



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION  
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**  
**LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

*7<sup>th</sup> Session – 2020-2021*

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

# DOKUMAPARK NATURE CULTURE & ART PARK

TURKEY'S NATIONAL PROPOSAL FOR EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION  
LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPA

7<sup>th</sup> Session 2020-2021

## A-INTRODUCTION

The foundation of Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill was laid during 1950's. The mill was established with the aim of being a solution to increasing unemployment due to the galloping increasing unemployment due to the galloping city population. The rapid processing of cotton which is produced and considered as white gold in Antalya, was also one of the founding purposes of the mill. The facility established on an area of 250 thousand m2. The project space has witnessed an era making it important part of the local heritage while preserving the memory within its structure. Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill, which was set up in the 1950's, was hosting a continuous life due to uninterrupted production.

Manager housing, six personnel public housing, main entrance building, factory operating areas and operation building, administrative building, two warehouses, boiler room, fire station, transformer building, carpenter's shop, construction workshops, and a chemical warehouse were among such facilities one after another. As socializing and recreational areas; a dining hall for workers and civil servants, canteen, kindergarten, guesthouse, infirmary, education and sports building, and playgrounds were situated inside and the site provided over seven thousand households with work and food at that time creating unique memories until it closed down entirely in 2003.







The administration of that time had handed over rights of usage of the land to a foreign company to build a shopping mall. The new governing administration (the municipality of Kepez) that took over in 2009 has recognized the importance of this space for the collective memory of the city and has spend years putting a lot of effort in court to take back the legal rights of the land.

The Municipality of Kepez, together with the people of Antalya, has taken a decision about the future of the mill which has witnessed the history. A Common Sense Commission including non governmental organizations, professional chambers, and the representatives of political parties was founded. In accordance with the decisions taken by the Common Sense Commission, the future of Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill was shaped. The name of the mill was changed to Dokumapark.



The Municipality of Kepez carried out the transformative works without disrupting the natural structure of factory buildings that have witnessed the history and without cutting a single tree in the factory garden. While the open areas of the woven land have been improved by preserving all flora values, all facilities of the closed factory have been turned into museums, culture and art centers, and private centers that contribute to the city's memory by our municipality in line with the common wishes of the people of Antalya. The process of deciding on the defining features of this landscape project has been done in collaboration with public voting. **Dokumapark carries the status of a cultural heritage because of the important structures it hosts in its 250.000 m2 area. The most important goal of this project has been to preserve the diverse flora and its environmental structures for the future generations.**



We have ensured this sustainable climate by building a botanic park and to improve the landscape conditions of the area. We have also created museums, artistic practice spaces and arts and culture events in the park to uphold and spread awareness on its natural resources.

The factory site, which was once abandoned to its fate, has now become the attraction center of not only Antalya but also of the whole region under the name of DOKUMAPARK.



Traditional Corn Loft



Traditional Bee Hive

## B-FUNCTIONS OF DOKUMAPARK NATURE-CULTURE & ART PARK

### 1-ANATOLIAN TOY MUSEUM

The municipality of Kepez has dedicated the building to children. It was once the kindergarten of Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill where the workers coming to work in the factory would entrust their children during their overtime and in which children would run around the aisles once. Turning the building into a toy museum, the Municipality of Kepez has built the biggest toy museum in Turkey and brought its richest collection together. Anatolian Toy Museum is not just a museum with differences between the walls. The museum garden has been designed and furnished so as to be unique and different just like the museum design itself.







Anatolian Toy Museum, which can be visited even for its garden, has two monumental trees and an electric double wagon train. Both of these monumental trees are olive trees that are a thousand and a thousand a hundred years old. There is an archeology workshop, a playground, a hobbit house, dozens of sculptures and a giant chess set in the garden.





## 2-TRAIN LIBRARY

By the Municipality of Kepez, the first train was brought to Antalya which has not had a train up to that time. The train, which is not being used as a means of travel as before, has been designed as a sleeper wagon with a twenty five-meter length that has two special parts in. For this reason, a trainlibrary and a train workshop has been built.



While people have a unique experience with thousands of books that appeal to all ages in the train library, they have the opportunity to produce works with artistic skills and spend an enjoyable time in the workshop section.

Both the library and the workshop section of the train library serve not only children but also adults.



## 3-GALLERY OF MODERN ARTS

### From the social facilities of the weaving mill to Dokumapark Gallery of Modern Art

In this big and majestic building, you will find the original workers' dining hall. The dining hall also had a structure opening to the social facility with a different section at the back. It was never an unfriendly building used only for food.



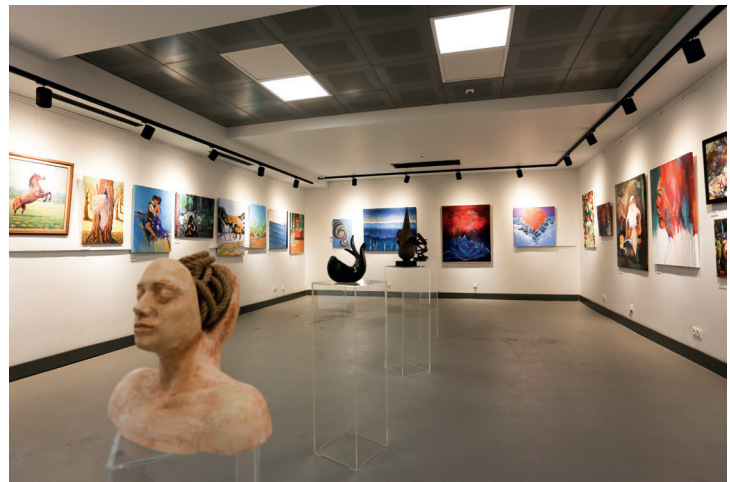
Lots of times of happiness have been experienced here; we are not talking about celebratory meals, though. The Cotton Weaving Dining Hall, which is the first and the largest facility of Antalya, witnessed many weddings. Many engagement ceremonies were held here. For, there was no other place as magnificent as this building in Antalya, all local residents would queue up to be able to use this building on their special occasions. Now, it continues its life as the biggest art gallery of Antalya and the Mediterranean region.





While hosting art exhibitions, it offers exciting times for our future by means of meetings and cultural events as it did in the past.

The building, which used to be a dining hall and a place for wedding ceremonies, is now a place for artists to exhibit their works and for art lovers to enjoy these exhibitions.



## 4-PENSIONERS CLUB

**Dokumapark Civil Servants' Dining Hall is the Pensioners Club now.**

Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill Dining Hall was a social facility where civil servants and management staff would eat their meals during the day and those who resided in the factory housing would meet and socialize in the evenings. Dinner parties and engagement ceremonies used to be held in the area as well as congresses and meetings. The area, which also serves as a city club, has been restored to its original form and refunctioned by preserving the same materials in place.



BEFORE



AFTER



Now, this place has been turned into a beautiful retro café special for retirees of Antalya Spinning and Cotto Weaving Mill and for the whole public. Everyone, the young and the old are now socializing here regardless of the name of the Pensioners Club.

## 5-OPEN-AIR MUSEUM



The place where time stops, structures shrink, and you grow. Built in the area used as the storage part of the factory, Dokumapark Open-Air Museum of the Municipality of Kepez has brought together the rich architectural heritage of cultures of every civilization that ruled and left a trace on this land from archaic age to Rome, Byzantine, Selcuks, and Ottomans. A field of attraction has been created by both planting the land that did not use to be green and placing scale models of historical artifacts. In the open-air museum, out of thousands of historical artifacts eighty four architectural works have been selected from Turkish and Ottoman geography.

They have been represented as their miniature models scaled down to 1/25.

Not limited to Turkey and Turkish culture, together with all the values that build Anatolia, all models bear the marks of a life experience in the nearby geography. In the open-air museum, everything is so convenient that you feel as if you were traveling all over the country from east to west and from north to south.





Taking its strength and beauty from three thousand year old civilizations behind, the facility is a cultural and social responsibility project as well as being a pleasant tour park. Young generations will discover how deeply rooted civilization they are feeding on here.



## 6-8D VIRTUAL REALITY

### Simulation Center

In Dokumapark Museums Complex, in addition to equipping all museums with the requirements of the age; this building which will serve all of them in a common center and provide education to the public in the desired genre, is unique with its educational feature and offering the latest technology to the attention of people of all ages.

In the center where natural and historical beauties of Antalya in the virtual environment are visited, by making use of the latest opportunities of technology both our citizens and tourists visiting our city experience a unique point of view they have never witnessed.



## 7-VINTAGE CAR MUSEUM

Once used as cotton warehouses by Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill, three hundred fifty meter long buildings consisting of two separate structures with four compartments have been designed as a museum of vintage cars recently. The museum that will tell the history and story of cars in the industrialization process to its visitors with approximately a hundred cars will be different from all the other car museums. With its collection of cars and understanding of museology, the museum will have a unique place in Turkey with its merchandizing and be a beacon of other museums.





Here, Kepez Municipality has abandoned the understanding of an ordinary car museum and made an original design in the core of its country. In the museum, which tells about the country's love of cars as if there were a documentary, each car has different stories.



## 8-BOTANIC PARK



A unique botanic park and a museum of live trees have been designed both to increase the landscape quality of the area while preserving the existing vegetation of Dokumapark and to raise landscape awareness as well as social, cultural, and artistic awareness for the visitors. Being a living plant museum, this area has a total of ten thousand plants, eight thematic gardens in two hundred different types. Japanese garden, bougainvillea garden involving forty eight different species, tropical plants garden, medical and aromatic plants garden, rock and alpine plants garden, marsh plants garden, aquatic garden and orange garden

have been planned by taking ecological balances and existing land structure into consideration. It is an area where people of all ages can have fun, learn together and teach their children to preserve the green.







## 9-NOSTALGIC TURKISH CINEMA CAFÉ

The building with a detached garden, which was built for the general manager of the factory at that time, was built next to the official housing for civil servants of the factory. Nowadays, it serves as a cozy café filled with stories and memories of Turkish cinema, different periods of which are being displayed in each room.



Turkish cinema café contributes to cultural and artistic development of visitors beyond being just a café.





## 10-ANTALYA MUSEUM BACK IN THE DAYS



The facility, which is the headquarters of Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill, was the administrative office where the managers of the factory worked. Likewise, this building which holds many memories has been functioned properly in accordance with its original form. It has been designed and put into service as the City Museum of Antalya for which the people of Antalya have been longing for twenty four years.

As we did the same for the other facilities, we first started strengthening the building itself. For, the load to be carried was heavy. Not only do the structural features of the building constitute this weight, but the fact that the city to be described is rich and full of life experiences. For this reason, there are so many stories and experiences to be shared in this sense.



Greetings and awards from many institutions and organizations started to be received before the official opening of the building, which was awarded a grand prize in the category of city museums. Since then, it has only not worked in the sense of 'City Museum' and has opened new horizons for city museology. The museum, which describes not only Antalya but also the people of Antalya, draws attention in terms of its different narrative techniques. The museum, which tells the history of the city by making Stones talk and wrapping them around human stories, holds twenty five different halls in two floors. These twenty five halls have been carefully and elaborately prepared to make you feel as if you were touring twenty five separate museums. The data created by working with the most competent figures in each field is supported by ephemera, objects and works of art in the museum. The museum, which has a large and diverse collection with thousands of works, also serves for creating the city memory.







Many areas within the museum serve as an educational institution. Operating like the Academy of Applied Sciences, the museum benefits from the latest technology. Besides live guide trips that are carried out every hour in the museum, for individual trips and for those who want to attain more detailed information, the entire museum can be visited with audio guides and they can be listened in eight different languages.

Antalya Museum Back in the Days, which also has a virtual museum, serves not only Antalya but the whole world.

## 11-MUSEUM OF ANATOLIAN MARTYRS

We have constructed the first Museum of Anatolian Martyrs to commemorate all our heroes and heroines that have been martyred in these lands throughout history. We have carried the millennial Anatolian martyrs to our memory gallery and built a center of memories to forever remember and never forget our martyrs who have lost their lives to protect this homeland. In this gallery, we have brought together hundreds of thousands of martyrs who have been martyred for a thousand years.



This is a gallery of gratitude, a fidelity home we have created to keep the cherished memories of our martyrs always fresh.

## 12-THE SCIENCE CENTER OF ANTALYA KEPEZ

The main factory building of Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill, which used to be a place in which cotton was delivered from the field in its raw form and turned into fabric and yarn, has recently been converted to a facility that demonstrates, teaches and more importantly makes the Technologies of future imagined as a field of science just by handling the whole process from the raw state of technology.



In an area of twelve thousand square meters in the old weaving mill, the Science Center of Antalya has been established with the support of Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey. The Science Center of Antalya, which involves testing laboratories, scientific workshops, exhibition areas, special design galleries, multi-purpose halls where scientific demonstrations and interviews are held, is the first and the only science center of the Mediterranean.

# SCIENCE

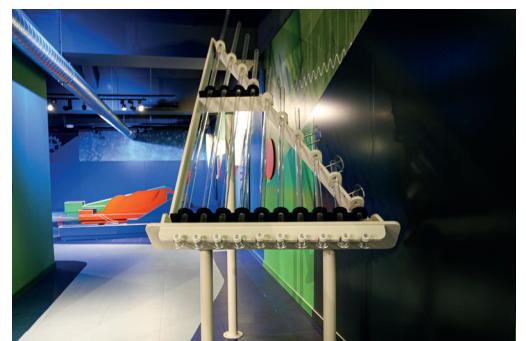


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The Science Center of Kepez aims to bring individuals from different age groups and background together with science, to make technology and science accessible and understandable, to increase the importance of science and technology in the eyes of society, to raise awareness in the field of science and technology with applied and experimental activities, and to encourage individuals to experiment and discover.

The Science Center of Kepez will have its name written in letters of gold by making not only Kepez but also Antalya an important milestone to become the center of science. With the principle of 'Investing in people is the greatest investment' shared by the Municipality of Kepez, which is the founder of this project; it will introduce visitors of all ages to the smiling face of science and provide them with the opportunity to learn by experiencing different approaches they have not gone through before.





### 13-HOTEL MİS GUESTHOUSE ( Boutique Hotel )



The building, which was built in 1971 to welcome its guests from the headquarters of Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill and those coming from other cities, has twenty five rooms,dining halls, meeting halls and a garden.

The building, which is equipped to satisfy its guests in every room, resembles a boutique hotel. The hotel, where the furniture of previous times has been maintained, is under restoration now. Restoration is being carried out for the purpose of making the building look like the same as its original form. The display and the arrangement of the building, which will take you back in time, are executed meticulously like that of a hotel.



### 14-GREEN AREAS

#### Dokumapark is becoming green.

We work for a more beautiful and greener world. Dokumapark (old Weaving Mill), which was once abandoned to its fate, and has just been opened for the use of our people, has new green areas while all the green texture has been preserved up to this time.

By making a total area of a hundred sixteen thousand square meters of new green areas, the quality of flora and the existing green areas has been increased for sustainable environment and urban aesthetics. Dokumapark is not a single complex of museums involving museums only.

With its forest that could remain green for many years right in the middle of the city, it is an oasis in a concrete valley. Each facility surrounded by gardens in Dokumapark has been greened separately by using the endemic species of the region.



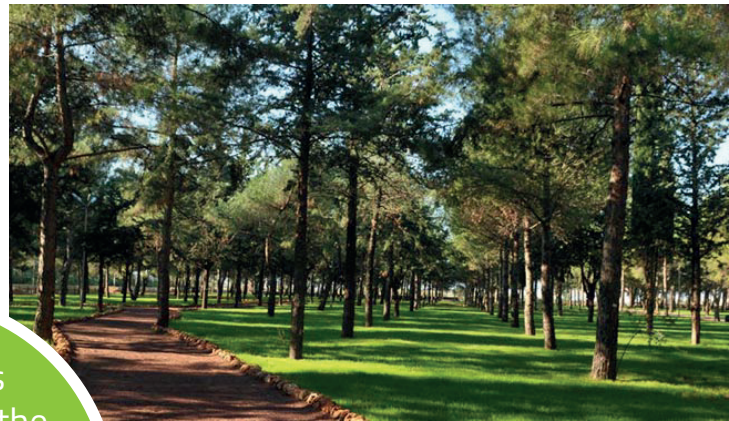
With its perennial plants, seasonal plants and forests that defy time, Dokumapark is the center of the green as well as being the center of culture and art.

While all the building structures in the area have been maintained, ready-made landscaping values have also been preserved.

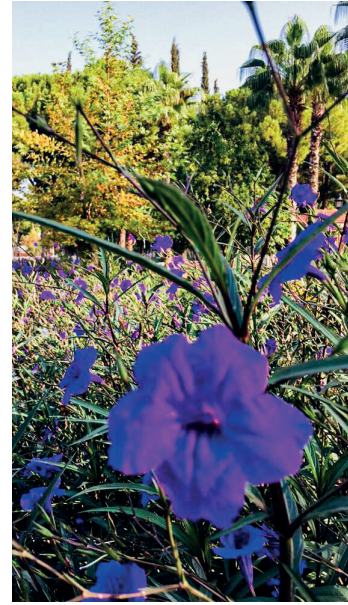
While preserving and developing all this green texture; the social, cultural, artistic, natural, landscape and environmental awareness of public has been increased. As improvement works in Dokumapark have been carried out; the plant texture and its natural flora have been given great importance.



With the improvement of old green areas, the site has become usable thanks to the technical Works throughout the project. This area used to be a waste land which could not be available for public purpose; therefore the visitors of the site could not enter the area before because of its wilderness. In this way, the existence of this precious cultural texture bearing the memory of nature and the city itself has been made sustainable and all the environmental damages in the area have been corrected by a protection plan.



Flora that is indigenous to the Mediterranean coast thrive in this area where they are protected and well kept.





## 14-CEMIL MERIÇ LIBRARY

The transformer building which used to provide electricity to factory has been transformed and branded as a source of knowledge for our young generation. As an addition alongside the multiple museums placed in Dokumapark, this structure has been repurposed as a continuous and sustainable source of knowledge and information for the city. It is not just a library but it is a complementary attribute to the collection of museums within the park.



The library is a growing archive that has a collection of the city and world history plus it keeps collecting by receiving a copy of every new local publication produced. The Cemil Meric Library is a living library that is presenting its collection in a way that hasn't been done before in Antalya and in Turkey. This library has been created out of a structure that was condemned to demolition. What was once perceived as something of disposal has been repurposed to a structure complimenting Dokumapark as not only a location of entertainment but also as a source of education.





## **C-VISITORS**

Since its opening in 2017, Dokumapark has welcomed 3.5 million visitors. Besides its regular visitors, Dokumapark has also hosted thousand of guests for special events ( annual coffee festival, annual orange festival etc.). The number of daily visitors who make use of the green areas and running tracks for exercise are not included in the total amount of visitors.

## **D-AWARDS**

### **DOKUMAPARK NATURE & CULTURE AND ART PARK**

Historical towns union (2016)

Historical and Culturel Heritage Conversation and Project Encouragement Awards

### **ANATOLIAN TOY MUSEUM**

Mediterranean Municipality Union (2016)

1st prize, Management and Public Relations Awards

### **ANATOLIAN TOY MUSEUM**

Historical Towns Union (2017)

Project Awards

### **ANATOLIAN TOY MUSEUM**

Historical Towns Union (2017)

Museum Encouragement awards

Sustainable Cultural Museum Awards

### **MODERN ART GALLERY**

Historical Towns Union (2018)

Historical and Culturel Heritage Conversation and Project Encouragement Performance Awards

### **ANATOLIAN TOY MUSEUM**

Mediterranean Municipality Union (2018)

1ste Prize, Development Projects Awards

### **ANTALYA MUSEUM BACK IN THE DAYS**

Historical Towns Union (2020)

Museum Encouragement And City Museums Award

### **ANTALYA MUSEUM BACK IN THE DAYS**

Mediterranean Municipality Union (2020)

Superstructure Projects Awards

### **CEMIL MERIC LIBRARY**

Historical Towns Union (2020)

Sustainability Award



## **E-RESULTS**

Dokumapark has become a pioneer example of a project that safeguards its historical values and heritage. It has become a hub for cultural and artistic practices to grow and prosper. This project is also a result of a diverse collaboration that adds up to the list of what makes it an exemplary project.

**The process of deciding on the defining features of this landscape project has been done in collaboration with public voting.** It brings the awareness of the richness in its landscape with the remains of cotton factory (Antalya Spinning and Cotton Weaving Mill) as a landmark located in Antalya.

**The project space has witnessed an era making it an important part of the local heritage while preserving the memory within its structure.**

The most important aspect of this project is to re-claim this land that was about to be waste for a shopping mall erasing the natural and cultural landscape of the area.

This project has achieved a significant amount of the European Landscape Awards criterium. The awareness of the public has been improved with this project. The sustainability conditions of the historic and cultural structures has been improved allowing growth in the local development opportunities. By the contribution of the public and other parties the goals and defining features of the landscape has been decided, making the process unique. By finding a common ground and common working method the project has received a lot of awards.

**The project has been realized with the responsibilities defined by the European Landscape Articles 5 (a),(b),(c) and article 6 (A) and (D).**