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Ezgi Ezdar Onur

Start-Up Mentor | User Experience Designer | Social Entrepreneur

Summary

I have started my career as an industrial designer and went on to work in eclectic fields including urban furniture, system design, medical products in Turkey and India.

I have been working with startups and designers for almost 10 years and helped to develop many communities from scratch. "Izmir city startup ecosystem" is still growing, and I believe I have a big share in its formation. "Innovation Center" and "Wake Up" projects are still bringing success for Izmir and many other cities.

Currently, I am working on User Experience Design and Entrepreneurship. And also, I founded 2 Startups and 2 NGOs, in addition to working as the President of Izmir Branch of Industrial Designers' Society of Turkey.

Experience

Founder & User Experience Designer

Design Mesh Innovation Lab (ION Technology Ltd. Co.) – Izmir/TURKEY

February 2018 – Present

<http://designmeshlab.com/>

Design Mesh Innovation Lab helps companies and organisations increase their bottom line and become more effective by applying design thinking to get close to their users, customers and stakeholders.

- User Experience Design
- Design Thinking
- Industrial Design

Co-Founder & Startup Mentor

Maya Startup Hub – Izmir/TURKEY

September 2019 – Present

<http://mayagirisim.com/>

Maya Startup Hub; to enterprises that have passed the idea stage and started production; is an acceleration program that provides consultancy and various services with a focus on product development, business development, design and marketing. Based on the Design Thinking approach, this center also pioneers the next investment needs as the first investor of startups.

Co-Founder

Bi'Komsu – TURKEY

April 2020 – August 2020

<https://bikomsu.com/>

"Bi'Komşu" is a social enterprise launched by 4 young entrepreneurs in April 2020, when the rate of spread of the pandemic in Turkey increased. Thanks to this initiative, the bill-sharing method was tried for the first time in the world. In a short time, house bills that cost over 1,250,000 TL were paid by the supporters.

Program Coordinator

Fuckup Nights Izmir – İzmir/TURKEY

February 2020 – August 2021

<https://www.fuckupnights.com/izmir/>

NGO - A global movement born in Mexico in 2012 to share publicly business failure stories. Hundreds of people attend each event to hear three to four entrepreneurs share their failures. Each speaker is given 7 minutes and is able to use 10 images. After each speaker, there's a question/answer session, as well as time for networking.

Co-Founder & President

Industrial Designers Society of Turkey/ Izmir City Branch – İzmir/TURKEY

February 2020 – Present (Founded in July 2011)

<http://etmk.org.tr/tr/anasayfa/>

Industrial Designers' Society of Turkey (ETMK), the fundamental professional organization of industrial design in Turkey, was established by a group of industrial designers in Ankara in 1988. The society has branches in İstanbul, İzmir and Ankara. ETMK aims at promoting industrial design profession to the society, constituting and protecting designers' rights and authorities, enhancing communication and solidarity amongst colleagues, and collaborating with corresponding institutions in user and manufacturer studies in order to present well-designed products to the society.

Senior Start-up Consultant & Trainer

TIM-TEB Start-Up House – Izmir/TURKEY

2015 – 2018

- Managing technology incubators in Aegean Region of Turkey, funded by Turkish Exporters Assembly and Turkish Economy Bank (BNP Paribas Partner)
- I am the creator of **Wake Up** - Design Thinking Program for Young Entrepreneurs
- One to one business development consultancy
- Business Model, Business Plan and Design Thinking trainings
- Founding and managing TIM-TEB Startup House Izmir city branch
- Organising trainings and events in Start-up House
- Developing business process of incubation and acceleration programs in Startup House

Entrepreneurship Coordinator

Atmosfer Technology Transfer Office – Izmir/TURKEY

2014 – 2015

<https://www.atmosfertto.com/en/>

- Member of Founder Team, project development and process design of government funded (TUBITAK) Atmosfer Technology Transfer Office (budget: 10M TL)
- One to one business development consultancy
- Business Canvas and Design Thinking trainings

Coordination Expert

Technopark Izmir – Izmir/TURKEY

2011 – 2015

<https://teknoparkizmir.com.tr/>

- Member of Founder Team, project development and process design of government funded **Innovation Center** (Izmir Development Agency, budget: 10M TL)
- Founder of **Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy**
- Organization and design of Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy for 6 terms
- Training entrepreneurs and university students at Techno-Entrepreneurship Academy

Design Project Manager

LazerTurk Architectural Accessories and Outdoor Advertising – Antalya/TURKEY

2010 – 2011

- Leading design team, orientation and training for new team members
- Idea Room Project - creating a space for design team to boost their creativity
- Design and implementation of company fair stand and promotion products

Education

Master of Science in Technology Management

Izmir Institute of Technology – Izmir/TURKEY

2011-2014

Bachelor of Design in Industrial Design

Izmir University of Economics – Izmir/TURKEY

2006-2010

Language

English Professional working proficiency

German Limited working proficiency

Turkish Native proficiency