

Middle Black Sea Development Agency



OKA

ORTA KARADENİZ KALKINMA AJANSI
MIDDLE BLACK SEA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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Middle Black Sea Development Agency (OKA) has been established in 2008 in order to support economic, social and cultural development of four cities located in the Middle Black Sea Region of Turkey. These cities are Samsun, Amasya, Tokat, and Çorum among which Samsun has been chosen as the centre of the Agency. OKA is one of the regional development agencies which have been founded by the Turkish Government countywide in the 26 NUTS2 regions to coordinate regional development, to introduce strategies to enable regions use their capacities to the maximum benefit of the region, to supply the region with the means to improve their competitiveness and to reduce the imbalance existing within and between the regions.



Development Agencies are among the most important organizations of structural transformation and sustainable development in the field of regional development and social progress. By improving the cooperation between the local actors and dynamics, development agencies are going to promote the effective use of resources, which at the end is going to increase the impact of regional development efforts.

In that context, Middle Black Sea Development Agency (OKA) was established first to realize the local potentials, resources and opportunities of TR83 NUTS II Region (Amasya, Çorum, Samsun, Tokat) and than to transform them into economical, social and cultural assets both in the national and international markets. In addition, OKA is going to provide financial and technical support to projects and activities making contributions to regional development by carrying out the National Development Plan and Regional Development Master Plan and to pioneer and coordinate the activities strengthening the regional competitiveness.





Foundation:

Middle Black Sea Development Agency was established by the decision of the Council of Ministers numbered 2008/14306 on November 10th, 2008 based on the law numbered 5449: Law on the Establishment and Duties of Development Agencies.



Objectives:

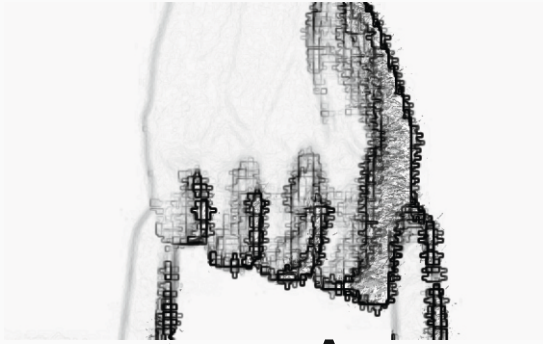
Main objectives of OKA are to improve the cooperation among public sector, private sector and NGOs, to promote the effective and efficient use of resources, to accelerate and provide sustainability of the regional development by evoking the local potential, to curtail the developmental differences among and within the regions.

- Providing technical support to the planning activities and duties of local authorities,
- Supporting the activities and projects ensuring the implementation of regional plan and programs; monitoring and evaluating the implementation process of activities and projects supported within this context and presenting results to the Ministry of Development,
- Contributing to the improvement of the capacity of the region concerning the rural and local development in accordance with the regional plans and programs, and supporting the projects within this extent as well,
- Monitoring other projects implemented by public sector, private sector and non-governmental organizations in the region and considered as important in terms of regional plan and programs,
- Improving cooperation between public sector, private sector and non-governmental organizations to achieve regional development objectives,
- Carrying out research, or having them carried out, concerning the determination of resources and opportunities of the region, acceleration of economic and social development and enhancement of competitiveness, and supporting other research carried out by other persons, organizations and institutions.



what do we have in our suitcase ?

what do we have in our suitcase ?



TRANSPARENCY **Accessibility**
Social responsibility
Consistency
SOLUTION -ORIENTATION
IMPARTIALITY **Participation**
Participation **Reliability** **Sustainability** **Innovation**
Effectiveness and efficiency

core values

Vision

An internationally respected institution aiming at making the Region the gate of Turkey opening to the Black Sea, with increased living standards, ecologic sensitivity, competitiveness and fast development.

Our Mission

Successfully implementing necessary plans, programs and activities in order to maintain sustainable development in the areas of economic, social and cultural life, together with our stakeholders in Middle Black Sea, as well as developing ourselves and our Region with a participative governance understanding.





Activities:

To develop cooperation and coordination among public, private sectors, civil society organizations and universities in the Region,

To do research in order to accelerate economic and social development, and to increase competitive capacity of the Region,

To promote business and investment opportunities of the Region at the national and international level,

To provide technical and financial support for the projects and activities supporting regional development, and to monitor and evaluate those projects and activities,

To support SMEs and new entrepreneurs as well as other related organizations in management, production, advertisement, marketing, technology, finance, organization and labor force training,

To revise and update Regional Development Master Plan and to create operational programs based on the Regional Development Master Plan.

Development Council:

Development Council is the consultative body of Middle Black Sea Development Agency consisting of 100 people from public, private and civil society sectors and academics. Development Council gives consultative decisions about policies and strategies of the Agency regarding the problems and opportunities faced in the Region.

Administrative Board:

Administrative Board of OKA, which is the decision making body, consists of 16 people who are:

- Governors of Amasya, Çorum, Samsun and Tokat
- Mayors of Amasya, Çorum, Samsun and Tokat
- Presidents of Provincial Councils of Amasya, Çorum, Samsun and Tokat
- Presidents of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Amasya, Çorum, Samsun and



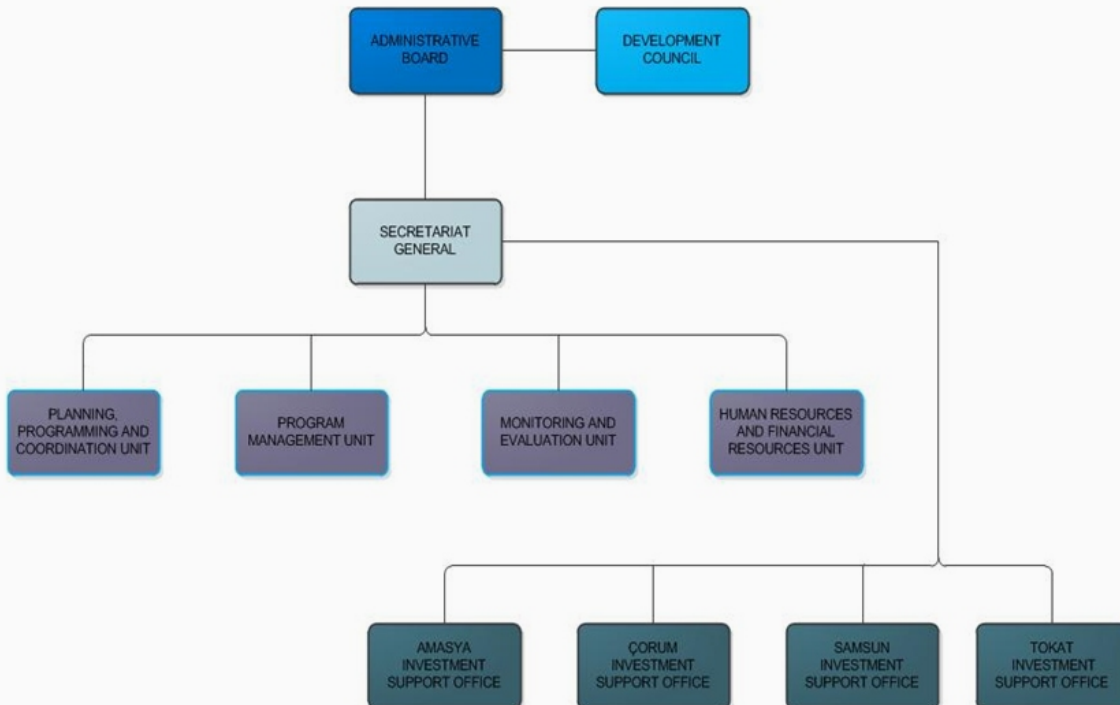
Secretariat General:

-Secretariat General is the executive body of the Development Agency.

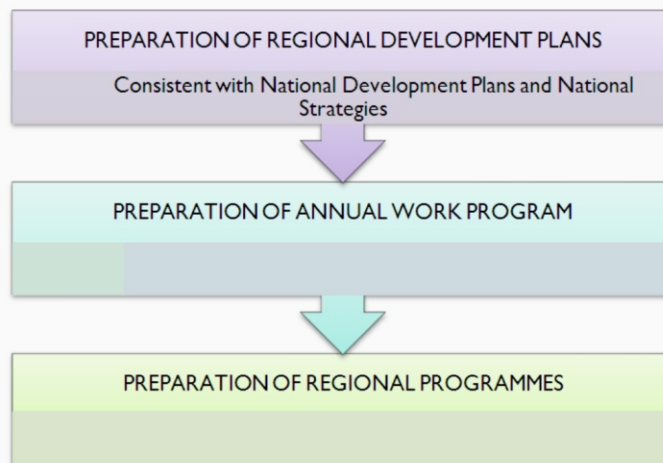
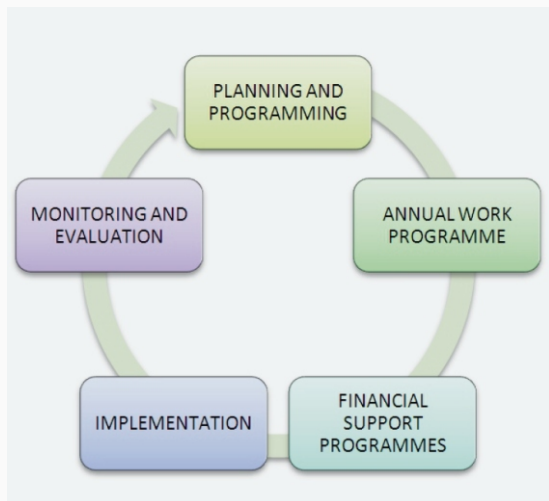
-It consists of Secretary General, 30 experts, 1 legal advisor, 1 internal auditor and 6 support staff.

-Young, dynamic, experienced and support staff

Organizational Structure:



Project Support Mechanism



Financial supports of the Development Agency are listed in 3 groups:

*** Direct Financial Support**

- Call for Proposals
- Direct Activity Support
- Guided Project Support

*** Interest Support**

*** Interest Free Credit Support**



Strategic Goals And Priorities Of Regional Plan

1. **BUILD AN EFFECTIVE SPATIAL ORGANIZATION**
 - 1.1 Develop the regional infrastructure in line with the philosophy of an effective spatial organization
 - 1.2 Prepare the cities for future in a secure and planned manner
 - 1.3 Transform rural settlement pattern into a rational structure
2. **DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE**
 - 2.1 Organize education at every level according to the production and service needs of the region
 - 2.2 Develop institutional mechanisms against poverty, unemployment and lack of security
 - 2.3 Improve urban social quality of life in the region
 - 2.4 Bring services to the poor and disadvantaged groups in the countryside
3. **INCREASE COMPETITIVE POWER AND OPEN OUT**
 - 3.1 Make use of agglomeration economies and externalities at regional and urban scale
 - 3.2 Strengthen the bond between knowledge and production in order for researches to be effective in decision making process and guide policy
 - 3.3 Opening out
 - 3.4 Develop by diversifying and promote regional tourism
 - 3.5 Develop irrigation in agriculture and increase vegetable production generating high income and carry out agricultural research
 - 3.6 Increase competitive power in animal husbandry sector
 - 3.7 Strengthen financial structures of the SMEs in agriculture, industry and services sector in the region
 - 3.8 Develop and diversify construction and transportation services
4. **PROTECT ECOLOGICAL BALANCES AND IMPROVE THE SITUATION**
 - 4.1 Protect and control air, soil, water and forest eco-systems, reduce the impacts of urban agricultural polluters
 - 4.2 Protect and ensure sustainability of biodiversity
5. **STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE**
 - 5.1 Strengthen local government and the development agency
 - 5.2 Strengthen civil society and private sector
 - 5.3 Develop the central public administration institutions in the region



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