







Title of the PhD Project	Sponge Istanbul: Nature-based solutions for urban water management
Acronym	SpongelST
Research Fields of the Project	Urban and Regional Planning, Environmental Engineer, Management studies
Keywords	Spatial planning, urban water management, ecological planning, climate change
Host Institution, Department and Campus Location	Istanbul Technical University, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Taskisla Campus Taksim İstanbul
PhD Awarding Institution and Graduate Programme	Istanbul Technical University, Graduate School, Urban and Regional Planning PhD Programme
Name and Affiliation of Main Supervisor	Prof. Dr. Aliye Ahu Gülümser (ITU)
Name and Affiliation of Co- Supervisors	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Başak Demireş Özkul (ITU) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mahmut Altınbaş (ITU)
Research Environment and Infrastructure	PhD candidates will be expected to work in an interdisciplinary environment with access to a variety of database on water resources and spatial planning of Istanbul in Environment and Urbanisation Application and Research Center of ITU.
Scientific Context of the Project	The project titled "Sponge Istanbul: Nature-based solutions for urban water management (SpongeIST)" aims to reduce the impacts of climate change via the implementation of sponge city concept. Taking the advantage of water resources and the challenge of water scarcity of Istanbul, dedicated PhD student under the supervision of relevant experts in the field will provide a guideline on the transformation of Istanbul into a sponge city. In order to do that, the project derive a









	multidisciplinary approach integrating spatial data analytics, technology, and nature-based solutions via ecological planning. The Project will offer policy recommendation through pilot studies to foster sustainable long-term solutions for the main challenges of the city.
	The scientific context of the Project compromises a multidisciplinary approach that integrates insights from multidimensional and multidisciplinary approach. Mainly based on environmental engineering and spatial planning fields vis a vis the implemented projects to address one of the recent innovative approaches to a complex and interconnected challenge of Istanbul "water scarcity".
Brief Workplan	Year 1: Methodological Framework
	Year 2: Understanding the existing situation
	Year 3: Pilot Studies
	Year 4: Policy recommendation and dissemination
Innovative Aspects of the Project	The implementation of Sponge City concept is a novel approach for Istanbul's spatial planning. Although several projects exist but not yet fully implemented about the reuse of water, this project will offer steps to be taken to reach the transformation of Istanbul into a sponge city with nature-based solutions.
Training	Training will be inside the facilities of the ITU Campuses.
Opportunities of the Project	
Interdisciplinary	NA NA
Aspects	
Intersectoral Mobility	TBD
Short Visit	









☐ Secondment	
Intersectoral	TBD
Mobility	
☐ Short Visit	
☐ Secondment	
International	TBD
Academic	
Secondment	

Main Superviso	r	
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