

AKUT SEARCH AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

GLOBAL COMPACT

2020 - 2021 COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT REPORT



THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT'S TEN PRINCIPLES

- **Principle 1** - Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights
- **Principle 2** - Make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses
- **Principle 3** - Businesses should uphold freedom of association & effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining
- **Principle 4** - The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labor
- **Principle 5** - The effective abolition of child labor
- **Principle 6** - Eliminate discrimination in respect of employment and occupation
- **Principle 7** - Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges
- **Principle 8** - Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility
- **Principle 9** - Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies
- **Principle 10** - Businesses should work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery



AKUT'S MISSION

AKUT is entirely a voluntary, non-governmental organization involved in searching, assisting and rescuing all who require aid within its authority and means, in mountain or other nature-related accidents, natural disasters and all other emergency conditions by means of well-trained, disciplined, high-standard personnel and equipment, passing on knowledge to society with no political affiliation.

AKUT's Values

- Volunteerism
- Honesty/Integrity
- Trustworthiness/Reliability
- Benevolence
- Respect and value for human life



Dear Madam / Sir,

I am pleased to confirm that AKUT Search and Rescue Society reaffirms its support of the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact. We will continue to take necessary actions to improve the integration of the Global Compact and its principles into our projects and continually inform our volunteers through our communication channels via our mail groups and social media.

Our Mission; as a voluntary, non-governmental organization involved in searching, assisting and rescuing all who require aid within its authority and means, in mountain or other nature-related accidents, natural disasters and all other emergency conditions by means of trained, disciplined, high-standard personnel and equipment, passing on knowledge to society with no political affiliation, to realize all of the above by strictly abiding to our values: volunteerism, integrity, reliability, helpfulness/humanitarianism, and respect for human life. We aim to continuously increase the awareness of the society towards disasters as well as awareness for the environment, increasing their level of understanding and evolve it to an active society for their safe future

We innovate by sharing our know-how and experience via AKUT Institute, increasing the preparedness of companies as well as the families attached to them against disasters, increasing their risk analyzing capabilities, building up their risk management capabilities in addition to their management in case of emergency.

AKUT Search And Rescue Association Chairman of the Board

Recep SALCI

January 2020

AKUT Manisa Team Provided Support to Earthquake Victims

Two earthquakes occurred; one in the Akhisar district of Manisa on January 22, at 22.22 and the other the epicenter of which was Manisa Kırkağaç on January 28, at 14:26.

The earthquakes were sensed in İstanbul, Bursa and İzmir, and caused fear among citizens. In the earthquake, where there was no loss of life, many citizens could not enter their homes due to the continued aftershocks and panic.



In line with the decision taken by AFAD, 9 volunteers from AKUT Manisa team carried out an operation to support the tent setup in the Musalar village of Akhisar on January 22 together with Manisa Metropolitan Municipality, MAT Association.

On January 28, 14 volunteers from AKUT Manisa team, and 6 volunteers and 2 search and rescue dogs from AKUT İzmir team participated in the operation.

There was no loss of life in both earthquakes, and both operations were ended by setting up tents to meet the sheltering needs of the citizens.

AKUT Teams Extended a Hand with a Crowded Team in Elazığ Earthquake

In the statement made by AFAD and Kandilli Observatory on January 24, 2020, an earthquake of 6.8 magnitude occurred at 20.55 in the Sivrice district of Elazığ.

The earthquake occurred at a depth of 6.75 kilometers. Afterwards, at 21.08, several aftershocks occurred, the largest of which was 5.4.

AKUT Emergency Management closely followed the circumstances in the region and quickly decided to operate.



116 operational volunteers and 2 search dogs took part in the field and 40 volunteers took part in the coordination, consisting of AKUT Bingöl, İstanbul, Kocaeli, Bursa, Trabzon, Ankara, Gaziantep, Rize, Kuşadası and Giresun teams.

Despite the cold weather conditions, our teams continued the operation and assistance by the guidance of the operation center with the principle of working 24 hours a day in the region. During the search and rescue efforts, 3 victims were rescued from the wreck, bodies of 8 of our citizens were reached out.

Our teams also took part in helping to set up tents for the victims and those in need.

AKUT Mersin Team Rescued the Goat Stuck in Rocky Area

A person calling the AKUT Mersin team reported that a goat was trapped in a steep rocky area in the Kayacı Valley location of Erdemli district.

Upon the notification, 6 volunteers from the team organized an operation to rescue the goat from the rocky area where it was stuck.

In the operation where rope techniques were used, the goat was rescued from where it was trapped and delivered to its owner.





SOUTH KOREA ANYANG CITY COUNCIL VISITED AKUT

A delegation of 14 people from South Korea's Anyang City Council visited AKUT Headquarters.

AKUT Board Member Zeynep Aktosun and AKUT Corporate Communications Department Manager Tolga Yucel gave detailed information about the functioning of our association. Esra Ustunkaya from the AKUT Marmaris team also attended the meeting via video conference, and She has made a presentation on the functioning of AKUT in international operations.

Awareness in Disaster and Emergency Situations at BAYER Chemicals Turkey

One of the training topics discussed at the meetings of Bayer Chemicals Turkey in Cyprus was “Awareness in Disaster and Emergency Situations”. AKUT Chairman of the board of directors, Recep Salcı, told 380 employees what to do in case of earthquakes, floods and storms.





AKUT Starts Planned Urban Search and Rescue Trainings for 2020

AKUT has started the trainings planned to be held throughout the year for the teams that will be “operational urban search and rescue personnel/volunteers” in the future. On 25-26 January 2020, the urban search and rescue training hosted by AKUT Bodrum team; 60 volunteers from AKUT Bodrum, AKUT Denizli, AKUT Izmir, AKUT Kusadasi, AKUT Kas-Kalkan, AKUT Marmaris teams participated. On the same date, 28 volunteers from AKUT Antalya and AKUT Mersin continued the training hosted by the AKUT Alanya team. In these trainings, the teams started the training of the operational team that took part in earthquakes that caused destruction and loss in all four corners of Turkey, such as in Elazig and Malatya, and they will become "Operational Urban Search and Rescue Personnel/Volunteer" in the future.

Within the scope of these trainings, a 2-day study was conducted, in which a total of 88 volunteers were trained by 7 expert AKUT trainers on concrete works, locating victims, techniques for reaching victims, fixing and evacuating the casualty.

January Seminars of AKUT Teams

AKUT teams gave "Earthquake Awareness Seminar" to 4,709 students, 286 teachers and 761 citizens on 1-31 January 2020.



Eu Modex Avalanche and Urban Search and Rescue Scenarios Preparation



AKUT, as a consortium member of EU Modex, attended the preparation and planning meeting held in Marco, Italy, on 27-31 January 2020. The meeting was held before the exercise, which will be held in March this year in Passo Tonale, Italy, in which avalanche and urban search and rescue scenarios will be handled together for the first time.



AKUT Bingol Team Participated in Avalanche Operation

An avalanche occurred in the village of Yeni Basak, Genc Tavus, in the Solhan district of Bingol, and one person fell under the avalanche. Forester of the village was caught in the avalanche when he went to check the transformer to find out the reason for the power outage.

A joint operation was carried out with 6 volunteers from the AKUT Bingol team, AFAD, UMKE, gendarmerie and health teams for rescuing forester who were underneath avalanche, upon the request of assistance from the Disaster And Emergency Management Presidency

After the AKUT Bingol team reached the Asmakaya Gendarmerie Station by vehicle, they reached the point where the avalanche occurred by military helicopter. As a result of the search operations carried out on the first day, the teams could not find any trace of the casualty. The teams took a break from the search activities at night and continued again after the sunrise. At the second day of the search, the body of the casualty was found in the creek 300 meters ahead of the area where the avalanche occurred, under approximately 1.5 meters of snow, and the victim was handed over to the medical teams.

AKUT Urban Search and Rescue Trainings

"Basic Level Urban Search and Rescue Training" was given to 25 volunteers of our AKUT Denizli team. Pasvak Construction Site hosted the practical parts while DEGIAD hosted the theoretical part of the all-day trainings on 8-9 February 2020. Volunteers successfully completed their training on the materials used in urban search and rescue, the use of personal protective equipment, safety and evacuation procedures, opening a clean hatch and opening a passage in concrete with hammers and hammers.



INSARAG Management Group Meeting

AKUT, representing Turkey, attended the ongoing INSARAG Management Group Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. AKUT also continued to play a role in the renewal of the INSARAG guide, which sets the "International Urban Search and Rescue Standards" that will come into effect at the end of 2020. AKUT volunteer and INSARAG Guide Working Group Member Belit Tasdemir was also present at the meeting representing AKUT.



February Seminars of AKUT Teams



AKUT teams gave "Earthquake Awareness Seminar" to 16,987 students, 886 teachers and 1,869 citizens on 1-28 February 2020.

MARCH 2020

AKUT Search and Rescue Association Seminar Unit Accreditation Exam Process Held in Istanbul.



Within the body of AKUT Search and Rescue Association Seminar Unit, the accreditation exam covering AKUT teams across our country was held on March 7-8, 2020, hosted by IDE Schools.

More than a hundred AKUT volunteers from the teams in Turkey took the accreditation exams in order to conduct public awareness activities and give seminars within the Seminar Unit.



AKUT Tekirdağ Team In Earthquake and Tsunami Panel

AKUT Tekirdağ team took part as speaker in the panel on “Earthquake and Tsunami” organized by Çorlu City Council on 6th of March 2020.



IRO-Search Dogs Nature Search International Exam Hosted by AKUT Izmir Team.

“IRO-Search Dogs Nature Search International Exam” was held between 6-8 March 2020, hosted by AKUT Izmir team, with domestic and international participants.

March Seminars of AKUT Teams



AKUT Seminar Unit conducted “Earthquake Awareness Seminars” to 14,413 students, 796 teachers and 1,010 adults between March 1st and March 15th.

8 MARCH ACTIVITIES OF AKUT STUDENT SOCIETIES

Eskişehir Osmangazi University AKUT Student Community presented paper daisies to women, prepared with its members in certain parts of the city, within the scope of 8 March International Women’s Day. |

Anadolu University AKUT Student Community also handed out purple ribbons to the public in the city center, with the achievements of our women on them, in order to raise awareness on March 8, International Women's Day.



ANKARA METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE BRIGADE AND AKUT ANKARA TEAM COOPERATION AND TRAINING PROTOCOL

A cooperation and training protocol was signed on March 11, 2020 between the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality Fire Brigade Department and AKUT Ankara team.

The signature ceremony held at the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality Fire Brigade Headquarters. Ankara Fire Brigade Head of Department Salih Kurumlu, Training and Search and Rescue Branch Manager Musa Ödemiş, Branch Managing Director Tarık Laçın, Fire Brigade General Coordinator A. Levent Çer, on behalf of AKUT Search and Rescue Association Member of the Board of Directors and AKUT Ankara Team Leader Mehmet Murat Boz and 5 volunteers attended.

The protocol, aiming to establish an effective cooperation between Ankara Metropolitan Municipality Fire Brigade Department and AKUT Ankara Team, covers the issues of assistance to fire extinguishing activities carried out by the fire brigade in Ankara province borders, training within the scope of search and rescue activities, joint studies on disaster and emergency situations and civil defence.



APRIL 2020

AKUT April Online Trainings

In line with the Covid-19 measures taken in our country, AKUT Search and Rescue Association continued its basic trainings online: INSARAG AWARENESS TRAINING/ PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TRAINING / COMMUNICATION TRAINING / DANGEROUS GOODS TRAINING/ BASIC FIRE TRAINING

MAY – JUNE 2020

AKUT Foreign Relations Unit Represents Our Country in Webinars Held in International Arena
In this period of Global uncertainty, the COVID-19 pandemic is deepening the existing inequalities and threatening to reverse the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while the world is facing a global climate challenge that challenges both humanity and livelihoods.

In the webinar on “Climate Action: Uniting Businesses and Governments for Healing” organized by the Global Compact on May 19, 2020, session participants including volunteers from the AKUT Foreign Relations Unit, gained insight on how a better planned recovery process will reduce vulnerability to future disasters and how to improve society’s resilience to address physical, social, environmental and economic shocks.

In the webinar on May 26, 2020 organized by the UN Global Compact, in which our volunteers from AKUT Foreign Relations unit were participants, recommendations were made to small-scale businesses that had difficulty in standing as a result of the measures taken regarding Covid 19 and focused on the topics that how small businesses should act in this process and what they should pay attention to.

UN Global Compact celebrated its 20th anniversary with the Leader's Summit held on the virtual platform. (15-16 June, 2020) Head of States, business world representatives, UN and sustainability leaders from around the world came together at the Leaders' Summit, where UN Global Compact celebrated its 20th Anniversary. The Summit, where the Covid-19 epidemic, climate crisis and inequalities were discussed, traveled the world "following the sun" for 26 hours. More than 20.000 people, including AKUT attended the event in which more than 100 sessions were held from 180 countries.

United Nations Global Compact

#UnitingBusiness

Helping Small Businesses Survive COVID-19

Special Academy Series
26 May | 8:00 a.m. (Geneva) |
2:00 p.m. (Hong Kong)

John W.H. Denton AO	Murtaza Ahmed	Dorothy Ng'ambi Tembo	Peter Ndegwa
International Chamber of Commerce	Artistic Milliners, SDG Pioneer	International Trade Centre	Safaricom

AKUT INSTAGRAM BROADCASTS

June 2020

Conversation on “Preparation for Disasters” was held on Instagram Live Broadcast

Recep Salci, Chairman of AKUT Board of Directors, and Harun Ongoren, Head of Seminar Unit, spoke on the topic of "Preparation for Disasters" on the live broadcast on 10th of June. In the broadcast where it was discussed what kind of preparations should be made for disasters and emergencies, especially earthquakes, the topics covered in AKUT seminars were also shared in detail.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT GLOBAL SUCCESS FROM AKUT

June 2020

- AKUT Search and Rescue Association became the first Turkish search and rescue team which enter the European Civil Protection Pool (ECPP) within the scope of the European Civil Protection Mechanism. As a result of these achievements, AKUT was appointed by the European Union Commission as a partner in the consortium that will organize urban search-rescue and medical exercises within the scope of ModEX. AKUT also became the first Turkish urban search and rescue team which achieve this.
 - AKUT successfully completed the five-year reassessment exam of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (**INSARAG**), which **AKUT** joined in **2018**, and the **EU ModEX** exercise was held at the same time. **AKUT, was also the first urban search and rescue team from Turkey to enter the European Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM); now it has been included in the “European Civil Protection Pool (ECPP)” within the scope of this mechanism.**
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- Making a statement on the subject, the President of AKUT **Recep Salci** stated that they went through intensive meetings and preparation of procedures to be included in the **European Union** (EU) volunteer pool; “We are very happy to have reaped the fruits of this hard work. Renewing the INSARAG exam in the ModEX exercise, being appreciated as AK UT there, and being invited to the consortium partnership... All of these were important steps and these steps brought us to ECPP. As in all our successes, our valuable volunteers are the architect of this success. Both the European Civil Protection Mechanism and the "European Civil Protection Pool" have material and moral benefits," he said.



- **Salci** reminded that they successfully passed the **INSARAG** renewal exam with the most intense participation in the history of the Association, in the **EU ModEX** exercise hosted by **Montana, Bulgaria**, in March **2018**. He continued his speech as: “At this stage, we became the first search and rescue institution to enter this mechanism and pool from our country. And as a result of these achievements, we have been appointed as partners in the consortium that will organize the urban search and rescue and medical exercises to be organized by the European Union Commission within the scope of ModEX. We were also the first Turkish urban search and rescue team to achieve this.”



AKUT BODRUM TEAM RESCUED THE SEA TURTLE FROM ITS STRESSED

Mugla, June 2020

An injured Caretta washed up on the shore in Bodrum's Güllük Harbor.

- Upon the notification of the AKUT Bodrum team from DEKAMER (Sea Turtle Research, Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre), 3 volunteers from the team carried out an operation to rescue the injured Caretta caretta that washed ashore at the harbor. The injured turtle was rescued by the AKUT Bodrum team and was delivered to the DEKAMER authorities on the Milas road.



AKUT RIZE, AKUT TRABZON AND AKUT GİRESUN TEAMS RESCUED THE PEOPLE WHO ARE STRANDED IN FLOODS IN MADENLİ.

Rize, July 2020

- The heavy rain that started in the morning hours of July 13 in Rize caused floods and landslides first in İkizdere district, then in Çayeli district and Madenli town of the district. It was informed that 12 village roads were closed and many people were stranded in the districts where it was announced that 163 kg of precipitation fell per square meter.
 - Upon the call for support from AFAD, 10 volunteers from the AKUT Rize team, 13 from the AKUT Trabzon team, and 10 from the AKUT Giresun team participated in the search and rescue operations. During the search and rescue operations that lasted for 2 days, 83 people were transferred to safe areas by all teams.
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AKUT RIZE, AKUT TRABZON AND AKUT GIRESUN TEAMS RESCUED THE PEOPLE WHO ARE STRANDED IN FLOODS IN MADENLI.

July 2020 – Rize

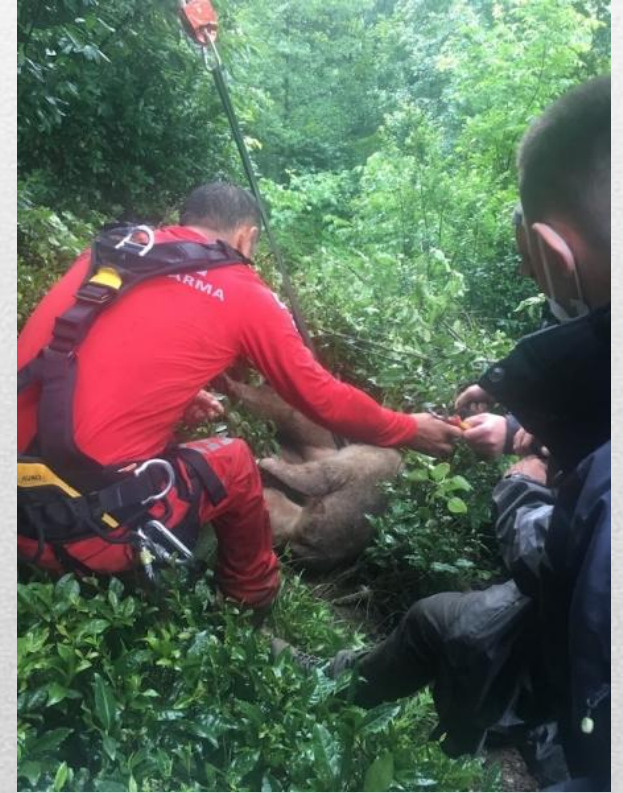


AKUT RIZE TEAM RESCUED THE BABY BEAR FROM THE TREE IT WAS STUCK

July 2020

The baby bear, which was stuck for 2 days in Akbucak village of Pazar district of Rize, due to the wire entangled in the tree it was climbing, was noticed by the citizens and the authorities were informed.

- In the operation that the AKUT Rize team started with 5 volunteers upon notification from the General Directorate of National Parks, the baby bear was first calmed down by the officers with a needle. Then, with the help of the pulley system prepared by two AKUT volunteers who climbed the tree, the baby bear was rescued from the place where it was stuck and the wire on its foot was cut and lowered from the tree. The baby bear, whose health was checked by the officials, was then released into nature in a safe area.



AKUT GETS NATIONAL EQUALITY OF ACCREDITATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA

August 2020

- The opening of the Istanbul Provincial Disaster and Emergency Directorate Disaster Training Center was held on August 17th, 2020 with the participation of state officials. AKUT Search and Rescue Association, Turkey's first accredited institution in the international arena, completed the newly created national accreditation process in the field of search and rescue and received the national accreditation certificate.



AKUT TURKEY ATTENDED THE DISASTER RISKS REDUCTION PLATFORM

Ankara, August 2020

- Turkey Disaster Risk Reduction Platform was held on August 21st, 2020, hosted by the Ankara Provincial Directorate of Disaster and Emergency. Recep Şalcı, Chairman of the Board of AKUT, who participated in the panel organized in this context as a speaker; shared his views on the perspective of civil society on disasters in Turkey, the work of non-governmental organizations to reduce risks, and the authority, responsibility, and role of non-governmental organizations in disasters and emergencies.



FLOOD DISASTER IN GİRESUN!

AUGUST 2020

Heavy rain, which affected Giresun, caused floods and landslides. Due to the downpour, the Abdal Stream on the Ordu border and the stream in the Dereli district overflowed. During the flood, the Giresun-Dereli-Sivas road was closed to traffic.

On the Tirebolu-Doğankent road, a vehicle containing 5 gendarmerie personnel and a construction machine was buried in the stream as a result of the collapse of the culvert. On the first day of the operation, AFAD, Gendarmerie, Municipality, Fire Brigade, Highways Authority, UMKE, Turkish Red Crescent and AKUT teams with their 423 personnel and 153 vehicles, rescued 127 of our citizens, in the search and rescue operations that continued uninterruptedly in the region.

From the first day of the disaster, AKUT Giresun, Trabzon and Rize teams participated in the evacuation of the citizens trapped in the region and the search and rescue activities of the missing. Later, AKUT Ankara, Eskiřehir and Kocaeli teams came to Giresun to participate in the work.

In the heavily damaged area, a total of 82 volunteers; 24 from AKUT Giresun Team, 19 from AKUT Trabzon Team, 10 from AKUT Rize Team, 13 from AKUT Ankara Team, 13 from AKUT Eskiřehir Team, and 3 from AKUT Kocaeli Team, participated in the search and rescue efforts.

On the 10th day of the operation, as of August 31, 2020, the number of casualties increased to 11.

A team of 3,627 people, consisting of AFAD, Gendarmerie, Police, Coast Guard, 112 First Aid, Water Authority, Municipality, Fire Brigade, Highways Authority, UMKE, Turkish Red Crescent, AKUT, IHH and other NGO personnel, and 1,270 vehicles, continued to search for 5 missing citizens. (22 August 2020)



AKUT Rize Team rescued 7 people trapped in the flood.

AUGUST 2020

The heavy rain that affected Rize caused flooding. 7 people from a family collecting tea in the village of HandaĐı in Pazar district were stranded on the way back as the flow rate of the stream increased.

Upon the notification from the Gendarmerie and AFAD, 6 volunteers from the AKUT Rize Team participated in joint rescue efforts with AFAD, Gendarmerie and Fire Brigade. The 7 trapped people were transferred to a safe area using rope techniques.

AKUT ATTENDED UN GLOBAL COMPACT 75TH UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS A PARTICIPANT

SEPTEMBER 2020 Within the scope of the 75th United Nations General Assembly, where the United Nations evaluates their work and sets the agenda for the next year, the UN Global Compact brought together the sustainability leaders of the government, civil society, academia and business world with 3 big events on 21-23 September 2020. Heads of State, UN leaders and CEOs discussed the issues of climate change, sustainable development and human rights at the Private Sector Forum on the 1st day of the general assembly, in which 6 volunteers from AKUT Foreign Relations Unit participated.



AKUT AT ISTANBUL EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE PLAN MEETING

30 SEPTEMBER 2020

AKUT participated in the "Istanbul Earthquake Response Plan" meeting, which was held for the second time at the AFAD Istanbul Directorate on September 30.

On the meeting, plans were made regarding the number of operational teams that AKUT would participate in the search and rescue activities planned within the framework of the Turkey Disaster Response Plan, the duties it would undertake, the regions it would work in, and how it would access these regions in case of a possible earthquake in Istanbul.



AKUT'S SUPPORT TO FIRE EXTINGUISHING ACTIVITIES IN SEPTEMBER

Forests, the lungs of not only our country but also the world, have numerous benefits for us. Forests produce oxygen and water, clean the air, protect the soil, store carbon; it also provides nutrient cycle, habitat and biodiversity to the ecosystem.

The forest fires that broke out in many parts of our country in September saddened us all. AKUT Search and Rescue Association teams, whose values include "valuing the lives of all creatures" and acting in this direction, supported the fire extinguishing works carried out in many parts of Turkey.

AKUT Denizli Team supported the forest fire extinguishing efforts in the Hayriye Neighborhood of the Çardak District of Denizli Province. (September 3, 2020)

AKUT Bursa Team participated in the extinguishing works carried out together with the fire brigade, ANDA, BAKUT, DASKUT, IHH, NAK, Regional Directorate of Forestry personnel and YAK in the forest fire that occurred in the Gölbaşı Village of the Kestel District of Bursa. (September 10, 2020)

AKUT Kuşadası Team supported the cooling down and animal rescue efforts of the fire in Güllübahçe, Söke District of Aydın. (27 September 2020)

AKUT Bursa Team participated in the fire extinguishing activity in Mudanya District. (September 27, 2020)



AKUT’S FIRST AID SITE IS ONLINE

2020

AKUT Search and Rescue Association continues its awareness-raising activities on “World First Aid Day”, which is celebrated in our country as well as the whole world, in order to raise awareness on “First Aid” by setting ilkyardim.akut.org.tr. Following AKUT İstanbul, also AKUT Ankara is authorized to start providing first aid training. AKUT Search and Rescue Association, which values the right to life of all creatures, continues its efforts to create a more prepared and conscious society against disasters, with dedication and determination, continues its awareness-raising activities with its new website ilkyardim.akut.org.tr on World First Aid Day.

AKUT launches the website ilkyardim.akut.org.tr to draw attention to the importance of the "World First Aid Day", which is celebrated all over the world on the second Saturday of September every year. There is a lot of information on the site from trainings to source documents and videos, and applications can be made to receive first aid training. In home accidents or traffic accidents, the presence of conscious first aiders at the scene and their intervention after an emergency is of great importance to prevent the situation from getting worse, to make the right first aid, and even to start the first steps of the chain of saving the lives of the victims.



AKUT TAKES ACTION IMMEDIATELY FOR IZMIR EARTHQUAKE

OCTOBER 2020

On Friday, October 30, 2020, at 14:51, an earthquake of 6.6 magnitude and 17.26 km below the ground occurred in the Aegean Sea, off the Izmir Seferihisar district, according to the statement made by AFAD. In the first statements, Minister of Environment and Urbanization Murat Kurum stated that they were informed that 5 buildings were destroyed in Bornova and Bayraklı, and that there were citizens who were under the rubble, while AFAD stated that 6 of our citizens lost their lives, 1 of which was drowned, and that 202 were injured according to the first determinations.

AKUT İzmir, Kuşadası and Manisa teams arrived in the region as of October 30 and started search and rescue efforts; Ankara, Alanya, Bodrum, Bursa, Çanakkale, Denizli, Eskişehir, Fethiye, Kaş-Kalkan, Kocaeli, İstanbul, Marmaris, Rize, Trabzon and Yarımada teams also moved to the region immediately after the earthquake. On Saturday, October 31st, AKUT 18 team and 268 volunteers continued to carry out search and rescue operations at different wreckage points. AKUT teams first determined the location of the victims with seismic/acoustic devices and K9 teams, with the controls and planning of building inspection engineers and hazardous materials experts.

After locating, the teams moving through the wreckage with the appropriate equipment monitored the positions of the victims in the wreckage with the help of snake cameras at certain points and made the most appropriate rescue organizations according to their current positions. During the first two days, which are considered to be the highest/most important hours for survival in the debris, AKUT teams, ensured that 9 people were removed alive from the rubble



NOVEMBER 2020

AKUT followed the 9th United Nations Business and Human Rights Forum, which was held between 16-18 November by the Global Compact

JANUARY 2021

11 January

Our Rize team, together with the gendarmerie, forest management personnel and the people of the region, took part in the operation to respond to the forest fire in Fındıklı, participated in the extinguishing efforts and ended the operation after the fire was extinguished.

27 January

AKUT participated in the online webinar on Family-Friendly Policies- How to Implement Better Business Practices for Working Parents and Children, organized by the UN Global Compact Academy on January 27,

Another event which AKUT participated in was 1st Briefing on Regulatory Trends in the European Union and at the International Level

FEBRUARY 2021

Izmir team ended the operation that launched to support the evacuation of people trapped in the Karabağlar Region due to adverse weather conditions, by evacuating trapped people to a safe area.

MARCH 2021

3 March

Our Association attended the Istanbul Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Plan (IRAP) Preparation Meeting held at the Haliç Congress Center with the participation of the Minister of Interior Süleyman Soylu.

Our Board Member Semih Şengün and AKUT Istanbul Team Leader Serhat Akbel attended the 2021 Disaster Education Year Evaluation Meeting organized by AFAD on 3 March.

12 March

Within the scope of Izmir Earthquake Emergency Support project supported by Turkey Mozaik Foundation and Kahane Foundation Financing, our packages were delivered to 254 families affected by the earthquake in Kuşadası and İzmir.

13 March

On the 29th anniversary of the 13 March Erzincan Earthquake, our Chairman of the Board of Directors Recep Şalcı participated in the closing program of the "Earthquake-Free Life Project" organized by the Erzincan Provincial Directorate of National Education and Erzincan AFAD Provincial Directorate in order to increase earthquake awareness.

17 March

A press conference on the topics of "Expected Marmara Earthquake", "Tropical Disasters That Have Begun to Be Seen in Our Country Due to Global Warming" and "25th Anniversary of AKUT and International Search and Rescue Achievements“ where The Head of the EU Delegation Turkey, Ambassador Nikolaus Meyer-Landrut, was the guest of honor, and the First Undersecretary of the European Union Delegation Turkey, Head of Economic and Social Development Department Angel Gutierrez Hidalgo attended took place on 17 March.

Many institutions, especially the UN International Search and Rescue Advisory Group "INSARAG", European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid General Directorate "DgEcho" and "ECPP" participated with congratulatory messages.

The Head of the EU Delegation Turkey, Ambassador Nikolaus Meyer-Landrut, presented the European Civil Society Pool registration certificate to, AKUT President Recep Şalcı and Recep Şalcı presented him a gift that expresses the meaning of the day.

AKUT ATTENDED GLOBAL COMPACT TARGET GENDER EQUALITY EVENT

AKUT participated in TARGET GENDER EQUALITY LIVE, an immersive multi-session online experience that brings together thousands of global leaders and changemakers on a single digital event platform for one day of inspiring content, collaborative learning and peer networks.

In the live broadcast of TARGET GENDER EQUALITY, convened during the 65th Commission on the Status of Women and celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Women's Empowerment Principles, we talked about how we can mobilize the private sector to break down barriers by respecting and supporting women's equal representation and leadership in the business world.

THE 9TH ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF UN GLOBAL COMPACT TURKEY WAS HELD WITH AKUT'S PARTICIPATION

March 17, 2021

The meeting started with the establishment of the Council Committee and the opening speech of the Chairman of the Board of Global Compact Turkey, Ahmet Dorduncu. Working Group Co-Chairs and Global Compact Turkey Secretary General Melda Çele presented 2020 activities and 2021 plans. The meeting continued with the approval of the budget, the 2020 Annual Report, the release of the Board of Directors and the Board of Auditors. The 2021 action plan has been transferred. The General Assembly Meeting, ended with wishes for the new period.

APRIL 2021

Online participation in the "DAVOS Lab Smart Cities Panel and Workshop" was provided by AKUT where Policy proposals and project collaborations for the creation of smart cities were discussed-

AKUT attended the "Food, Bioeconomy, Environment" information meeting on April 22, 2021, during the Horizon Europe promotional meeting and also the Horizon Europe "Culture, Creativity, Inclusive Societies" information meeting on April 26, 2021.

JUNE 2021

Within the scope of the EU project titled "Active Citizenship, Civil Initiatives and Volunteering" in which North Macedonia, Albania and Turkey are partners, a 3-day P2P event (between 23-25 June 2021) was attended t by AKUT to discuss the legal framework and problems related to volunteering.

STEPS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN AKUT AND PARAGUAY EMBASSY IN ANKARA

JUNE 2021

Paraguay's Ambassador to Ankara Ceferino Adrian Valdez Peralta visited AKUT's Ankara campus regarding the structuring of the fire department in his country and had meetings with the managers.

Ambassador Peralta, who met with AKUT Chairman of the Board Recep Şalcı, 2nd President Mehmet Murat Boz and Board Member İhsan Uğur Biltekin on 4 June 2021, received information about AKUT's corporate structure, operations and activities. Stating that firefighters work voluntarily in Paraguay, Ambassador Ceferino Adrian Valdez Peralta received information from AKUT President Recep Şalcı about the restructuring of firefighters in his country within the scope of flood, earthquake and search and rescue activities in nature. During the meeting, bilateral projects and possible collaborations were evaluated.

In his statement regarding the meeting, AKUT President Recep Şalcı said, “As AKUT, we are proud to be one of the most reliable institutions in disasters and search and rescue, both in the country and abroad. We will be happy to share our 25 years of experience and our methodology, which we have developed day by day in the light of new information, with the fire brigade of Paraguay, which, like us, serves with a completely voluntary awareness. During our meeting with Ambassador Peralta, we took the first steps of cooperation and studies on this issue.” said.

AKUT Search and Rescue Association, the first search and rescue non-governmental organization of our country, is among the leading institutions of the world with its expertise, experience and resources.



AKUT ATTENDED THE “UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL PRINCIPLES LEADERS SUMMIT” ON 15-16 JUNE 2021.

More than 20,000 business representatives from around the world met at the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit on 15-16 June, to build a better future after the global pandemic; with sustainability leaders, including representatives from the United Nations, governments, civil society and academia.

The UN Global Compact Leaders Summit, which was held online on June 15-16, lasted a total of 26 hours with sessions hosted by local networks around the world. At the summit, the deepening social and economic inequalities of the climate change crises, the COVID-19 epidemic, and the roadmap for a sustainable recovery were discussed.

AKUT CONTINUES ITS WORK IN MANAVGAT

JULY 2021

Work continues on the fire disaster, which started from 4 different points in Antalya's Manavgat district on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, and continued to increase with the effect of the wind. AKUT Search and Rescue Association is also actively on duty with AFAD, UMKE, Humanitarian Relief Foundation (İHH), Türk Telekom Search and Rescue (TTAKE), SKUT, ANDA, ACAR, Turkish Radio Amateurs Association (TRAC), OGM, EGM, Gendarmerie, 112 EMERGENCY, as well as many firefighters, including Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality.

From the first day of the fires, AKUT mobilized its teams and volunteers. In the fires that occurred in Aydıncık, Manavgat, Akseki, Gündoğmuş, Marmaris, Alanya and Bodrum ; AKUT Mersin, AKUT Alanya, AKUT Antalya, AKUT Kaş Kalkan, AKUT Fethiye, AKUT Marmaris and AKUT Bodrum teams supported the fire response efforts with a total of 137 volunteers.

Providing uninterrupted support to the fire fighting efforts in Manavgat, the AKUT Kaş Kalkan team ended the operation on the evening of 1 August and left the field.

AKUT Alanya and AKUT Antalya teams continued their work in the region with great devotion. AKUT Marmaris team also continued their work to respond and evacuate the ongoing fire in Marmaris. Supporting the Marmaris team, the AKUT Fethiye team also participated in the evacuation efforts in the fire that broke out in their own region. Bodrum team took part in both extinguishing and evacuation works



AKUT EVACUATED 16 OF OUR CITIZENS TO SAFE AREA IN RIZE FLOOD DISASTER

In the flood and landslide disaster that occurred in Rize on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, AKUT Search and Rescue Association; With 7 volunteers from the Rize team and 6 volunteers from the Giresun team, continued their search and rescue efforts in the 13 km stream and riverbed in the Muradiye district. In addition to AKUT; AFAD, JAK, ANDA, UMKE, Coast Guard, IHH and Underwater Security teams participated. During this process, AKUT evacuated 16 people to the safe area and 2 people who lost their lives were also evacuated. AKUT President Recep Şalcı and AKUT 2nd President Mehmet Murat Boz personally participated in the search and rescue efforts.



576 PEOPLE AND 4 DOGS WERE EVACUATED IN ARHAVI FLOOD DISASTER

Due to the flood disaster, which happened on 25 July 2021 in Artvin's Arhavi district, 576 people and 4 dogs were evacuated in the operation carried out by the AKUT Rize team, AFAD and the Marine Police. AKUT Rize team participated in the flood disaster operation, which also affected Rize, with its 12 volunteers.



AKUT AGAIN RUNS TO HELP IN THE BLACK SEA FLOOD DISASTER

AUGUST 2021

Before a month was up, the Black Sea Region was flooded again on 12th of August. The flood caused by the heavy downpour, which was effective in Bartın, Sinop, Kastamonu, as well as in Samsun and Karabük, caused almost all of the stream beds to overflow.

AKUT Search and Rescue Association, the first search and rescue non-governmental organization of our country, started its operations in the region, like the previous flood disaster and fires in the Aegean and Mediterranean. AKUT was operational in Bozkurt district of Kastamonu province and Ayancık district of Sinop province; So far, 79 people and 3 animals have been evacuated with 46 volunteers from Ankara, Istanbul, Kocaeli, Rize and Giresun teams.

AKUT continued search and rescue and all other necessary operations with 10 people from Rize team, 8 people from Kocaeli team, 11 people from Istanbul team and 12 people from Ankara team in Kastamonu-Bozkurt region and with 5 volunteers from Giresun team in Sinop-Ayancık region.

Regardless of the flood disaster, the Trabzon team went into operation for a house in Of-Balıca, whose roof was destroyed as a result of a lightning strike. One injured and one who has lost his life, were evacuated from the wreckage.

In addition, the drone unit of the AKUT Ankara team is on duty in the flood zone, as they were in the Aegean and Mediterranean fires.





AKUT SUPPORTED THE SAVING OF 225 PEOPLE AND HUNDREDS OF ANIMALS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FLAMES

08 August 21 AKUT Search and Rescue Association, the first search and rescue non-governmental organization of our country, saved a total of 4 people and 3 animals in the new fires that took place yesterday at 4 locations in Bodrum, Peksimet, Dereköy, Karakaya and Gümüşlük settlements and maquis areas, and in the Çavdır, Çayköy, Yayla Palamut and Fethiye's Karadere neighborhoods of Kaş.



Thus, AKUT evacuated a total of 225 people, 2 body and 336 animals in the Aegean and Mediterranean fires that started on July 28, 2021. AKUT participated in operations with 12 teams and 121 volunteers.

AKUT organized an operation ranging from fire extinguishing and cooling operations, search and rescue, evacuation, tent installation, food, water and supplies to distribution, in operations where all necessary equipment, especially thermal drones, ATV and motorcycle vehicles are used.

AKUT HELPED 251 LIVES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN FIRE

2 August 21



The fight against the great fire disaster that affected the South Aegean and Mediterranean coastline of Turkey continues. AKUT Search and Rescue Association, the first search and rescue non-governmental organization of our country, continues to work with teams in Marmaris, Bodrum, Fethiye, Antalya, Alanya, Denizli and Kuşadası. In the work of AKUT teams working in fire zones; during the AKUT Marmaris operation, which 7 volunteers participated, 7 people and 87 animals were evacuated; In the Manavgat operation, which was carried out with 7 volunteers from the Alanya team and 4 volunteers from the Antalya team, 6 children, 79 people, 2 body and 78 animals were evacuated. In addition, the AKUT Bodrum team went to the region with 11 volunteers to support the ongoing fire extinguishing efforts in the Yeniköy Karaova region after the operation in the Mazi region.

Denizli team went into operation to support forest fire suppression efforts in Buldan district.14/3 Fethiye team with 12 volunteers went to the operation from Kabaagaç village to the foothills of Mendos Mountain. Denizli team went into operation in Buldan with 5 volunteers. Kuşadası team, with 10 volunteers, went into operation for a quick response to the fire and evacuation work in the Bozdoğan district of Aydın province. In addition, AKUT Mersin and Kaş-Kalkan teams have also taken part in the operations since the fires started.



September 2021



The awards of the " Haydi Gençler, Haydi Çocuklar AKUT ile El Ele " Competition, organized by the AKUT Kuşadası team on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of AKUT's establishment, were presented on September 4, 2021.

Within the scope of our grant project named “AKUT in Villages Damaged by Fire”, aid packages prepared by our AKUT Kuşadası team were distributed to 75 families whose houses were burned in Feslegen, Bozalan and Akçakaya.

AKUT ATTENDED THE BUSINESS AMBITION FOR CLIMATE ACTION THAT WAS ARRANGED BY GLOBAL COMPACT ON 10th of NOVEMBER 2021

Participation in The Business Ambition for Climate Action event held by the Global Compact on November 10 was ensured. At the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), held in Glasgow - Scotland, countries signed an agreement that includes a series of measures to be taken against climate change. The agreement included important decisions such as a commitment to phase out the usage of coal, regularly reviewing the emission reduction plans, and bigger financial support to developing countries. On the other hand, changing the statements in the draft texts on coal commitments caused controversy. In addition to the Glasgow climate Agreement, "progressive reduction of coal usage" is also planned. In this aspect, this agreement is the first agreement in history that aims to reduce the usage of coal.

AKUT TOOK PART IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EUROPE'S BIGGEST EXERCISE

11-14 NOVEMBER 2021

“EU-Modex Field Exercise” activities which is the most comprehensive one so far was successfully held in Tekirdag in between 11-14 November 2021, hosted by AKUT and AFAD. In total, 1715 people including 378 participants from France, Austria, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria and Greece, and 1337 participants from Turkey attended the exercise. AKUT participated in the exercise with 13 teams and 100 volunteers from Bursa, Denizli, Manisa, Kusadasi, Izmir, Marmaris, Ankara, Afyonkarahisar, İstanbul, Eskisehir, Kocaeli and Tekirdag. The Minister of Interior Suleyman Soylu also attended the event, which was held for the first time in our country and received information about the exercise and the works from the Chairman of the Board of AKUT, Recep Salci. The exercise ended with the closing ceremony, that Tekirdag Governor Aziz Yıldırım gave their certificates to the participating teams.

AKUT, the first non-governmental search and rescue organization of our country, added a new one to its achievements of being the first Turkish institution accredited within the scope of INSARAG under the UN, being the first Turkish search and rescue team, which joined the European Civil Protection Pool (ECPP) within the scope of the European Civil Protection Mechanism of the EU Commission and being a partner of the consortium organizing the “EU-ModEx” exercises. So far, it has been the most comprehensive exercise with 1715 participants from seven different countries.

AKUT hosted the largest EU-Modex Field Exercise ever which was held on between 11-14 November 2022 in Tekirdag, in total including 1715 people, 378 participants from France, Austria, Spain, Italy, Bulgaria and Greece, and 1337 participants from Turkey joined; and took part both in the management team and the field management. It was carried out to gain experience by acting jointly in search and rescue and medical intervention activities after disaster and earthquake, for search and rescue teams included in the European Civil Protection Mechanism. Interior Minister of Republic of Turkey Süleyman Soylu and Tekirdag City Governor Aziz Yıldırım attended, as well. The exercise, which took place in the 7.4 magnitude earthquake scenario and whose implementation lasted for 3 days, was carried out in the areas of rescue from high floors, fire response from the sea, rescue from a crane, transportation accident, search for lost in the water, medical rescue, and medical evacuation by helicopter. The exercise which the Minister of Internal Affairs Suleyman Soylu also participated in and received information about the work carried out from the Chairman of the Board of AKUT, Recep Salci, , ended with the closing ceremony in which Tekirdag Governor Aziz Yıldırım gave the certificates to the teams participating in the exercise. AKUT participated in the exercise with 13 teams and 100 volunteers from Bursa, Denizli, Manisa, Kusadasi, İzmir, Marmaris, Peninsula, Ankara, Afyonkarahisar, İstanbul, Eskisehir, Kocaeli and Tekirdag in total.



Throughout the exercise, Akut's operational team, with its disciplined and devoted volunteers and search and rescue dogs, Bob and Athamaz, worked in 4 different debris fields according to the scenario. Four earthquake victims and one citizen's funeral were delivered to the medical teams by overcoming the difficult tracks prepared. While experienced AKUT volunteers in the exercise management were distributing and following up the scenarios that needed to be executed to the national and international teams, AKUT volunteers in the field management carried out the administrative tasks such as checking the work safety of the work area and the teams, reporting the malfunctioning situations, ensuring that the exercise scenarios are realized as determined and corrected if there is any deviation from the scenario.

Gerard Guerin, EU Commission Representative, stated "Even years later, I am sure that when people look back, they will remember that this ModEx exercise was the beginning of fruitful working, solidarity and cooperation between AKUT, AFAD and the European Civil Protection Mechanism. We are happy to successfully carry through the biggest EU ModEx, so far, in Tekirdag Turkey. We would like to thank the managers and volunteers of AKUT and AFAD for their joint efforts. With this exercise, we strengthened the EU Civil Protection Mechanism more."





AKUT Volunteers saved more than 1678 animals in Turkey within 26 years.



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