Garanti
We know the meaning of adding value to life
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**Teachers Academy Foundation (Öğretmen Akademisi Vakfı)**
Garanti, recognizing the role of education in the overall welfare of society, set up a foundation in 2008, an initiative exhibiting its sensitivity in this aspect and its long-term commitment. The primary objective of the Teachers Academy Foundation is to support the personal and professional development of teachers.

With this understanding, the Foundation’s first project, Öğretmenin Sınırı Yok (No Limits in Teaching) aims to contribute to the current education model, provoking analytical thinking and research.

**12 Giant Men Basketball Schools Project**
As the main sponsor of the Men’s National Basketball Team, Garanti sponsors the 12 Giant Men Basketball Schools Project, which was launched in 2001 to teach basketball to students. The program has provided basketball training to approximately 25,000 young athletes so far.

**NBA Skills Challenge**
Garanti hosts the NBA Skills Challenge, inviting aspiring players aged 13-18 to film their basketball skills and submit their videos online for a chance to attend a five-day instructional camp in Orlando, Florida where winners will join more than 80 young basketball players for basketball education.

**Send Me to School (Baba Beni Okula Gönder) Project**
Since 2006, Garanti has annually been providing scholarships for the education of 100 female students through its support for the “Send Me to School” Project, a joint effort of Milliyet newspaper and the Association in Support of Contemporary Life (ÇYDD).

**Supporting Women Entrepreneurs**
Garanti has been supporting women entrepreneurs in Turkey for the past four years. As part of this effort, in cooperation with the Economist magazine, Garanti organizes “Turkey’s Women Entrepreneurs Competition.” In addition, as a co-host with the Women Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey (KAGIDER), Garanti organizes the “Women Entrepreneurs Meetings” where issues related to marketing, future trends, EU integration, technology and personal image points are discussed.

**Supporting Arts, Culture and Cultural Heritage in Turkey**

**Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, Garanti Gallery, and the Ottoman Bank Museum**
In support of contemporary art and architecture, Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center provides audiences a chance to discover contemporary art exhibitions from Turkey and from all over the world. The institution also serves as an important research center and reference source for artists with Turkey’s most comprehensive contemporary arts archive and library covering 16,000 publications.

Garanti Gallery, bringing different concepts in architecture and design together, provides a sophisticated discussion platform through exhibitions and related activities.
The Ottoman Bank Museum (OBM) draws on a wealth of information from the Bank’s archive to narrate the history of the institution. The OBM aims to be more than just a museum of banking; it provides awareness of a much wider context of social history. The historical buildings of the Platform in Beyoğlu and of the OBM in Karaköy will be renovated to serve as Istanbul’s new cultural center. With the architectural renewals taken on, Garanti Gallery, Platform and OBM redefined their missions and organizational structures, and recently came together under Garanti Kültür A.Ş. The newly founded institution will carry out activities in the national and international arena, further evidencing the support Garanti Bank extends to culture and the arts.

Istanbul Museum of Modern Art
Garanti sponsors the education program of Istanbul Modern, Turkey’s first and only contemporary art museum. The program aims to supplement classroom education and hopes to play a central role in raising creative and inquisitive individuals who are literate, and also actively involved, in the arts.

Garanti Jazz
One of the leading sponsors of jazz music in Turkey, Garanti aims to broaden and spice up music lovers’ horizons in the genre of jazz. The main sponsor of the International Istanbul Jazz Festival, organized by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, for the past 12 years, Garanti also supports the Istanbul Jazz Center concerts, giving fans of this genre a chance to listen to world-famous jazz artists. Furthermore, Garanti has, for 10 years, been sponsoring one of the top music venues in Istanbul, Babylon, providing audiences with a wide range of music, predominantly jazz and nu jazz. The Bank’s support in jazz music is labeled as “Garanti Jazz Green.”

The Lycian Way
Garanti sponsored the path-marking of the Lycian Way, a 500 km-long trail stretching from Fethiye to Antalya, thus facilitating guided trekking. Garanti further contributed to tourism in the region by publishing a guidebook for the Lycian Way in 2006.

Supporting National Sporting Success in the International Arena
Basketball
Basketball is a sport that reflects Garanti’s values of teamwork, dedication, confidence and discipline. Thus, the Bank has been the main sponsor of the 12 Giant Men (Turkish National Men’s Basketball Team) since 2001, and of Turkish National Women’s Basketball Team since 2005.

Football
Garanti became one of the main sponsors of the Turkish National Men’s Football Team in 2008, taking its dedication to supporting sports one step further. In the process, the Bank also launched the acclaimed communication campaign naming the national footballers as “Turkos.”

Creating an Environmentally Sustainable Society and Increasing Sustainability
World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) - Turkey
Garanti has been the main sponsor of WWF-Turkey since 1992, supporting conservation and creating awareness on major environmental issues.

One of the many projects jointly conducted by Garanti and WWF-Turkey and introduced in 2007, the Environmentally Friendly Bonus Card is a credit card providing cardholders with the chance to donate parts of their spending credits to WWF-Turkey.

Corporate Volunteering
Starfish (Denizyıldızlan) Project
The Starfish Project has been supported by the donations of employees, customers and friends of Garanti since 1998. Every year, 2,500 students receive education on the Denizyıldızlan Educational Institution campus, comprised of one primary school and four vocational and technical high schools.

Garanti Social Responsibility Club (Gönüllü Yoncalar)
A social responsibility club set up initially with 70 members in August 2008, was received with great interest and support from employees, and increased the number of its members to more than 700 in as quickly as one year. It was named Gönüllü Yoncalar (Volunteer Clovers) inspired by the clover that is part of Garanti Bank’s logo. Within the frame of their first project, the “One Book from Each Clover to Shed Light on Darkness” campaign, 35,000 books were delivered to selected schools and provincial public libraries in 16 cities.

Creating Value for Customers
Garanti Anatolian Meetings (GAS)
In 2002, Garanti initiated a series of conferences, known as Garanti Anatolian Meetings, to bring together SMEs and local administrators from around Turkey. Having gathered 18,500 SMEs so far, these meetings have paved the way for professionals and experts to discuss changing economic and market conditions, evaluate regional and international opportunities, explore potential areas of business, and find regional solutions in cooperation with local businesses and officials.
The key to build a modern society...

Education

*We remain at the back of it all.*
Our goal is to reach 100,000 teachers

Garanti will continue its support on education focusing on teachers who undertake the most important responsibility on improving the quality of education and raising enlightened, modern and productive future generations.

Established by Garanti to engage in sustainable activities directed towards our teachers, the main pillar of quality education, the Teachers Academy Foundation launched its first project, “Öğretmenin Sınır Yok” (No Limits in Teaching) in 2008. With a protocol signed with the Ministry of National Education in 2008, No Limits in Teaching launched, with a view to contribute to the implementation of an education model that encourages thinking, inquiring and researching. The project aims to deliver free-of-charge training to individuals who have taken on the responsibility of providing education in Turkey, and to teachers predominantly, so as to support their professional and personal development. Based on voluntary participation, in-service training sessions are offered to teachers within the frame of the project.

In 2009, 6,000 teachers in 14 cities, all over Turkey (Bursa, Bolu, Çankırı, Karabük, Istanbul, Sakarya, Düzce, Edirne, Ankara, Sanlıurfa, Balıkesir, Hatay, Gaziantep, Diyarbakır) have been trained. The goal of the project is to reach 100,000 teachers!

In the financial sector, the social responsibility projects that focus on education are associated with Garanti Bank the most.

*Source: 7p Think / Tank Group Research - December 2008*
Garanti Bank sponsors the education program of the Istanbul Museum of Modern Art, Turkey’s first and only modern art museum. The program aims to supplement classroom education and hopes to play a central role in raising creative and inquisitive individuals who are literate, and also actively involved, in the arts.

As part of the education program, the Istanbul Museum of Modern Art, in collaboration with the Centre Georges Pompidou, one of the world’s leading contemporary art institutions in Paris, created an educational program series named “The Young Istanbul Modern.” With the support of the museum’s education sponsor Garanti Bank, the educational program started in May 2007.

The Young Istanbul Modern educational programs enable children and teenagers to get to know artists, understand the process of artistic creation, imagine and create new elements with new functions, associations and meanings, and acquire unique experiences through interactive games.
Community Volunteers Foundation
Garanti sponsors Community Volunteers Foundation where youth lead, adults guide.

Young members of the Community Volunteers Foundation (TOG) organize clubs, societies or groups at their universities to put into life “sustainable social responsibility projects” in line with the needs identified. In 2009, TOG carried out 727 local, national and international social responsibility projects with its 22,699 young and 500 adult active volunteers from all over Turkey, while also mobilizing the local resources by involving the public. The Support to Voluntary Education project aims to provide alternative education support by young community volunteers to students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades of primary schools in regions in need of extra assistance. The project was executed by 19 separate TOG organizations across Turkey at 27 schools in 2008.

Seasonal Summer Projects
The Young Community Volunteers from various parts of Turkey ran eight seasonal summer projects in eight cities in the summer of 2008. Two-hundred youngsters took part in the projects, which focused on various topics such as the promotion of local culture, educational support, ecology and cinema. A total of 6,400 local people were reached within the frame of this project.

“5 Keys” Training System
The fundamental training system for the development of young Community Volunteers, the 5 Keys Training System aim to create awareness of basic concepts such as civil society, project and volunteerism in young volunteers with different experiences and backgrounds all over Turkey, and to bring them together at the center of these concepts and shared creative ideas. A total of 10,473 volunteers were reached via 504 key trainings held in the 2008-2009 period.

Garanti Social Responsibility Club (Gönüllü Yoncalar)
Our vision is to become the most active volunteer club in Turkey.

www.gonulluyoncalar.com

Set up at Garanti Bank with 70 members in August 2008 on the basis of employee volunteerism, Gönüllü Yoncalar is a social responsibility club that increased the number of its members to more than 700 in one year with the extraordinary interest and support from the bank’s employees. In the meantime, the club successfully carried out a number of projects with the support of the entire Garanti family. Within the frame of the club’s first project sponsored by all Garanti employees, the “One Book from Each Clover to Shed Light on Darkness” campaign, 35,000 books were delivered to selected schools and provincial public libraries in 16 cities.

Almost 1,000 executives of Garanti Bank, including the president, executive vice presidents, and unit, region and branch managers, personally worked on the renovation of the Aşağı Kocayatak, Burmahancı, Eskişöyü, Kozağaç and Kuşlar primary schools in Antalya. Garanti Bank executives painted the interior and exterior walls, window frames and bathrooms, did landscaping and whitewashed the trees at schools identified by GEA – Mother Nature, a search and rescue, ecology and relief campaign group, in coordination with Gönüllü Yoncalar.

Garanti Social Responsibility Club
(Gönüllü Yoncalar)

Our vision is to become the most active volunteer club in Turkey.

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Garanti sponsors Community Volunteers Foundation where youth lead, adults guide.
For the basis of a modern society...

Culture
And Art

*We remain at the back of it all.
One of the Garanti’s first culture and arts initiatives is Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, whose activities have continued since it was taken over during the merge with Ottoman Bank in 2001. Today, Platform is regarded as one of the world’s top few institutions in contemporary arts, its main focus area. In addition, Ottoman Bank Museum and the Ottoman Bank Archives and Research Center, established in 2002 to perpetuate the invaluable legacy of the Ottoman Bank, not only narrate the story of an establishment and of a period, but also contribute to collective memory with its endeavors in social and economic studies, as well as a comprehensive activity program.

Garanti Kültür A.Ş. Beyoğlu building before the restoration, October 2009

Transformed from the Garanti Art Gallery, Garanti Gallery was established in 2003 and hosts projects that combine all disciplines concerned with architecture and design. Each one producing major projects in its own field, these three entities were recently brought together under Garanti Kültür A.Ş.

Garanti Kültür A.Ş. will actively commence operations by early 2011 with exhibition, research, archive and educational functions, and serve as the new epicenter of culture and the arts in Istanbul upon completion of the renovation of the historical buildings in Galata (OBM) and Beyoğlu (Platform Garanti).

The institution will be engaged in contemporary art, architecture, design, and cultural and social studies even more actively on a wide space of 15,000 square meters.

Garanti Kültür A.Ş. Galata building before the restoration, October 2009

With 71.8% public endorsement, Garanti is regarded as the leading corporation in terms of support to culture and arts.

*Source: 7p Think / Tank Group Research - December 2008*
Exhibition Sponsorships

Within the frame of the support extended to the arts, Garanti sponsors exhibitions by national and international artists.

**Sarkis’s “Site” exhibition at Istanbul Modern**

One of the most important actors in the contemporary art scene today, Sarkis’s “Site” exhibition took place at Istanbul Modern with the sponsorship of Garanti. Showcased from September 10, 2009 through January 10, 2010, the exhibition attracted more than 20,000 people in its first two weeks only, becoming one of the most visited exhibitions organized to date by Istanbul Modern. The “Site” exhibition points to all the stages that the artist’s career has gone through in the course of half a century. In “Site,” Sarkis reconsiders the different periods of his art together for the first time in an attempt to reinterpret and reconstruct them.

**Yüksel Arslan at Santral Istanbul**

The first retrospective exhibition of Yüksel Arslan, one of the world’s most exceptional 20th Century artists, was held from September 13, 2009 until March 21, 2010, with Garanti Bank as the main sponsor. On view at Istanbul Bilgi University’s Silahtarağa Campus and at Santral Istanbul, the exhibition brought Yüksel Arslan himself, who had not been to Turkey since 1969, and his original world to the audiences.

**Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center**

Platform Garanti Contemporary Art Center, curated and directed by Vasif Kortun and in operation since 2001, is named among the world’s top few contemporary art institutions, with its exhibitions, archive, library, conferences and panels. Featured and praised in influential international contemporary art magazines, Platform has been also honored with numerous international awards.

The institution also serves as an important research center and reference source for artists, with one of Turkey’s most comprehensive contemporary arts archives and libraries covering nearly 16,000 publications. Conducted since 2003, Platform’s Istanbul Residency Program (IRP) gives international artists, art critics and curators concerned with contemporary arts the chance to live, produce and research in Istanbul. To date, Platform has been home to 45 national and five international exhibitions, and more than 200 conferences, workshops and symposia with the participation of 40 national and 164 foreign speakers, and opened its doors to more than 620,000 visitors.

In 2004, Platform was awarded the 50th Year Grant by the European Cultural Foundation for its contribution to local and regional culture. In 2003, Platform was also selected one of the 10 most important not-for-profit institutions to participate in “Institution 2” organized by Kiasma, Museum of Contemporary Art in Helsinki. Invited to Frieze Projects at the Frieze Art Fair in 2006, Platform was one of the 15 international partners for the SITE Santa Fe Biennial in 2008.
Garanti Gallery

Monitoring the hot topics and popular actors in current architecture and design and bringing them together with the public through its exhibitions, activities and publications, Garanti Gallery takes important steps to put the past and present on the record.

A cultural institution organized under Garanti Bank and specialized in urban planning, design and architecture, Garanti Gallery (GG) takes important steps to put the present and the past on the record, while monitoring the hot topics and popular actors in current architecture and design, and bringing them together with the public through the exhibitions, activities and publications realized since its establishment. Having acquired an identity that transcends the boundaries of popularity on the back of its foundations based on research and production, and receiving and also extending the support of academic circles, Garanti Gallery has become the center of attention of national and international institutions and individuals in and out of the country. This is owed to exhibitions and publications that have served as references as a result of recent studies that focused on urban planning.

Since its establishment in 2003 until November 2009, Garanti Gallery realized 36 exhibitions, six of them abroad, as well as five exhibition readings-presentation, 14 conferences, 17 workshops, one concert, four panels, 11 talks/discussions/roundtable meetings and two guided venue visits. GG published five books, in addition to exhibition yearbooks. Its exhibitions showcased not only in Turkey but also in the leading museums abroad, Garanti Gallery developed the project “Becoming Istanbul” for the Architecture Museum of Germany (DAM, Frankfurt) last year. The project opened at DAM concurrently with the Frankfurt Book Fair. Consisting of an interactive database on the present day Istanbul and a 16-minute film titled “Mapping Istanbul,” “Becoming Istanbul” was put on display in two more cities in May 2009. The first stop of the exhibition was Al Riwaq Gallery in Bahrain, while the second host was the Deutsches Architektur Zentrum (DAZ) in Berlin. This earned “Becoming Istanbul” the title of the first Turkish exhibition showcased twice in Germany within such a short timespan.

Scenes from some exhibitions (2003-2009)
Turkey’s first private bank museum, the Ottoman Bank Museum and Archives has reached almost 160,000 people since December 19, 2002.

Housed in the former head office of the Ottoman Bank on Bankalar Street, the Ottoman Bank Museum operates under the aegis of the Garanti Bank-sponsored Ottoman Bank Archives and Research Center.

The museum, organized in and around the bank’s safe room, draws on a wealth of information from the bank’s archive to narrate the history of this institution, which operated as the central bank, bank of issue, and treasurer of the Ottoman Empire. The objects and documents displayed in the museum offer glimpses into the less known world of the late Ottoman and early Republican periods, during which the bank played a central role. The Ottoman Bank museum has hosted 13 exhibitions that have reached nearly 160,000 people since its inauguration.

The Ottoman Bank Archive and Research Center offers researchers a digitalized version of the Ottoman Bank archives that chronicle a process beginning with the establishment of the bank, right through the 1950s. Within the Center, a specialized library gathers works focusing on the economic, political and social history, as well as the banking and finance history of the Turkish Republic and of the Ottoman Empire beginning with the Tanzimat (Reform) Era.

The publication policy of the Ottoman Bank Archive and Research Center aims to complement its wide range of activities and thus make available to the general public the results of research related to exhibitions, lectures, and specific projects falling under the Center’s domains of specialization.

Along this line, the Center has published around 40 books so far. The Center’s publications also include the works submitted within the framework of the biennial prize competition for research on the history of banking and finance, jointly organized by the Center, the European Association for Banking and Financial History and the History Foundation of Turkey.

To date, the Center has organized around 400 panels, symposia, workshops and seminars that shed light on economic, political and social history, and has reached some 25,000 people.
As one of the leading sponsors of jazz music in Turkey, Garanti brings together jazz enthusiasts and world famous jazz artists throughout the year.

Garanti Jazz

One of the leading sponsors of jazz music in Turkey, Garanti has been supporting the International Istanbul Jazz Festival, organized by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, for the past 12 years, and one of the top music venues in Istanbul, Babylon, for 10 years. The bank also supports the Istanbul Jazz Center concerts, giving audiences a chance to listen to world-famous jazz artists throughout the year.

To date, numerous eminent performers including Omara Portuondo, Roy Ayers, Jazzanova, Nouvelle Vague, Rubin Steiner, Spyro Gyra, Victoria Tolstoy, Bob James, Oliver Ker Ourio, and Gustav Lundgren have taken to the stage within the frame of the Garanti Jazz Green concerts held at Babylon Istanbul, Babylon Alaçatı and Istanbul Jazz Center. The concerts have attracted some 70,000 jazz enthusiasts.

Babylon Garanti Jazz Concerts

Garanti has, for 10 years, been supporting Babylon, a pioneering venue in the urban culture of Istanbul, within the frame of the Garanti Jazz Green concerts, aiming to present audiences with different perspectives based on an intercultural approach.

International Istanbul Jazz Festival

In keeping with its principle of creating long-lasting projects in areas that broaden society’s vision, Garanti has been continually extending support to the International Istanbul Jazz Festival. A sine qua non of life in Istanbul and among the leading jazz festivals in Europe, the International Istanbul Jazz Festival has brought numerous famous artists to the Turkish audiences, including Sting, Björk, Simply Red, Buena Vista Social Club Feat, Ibrahim Ferrer, Bryan Ferry, Lenny Kravitz and George Benson.

Garanti Bank is the first bank recalled by 20% of the respondents when asked about Jazz Green. In the financial sector, jazz music is associated with Garanti Bank by 16.8% of the interviewees, which represents the highest ratio in the industry. 

*Source: 7p Think / Tank Group Research - December 2008
The joyful way of creating cooperation and association...

Sports

*We remain at the back of it all.
12 Giant Men

The story of the “12 Giant Men” started when Garanti Bank became the sponsor of the national basketball team prior to the 32nd European Basketball Championships held in Turkey in 2001.

Always keen on basketball because it embodies the teamwork, faith, confidence and discipline that represent Garanti’s corporate culture, the bank’s objective when it first became the official sponsor of the team was to invoke increased public support for the sport, achieve enhanced awareness of the European Basketball Championships, and extend the support that our national team deserved.

Along these lines, Garanti created the 12 Giant Men concept, a gift to the Turkish basketball community. The jingle with the same title composed for the 2001 European Championships virtually became a march chanted even at football matches, while the phrase stuck in everybody’s mind. 12 Giant Men aggrandized basketball, and basketball aggrandized the 12 Giant Men. The phrase coined for the team is a brand name today and the Turkish National Team is known as the 12 Giant Men everywhere.

With 22.6%, public endorsement Garanti is by far the first brand recalled in relation to “12 Giant Men”.

*Source: 7p Think / Tank Group Research - December 2008
Since 2002, Garanti has been supporting the 12 Giant Men Basketball Schools organized by the Turkish Basketball Federation.

Garanti is a supporter of basketball in every aspect. Via 12 Giant Men Basketball Schools, Garanti fully supports the Federation in its efforts to inculcate a nationwide liking for basketball, create an informed basketball circle, and train the athletes, referees and managers of the future. Every year, almost 2,500 students receive basketball training with the support of Garanti in summer and winter programs held at the basketball schools organized in 55 centers across Turkey and in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Enes Kanter, a player in the Turkish National Team who learned the game at the 12 Giant Men Basketball School in Van in 2004, was named the Most Valuable Player at the Europe Under-18 Championship for men held in France, and made Turkey proud.
Supporting Women’s Basketball

Garanti, the sponsor of the National Men’s Basketball Team, is the main sponsor of the National Women’s Team as well.

The “Nymphs of Basketball” communication campaign was conducted to support the European Women’s Basketball Championships held in Turkey in 2005.

NBA Skills Challenge

Garanti wins young talents for the world of basketball.

Besides sponsorship of national teams, in 2008 Garanti became the prime sponsor for NBA Turkey and started organizing events like the Skills Challenge, giving teenagers the chance to join NBA Youth Basketball Camps in the USA.
Garanti Bank launched the communication campaign that referred to the national footballers as “Turkos,” which represented the national team and reflected values such as competition, ambition and team spirit.

Turkos, focused and energetic on the field, won the support of the entire nation as heroes who concentrate on the target and keep fighting all the way through to the end.

Garanti Masters Private Banking has been working in harmony with the Turkish Equestrian Federation since 2006 with a view to increase the popularity of equestrianism, a rapidly developing sport of the recent years, among the youth, and to help the discipline achieve the deserved level of international performance and audience potential.

Taking on the sponsorship of various equestrian competitions and events organized by the Federation, Garanti has also been the official sponsor of the Turkish Equestrian Federation since 2008.
4,300 athletes have competed at the Bonus Snow Masters in seven years.

Through Bonus Snow Masters, Garanti Bonus Card continues to support winter sports in Turkey, which presents the perfect conditions for the discipline but lacks the necessary facilities. One of the most colorful events held at Uludağ, the Bonus Snow Masters Skiing and Snowboarding Competition, is organized by the Turkish Ski Federation and Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports. The Istanbul city champion is also crowned in this event.

Although Turkey is surrounded by the sea on three sides, interest in water sports fails to match this geographical privilege.

Nonetheless, sailing has recently associated with Shop&Miles, Garanti Bank’s credit card, and the Shop&Miles Sailing Cup is responsible for this development. Shop&Miles was set in the water with the Bosphorus Cup, the race named after the credit card and which began in 2002. Taking Turkey’s first international strait race further every year, Garanti now organizes an offshore regatta covering the Istanbul Strait, Bodrum Turgut Reis and Didim laps, and is participated in by a large number of yachts from foreign countries.

Garanti brings the wind not only to sailors but also to its employees. The Garanti Sailing Club introduced the sport and offered training opportunities to over 200 Garanti employees. The Garanti Sailing Team, composed of the Club’s members who completed their training successfully, represents Garanti in a number of competitions and takes to the podium.
For a living planet...

Environment

*We remain at the back of it all.*
We provide support to a significant part of the WWF’s (World Wide Fund for Nature) activities focused on the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources in our country. Through this contribution, we aim to raise an awareness of environmental issues and help create a world that is cleaner and livable, and where nature is protected.

An international nongovernmental organization seeking to stop the degradation of our planet’s natural environment, and to make good the damage already caused, WWF is the world’s biggest environmental organization with 2,000 conservation worldwide and nearly 4,000 employees. WWF conducts its projects in over 100 countries under the main headings of climate change, forests, fresh water, seas, species and sustainability.

Established in 1996 in Turkey, the Foundation for Protecting Wildlife was renamed WWF-Turkey in 2001 and became the national organization of WWF in our country. The primary objective of the Foundation is to stop degradation of our planet’s natural environment and build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

Garanti Bank and WWF-Turkey Projects

Climate Change

In 2007, Garanti supported the Turkish screening of “An Inconvenient Truth,” former U.S. Vice President Al Gore’s documentary on global climate change. Hosted by Garanti and WWF-Turkey, Gore also gave a conference on global climate change on June 12, 2007 in Istanbul. In the conference, Gore presented his work on climate change, based on scientific data and the product of more than three decades of work.

Published with Garanti’s support, the book entitled “Our Footprints in Nature” argues that all segments of society played a role in the pollution and destruction of nature. The book notes that the protection of nature in order to reach a better world is a joint responsibility, and is a guide for life aiming to encourage the right consumption habits and add value to society.

Biodiversity Projects

“Important Plant Areas of Turkey” was published in 2003, based on the research conducted by Garanti in cooperation with WWF-Turkey whereby 122 important plant areas of Turkey were identified. Providing detailed information on the threats against the plant areas in our country as well as on necessary actions to be taken for their conservation, the book will also serve as a valuable guide for the future efforts of preservationists.

Marine Projects

Supported by Garanti and led by WWF-Turkey, a number of projects have been undertaken to conserve marine biodiversity. The first-ever marine biodiversity study in Turkey was carried out in 2003, scanning a 78-kilometer-long section of the sea. 2004 marked the installation of Turkey’s first buoyage system in Kaş, thus conserving the posidonia beds, which function as the lungs of the sea, where boats drop anchor. In addition, steps were taken in 2006 to include Kaş and its islands in the Kekova Specially Protected Area.

International WWF Awards

Garanti Bank has received the Gold Panda award for the 2nd time for its long-term support of WWF-Turkey’s nature preservation projects. Garanti is the one and only Turkish firm that reach such success.
Animal Protection Projects
Owing to the protection and research activities conducted at Adana Akyatan Beach, 90,000 sea turtle hatchlings were able to reach the sea in four years. We reached 10,000 visitors over the course of three years on Çıralı Beach in Antalya, and created awareness of sea turtle conservation efforts carried out in the region.

Water Management and Wetland Projects
Cooperation was established with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in an effort to have the 12 wetlands with a total area of 160,000 hectares in Turkey declared as “Ramsar Sites.” Also, Turkey’s first ever online water management and wetland training was organized. The training program was completed by 300 people.

Forest Conservation Projects
A world-famous tourist attraction in the Black Sea region, Küre Mountains has been listed as one of 100 forest “hot spots” in Europe by WWF. The area was declared a national park in 2000 and named “Turkey’s Gift to the Earth”, as the result of efforts supported by Garanti and led by WWF-Turkey.

Other Environmentally Sensitive Projects by Garanti
• Since 2001, firebreaks in Bodrum have been built within the frame of firefighting efforts under the Forest Conservation Projects.
• Garanti Bank espoused an environment-friendly approach from the design phase through printing of its 2008 Annual Report, and minimized resource consumption in its production. The report was printed on 100% recycled paper, using environment-friendly materials. Graphic design was built on optimal page dimensions thereby minimizing waste, which slashed the number of pages by 40% compared to the previous year’s report. This also represents proportional savings in resources such as energy, water, fiber, dye, and the paper utilized in printing the report.

• In an endeavor to enhance environmental awareness, Garanti has been supporting the Special Environment Issue of the Yeşil Atlas (Green Atlas) magazine for 11 years.

Garanti helps build environmental awareness by having National Geographic’s special issue on the environment printed on 100% recycled paper.

Starting 2010, Green Atlas magazine can be visited at www.yesilatlas.com
With an aim to involve its customers in efforts to protect nature, Garanti introduced the Environmentally Friendly Bonus Card in February 2007. The card was launched with the screening of Al Gore’s documentary film, “An Inconvenient Truth,” and Garanti turned a number of miracles into reality with the support of the 40,000 Environmentally Friendly Bonus Card holders, whose awareness and commitment are exemplary not only for Turkey but for the whole world.

- Bonus Card holders donate parts of their spending credits to WWF-Turkey’s activities to protect nature. The card serves our customers as a means to contribute to nature, while all the benefits of the Bonus Card are enjoyed.

- Recycled paper is used in card delivery letters and envelopes, as well as in all printed materials, that are mailed to customers.

- The percentage of PVC that is more resistant to natural conditions than other plastic types is minimized among raw material ingredients. Thus, these cards biodegrade more quickly than other plastic cards.

- Customers are informed on how to protect nature and the environment.
- An additional objective is to increase the use of environmentally sensitive products by organizing special offers on such products each month.

**What We Did**
- We continued to save the sea turtles, the Mediterranean’s oldest sailors. As a result, thousands of sea turtles have been able to reach the sea.
- We organized training on organic agriculture and fishery in relation to sustainable natural resources to guarantee food safety.
- We supported more than 10 local projects focusing on the conservation of temperate rain forests in the eastern Black Sea region. We
contributed to the conservation of one of the world’s richest natural sites in collaboration with local NGOs.

- We carried out activities for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands with an area of 227,000 hectares, which is equal to 300,000 football fields. Furthermore, those preferring electronic account statements rose from 8% to 30% among all Garanti credit card customers, saving almost 5,000 trees from being cut. Modern irrigation was implemented at pilot agricultural sites, resulting in more than 50% saving in water consumption.

Children are at the focal point of our awareness-building efforts...
As the twig is bent, so is the tree inclined, and only a generation fond of the environment can protect nature...

Building our approach on this perspective, we are delighted to release Turkey’s first environmentalist cartoon series! In our films, we aim to tell our children in an amusing fashion that they can prevent major environmental issues just by paying attention to little details.

With this thought, we produced three cartoons focusing on carbon emission, water saving and paper waste. At the beginning of the summer, www.cevrecibonusoyunu.com went live, offering children a chance to take glimpses into the life of ÇEBO, a character working to save the world, and learn how to protect the environment. Along the same lines, an episode specifically developed for children in cooperation with NG Kids is also on the air.

Seal your taps and save the planet’s water. Gaskets are on Garanti!

Environmentally Bonus sent gaskets to new cardholders on World Water Day to signify the prevention of water loss through individual actions. Gaskets provide up to 70% savings in the amount of water lost per household.

Important Links:
http://www.wwf.org.tr
http://www.cevrecibonus.com
http://www.cevrecibonusoyunu.com
http://www.kids.cevrecibonus.com