

An analysis of the activities of the Union of Turkish World Municipalities from the perspective of sustainable development¹

Hicran Hamza ÇELIKYAY² , Hülya Küçük BAYRAKTAR³ 

² Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Duzce University, Duzce, Türkiye

³ Vocational School of Social Sciences, Kafkas University; Kars, Türkiye

*Correspondence: hicrancelikyay@duzce.edu.tr; Tel.: (+90-535-662-45-69); (H.H.C.)

Keywords: The Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB), Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Abstract: Global problems such as global warming, climate change, desertification, biodiversity loss, deforestation have caused many natural and biological disasters. Disasters threaten sustainable development by shrinking living spaces. The solution of global problems is expected to be supported by international principles and policies that countries and urban governments will develop. For this reason, in 2015, the United Nations published the document "Agenda 2030: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". The document includes 17 goals, 169 targets. In many ways, the objectives are within the scope of duties and responsibilities of local governments, especially municipalities. In this study, the Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB) was chosen as an example. The aim of the study is to examine whether the activities of the association are compatible with the SDGs. Using a qualitative research method, the activity reports of the TDBB between 2016-2022 were analyzed through content analysis. The union's activity headings were grouped to determine whether they fall under the SDGs, and the alignment of the activities with the goals and the level at which they correspond were identified. The findings were presented using conceptual mapping techniques. It is believed that the results of the study will guide the planning of the union's future activities.

1. Introduction

In recent years, the world has been confronted with numerous natural and biological disasters. Global environmental problems have gained significant importance on the global agenda regardless of time. Both disasters and global environmental problems particularly affect urban areas, posing threats to people's safety, health, and

¹This study is based on the abstract proceeding presented at the International Public Administration Forum (KAYFOR) on 5-7th July 2023 titled "An Analysis of The Activities of The Union of Turkish World Municipalities from The Perspective of Sustainable Development".

productivity, as well as the continuity of other species and food security and water resources.

In 2015, the United Nations (UN) published the document "*Agenda 2030: UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*," which sets the agenda for all countries around the world. The document includes 17 main goals with 169 sub-targets under different headings. It is known that the goals point to the duties and responsibilities of local governments in many ways. Since these goals are addressed at the international, supranational, national, and local levels, local government associations also have responsibilities in this direction.

The point considered as a problem in the study is whether the activities of the Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB) consider the goals of sustainable development when planned. The aim of the study is to examine whether the activities of the union are compatible with the UN SDG. The study was prepared by qualitative research method. TDBB's activity reports between 2016-2022 were analysed using the MAXQDA program with the content analysis method within the framework of the UN SDGs. The activity headings of the Union were grouped, and it was determined whether they were included under the UN SDGs, and the findings obtained were revealed using the conceptual mapping technique by determining the compatibility of the activities carried out with the UN SDGs, their overlap with the objectives and the level they corresponded to. It is thought that the result of the study will lead to the planning of sustainable development-based activities of the association.

In 2000, decisions were taken on the development of inter-country cooperation at the summit of heads of state of the countries that speak the Turkish language and dialects in Azerbaijan. 10. The Article carries *the decision to develop cooperation between local authorities*. The Union of Turkish World Municipalities was established by the decision of the Council of Ministers on November 12, 2003, to carry out studies on cities and urban management in places that have geographical, historical, and cultural commonalities with the countries and regions where the Turkish language and dialects are spoken.

2. Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB) and its activities

In 2000, decisions were taken on the development of inter-country cooperation at the summit of heads of state of the countries that speak the Turkish language and dialects in Azerbaijan. 10. The Article carries *the decision to develop cooperation between local authorities*. Union of Turkish World Municipalities, geographical, historical, with countries and regions where Turkish languages and dialects are spoken, it was established by the decision of the Council of Ministers on 12 November 2003 to carry out studies on urban and urban management in places with cultural partnerships. 11 Countries are represented on the TDBB Board of Directors. The center of the union is in Istanbul. TDBB has nearly 1,200 members from 30 different countries. Figure 1 shows TDBB's field of activity (TDBB, 2024b).

The Union continues its activities within the framework of the Law No. 3335 Law on the Establishment of Organizations of an International Nature, adopted in 1987 (Law

No.335, 1987). The law states that, in cases where cooperation and cooperation in the international arena are deemed beneficial, Turkish, and foreign natural or legal persons or only legal persons shall develop cooperation in economic and technical fields, except for the purpose of sharing profits and if it is not prohibited by law, and to benefit from knowledge, experience and mutual technologies in these matters. To benefit from Law No. 3335, attention is drawn to cooperation in economic and technical fields.

The Union continues its activities to take advantage of knowledge, manners, and mutual experiences with the approach of brotherhood, solidarity, and solidarity by considering the common cultural and civilizational heritage existing among the Turkish World. The bodies of the Union consist of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors, the Supervisory Board, and the High advisory board (Turkish World Union of Municipalities). TDBB mission and vision and confidence percentages of the texts are shown in Table 1 (TDBB, 2024a).



Figure 1. TDBB field of activity

The confidence percentages in the table were obtained using the Sentiment Analysis Tool (Sentiment Analyzer). A sentiment analysis tool is an analysis tool used to quickly detect emotions in a text. TDBB mission and vision sentences were tested in the sensitivity analysis tool and confidence percentages were found. TDBB's fields of activity are listed on its website under the headings "City and Urban Management, Municipal Services, Social and Cultural Services, Educational Services and Development of International Relations" (TDBB, 2024a). The prominent word under the headings of TDBB's fields of activity is municipalism. *Consultancy activities, project supports, and establishing facilities* are other prominent words.

The founding purpose and duties of the Union were also analyzed. The Union has an international nature. Therefore, it is expected that the aims and duties will be expressed *internationally* in this context. However, the prominent word was *national*. Other words are seen as *universities, Turkish language, international local, municipalities and technical* (Ministry of Interior, 2015). This is just an overview of the institution's own expressions within the framework of TBDD's activities, objectives, and duties. The next section includes the qualitative analysis findings using the MAXQDA program, which is the focus of the study. MAXQDA is an analysis program that helps researchers to qualitatively analyze and evaluate their work, texts, documents, and fieldwork, and interpret the data obtained. Thanks to this program, data is uploaded to the system and analyzed and as a result, meaningful relationships are established between the data. The MAXQDA program also offers the possibility to support the resulting data with visuals and to gain meaning.

Table 1. TDBB mission and vision texts and trust percentages

Mission & Vision	Texts	Trust Percentage
Mission	Building prosperous cities of the future in our geography of culture and civilization with the power of brotherhood.	86.5%
Vision	To present the values produced in the member cities to the service of humanity.	76.7%

3. 2016 -2022 Activity reports' analysis

3.1. TDBB areas of activity

TDBB activity reports were examined, and the areas expressed as the activity area of the union were subjected to analysis.

Table 2. TDBB activity fields and percentages

Activity Group-Year of Activity	City and City Administration	Municipal Services	Social and Cultural Services	Educational Services	Development of International Relations
2016			15	9	18
2017		4	27	7	11
2018		3	30	11	14
2019		1	13	8	7
2020		1	10	8	11
2021		2	19	7	14
2022			1	26	5
Total		11	115	76	81
Percentage		%3,88	%40,63	%26,85	%28,62

Accordingly, activities directly covering the area of *urban and urban management* were not found, however, the most intensive activities were found in the field of social and cultural services. The fields of *education services and development of international*

relations are equally included in the analysis. Although the most prominent words in the texts of the fields of activity, purpose and duties as stated on the TDBB website are municipality and municipality, when the activities carried out are examined, it is seen that the field of Municipal Services has the lowest rate with 3.88%. It is seen that the goals set in the texts expressed by the institution and the activities carried out in the application do not overlap. Table 2 includes the fields of activity and activities (TDBB, 2024b).

3.2. Analysis of compatibility of TDBB activities with SDGs

In this part of the study, the compliance of TDBB activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (UNDP, 2015) was analyzed. For this purpose, seven activity reports of TDBB between the years 2016-2022 were subjected to qualitative analysis. TDBB's prominent activities, training programs, programs organized and supported in collaboration and international events attended were included in the analysis under basic headings.

Table 3. SDGs and Working Groups (UNDP, 2015).

1. GROUP	2. GROUP	3. GROUP	4. GROUP	5. GROUP
1 End Poverty	4 Quality Education	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	13 Climate Action	16 Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
2 Zero Hunger	5 Gender Equity	9 Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	14 Life Below Water	17 Partnerships for the Goals
3 Healthy and Quality Life	10 Reduced inequalities	12 Responsible Production and Consumption	15 Life on land	-
6 Clean water and Sanitation	11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	-	-	-
7 Affordable and clean energy	-	-	-	-

For MAXQDA analysis, SDGs containing 17 objectives were entered into the program in the form of codes. To effective interpretation of the analysis, the 17 SDGs were divided into 5 different groups within the context of target activities. Table 3 includes SDGs and their subgroups created for the study.

The groups and hierarchical subcode models in the MAXQDA analysis of the Sustainable Development Goals are shown in Figure 2 (MAXQDA).

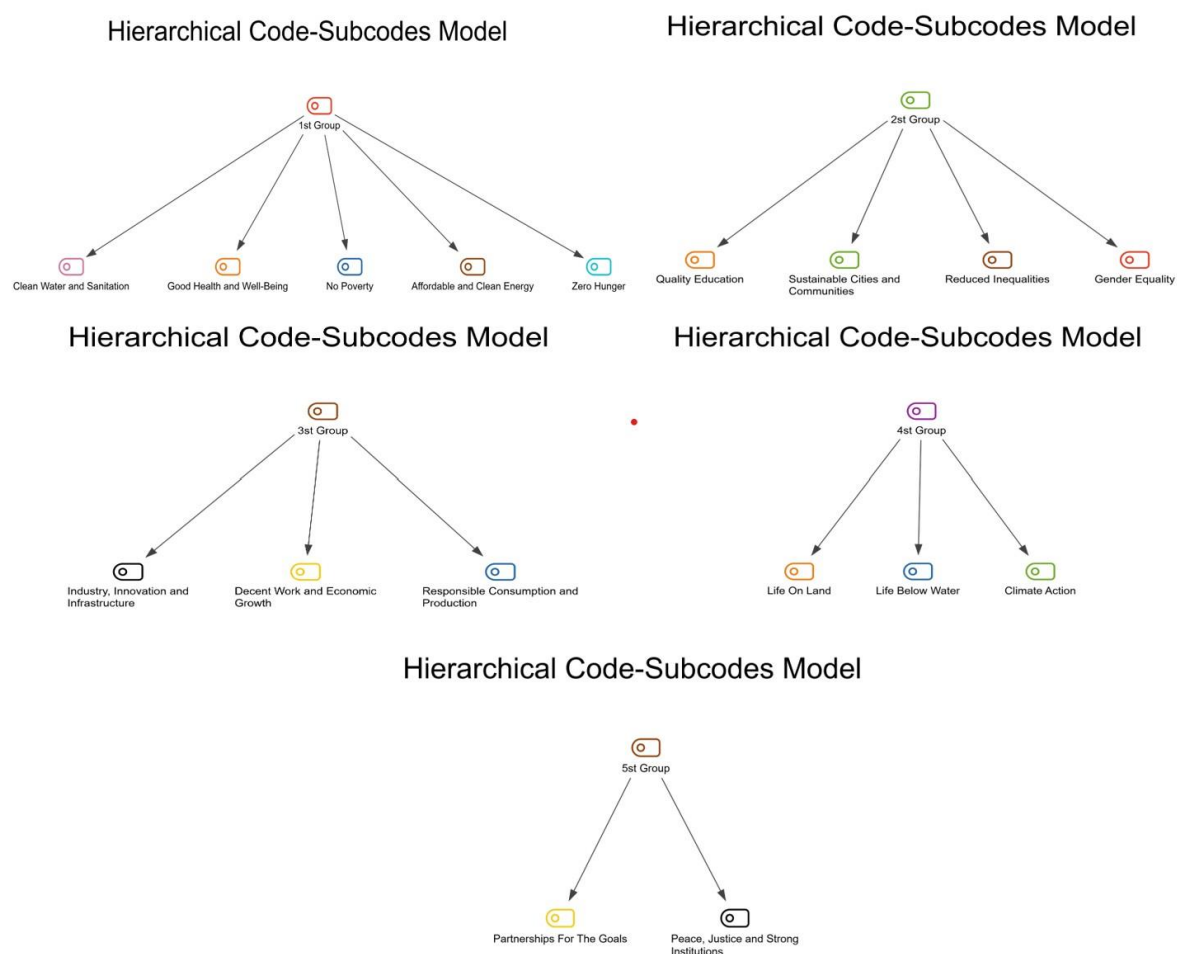


Figure 2. Hierarchical subcoding models

UN SDGs are coded as subcodes under five groups determined at the point of code creation in the MAXQDA program. Images represent a hierarchical representation of subcodes located under groups.

3.2.1. Subcode statistics

Sub-code statistics give the rates of coding in the 7 different activity reports of TDBB examined in the analysis. In the analysis conducted in this study, the codes were divided into 5 groups, and the sub-codes were divided into 17 sub-codes. As a result of the analysis, the proportions of the sub-codes in each group in the activity reports were determined on a group basis. The graphs below show group-based SDG rates.

When the SDGs of End to Poverty, Zero Hunger, Healthy and Quality Life, Clean Water and Sanitation, and Accessible Clean Energy in the 1st Group in Figure 3 are evaluated, it is seen that Clean Water and Sanitation stands out with 46.2%. This is followed by Healthy and Quality Life with a rate of 30.8%. As a result of the analysis, it is seen that the No Poverty SDG code is 11.5%, the Achievable and Clean Energy SDG code is 9.6%, and the Zero Hunger SDG code is 1.9%. As can be seen in the rates of SDG

codes, it has been determined that TDBB's work on the Zero Hunger SDG is quite insufficient.

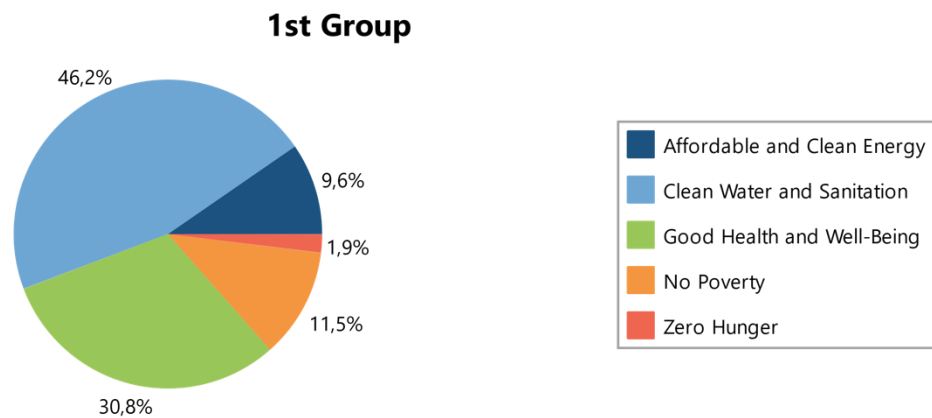


Figure 3. First Group SDGs and Their Rates in Reports

Among the SDGs in Group 2, Quality Education stands out with a rate of 49.5%. It is seen that TDBB attaches importance to educational activities and presentations and training programs aimed at sharing experience with municipalities during visits. However, in addition to providing financial support/burses to graduate and doctoral studies for the Turkish World, it can be stated that the establishment of Turkish classes and the activities of free distribution of stationery materials to the students are realized. For this reason, the training title has come to the fore. TDBB, on the other hand, is an organization that takes its local focus. The goal of Sustainable Cities and Communities can be expected to be ahead of all objectives. Here it can be seen that the rate of the relevant purpose is 32.1%. Your purpose in the group you are in 2. In line, it shows that TDBB for the purpose of Sustainable Cities and Communities cannot meet expectations in some sense. Considering that the main purpose of TDBB is urban management, cities and communities, this rate is expected to be more.

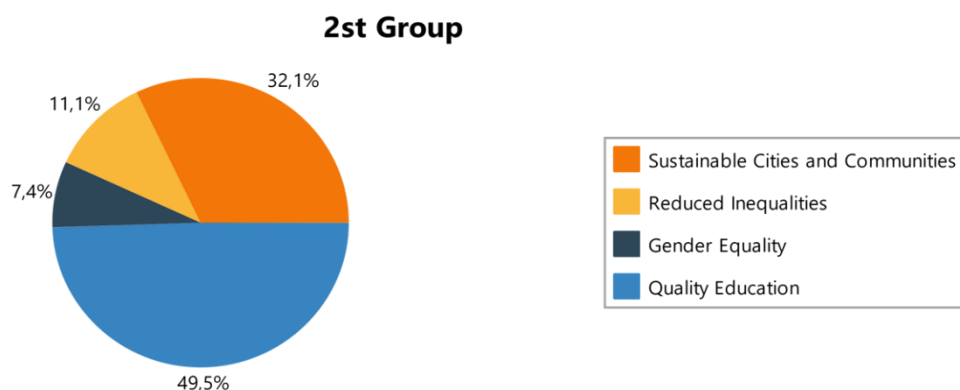


Figure 4. Second Group SDGs and Their Rates in Reports

Among the sub-codes in Group 3, the Industry, Innovative and Infrastructure code stands out with a rate of 70.7%. However, it has been determined that there are no

industry-oriented studies among the activities currently carried out by TDBB. In the code of innovation and infrastructure, technological studies, transportation and infrastructure works are included. In the activity reports, technological studies, transportation and infrastructure studies were examined and coded. The rate of Responsible Production and Consumption code is 17.1%, and the rate of Decent Work and Economic Growth code is 12.2%.

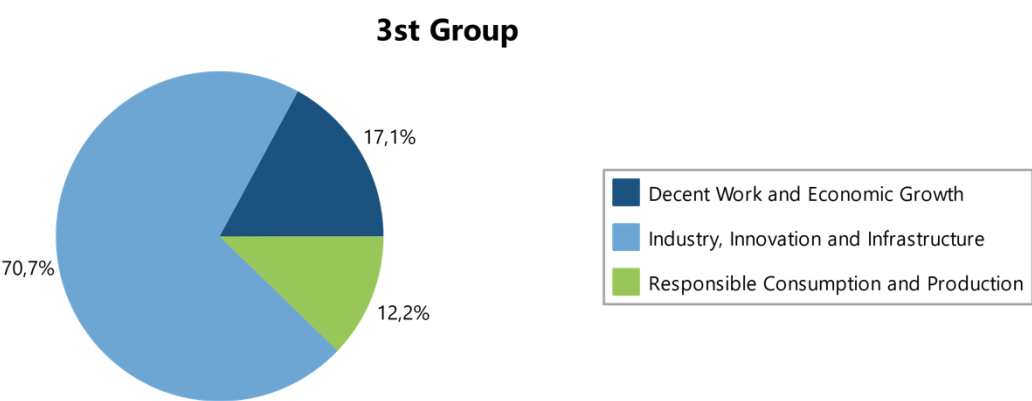


Figure 5. Third Group SDGs and Their Rates in Reports

In Group 4, it is seen that the Terrestrial Life SDG stands out with 51.4% (Figure 6). The scope of the Terrestrial Life purpose includes activities such as firefighting and fire prevention, packaging waste prevention. Terrestrial life is followed by Aquatic Life with a rate of 45.7%. As it is known, the natural and shock disasters faced by cities in the recent period, biological disasters such as COVID-19, and, floods and floods, forest fires and other global problems have revealed the need for cities to be resilient and to make their internal resources sustainable. TDBB is expected to put such global developments on the agenda and focus its activities on the prevention of food and water crises, ensuring the resilience of cities, the sustainability of resources and increasing the life welfare of communities. Indeed, it has been seen that the purpose of Climate Action is not included in the analysis.

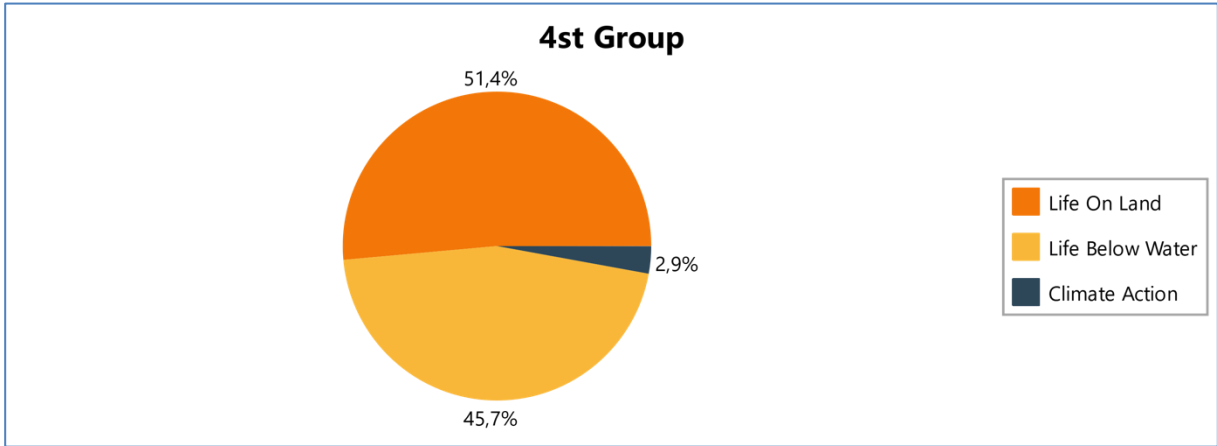


Figure 6. Fourth Group SDGs and Their Rates in Reports

Undoubtedly, problems such as climate change and global warming are important issues that the world is not indifferent on an international, supranational and national and local scale and is looking for solutions. TDBB is expected to intensify its activities in these areas. Unfortunately, there is no study of climate action in the TDBB activity reports.

Partnerships for Purposes in Group 5 SDG is the most mentioned sub-code in TDBB's 2016-2022 activity reports with a rate of 77.3% (Figure 7). For purposes of partnerships, activities such as mutual visits with TDBB member cities and municipalities, educational activities and excursion programs were taken. This purpose rate is more common since activities include the most travel, visit and relations of small groups for in-service training and so on. 5. The goal of Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions in the group accounts for 22.7%. TDBB should supervise transparent, accountable, effective, and efficient management of institutions within the framework of governance principles, carry out activities to encourage citizens to participate in the administration, and strengthen institutions by encouraging fair governance. In this context, while the purpose of Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions was expected to include activity with a significant intensity, the aim was unfortunately weak.

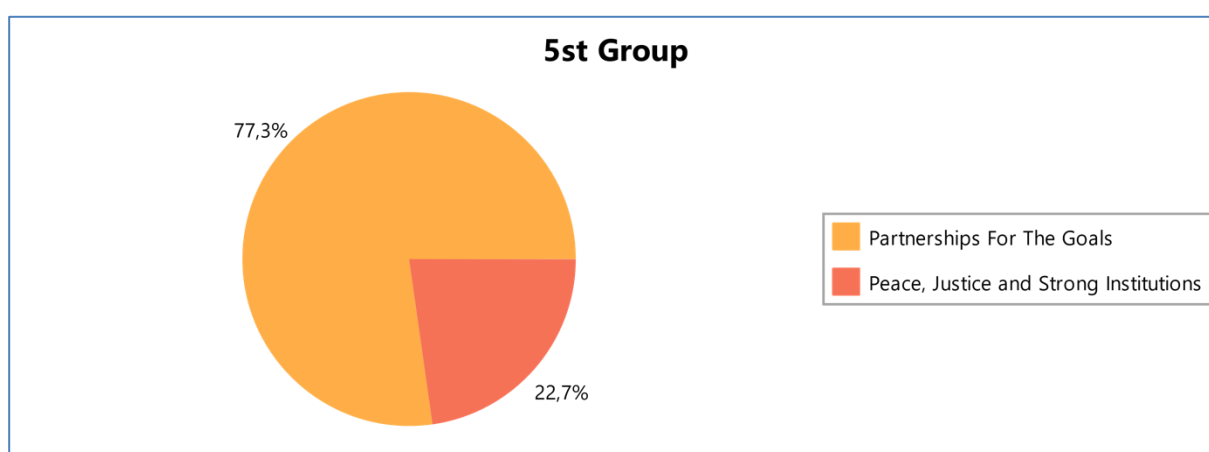


Figure 7. Fifth Group SKAs and their Rates in Reports

3.2.2. Overview of codes and SDGs in activity reports

Based on the activity report texts of TDBB between 2016-2022 a word cloud was created with MAXQDA program analysis. According to the word cloud in Figure 8,⁹ the most frequently occurring words in the texts appear in large fonts, and the less frequently occurring words appear in smaller fonts. *In the word cloud, the concepts of cooperation, visitation, local, education, management, brothers, and municipalities* come to the forefront. The word cloud in this form coincides with the analysis findings discussed in the previous section. As a matter of fact, the most prominent purpose in TDBB's activities has been Partnerships for Purposes.

The table in Figure 9 shows how many times the 17 SDG codes determined in the seven activity reports of TDBB (2016-2022) analyzed in the study were mentioned, that is, coded. In this context, in the 2016 activity report of TDBB, the *Qualification Training* code is 19 times, the *Partnerships for Purpose* code is 10 times, the *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* code is 9 times, *The Clean Water and Sanitation* code appears to have been passed 6 times. The total number of codes in the 2016 activity report is 72. In the 2017 annual report, it is seen that the *Partnerships for Purpose* code was mentioned 21 times, the *Sustainable Cities and Communities* code was mentioned 15 times, the *Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions*, *Industry Innovative and Infrastructure and Quality Education* codes were mentioned 8 times, and the total number of codes in the 2017 activity report was 72. When the 2018 activity report is examined; It is seen that the *Quality Education* code is mentioned 26 times, the *Partnerships for Purpose* code is mentioned 23 times, the *Gender Equality* code is mentioned 8 times, and *Terrestrial Life* is mentioned 7 times, and the total number of codes in the report is 88. The 2019 activity report ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} states that the *Partnerships for Purpose* code is 22 times, the *Sustainable Cities and Communities* code is 15 times, the *Qualified Education* code is 10 times, *Industry Innovative and Infrastructure* code is seen to pass 9 times and the total number of codes in the activity report is 72. In the activity report for 2020 ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.}, 31 times of the *Partnership for Purpose* code, 12 times of the *Qualitative Education* code, *Peace*, *The Justice and Strong Institutions* and *Inequality Reduction* codes have been passed 8 times and the activity report contains 86 codes. The 2021 activity report ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} coded 40 times to show that the most coded code is *Partnerships for Purpose*, followed by *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* and *Qualified Education* codes, coded 12 times. *The Sustainable Cities and Communities* code is coded 7 times. The total number of codes in the 2021 annual report is 82. In the activity report for 2022' the *Associations for Purpose* code was coded 33 times, "*Quality Education*" code 7 times, *Life in Water, Clean Water and Sanitation* and *Sustainable Cities and Communities* codes 6 times. The total number of codes in the 2022 annual report is 79.

When the coding numbers in the activity reports between 2016 and 2022 shown in Graph 6 are evaluated; It can be said that the *Partnerships for Purpose* SDG code in TDBB's activities is gradually increasing. The code for *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* SDG generally remains the same, while the 2017 activity report highlights the code for *Sustainable Cities and Communities*. SDG code of *Qualified Education* can be said to be more in number than others in the activity report of 2018. However, in general 7 activity reports, it is seen that the number of *Qualified Training* SDG code has decreased.

In Figure 10, the rates of all objectives included in the 2016-2022 activity reports are given collectively. According to this, it is a code.

As seen in Figure 10 among the seven activity reports of TDBB examined in the MAXQDA qualitative data analysis program, the most frequently mentioned SDG ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} is the code *Partnerships for Purpose* with 32.66%. This is followed by the *Quality Education* SKA code with 17.05%. *Sustainable Cities and Communities* SDG code is in third place with 11.07%. *The Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* SDG code ranks fourth with 9.61%. TDBB's activities are supported by the data obtained in the

analysis where the most inter-agency cooperation and visits are made. However, the provision of short-term trainings in the visits and collaborations and the holding of information meetings place the SDG of Qualified Education in the second place among the activities of the institution.

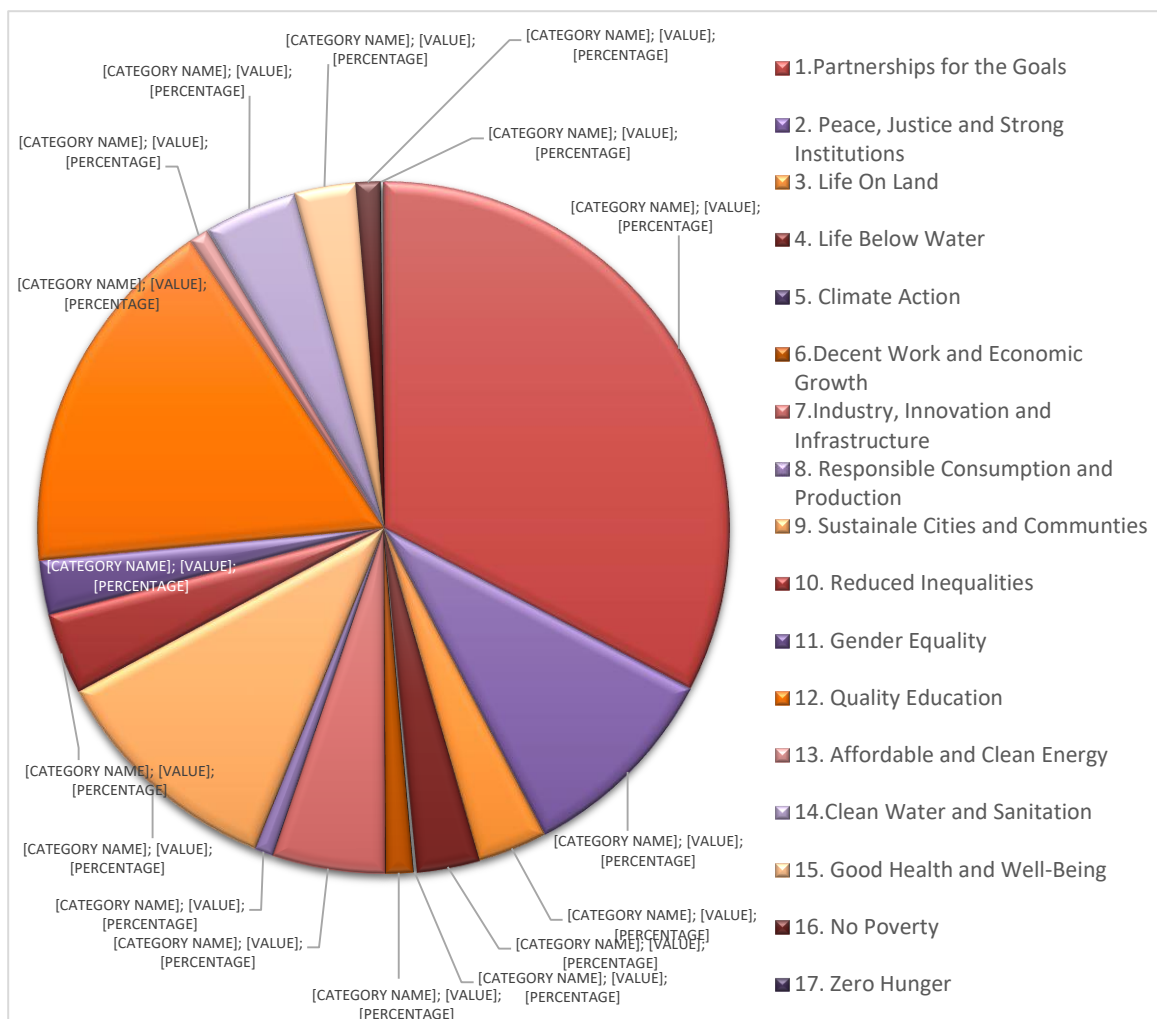


Figure 10. SDGs in 2016-2022 Activity Reports

As a result of the analysis, short-term trainings and mutual visits are prominent. These activities should be sustainable and TDBB should be made more qualified for the purpose in the establishment law and in compliance with the fields of activity. From the analysis, the rates of Gender Equality, Reducing Inequalities, Life Above Water, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Healthy and Quality Life, Clean Water and Sanitation, Accessible and Clean Energy, Terrestrial Life, Responsible Production and Consumption and Industrial Innovative and Infrastructure SDG codes are quite low. It was revealed because of the data obtained. The fact that TBDD has almost no work on SDGs such as End to Hunger, End to Poverty, and Climate Action shows that the institution has not determined targets and objectives in line with the SDGs. The success of the SDGs, published by the UN in 2015 and which will lead all countries to the 2030 goals, is directly related to their adoption not only on a national scale, but also by all institutions, organizations, and other stakeholders such as non-governmental

organizations, due to governance principles. In this context, TDBB is expected to develop its activities in a balanced manner to cover all SDGs.

Figure 11 shows the word cloud of SDG codes. It was found important that the word cloud of the codes used in the analysis be shown separately.

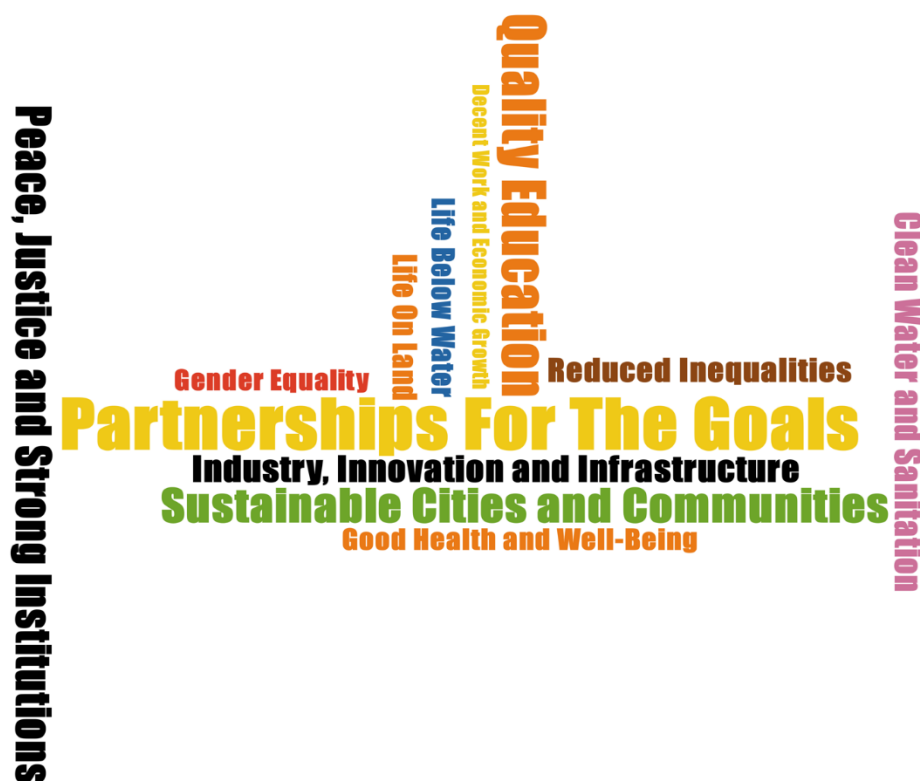


Figure 11. SDG Codes Word Cloud (MAXQDA)

As a result of the analysis in the activity reports in 2016-2022, the most prominent and dominant codes in the reports are shown in small points of codes with large points in the code cloud. In this context, it was determined that the most frequently mentioned code in the code cloud given in Figure 4 was “Partnerships for Purposes”, shown in large font. Other codes are then Qualified Education, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and Sustainable Cities and Communities.

4. Results and discussion

When the objectives and targets of TDBB are examined, it is seen that *national, universities, Turkish language, international local, municipalities, technical words* are prominent. TDBB activities are expressed in 5 groups including urban and urban management, municipal services, social and cultural services, education services and development of international relations.

In the Activities word cloud, *the Municipal Services* field stands out: words such as *municipalism, consultancy to municipalities, establishing facilities, cooperation, visiting education* also point to other fields of activity.

As a result of the analysis, TDBB is among the main objectives, especially *to search for solutions to the problems of city and city administrations, to carry out application studies and to support the studies made, and there were no activities that coincided with*

the objectives of researching and developing new models (R&D) on urban management and urban culture. Therefore, the field of city and urban management has been combined with the field of municipal services; It has been observed that the ratio of these two basic and important areas to other areas is only 3.88%. The highest rate is Social and Cultural Services with 40.63%.

As a result of MAXQDA analysis; 4. Quality Education and 17. SDGs of Partnerships (collaborations and intensive visits) for the Goals have come to the fore. 5. Gender Equality with 13. It has been determined that studies on Climate Action SDGs have been given little attention. 9. Infrastructure works for Industry, Innovative and Infrastructure purposes have been identified, but no industry-oriented activities have been encountered. 13. Responsible Production and Consumption, 1. End to Poverty and 2. There are almost no studies aimed at Zero Hunger.

In the code cloud obtained in the analysis, the SDG codes *Purpose in Partnerships, Quality Education and Sustainable Cities and Communities* stand out. Since working in cooperation with the Turkic World is among its duties, the prominence of the code "Partnerships for Purpose" seems to be compatible with the scope of duties and activities. It is not possible to say that the studies evaluated in the education category in TDBB's activity reports are education with deep content. As a result of the analysis, activities in the form of short-term trainings and mutual visits were encountered. These activities must be sustainable, therefore TDBB must make its training activities more qualified, and they must be planned in accordance with the purpose and fields of activity of TDBB stated in the founding law.

In the word cloud obtained from the MAXQDA qualitative data analysis program, it is seen that the words cooperation, visit, local, education, management, sister, and municipalities stand out.

When the number of codes in the activity reports is evaluated; in the activity report of 2016, the *Qualified Training code* is 19 times, the *Partnerships for Purpose code* is 10 times, and in the 2017 activity report, the *Partnerships for Purpose code* is 21 times, 15 Times of the *Sustainable Cities and Communities code*, 2018 activity report examined; 26 times of the *Qualified Education code*, 23 times of the *Partnerships for Purpose code*, In the 2019 activity report, the *Partnerships for Purpose code* is 22 times, the *Sustainable Cities and Communities code* is 15 times, and the 2020 activity report is 31 times the *Partners for Purpose code*, 12 times the *Qualification Training code*, In the 2021 activity report, the most encoded code is 40 times, "The *Partnerships for the Game*, and in the 2022 activity report, the *Partnerships for the Purpose code* is coded 33 times, and the *Qualified Education code* is coded 7 times. It appears that the most prominent SDG code in the seven activity reports is Partnerships for Purpose. However, it has been determined that this code is increasingly included in activity reports. In the same way, it is seen that the SDG Code of *Qualified Education* is increasingly less included in the activity reports.

TDBB's activities are generally taken at the summit in Azerbaijan in 2000, the decision can be said to be carried out in line with the goal of developing cooperation between local governments.

5. Conclusion

Activities of TDBB are intensely focused on topics such as bilateral relations, promotional trips, sister city protocols and short-term trainings. It has been seen that activities are planned to meet the current and urgent various needs of health, education and cultural facilities to the cities of the Turkish world. On the other hand, TDBB's activities regarding the orientation towards a concrete unifying and common language regarding the Turkish language and dialects, which is another aim, were found to be weak. Activities in this area are expected to be intensified. At the same time, another finding is that emphasis should be placed on activities aimed at researching and developing (R&D) new models in urban management and urban culture, which is stated as the aim of TDBB.

As a result of the data obtained from the analysis in this study, which examined TDBB's activities in the perspective of the UN SKA, *End to Hunger, End to Poverty, Climate Action, Gender Equality, Reduction of Inequalities, Life in Water, Affordable Work and Economic Growth*, etc., *The rates of SKA areas such as Healthy and Quality Life, Clean Water and Sanitation, Accessible and Clean Energy, Terrestrial Life, Responsible Production and Consumption and Industry Innovative and Infrastructure* have been found to be quite low in the activities.

Facing many global problems, making natural resources sustainable for the nations of the world, developing effective and effective environmental policies, providing sustainable energy, disaster management, etc., solving problems such as global warming and climate change has been vital. Achieving the SDGs, which are the UN's 2030 targets for a sustainable world, will be possible with good governance efforts contributed by all stakeholders. Therefore, it is recommended that future TDBB activities should be carried out in accordance with long-term global goals by going out of the balanced and up to date - moment-to-moment needs framework of the SDGs.

Disclosure statement: *The authors report there are no competing interests to declare.*

Funding: *This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.*

References

1. Law No. 3335 (1987). "Law on the Establishment of Organizations of an International Nature, Uluslararası Nitelikteki Teşekküllerin Kurulması Hakkında Kanun." Available online: <https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/1.5.3335.pdf> (accessed on 31/07/2025).
2. MAXQDA. Qualitative data analysis program. Available online: <https://www.maxqda.com/tr> (accessed on 10/10/2023).
3. Ministry of Interior (2015). General Directorate of Local Administrations, "2015 Annual Activity Report." Available online: <http://www.migm.gov.tr/> (accessed on 25/02/2024).
4. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, 2015). "2030 Agenda; Sustainable Development Goals." Available online: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals> (accessed on 05/02/2024).
5. Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB, 2024a). "Vision & Mission" Available online: <https://www.tdbb.org.tr/?lang=tr> (accessed on 07/12/2023).
6. Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB, 2024b). Available online: www.tdbb.org.tr

(accessed on 20/10/2023).

7. Union of Turkish World Municipalities (TDBB, 2016-2023). Annual Activity Reports (2016-2023), Available online: www.tdbb.org.tr (accessed on 15/09/2023).



© 2025 by the authors. Licensee UAIC, Iasi, Romania. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY-NC-ND) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0>).