ERASMUS+ 2027 · THEMATIC PROFILE 13 OF 35

# Sustainable Finance, ESG and Financial Literacy

Partner Identification Form · Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU), Türkiye

**Why include AYBU in your consortium?** Sustainable finance and ESG research with a green financial literacy scale and curriculum expertise. AYBU is a public university in Ankara with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and 28 Erasmus+ cooperation projects in the Commission's project database since 2014, 17 as coordinator. One contact for every thematic profile: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar, mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr.

## 1. Five reasons specific to this theme

1. A 2026 article on carbon emissions and equity volatility in the Journal of Climate Finance
2. A green financial literacy scale developed by faculty staff
3. Longitudinal ESG research on BIST-100 firms covering 2010–2024
4. A faculty process towards accreditation in international sustainability reporting
5. Statistical and econometric capacity for financial literacy measurement

## 2. Thematic institutional profile

The Business School's finance and accounting staff work on the link between sustainability and financial markets. Recent outputs include an article on sectoral carbon emissions and equity market volatility in the Journal of Climate Finance, a longitudinal study of ESG convergence among listed firms, a book on the BIST Sustainability Index, research on socially responsible engagement and firm performance, and a newly developed green financial literacy scale. The faculty is pursuing accreditation in international sustainability reporting and teaches a course on sustainability and business.

### Relevant faculties, departments and centres

- Business School – Departments of Finance and Banking, International Trade and Business, and Management (Accounting)
- Statistical Consultancy Research Centre

### Research and training infrastructure

- Course BUS 318 Sustainability and Business
- Statistical Consultancy Research Centre

## 3. Relevant previous projects

| Project number | Title | Action | Call | AYBU role | EU grant (project) | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2025-1-TR01-KA220-YOU-000352941 | YouthGreen 5.0 – Fair Transition with Green Skills and Circular Economy | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2025 | Partner | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |

Source: European Commission, Erasmus+ project lists, export of 19.11.2026. Grant = total EU grant of the project as awarded.

## 4. Key academic experts

| Expert | Unit | Relevance to this theme | Profile |
|---|---|---|---|
| Prof. Dr. Cem Korkut | Business School – Finance and Banking | Climate finance, financial econometrics and sustainability in finance | AVESIS |
| Res. Asst. Dr. Şevket Durmaz | Business School – Management (Accounting) | ESG convergence, sustainability reporting and the green financial literacy scale | AVESIS |
| Assoc. Prof. Dr. Merve Karacaer | Business School – International Trade and Business | Corporate sustainability and stock returns; socially responsible engagement | AVESIS |
| Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bilge Canbaloğlu | Business School – International Trade and Business | Financial stability, crash risk and credit risk | AVESIS |
| Res. Asst. Dr. Cansu Ergenç Özdaş | Business School – Management (quantitative methods and statistics) | Statistical modelling for ESG and financial studies | AVESIS |
| Asst. Prof. Dr. Melek Mutioğlu Özkesen | AYBU | International Trade and Business; international sustainability reporting standards and SDGs in corporate transparency (AYBU PIF 2026) | AYBU record |

**Prof. Dr. Cem Korkut.** Professor of Finance and Banking and Vice Dean of the AYBU Business School. His research spans financial econometrics, climate finance, Islamic and participation finance and the history of financial institutions, with recent articles on carbon emissions and market volatility. He co-authored the Turkish Academy of Sciences' synthesis report on COP31 targets, has worked on EU-supported transport and refugee-employment projects and advises the Academy's President. Teaching covers finance, banking and financial econometrics. Research record on AVESIS: 125 publications, Google Scholar h-index 13 (653 citations), 11 projects.

**Res. Asst. Dr. Şevket Durmaz.** Research Assistant with a doctorate in accounting at the AYBU Business School. He works on sustainability reporting, ESG convergence among listed firms and auditing, and applies machine learning to financial prediction. He has developed a green financial literacy scale and a machine-learning-based adaptive business simulation for accounting education, which are relevant to financial literacy and innovative teaching projects. Teaching covers accounting courses (research assistant duties). Research record on AVESIS: 9 publications on AVESIS summary (11 listed), Google Scholar h-index 2, 2 projects.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Merve Karacaer.** Associate Professor of International Trade and Business at the AYBU Business School and head of that department from 2019 to 2024. Her research links corporate sustainability, socially responsible engagement and firm performance, green supply chain management and the economics of oil and gas markets, with

publications in Borsa Istanbul Review and a book on the BIST Sustainability Index. Teaching covers international trade, finance and business courses. Research record on AVESIS: 32 publications (3 in Scopus), 98 citations on Google Scholar, 3 projects.

## 5. Keywords

sustainable finance · ESG · sustainability reporting · climate finance · green financial literacy · financial literacy · carbon risk · socially responsible investment · sustainability indices · corporate sustainability · financial stability · financial econometrics · investor education · sustainability standards · impact measurement

## 6. Alignment with Erasmus+ 2027

Environment and fight against climate change through finance skills; basic skills including financial literacy; relevance of higher education to the green economy.

| Relevant 2027 action | Deadline (Brussels time) | Grant per project | Role AYBU can take |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cooperation Partnerships in higher education | 9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time | Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000 | Coordinator and partner |
| Cooperation Partnerships in adult education | 9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time | Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000 | Coordinator and partner |
| Cooperation Partnerships in vocational education and training | 9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time | Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000 | Coordinator and partner |
| Jean Monnet Actions in higher education (Modules, Chairs, Centres of Excellence) | 3 February 2027, 17:00 Brussels time | Jean Monnet Module EUR 35 000; Chair EUR 60 000; Centre of Excellence EUR 100 000 (Guide p. 394) | Sole applicant |
| Cooperation Partnerships in youth | 9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time | Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000 | Coordinator and partner |

## 7. What AYBU can contribute

Contributions described here are potential contributions based on verified institutional capacity; they become commitments only in a signed proposal. Named experts are proposed on the basis of their published work and their participation in a given proposal is subject to their confirmation.

### Potential project objectives

- Raise green and general financial literacy of students and adults
- Prepare finance and accounting graduates for sustainability reporting
- Give SMEs access to basic ESG knowledge

### Potential activities

- Cross-country measurement of green financial literacy
- Joint course units on sustainable finance and ESG reporting

- Simulation-based learning on sustainable investment
- Short courses for SME finance staff

## Work packages AYBU could lead or co-lead

- Measurement and needs analysis
- Curriculum and simulation development
- Piloting with students and adults
- Policy brief and exploitation

## Training modules AYBU could deliver

- ESG reporting basics
- Green financial literacy for citizens
- Climate risk in financial decisions

## Potential deliverables

- Green financial literacy study
- Joint course units
- Investment simulation scenarios
- SME short course

## Potential pilot activities

- Course unit piloted in finance and accounting programmes
- Adult short course through the Continuing Education Centre

## Target groups AYBU can reach

- Business and finance students
- Adult learners
- SME finance staff
- Young people

## Expected institutional contribution

- Validated literacy scale and survey analysis
- Curriculum design in sustainable finance
- Simulation-based learning content
- Econometric evidence for policy briefs
- Pilots in English-taught programmes

## 8. Management, quality and dissemination capacity

EU projects at AYBU are run by academic project teams with support from the Business School's projects office and the Competitiveness and Innovation Research Centre (REKMER). Financial administration follows Turkish public financial management and control legislation (Law No. 5018); EU grants are kept in dedicated project accounts and the university is subject to external audit by the Turkish Court of Accounts. In the Commission's project database AYBU appears in 28 Erasmus+ cooperation, policy and Jean Monnet projects from call years 2014–2026, 17 of them as coordinator; 9 are running today.

For each project AYBU proposes a quality plan with internal peer review of deliverables, milestone monitoring and partner feedback surveys. The university operates an institutional quality management system under the national Higher Education Quality Council framework, and Business School staff include an accredited external evaluator of that Council.

AYBU disseminates through its institutional website and faculty pages, official social media accounts, a community of more than 26 000 students and about 2 600 staff, its partner universities and its links with ministries, municipalities, chambers and Teknopark Ankara. Multiplier events and training activities can be hosted on its Ankara campuses, and online courses can be delivered through the Distance Education Research Centre.

Results can be sustained through courses in degree programmes, certificate programmes of the Continuing Education Centre, online delivery by the Distance Education Research Centre and follow-up funding from national programmes such as TÜBİTAK. Open publication of materials is the default.

## 9. Partners we would like to work with

- Business schools and finance departments
- Banks and financial educators
- Consumer and investor associations
- Chambers
- Regulators and central banks' education units

## 10. Organisation identification

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|---|---|
| **Legal name (national language)** | ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT ÜNİVERSİTESİ |
| **Legal name (Latin characters)** | ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITESI |
| **Name in English** | Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU) |
| **Organisation ID (OID)** | E10137893 |
| **PIC** | 952723525 |
| **National / fiscal ID** | 9600521531 |
| **Type of organisation** | Higher education institution (tertiary level); Public (state) university; non-profit public body |
| **Erasmus Charter for Higher Education** | Erasmus Charter for Higher Education holder — Erasmus code TR ANKARA15 |
| **Established** | 21 July 2010 (decision published in the Official Gazette) |

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|---|---|
| **Registered address** | AYBÜ Etlik Milli İrade Binası, B-Blok, Ayvalı Mah. Gazze Cad. No: 7, Etlik, Keçiören, 06010 Ankara, Türkiye |
| **Main campus** | Esenboğa Merkez Külliyesi, Dumlupınar Mah., 06760 Çubuk / Ankara |
| **Region (NUTS)** | TR51 – Ankara |
| **Website** | https://aybu.edu.tr |
| **General e-mail / telephone** | basin@aybu.edu.tr / +90 312 906 10 00 |

# 11. Institutional representative and contact

## Legal representative

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|---|---|
| **Name** | Prof. Dr. Ali Cengiz Köseoğlu |
| **Position** | Rector |
| **E-mail** | ackoseoglu@aybu.edu.tr |
| **Telephone** | +90 312 906 10 04 |

## Main contact person

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|---|---|
| **Name** | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar |
| **Position** | Associate Professor, Department of Management Information Systems; Vice Dean, Business School |
| **Unit** | Business School – Department of Management Information Systems |
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| **Telephone** | +90 312 906 16 47 |
| **Academic profile** | https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr/takpinar |

# 12. Links

- University: https://aybu.edu.tr
- Business School: https://aybu.edu.tr/isletme/en
- Academic profiles (AVESIS): https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr
- AYBU projects in the Erasmus+ project database: https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects

Data verified on 20.11.2026. Institutional figures from aybu.edu.tr and AYBU records; project data from the European Commission's Erasmus+ project lists; staff data from AVESIS.