No uploads or resources have been linked

2. Research & assess

No uploads or resources have been linked

3. Set Baseline

Section 3.3

II. Act

4. Develop strategy

No uploads or resources have been linked

5. Detail & finance projects

No uploads or resources have been linked

6. Implement & monitor

No uploads or resources have been linked

III. Accelerate

7. Integrate & collaborate

No uploads or resources have been linked

8. Review & upscale

No uploads or resources have been linked

9. Advocate & inspire

No uploads or resources have been linked

Chapter 4

City Biodiversity Index



City Biodiversity Index

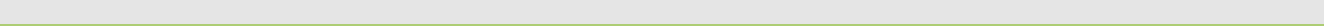
The City Biodiversity Index (CBI) is a self-assessment tool for cities to evaluate and monitor the progress of their biodiversity conservation efforts against their own individual baselines.

This city has measured the following total CBI score out of 112 points:

0 Points

Native biodiversity in the city

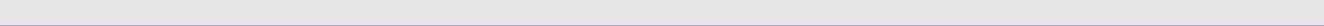
Core Component Total Score: 0 of 36 points



Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality has not started on this biodiversity index section

Ecosystem services provided by biodiversity

Core Component Total Score: 0 of 20 points



Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality has not started on this biodiversity index section

Governance and management of biodiversity

Core Component Total Score: 0 of 56 points



Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality has not started on this biodiversity index section

Chapter 5

Tools & resources



Tools & resources

All tools & resources the city has uploaded to the CitiesWithNature Tools & resources hub.

Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality has not yet posted any tools and resources



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