Filiz Bikmen, Social Investment and Philanthropy Adviser (former Director of Programs and International Relations, Sabanci Foundation)

Filiz Bikmen has been working to support and guide initiatives for social change in Turkey since 2001 and continues to serve as a Social Investment and Philanthropy Adviser, working with individuals and organizations to 'create constellations for change'. Between 2007 – 2012, as the Founding Director of Programs and International Relations at Sabanci Foundation, Filiz established a new strategy and programs to promote social justice for women, youth and persons with disability. Between 2002 – 2007, Filiz was Director of the Third Sector Foundation of Turkey where she developed a new strategy for the foundation, and actively led NGO law advocacy initiatives and research programs. Prior to her work in the nonprofit sector, Filiz was a management consultant in multinational and Turkish companies. Filiz currently serves as Chairman of the International Center for Not for Profit Law (ICNL) based in Washington D.C., and is a member of Stanford University's Global Practitioner Council for Social Entrepreneurship. She was a guest editor of the Alliance Magazine March 2013 issue on Philanthropy in Emerging Markets and has authored nearly 30 publications, of which a select few can be found here http://independent.academia.edu/FilizBikmen. She has an MA in social-organizational psychology from Columbia University and a dual degree in psychology and communications from the State University of New York at Brockport.