ERASMUS+ 2027 · THEMATIC PROFILE 16 OF 35

Green Transformation and Circular Economy

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

Why include AYBU in your consortium? Green skills and circular economy training backed by research on green management in SMEs. 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. Partner in a running KA220-YOU project on green skills and circular economy
2. Published evidence on green HRM and green information systems in SMEs
3. Research on what makes employees behave in environmentally responsible ways
4. A sustainability course with practical projects for business students
5. An inclusive green transformation research group listed on AVESIS

2. Thematic institutional profile

AYBU is a partner in YouthGreen 5.0 (2025–2027), an Erasmus+ youth partnership on fair transition with green skills and circular economy principles. Business School research supplies the organisational evidence: green human resource management and financial performance in SMEs, green information systems, employees' environmental behaviour, green banking, green supply chain management and waste management applications. The faculty teaches Sustainability and Business and is working towards accreditation in international sustainability reporting.

Relevant faculties, departments and centres

- Business School
- Ecological Studies Research Centre
- AYBÜ-YEŞİL research group on inclusive green transformation and climate change
- Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences

Research and training infrastructure

- Course BUS 318 Sustainability and Business
- Ecological Studies Research Centre
- Research centres on hydrogen technologies and solar cells

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.

- **KEEP-GREEN: Weighting and Ranking Forestry Places According to Wildfire Occurrence Potential** — Horizon Europe (cascade support), 06/2025 – 05/2026, beneficiary, EUR 60 000 (institutional record)
- **WindFlag: Offshore Wind Farms Large-Scale Integration in Türkiye** — Danida Fellowship Centre (Denmark), 06/2020 – 05/2023, beneficiary, DKK 429 898 (institutional record)

4. Key academic experts

Expert	Unit	Relevance to this theme	Profile
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Green HRM, green information systems; teaches Sustainability and Business	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emre Burak Ekmekçioğlu	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Employee green behaviour, organisational green culture and CSR	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Merve Karacaer	Business School – International Trade and Business	Green supply chain management; corporate sustainability	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Seda Ekmen	Business School – International Trade and Business	Waste management applications; logistics and environmental degradation	AVESIS
Res. Asst. Dr. Şevket Durmaz	Business School – Management (Accounting)	Sustainability performance and ESG reporting	AVESIS
Prof. Dr. Cem Korkut	Business School – Finance and Banking	COP31 Action Agenda synthesis report	AVESIS
Asst. Prof. Dr. Melek Mutioğlu Özkesen	AYBU	International sustainability reporting standards (AYBU PIF 2026)	AYBU record

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan. Associate Professor of Management at the AYBU Business School, teaching strategic management, entrepreneurship, project development and sustainability in business. His research addresses SME performance, green human resource management, green information systems and digital technology use. He has worked on Erasmus+ partnerships since 2014, leads AYBU's team in Empathetic Classrooms and served as senior

expert in an EU technical assistance project. Teaching covers strategic Management; Project Development and Management; Entrepreneurship; BUS 318 Sustainability and Business.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emre Burak Ekmekçioğlu. Associate Professor of Management and Organisation and Vice Dean of the AYBU Business School, with 23 Scopus-indexed publications and a Scopus h-index of 9. He studies leadership, knowledge sharing, green human resource management and employees' environmental behaviour, mostly in small and medium-sized enterprises, and teaches organisational behaviour and teamwork. His survey and modelling expertise supports needs analysis and impact evaluation. Teaching covers organizational Behavior; Team Work and Group Dynamics. Research record on AVESIS: 71 publications (23 in Scopus), Scopus h-index 9 (262 citations), Google Scholar h-index 19.

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

green transition · circular economy · green skills · fair transition · green human resource management · green information systems · employee green behaviour · waste management · green supply chains · sustainability in business · corporate social responsibility · sustainability reporting · eco-management · green jobs · resource efficiency

6. Alignment with Erasmus+ 2027

Horizontal priority on environment and fight against climate change: green skills, sustainability competences and behaviour change.

Relevant 2027 action	Deadline (Brussels time)	Grant per project	Role AYBU can take
Cooperation Partnerships in youth	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
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
Alliances for Innovation	14 September 2027, 17:00 Brussels time	EUR 1 000 000 for a 2-year project, EUR 1 500 000 for a 3-year project (Lot 1); EUR 4 000 000 for a 4-year project (Lot 2) (Guide p. 322)	Partner or work-package leader; coordinator for a focused Lot 1

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

- Develop green and circular skills among young people and employees
- Help small firms adopt eco-management practices that also pay off financially
- Embed sustainability competences in business education

Potential activities

- Green skills mapping
- Training units on circular business practices
- Workplace challenges on resource efficiency
- Measurement of behaviour change

Work packages AYBU could lead or co-lead

- Green skills analysis
- Training and learning resources
- Workplace and youth pilots
- Impact measurement

Training modules AYBU could deliver

- Circular economy for small businesses
- Green HRM in practice
- Sustainability reporting basics

Potential deliverables

- Green skills map
- Training units and toolkits
- Workplace challenge guide
- Behaviour change study

Potential pilot activities

- Workplace challenge with SMEs
- Green skills module with young people

Target groups AYBU can reach

- Young people

- SME employees and managers
- Business students
- Trainers

Expected institutional contribution

- Evidence-based training content
- Survey measurement of green behaviour
- Youth and student pilots
- Sustainability reporting input
- Evaluation

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

- Environmental NGOs
- SME associations
- VET providers
- Municipal waste and environment units
- Business schools

10. Organisation identification

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)
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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Main contact person

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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.