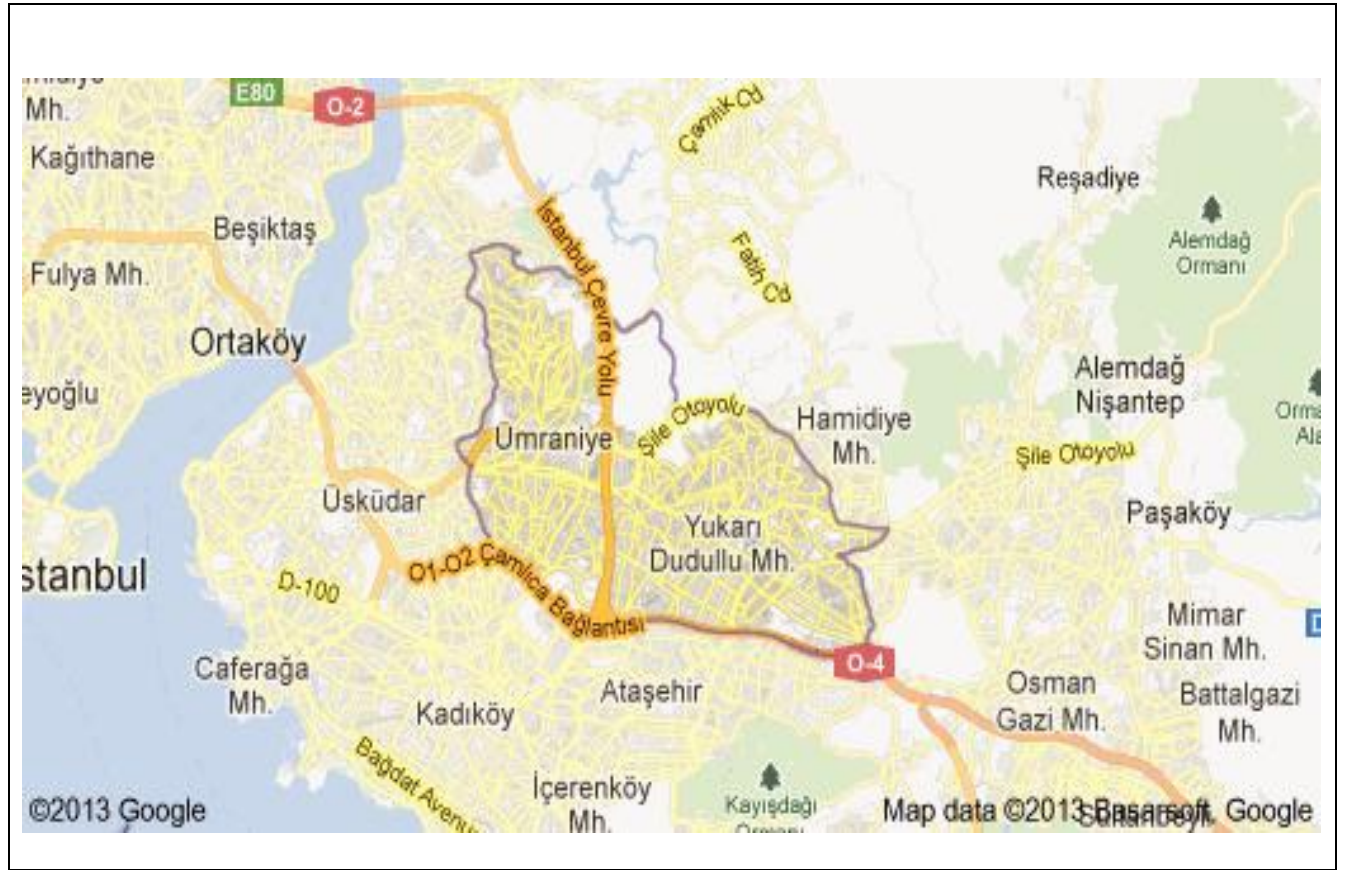


İSTANBUL ON THE PATH TO EU TOWN TWINNING FORM

THE TOWN OF UMRANIYE	
Number of Inhabitants: 645.238	
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MAIN CHARACTERISTICS (GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION, HISTORY....)

Umraniye is in the Marmara region and at the Asian part of İstanbul. The city is established on a solid ground. Umraniye is surrounded by Beykoz at its north; Şile at its northeast; Kartal and Sultanbeyli at its east; Üsküdar at its west. The altitude of Umraniye is 75 m. The geographical coordinates of Umraniye is : 41°01'70, 29°08'30. Its area is 153 km². There are no lake and big mountains within the boundaries of the district.

History of Umraniye

People who firstly settled down in Umraniye are the Turkish-origin immigrants from Batumi, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. For this reason, it was named as 'Muhacir Köy/Immigrant Village'.

The modern town of Umraniye is established in 1960. Umraniye became a district municipality in 1987. The first local election was in 1989. Umraniye is now one of the towns of İstanbul which is the fastest urbanized and open to development.

Population

Umraniye is the third most crowded district of İstanbul. According to Turkish Statistical Institute datas; number of inhabitants in Umraniye is 645.238 by the end of 2012. 326.439 of this number is consisted of men and 318.799 is consisted of women. The density of population is 4128 people /km².

ECONOMIC SITUATION

Umraniye is a district having an economic diversity. Small scale manufacturing industry, auto spare part, production of wood products, education, finance, health complexes and sport sectors are flourishing. The biggest furniture store sites is located within the limits of the district. Umraniye is specialized as a business center with recently opened shopping centers and serve not only the people within its district but also people from outside the city. In recent years, big companies and banks have been moving their central head offices to Umraniye. In addition, a new financial center leading the financial sector of Turkey is set up. Furthermore, foreign trade volume is present significantly.

Umraniye is the industrial area of İstanbul. There is an Industrial Park which employ 16.338 people in 125 active company. Also 12 big trading estate and cooperative are present which employ 25.108 people. Tourism is among the sectors that need to be improved in Umraniye.

PROVIDED SERVICES

Umraniye Municipality serves standart municipality services as well as following areas :

600 cultural activities annually are organized as part of vocational course within 13 different cultural center. 16.000 students are registered in 23 'erudition house' and they are supported with educational activities. Our municipality serves to 345 elderly people who are not able to cook.

The Cultural Center of the Disabled is set up within the Umraniye Municipality, which have 8 different branches of courses. Their transportation is provided with specially equipped vehicles. Within Solution Center Project, we have special telephones located on 15 different point, 3 Solution Office in different places and Call Centers. By using these ways citizens can reach to explain their complaints and requests through a single software.

ABIS-Geographical Information Project is prepared for a probable disaster and it provides the coordination and all the needs of people to reach easily all the information through a single software.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Our project has been implemented within the scope of Development Agency. It enables to restructure all the applications and the processes of municipality by moving all to electronic media. In this project it is aimed to improve service quality.

By means of getting electronic signature, citizens will have the opportunity to make all applications and other procedures by using internet. Moreover citizens will follow activities of municipality and their service request by using multi-touch screens located on information walls and kiosks.

Municipality staff can serve more rapidly by reaching the information of system using hand terminals and mobile equipment. By means of the application of home office system it enables saving from the constant expense like transportation, electric, office and etc.

As a result of moving all the procedures to electronic media, it provides paper saving and it prevents losing or deformation of information.

TOWN TWINNING EXPERIENCES

Umraniye Municipality has signed town twinning protocols with Bosnia Herzigova-Fojnica Municipality and Paletsine-Jabalia Al Nazlah Municipality.

Cultural Center of Fojnica was built in Fojnica, Bosnia Herzigova by Umraniye Municipality. Different kinds of vocational courses were given in Cultural Center of Fojnica. Furthermore, cultural activities and visits mutually continue to improve the relationships at the local level.

By means of town twinning protocol signed between Umraniye Municipality and Paletsine-Jabalia Al Nazlah Municipality, the relationships have been strengthening with the visits mutually and sharing of experiences and knowledge.

SITUATION ANALYSIS

PROBLEM AREAS

Although Umraniye have commercial and economical potential, due to the lack of touristic areas, it couldn't attract foreign tourists sufficiently. Studies in the field of tourism will make a contribution to district's economy by realizing the city branding.

The systems for separate collection of waste components need to be improved to enable the recycling economic, healthy and efficient way. In this context it is needed to raise awareness among citizens.

Elderly people form an important part of the district and, it is crucial to give the contribution for their integration to social life. The work for aging in quality is necessary.

AREAS OF STRENGTH

Umraniye Municipality made headway by working on urban transformation seriously.

By means of the developments of financial sector in last 5 years, the district has been developing steadily.

The citizens of Umraniye can reach the services of municipality rapidly by means of special phones located in different points, 3 solution Office in different locations, call center and web service.

13 different cultural centers is set up in Umraniye and 600 activity have been organized in these cultural centers such as vocational and personal development trainings. Bus of mobile computer training is serving in different points for training of women.

16.000 students are registered in 23 'Bilgi Evi'(erudition house). Children aged between 7 and 14 can use the library and internet-based training with guidance of an officer.

Ümraniye Disaster Information System service provides the citizens to reach all the information about the needs for their preparations before a possible disaster.

POTENTIAL AREAS OF COOPERATION

Umraniye District of governorate and local municipality seeks for potential partners in the following areas to work on joint projects to exchange technical expertise and knowledge

Areas of Cooperation		Areas of Cooperation	
Environment-Environment Protection	x	Tourism	x
Urban Transportation	x	Citizen Participation	
Social Services	x	Local Social and Economic Development	
City Branding	x	Urban Planning	
Energy Efficiency		Implementation of EU Projects	
Culture		Other	

Remarks (Information on Areas of Cooperation)

In Umraniye there are 645.238 citizens and 565.000 waste is collected in a day. Environmental Protection and Control Directorate is working on separate collection of packaging waste, medical waste, waste vegetable oil , metal waste oil , old battery , electrical and electronic waste, and old tires. Within the framework of this project, we want to work about the awareness of separation of waste by seeing and examining good examples on waste separation. In this context, we want to work on joint Project and activities regarding environment issues with EU member countries.

There are 234 elderly people, above age of 60, in need of care in Umraniye. In this context we want to develop projects about elderly people who need to be assisted. The main aim is to enable these people accessing social rights easily and getting involved in social life. Developing joint projects and activities with our potential twin cities are very important for observing good examples and adapting these examples to Umraniye/Istanbul.

Umraniye is constantly developing in social, cultural, financial, economical, commercial areas. In this regard, our district aims to be a model city with urban development for Istanbul and even Turkey by making headway in financial and economic areas comparing other districts. In this context; it is aimed to determine the outstanding features of the city (urban transformation, shopping centers and financial center and etc.),to work on promotional activities and too see the good examples about city branding.

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