



WE SODA ESG

SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT

6 April 2020

CONTENTS

OVERVIEW	1
1 CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH	5
2 FOSTERING ARTS, CULTURE, HISTORY, AND SPORTS IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES	14
3 PROVIDING EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR ALL	18
4 PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT	25
5 PARTNERSHIPS WITH NGOS	33
6 PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE PROJECT IDEAS	35
7 CINER GROUP CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY	36
8 WE SODA DECISION-MAKING PROCESS	39
APPENDICES	41

OVERVIEW

WE Soda LTD ('WE Soda') has supported 49 social projects in Turkey and the United States. In its efforts to support the communities it stems from, the company has prioritised four main areas when providing social support:

- Creating sustainable communities and promoting economic growth;
- Fostering arts, culture, history, and sports in local communities;
- Providing equal access to education for all; and
- Protecting and preserving the environment.

These priority areas, and the initiatives that WE Soda supports and drives, reflect the London Stock Exchange Group ESG guidance, which also follows the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ('UN SDGs'), a global framework containing 17 goals that aim to create a more sustainable world.

WE Soda consists of the Turkey-incorporated soda ash companies Kazan Soda Elektrik AŞ ('Kazan Soda') and Eti Soda AŞ ('Eti Soda'), as well as the US-incorporated Ciner Resources Corporation ('Ciner Resources'), and its subsidiary Ciner Wyoming LLC ('Ciner Wyoming'). The social initiatives of WE Soda have predominantly focused on helping the local communities that live near WE Soda factories in Green River, Wyoming, and in the Beypazari, Sincan, and Kazan districts of Ankara, Turkey.

Map 1 and 2: Map showing the location of Beypazari, Kazan and Sincan districts of Ankara, Turkey (left) and map showing the location of Green River, within Sweetwater County, Wyoming, US (right)



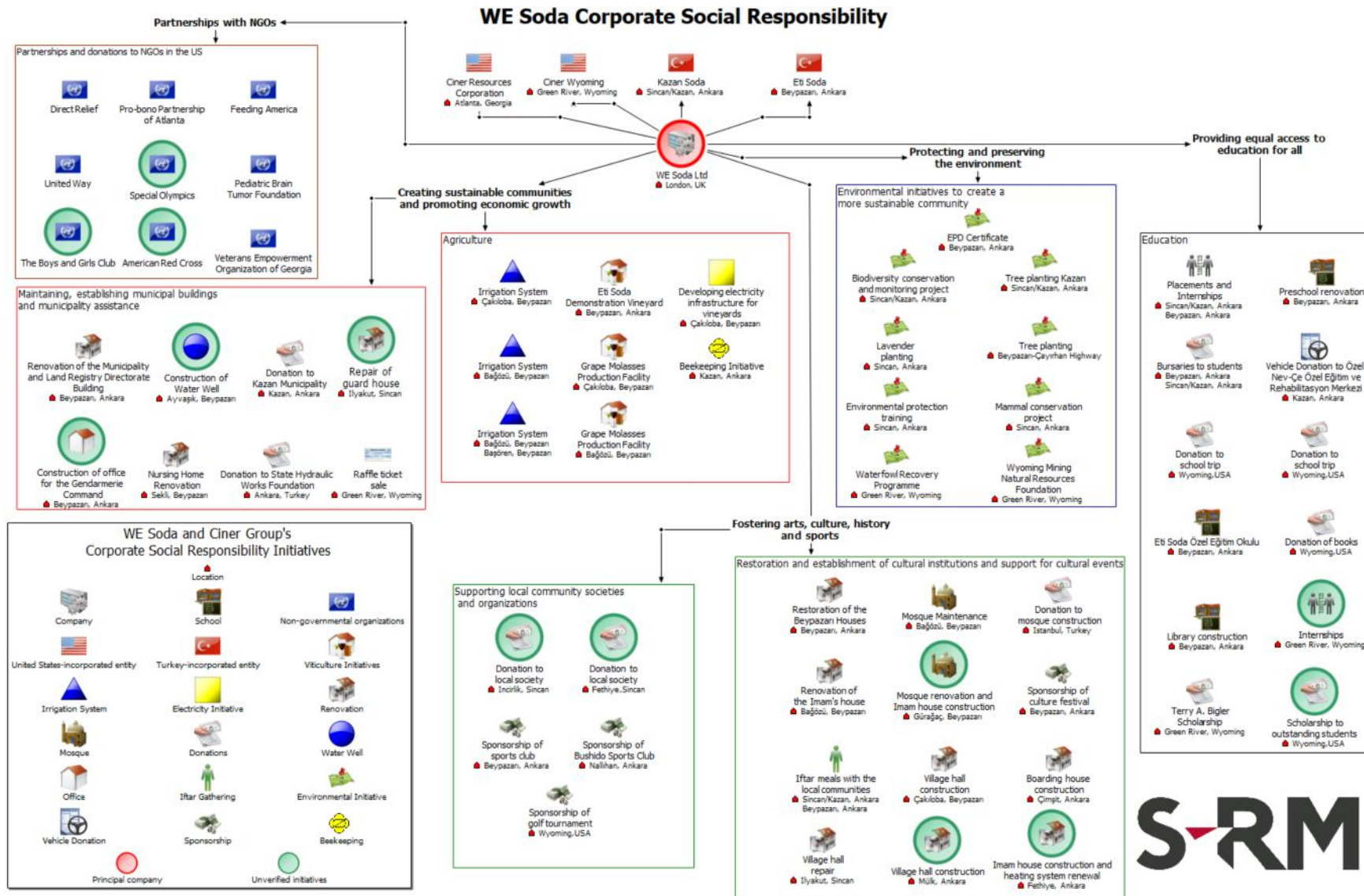
Among the 49 verified projects, thirteen have focused on creating more sustainable communities and promoting economic growth, twelve projects have focused on fostering arts, culture, history and sports, ten projects have focused on providing equal access to education for all, and eight have focused on preserving and protecting the environment.¹ The remaining six projects were donations to NGOs based in the US.

¹ Please see Appendix C for more information on the verification process.

Eti Soda has supported multiple initiatives aiming to increase the local economy in Beypazarı, including initiatives that promote agriculture, while Kazan Soda has largely supported environmental conservation initiatives. Separate from WE Soda's Turkey initiatives, Ciner Resources has partnered with NGOs that focus on different issues ranging from assisting the elderly to helping vulnerable individuals gain access to medical resources. Equally, just like WE Soda's Turkish entities and the Ciner Group, Ciner Wyoming has supported multiple educational initiatives in its local community.

Map 3: Map showing the location of Ciner Wyoming LLC and Ciner Resources Corporation





The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Through its corporate social responsibility initiatives, WE Soda has reflected its desire to advance the UN SDGs by contributing to and supporting local communities. WE Soda's programme has prioritised five UN SDGs: ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, reducing inequalities, taking action against climate change, creating more sustainable and resilient communities, and promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

The UN SDGs are a global framework containing 17 goals that aim to foster sustainable development and create a more sustainable planet. Please refer to Appendix A for more information on the 17 UN SDGs. Alongside the social projects discussed in this report, the UN sustainable development goals that the project is working towards addressing are represented by their corresponding visual representation:

Image 1: United Nations Sustainable Development Goals²

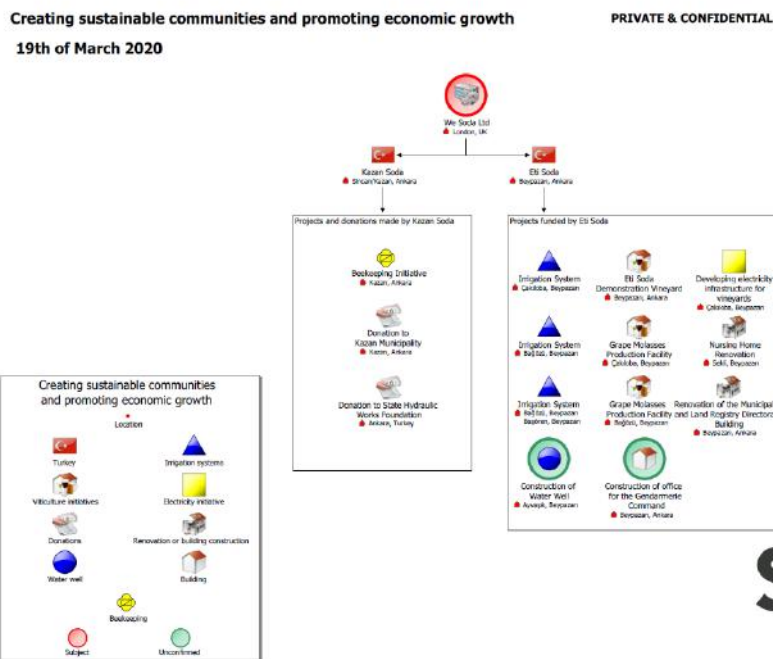


² Source: [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

1 CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH

WE Soda derives its success from the communities it operates in, and therefore aims to support these communities in their efforts to become more sustainable.

WE Soda's sustainable community initiatives have predominantly focused on supporting agriculture within Beypazarı, and the maintenance and establishment of key municipal buildings.



Supporting agriculture in the region

Eti Soda has undertaken several projects in the Beypazarı region, predominantly focusing on aiding agriculture, which is an important source of livelihood for Çakılıoba, Bağözü and Başören villages. Meanwhile Kazan Soda has started a beekeeping initiative in order to foster new agricultural initiatives around the plant. Even though Kazan Soda currently has fewer projects focusing on agriculture, they intend to create more projects that align with WE Soda's efforts to establish more sustainable communities in the future (see Section 6.5).

In their efforts to support agriculture in the region, WE Soda companies have:

- ▶ Established a sample vineyard in the region and given training sessions to locals;
- ▶ Encouraged the use of new grapes in the region through the distribution of vine stems;
- ▶ Constructed irrigation systems in Çakılıoba, Bağözü and Başören villages;
- ▶ Established a sample walnut planting area;

- ▶ Constructed grape molasses development facilities in Çakıloba and Bağözü villages;
- ▶ Started a beekeeping initiative; and
- ▶ Begun developing electricity infrastructure for vineyards in the Çakıloba region.

Image 2: Image of Çakıloba village taken on 2 March 2020.³



1.1 THE ETI SODA DEMONSTRATION VINEYARD

The Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard, a sample vineyard, was established by Eti Soda in 2009 on top of the company's trona mining field. The solution mining technique that is used by Eti Soda allows the use of the mining field for agricultural initiatives.⁴ The vineyard was established in partnership with Professor Dr. Gökhan Söylemezoğlu, a professor of horticulture from Ankara University. The project was initially established to develop the viticulture methods used in the region, which had become outdated over time. This project is still active as of March 2020. During their almost ten-year partnership, several training sessions have been given to local villagers, including lessons on grape care, vineyard maintenance and vine pruning.⁵

At least one of these sessions was given in partnership with Ankara University in 2013. Approximately 80 villagers were taken to the Kalecik Viticulture Research and Implementation Facility, an Ankara University-run sample vineyard containing Turkey's largest number of grape types.⁶ The session in the Kalecik vineyard aimed to expose the locals to new techniques used in the viticulture industry. The most recent training session given by Dr. Söylemezoğlu was in August 2019 and focused on maintaining vines and combating illnesses.⁷

While increasing local knowledge on viticulture techniques has always been a primary goal of the project, it has equally focused on encouraging the production of new types of grapes in the

³ This image was taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 2 March 2020.

⁴ This information was provided by Ahu Kılıç, a Management Systems Supervisor at Eti Soda.

⁵ Source: Call with Professor Dr. Gökhan Söylemezoğlu on 10 February 2020.

⁶ This information was provided by Selami Damak, Head of Administrative Affairs at Eti Soda, during his interview at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020.

⁷ This information was provided by Ahu Kılıç.

region. The sample vineyard contains six different types of grapes, three used in wine production and three suitable for direct consumption. None of these grape types were grown by the locals of Çakıloba, Bağözü, and Başören villages prior to the establishment of the sample vineyard.⁸ However, since 2013, locals have been given the opportunity to incorporate these different grape types into their vines by using the cuttings that amass following the pruning process at the Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard. The cuttings are distributed on a first-come first-served basis to the local population involved in the viticulture industry.⁹

Eti Soda has been shortlisted for the Best Environmental Sustainability Programme in the Sedex Responsible Business Awards 2020, awards given by Sedex, an ethical trade platform, following the submission of the Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard as an example of the company's sustainability initiatives.¹⁰ The shortlisted companies were recognized because they “implemented programmes to protect their workers or their surroundings and improve environmental issues”. The winner of this award was expected to be announced on 18 March 2020, although the awarding conference has now been postponed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Image 3: Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard Training Session¹¹



Image from a training session given by Prof. Dr. Gökhan Söylemezoğlu at the Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard.

1.1.1 Statement of Prof. Dr. Gökhan Söylemezoğlu, a professor of horticulture at the Ankara University¹²

“Eti Soda gives producers in the Beypazarı region significant support. The company’s primary aim has been to create projects in the region that allow these producers to become economically self-sustaining. With this aim in mind, the company established the demonstration vineyard in Beypazarı that utilized a modern wiring technique, and which cultivated grape types that were previously not grown locally. In addition to raising the profits of local producers by introducing new types of grapes into the region and by encouraging transition to more modern viticulture methods through the establishment of the demonstration vineyard, Eti Soda has supported the local producers in all phases of viticulture by encouraging their attendance at grape cultivation and pruning demonstrations at the vineyard, by establishing training sessions and by organizing technical trips to vineyards using more modern viticulture techniques.

The local community has access to the demonstration vineyard at all times. They can see every step of the process if they wish to do so. Eti Soda has included Beypazarı-based agricultural bodies connected to the Ministry of Agriculture in every step of this social responsibility project.

⁸ This information was provided by Selami Damak during his interview at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020.

⁹ This information was provided by Selami Damak during his interview at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020.

¹⁰ This information was provided by Ferhat Soylu, the QA/QC and HSE Manager at Eti Soda; SEDEX.

¹¹ This image was provided to S-RM by Meryem Keşküş, Eti Soda and Kazan Soda’s Customer Relations Supervisor.

¹² Prof. Dr. Gökhan Söylemezoğlu was interviewed at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020. All interviews mentioned in this report were conducted in Turkish. Transcripts of these interviews were edited for clarity.

The company has given them information relating to the vineyard and has invited individuals employed in these agricultural bodies to its meetings to increase the impact of this project in the region and to make the project more sustainable.”

1.1.2 Statement of Selami Damak, Eti Soda employee and a resident of Çakıloba village¹³

“The Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard has not only introduced new grapes to the Beypazarı region, but it has advanced local knowledge on viticulture methods. I own a vineyard in Çakıloba. The Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard initiative gave several training sessions to locals of the Çakıloba, Bağözü, and Başören villages. During one of the training sessions, we were taken to a sample vine run by the Ankara University in Kalecik, Turkey. This is the first time we saw the use of roses as a precautionary measure against the development of fungus in the vineyard. The Ankara University officials had planted roses on both sides of a single line of vines. We were told that fungus affects rose trees quicker than it does grapes, so it could be spotted on rose leaves and prevented before the illness took over all of the vines. This was adopted by some of the villagers in Çakıloba, and I expect that more of the villagers will adopt it in the future. However, the most widely adopted technique we discovered from one of the training sessions was a pruning method shown by Professor Gökhan Söylemezoğlu. Prior to this session, we believed that the more branches/stems the grape vine had, the better it would be for us grape producers. But we learned that having only two stems, as opposed to the 4-5 stems we used to keep, is ideal to get larger and richer grapes. This technique was adopted in the village in a widespread manner and is being used to this day.

In addition to the training, the sample vines initiatives introduced new grapes into the region. In the vineyards, which I now oversee, we produce six different types of grapes. Three of these are made for eating and the rest for wine production. The grapes developed in the sample vines is used by Eti Soda and distributed to the employees, senior management and clients of the company. However, in the process of developing these grapes, as already mentioned many of the stems are pruned. After a period of wait, these stems are injected with a substance that changes the type of grape that can be produced by the stem. These stems are then distributed to the villagers on a first come first serve basis. Since the implementation of this phase of the project seven years ago, at least 40 people a year have benefitted from this programme. One of my favourite grape types, and the one largely favoured by producers in Çakıloba is the Redglobe grape. It is more durable than other grapes and has a greater value than grapes that were previously used. The villagers sell these grapes in markets and make a profit from it.”

Image 4: Selami Damak in front of the Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard on 2 March 2020.¹⁴



¹³ Selami Damak was interviewed at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020.

¹⁴ This image was taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda in 2 March 2020.

1.1.3 Sayim Atak, the local authority of Başören Village

“We now use techniques that we learned and saw at the Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard. We used to use methods taught to us by our fathers. For example, we did not prune the vines. But now we do.”

1.2 GRAPE MOLASSES PRODUCTION FACILITIES

Çakıloba Village Grape Molasses Production Facility

In 2018, Eti Soda constructed an 80m² facility in Çakıloba, a village in the district of Beypazarı, fitted with the necessary equipment and machines required for making grape molasses. The facility was not used in 2019 because the grapes necessary for molasses production were not cultivated in time. The facility is intact, contains equipment, and will be used once the grapes are cultivated in 2020.¹⁵ The facility can be used by any local villager wanting to do so.¹⁶



Image 5 and 6: Image of Kazım Uysal, the local authority of Çakıloba village, in front of and inside the Çakıloba village grape molasses production facility on 2 March 2020.¹⁷



Bağözü Village Grape Molasses Production Facility

Eti Soda has constructed an 80m² facility fitted with the necessary equipment and machines required for making grape molasses. According to the local authority of the Bağözü village, this facility was constructed around 2014 and is still in use.¹⁸



¹⁵ Source: Call with Kazım Uysal, the local authority of the Çakıloba village on 10 February 2020; A site visit was made by S-RM on 2 March 2020.

¹⁶ This information was provided by Kazım Uysal, the local authority of the Çakıloba village, during his interview at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020.

¹⁷ These images were taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 2 March 2020.

¹⁸ Source: Call with Hayati Değirmenci, the local authority of the Bağözü village on 11 February 2020.



1.3 IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Eti Soda has established irrigation systems for agricultural use in Başören, Bağözü and Çakıloba villages.¹⁹ They have constructed a 300 m³ irrigation pool in Başören village, a 250 m³ irrigation pool in Bağözü village, and two separate irrigation pools (300 m³ and 100 m³) in Çakıloba village.²⁰ The irrigation system in Çakıloba village was constructed in 2018.²¹ By constantly supplying the irrigation pools with clean water from the factory, the company has supported agriculture in the region.

Prior to the establishment of the irrigation system, the fields were watered using old techniques, such as by using water from draw wells. The use of draw wells significantly reduced the amount of water below the ground, and the inefficient technique led to the use of more water than was necessary.²² Eti Soda is now providing water to these irrigation systems from the Sarıyar dam, out of the water quota that has been set for Eti Soda by the government. The irrigation systems have therefore increased the efficiency of water use in these villages.²³ According to Kazım Uysal, the local authority of Çakıloba village, when the system was first set up, because the demand for water was so high, local producers got into arguments relating to who could use the water and for how long. In order to put an end to these arguments, and to guarantee that the system benefits the whole community, Eti Soda hired a worker to be in charge of water allocation in Çakıloba village.²⁴

Eti Soda was also involved in efforts to provide water to these communities in the past. In 2008, when Beypazarı was facing a water shortage, Eti Soda gave the municipality access to the water wells it had established in its efforts to drain water from its trona mine. This water was then added to the municipality water distribution lines to address the shortage.²⁵

1.3.1 Statement of Selami Damak, a resident of Çakıloba and the Head of Administrative Affairs at Eti Soda

"Eti Soda has increased the profitability of agriculture. Since the Eti Soda factory was established, so much has changed in our lives. The land our village sits on is very dry, while it is suitable for vineyards, it is not ideal to grow vegetables. We struggled for years in the production of vegetables because we simply did not have enough water to grow them."

Eti Soda helped the villagers involved in the agriculture industry by reviving the sector that had slowed down as a result of a lack of means. Prior to Eti Soda's agriculture initiatives, we could only grow a crop once a year. We did not have enough water to produce any more vegetables, and focused on one specific type. When the irrigation systems were put in place it revived the land, and currently we produce vegetables three times a year. For example, in one quarter we produce lettuce, while in the next we produce spinach. In the past we could only produce in one quarter."

¹⁹ Eti Soda's involvement in and contribution to the Başören village irrigation system has been confirmed by Sayim Atak, the village's local authority.

²⁰ The irrigation system established in Çakıloba has been confirmed by Kazım Uysal, who stated that the system was constructed in 2018. Hayati Değirmenci, the local authority of the Bağözü village, also confirmed that an irrigation system was constructed in Bağözü. However, he referred to the establishment of water pipes as opposed to the irrigation pool.

²¹ Source: Call with Kazım Uysal, the local authority of the Çakıloba village.

²² This information was provided by Ferhat Soylu and Ahmet Keşküş, the vice manager of Eti Soda, on 3 March 2020.

²³ This information was provided by Ferhat Soylu and Ahmet Keşküş on 3 March 2020.

²⁴ This information was provided by Kazım Uysal during his interview at the Eti Soda factory on 2 March 2020.

²⁵ Source: 'İyi suya hasret kaldık', Yeni Yıldız Gazetesi, 14 November 2008.

1.3.2 Statement of Sayim Atak, the local authority of Başören village

"If we were left to water the vineyards with a hose, it could have dried the land. They have constructed irrigation pools for us, whose water is supplied from the Sarıyar dam. They make an effort to not leave us without water, and we have not been left without water thus far."

1.3.3 Statement of Kazım Uysal, the Local Authority of Çakıloba Village

"We did not have enough water to water our fields in the past. Now thanks to Eti Soda we get a strong yield from our fields, and a good profit from them. Since the irrigation systems have been set up, we have been able to grow plants that require a lot of water. We can now grow carrots. The irrigation system really boosted the local economy and the profit from agriculture."

Image 7: Image of Sayım Atak (left) and Kazım Uysal (right) at the Eti Soda Factory on 2 March 2020.²⁶



1.4 DEVELOPING ELECTRICITY INFRASTRUCTURE IN VINEYARDS

Eti Soda is currently developing electricity infrastructure for vineyards in the Çakıloba village. The vineyards take up approximately 90,000 m² of land.²⁷ The project was initiated following a request from Kazım Uysal, the Çakıloba village local authority.



1.5 BEEKEEPING INITIATIVE

In 2018, Kazan Soda started a beekeeping initiative within its facilities, in order to promote the profession and re-engage the local population with beekeeping. The beekeeping activities are run by Kudret Arıcı ('Arıcı'), a beekeeper from the region, and the honey produced from these activities is distributed to Kazan Soda employees.²⁸ The project started off with 50 beehives, and now the project produces honey from approximately 100 beehives.²⁹ Beekeeping is not a popular profession in areas surrounding the Kazan Soda factory, and therefore the beekeeping project has attracted attention as a source of knowledge in these matters. Two beekeepers from Fethiye and Mülk villages have asked Arıcı for assistance in matters related to beekeeping. For example, a beekeeper from Fethiye village called Arıcı to inquire about how to cope with parasites in the field that were hindering beekeeping activities. Kazan Soda also supports its beekeeping

²⁶ This image was taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 2 March 2020.

²⁷ This information was provided by a member of the Eti Soda Sustainability Team, consisting of Ahu Kılıç, Ferhat Soylu and Esin Ibibikcan.

²⁸ This information was provided by Erdem Keskin on 5 March 2020.

²⁹ This information was provided by Kudret Arıcı during his interview at the Kazan Soda factory on 5 March 2020.

activities by planting lavender (see Section 4.7) and acacia trees, two plants preferred by bees. The aim of the project is to revive beekeeping in the region and show the local populace that it could be a means for profit. With regards to Kazan Soda's beekeeping project Arıcı believes that *"without bees there would be no life"*.³⁰

Maintaining and establishing key municipal buildings

1.6 THE RENOVATION OF THE BEYPAZARI MUNICIPALITY AND LAND REGISTRY DIRECTORATE BUILDING

Eti Soda renovated an abandoned public hospital located in Beypazarı in 2015, in order to repurpose it as the Beypazarı Municipality and Land Registry Directorate building.³¹ The company renovated the building and established its electricity and water infrastructure. The former land registry directorate was four stories tall, and did not contain an elevator, making it difficult for elderly citizens to access the building.³² Following Eti Soda's renovation, the bottom floor of the building was designated as the land registry directorate, making it more accessible to all individuals.



1.7 SEKLI KÖYÜ GÜÇSÜZLER NURSİNG HOME RENOVATION

Eti Soda has renovated the central heating, electricity and water infrastructure of the Sekli Nursing Home, a nursing home run by the Türkiye Güçsüzler ve Kimsesizlere Yardım Vakfı, a foundation aiming to help vulnerable individuals in Turkey.³³ Eti Soda, and more broadly the Ciner Group, finance the nursing home's repair costs as the need arises.³⁴ According to an official from the nursing home, they simply call the Eti Soda factory when a problem arises and Eti Soda arranges for a repair.



1.8 ASSISTING IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR THE GOLDEN HOUR SENIOR CENTER

In October 2019, six local businesses in Sweetwater County, including Ciner Wyoming, partnered together to support a raffle for the Golden Hour Senior Center, a senior citizens' center in Green River. Together, these businesses sold 600 raffle tickets, the profits of which were added to the donations raised by the center's community partners and patrons, and then put towards the creation of a new technology center.³⁵



³⁰ This information was provided by Kudret Arıcı during his interview at the Kazan Soda factory on 5 March 2020.

³¹ Sources do not concur regarding which Ciner Group entity funded the renovations. Source: [Beypazarı Belediyesi](#); 'Eski Beypazarı Devlet Hastanesi binasının belediyeye devri', [Haber7](#), 21 Haziran 2015.

³² Source: 'Eski Beypazarı Devlet Hastanesi binasının belediyeye devri', [Haber7](#), 21 Haziran 2015.

³³ The contact from the nursing home could not recall the date of the renovation. However, he confirmed that Eti Soda covers the repair costs of the nursing home.

³⁴ Source: Contact from the Sekli Nursing Home.

³⁵ Source: 'Six Local Businesses Support Golden Hour Senior Center', [Sweetwater Now](#), 15 October 2019.

Image 8: Image of Craig Rood, the site manager of Ciner Wyoming, with representatives from Rocky Mountain Power, the Golden Hour Senior Center and Sweetwater County³⁶



1.9 ASSISTING THE MUNICIPALITY IN BUILDING NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE IN VILLAGES AND MUNICIPALITY ASSISTANCE

- ▶ Eti Soda has funded the construction of a two-room office for the Beypazarı Gendarmerie Command.³⁷
- ▶ Eti Soda has constructed a well in the Ayvaşık neighbourhood of Beypazarı, for use by the Beypazarı Forest Directorate in the event of a forest fire or other event that requires immediate access to water.³⁸
- ▶ Kazan Soda donated to the Kazan Municipality in 2018, in order to help support the community events and organizations carried out by the municipality. With the money donated, the company funded the sound, light and stage system set ups for one of the municipality's events.³⁹
- ▶ Kazan Soda donated to the State Hydraulic Works Foundation. This institution, which is in charge of water planning, management and resource development, aims to promote the use of water in an environmentally aware and sustainable manner.⁴⁰ Kazan Soda's donations went towards education; the donation itself was classified as an educational support donation.⁴¹
- ▶ In 2019, Kazan Soda donated construction material for the repair of the existing guard house in the Ilyakut village, a village located in the Sincan region of Ankara.
- ▶ Kazan Soda purchased a 1,100-meter pipeline for the Incirlik village, upon the local authorities request. This pipeline was used in order to renew one of the water pipelines in the village.⁴²



³⁶ This image was taken from an article in Sweetwater Now, a local news website (source: 'Six Local Businesses Support Golden Hour Senior Center', [Sweetwater Now](#), 15 October 2019).

³⁷ Eti Soda's involvement in and contribution to this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

³⁸ Eti Soda's involvement in and contribution to this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

³⁹ This information was provided by İlhami İlter, the Head of Accounting at Kazan Soda, during S-RM's visit to the Kazan Soda facility on 5 March 2020.

⁴⁰ Source: [Devlet Su İşleri Genel Müdürlüğü](#).

⁴¹ This information was provided by İlhami İlter, the Head of Accounting at Kazan Soda, during S-RM's visit to the Kazan Soda facility on 5 March 2020.

⁴² This information was provided by Meryem Keşküş.

2 FOSTERING ARTS, CULTURE, HISTORY, AND SPORTS IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES



Preserving cultural and historical sites and the engagement of local communities with the arts and sports is essential for communities to thrive. Initiatives promoting arts, culture and history not only create livelihoods for these areas by increasing tourism, but they also sustain community spirit and unity. WE Soda has engaged in the renovation of multiple cultural sites in villages in the Beypazarı district, sponsored cultural festivals, and donated to multiple societies that support their communities. Protecting and maintaining cultural and natural heritage is key to making communities more sustainable.

Restoration and establishment of cultural institutions and support for cultural events

2.1 RESTORATION OF BEYPAZARI HOUSES

In the early 2000s, the Ciner Group restored a large number of historical Beypazarı houses.⁴³ By doing so they contributed to the preservation of a cultural landmark and contributed to Beypazarı's allure as a touristic attraction.

2.2 MOSQUE MAINTANENCE WORKS, BAĞÖZÜ VILLAGE

Eti Soda has repaired the Bağözü village mosque and its minarets.⁴⁴ The company also reports to have renovated its electricity, water, and toilet facilities.

2.3 RENOVATION OF THE IMAM'S HOUSE, BAĞÖZÜ VILLAGE

As at February 2020, the imam's house in the Bağözü village was being renovated. Eti Soda is funding this renovation.

2.4 RENOVATION OF THE MOSQUE AND IMAM'S HOUSE, GÜRAĞAÇ VILLAGE

Eti Soda renovated the Gurağaç village mosque and built a two story building next to it.⁴⁵ The first floor of the building is used as a village hall, while the top floor is used as the Imam's residence.

2.5 IMAM'S HOUSE CONSTRUCTION AND HEATING SYSTEM RENEWAL, FETHIYE VILLAGE

In 2016, Kazan Soda funded the construction of an Imam's house and Quran course in the Fethiye village. In 2019, they renewed the heating system of these buildings.⁴⁶

⁴³ Sources: 'Bir kasaba yeniden doğdu', [Sabah](#), 11 June 2006; 'Kazan Soda Elektrik Üretim AŞ açıldı', [Bloomberg](#), 15 January 2018. Sabah was owned by the Ciner Group in 2006, and the Ciner Group still holds partial ownership of Bloomberg HT in Turkey.

⁴⁴ Hayati Değirmenci, the local authority of the Bağözü village, confirmed that Eti Soda renovated the mosque.

⁴⁵ Eti Soda's involvement in and contribution to this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

⁴⁶ This information was provided to S-RM by Meryem Keşküş.

2.6 CONSTRUCTION OF THE VILLAGE HALL, MÜLK VILLAGE

Kazan Soda donated the construction material for the construction of a social facility in the Mülk village in 2019. Kazan Soda also decorated the interior of the village hall.⁴⁷

2.7 VILLAGE HALL CONSTRUCTION, ÇAKILOBA VILLAGE

The Çakıloba village hall was constructed next to the grape molasses facility in 2018/2019. The village hall has not been put to use yet, but Kazım Uysal, the local authority, stated that they were planning to use the buildings for weddings and other social events in 2020.⁴⁸

Image 9 and 10: Images of the exterior and interior of the village hall in the Çakıloba village taken on 2 March 2020.⁴⁹



2.8 BOARDING HOUSE CONSTRUCTION, ÇİMŞİT

In 2018, the company funded the construction of a boarding house for the Ankara Kazan Balaçımşit Kültürünü Yaşatma, Geliştirme, Yardımlaşma ve Dayanışma Derneği, a Kazan-based culture and social solidarity society. The society's aims include helping residents of Balaçımşit during their times of need, supporting communal areas, and fostering cultural activities.⁵⁰ Kazan Soda paid for the costs of the boarding house in three installments: in March, April and August.⁵¹

2.9 VILLAGE HALL REPAIR, ILYAKUT VILLAGE

In August 2018, Kazan Soda paid for the repair costs of the village hall in the Ilyakut village.⁵²

2.10 DONATION TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ISTANBUL ÇAMLICA MOSQUE

In February 2018, Kazan Soda donated to the Istanbul Mosque and Education Cultural Service Construction and Sustenance Foundation. This money was donated towards the construction of the Istanbul Çamlıca mosque, the largest mosque in Turkey.⁵³ The mosque's construction began in 2013 and ended in 2020. This is the only non-local donation made by Kazan Soda.

⁴⁷ This information was provided to S-RM by Meryem Keşküş.

⁴⁸ S-RM made a site visit to the village hall in Çakıloba on 2 March 2020.

⁴⁹ These images were taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 2 March 2020.

⁵⁰ Source: Çimsit Mahallesi.

⁵¹ This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to the Kazan Soda facility on 5 March 2020.

⁵² This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to the Kazan Soda facility on 5 March 2020.

⁵³ This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to the Kazan Soda facility on 5 March 2020.

2.11 IFTAR MEAL WITH LOCALS

Every year during Ramadan, all Eti Soda employees and the locals of the Bağözü, Çakıloba, Başören and Gurağaç villages, come together on one evening to break their fast. An iftar meal is also hosted in the Kazan Soda factory during Ramadan.

Images 11 and 12: Images of the Kazan Soda (left) and Eti Soda (right) Fast Breaking Dinner⁵⁴



Supporting local community societies and associations

2.12 SPONSORSHIP OF CULTURE FESTIVAL

Eti Soda was the main sponsor of the 2019 Beypazarı Festival, a festival organised annually by the Beypazarı municipality.⁵⁵

2.13 SPONSORSHIP OF LOCAL TURKISH SPORTS CLUBS

Eti Soda sponsors multiple sports societies and clubs in Ankara. The company sponsored the Beypazarı Municipality Youth and Sports Club Society between 2016 and 2017. In this capacity, they paid for the necessities of all teams associated with the society.

Eti Soda is also currently the sponsor of the Bushido Sports Club, a sports club in Nallıhan, Ankara. Under Eti Soda's sponsorship, in November 2019, some members of the Bushido Sports Club travelled to Baku, Azerbaijan in order to participate in the 2nd World Martial Arts Championship. These members were competing in the championship as a part of the Martial Arts Turkey National Team. Two Bushido Sports Club members won medals in the championship: Gül Nisa Akkayaoğlu and Elif Eylül Acar. While Gül Nisa won three gold medals in the stars category, Elif Eylül won two gold medals in two separate branches.⁵⁶ The Turkish National Team won second place in the championship.

⁵⁴ These images were provided to S-RM by Meryem Keşküş.

⁵⁵ Source: [Beypazarı Belediyesi](#).

⁵⁶ Sources: 'Azerbaycan'da tarihi başarı', [Haber Turk](#), 27 November 2019; 'Çayırhanlı sporcuların büyük başarısı', [Sabah](#), 28 November 2019.

Images 13 and 14: Images of Gül Nisa and Elif Eylül at the Eti Soda factory and at the Alpagut World Championship⁵⁷



2.14 SPONSORSHIP OF LOCAL SPORTS CLUB IN WYOMING

Since 2016, Ciner Wyoming has donated to many local youth sports clubs. These donations are made following requests to the company. Many Ciner Wyoming employees or their spouses volunteer to coach local sports teams or to sponsor some of their activities. In order to support the community service of Ciner Wyoming employees, the company also provides donations to these sports teams. These sports teams often include the children of Ciner Wyoming employees.⁵⁸ According to Craig Rood, the Ciner Wyoming site manager, these donations are generally used for the purchase of equipment, meals or travel.⁵⁹

2.15 SPONSORSHIP OF THE 2019 WYOMING CONGRESSIONAL AWARD GOLF INVITATIONAL

In 2019, a US-incorporated Ciner group entity was a sponsor of the 2019 Wyoming Congressional Award Golf Invitational.⁶⁰ The golf invitational is one of the events organized by the Wyoming Congressional Award Council, which runs an award programme to encourage youth to volunteer and focus on their personal and physical development. The Wyoming Congressional Award also provides scholarships to students. It is unclear if this golf tournament is linked to Ciner Resources or Ciner Wyoming's sponsorship of two college-bound students (see Section 3.3).⁶¹

2.16 DONATIONS TO THE INCIRLIK VILLAGE BEAUTIFICATION AND SOLIDARITY SOCIETY⁶²

Kazan Soda reportedly donated to the Incirlik Village Beautification and Solidarity Society, a society located in the Sincan district of Ankara, between 2014 and 2018. We did not identify how this money was used by the society, and which initiatives it helped support. According to a contact from the Incirlik village, Kazan Soda helps the society, which largely undertakes community

⁵⁷ These images were taken from the cited Haber Türk article. See: ⁵⁷ 'Azerbaycan'da tarihi başarı', [Haber Türk](#), 27 November 2019.

⁵⁸ This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood, Ciner Wyoming's site manager, on 1 April 2020.

⁵⁹ This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 1 April 2020; Ciner Wyoming's sponsorship of local sports clubs has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

⁶⁰ Source: [WCAC](#).

⁶¹ In 2018, the Center for Public Integrity, a non-profit investigative journalism organization, criticized companies that did not disclose their donations to the 2017 golf invitational event in their lobbying disclosures, due to the fact that Wyoming's three members of Congress were honorary chairpersons. Ciner Wyoming was not directly named in the article. We did not confirm Ciner Wyoming's sponsorship of the 2017 event from publicly available information. Source: [Wyoming Congressional Awards](#); [Public Integrity](#).

⁶² Turkish: Incirlik Köyü Güzelleştirme Derneği.

support initiatives, with specific requests such as repairs. The contact stated that to his knowledge, Kazan Soda did not provide direct monetary support to the society.

According to information received from İlham Inter, the head of accounting at Kazan Soda, Kazan Soda makes a monthly payment to the Incirlik Village Beautification and Solidarity Society in order to rent a building outside of the village. There is no rental contract in place. In return for using the building, they donate to the society every month. If this is the sole support given to the society, it cannot be considered a corporate social responsibility initiative.

2.17 DONATIONS TO THE FETHİYE VILLAGE VILLAGE BEAUTIFICATION AND SOLIDARITY SOCIETY ⁶³

Kazan Soda donated funds to the Fethiye Village Beautification and Solidarity Society, a society located in Fethiye village in Kazan.⁶⁴

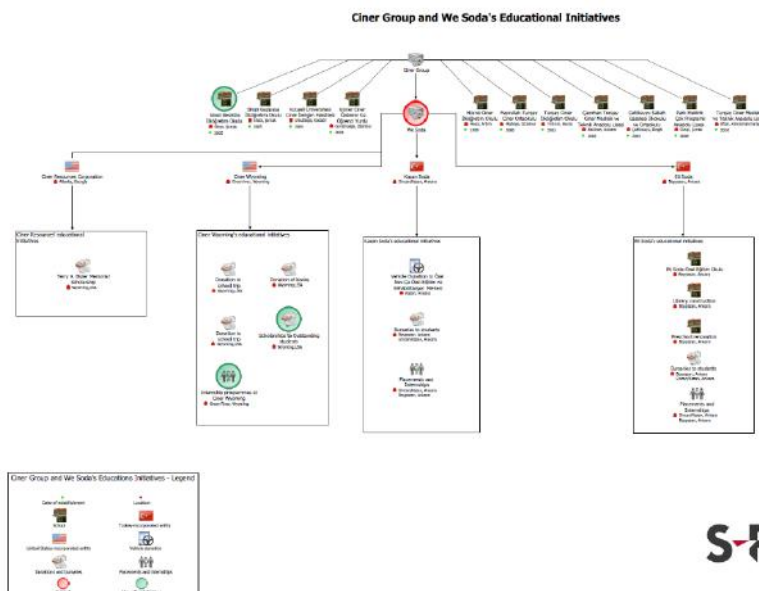
3 PROVIDING EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR ALL



Just like all Ciner Group entities, WE Soda strives to enhance educational opportunities for all. It has made its contribution to education through constructing or repairing educational institutions, by providing bursaries and internships to students and by donating to and sponsoring local schools. WE Soda's actions are aligned with the Ciner Group's goal to build 50 educational institutions in Turkey.

6 April 2020

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL



⁶³ Turkish: Fethiye Güzelleştirme Yardımlaşma ve Dayanışma Derneği.

⁶⁴ Kazan Soda's involvement in and contribution to this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

3.1 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ETI SODA ÖZEL EĞİTİM OKULU

On 17 April 2015, the Ciner Group started the construction of Eti Soda Özel Eğitim Uygulama ve İş Okulu, a school for mentally handicapped children in Beypazarı, Ankara.⁶⁵ The school's construction began after the signing of a protocol with the government as a part of the government's '100% Support for Education' campaign. While the cost of the institution's construction was fully paid for by Eti Soda, the land that the school was constructed on was donated by the Beypazarı municipality.⁶⁶ The construction finished in 2017 and the school was donated to the Ministry of Education in April of that year. The school currently has 80 students.⁶⁷ In addition to being an educational institution for children, the school runs sessions for parents and provides psychological assistance for families that request support.⁶⁸ Eti Soda continues to provide material support to the school by covering repair costs.⁶⁹

Image 15: Image of the exterior of the Eti Soda Special Education School taken on 3 March 2020⁷⁰



"The construction of the Eti Soda Special Education School has addressed a significant deficiency and a significant need in Beypazarı. We thank the Ciner Group for their help". – Hürrem Dursun, District Director of National Education

Images 16 and 17: Images of the interior of the Eti Soda Special Education School taken on 3 March 2020⁷¹



The school itself has two floors. It consists of 17 classrooms, three administrative rooms, five arts and craft rooms, one parent visitation room, one staff room, one application house, one cafeteria and kitchen, one teachers' room, one multi-purpose living room, one archive and two

⁶⁵ Source: Ciner Group: 'Beypazarı Özel Eğitim Uygulama Okulu Protokolü İmzalandı', Hürriyet, 17 April 2015.

⁶⁶ This information was provided by Hürrem Dursun, the District Director of National Education of Beypazarı, during S-RM's visit to the school on 3 March 2020.

⁶⁷ This information was provided by Levent Yüksel, the principal of the school, during S-RM's visit to the school on 3 March 2020.

⁶⁸ This information was provided by Levent Yüksel, during S-RM's visit to the school on 3 March 2020.

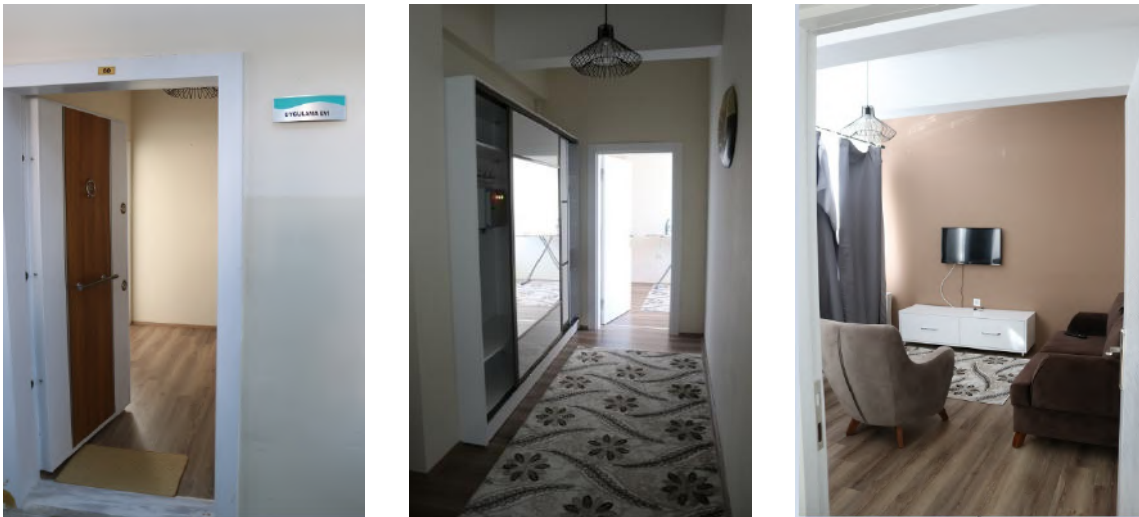
⁶⁹ This information was provided by Levent Yüksel, during S-RM's visit to the school on 3 March 2020.

⁷⁰ This image was taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 3 March 2020.

⁷¹ These images were taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 3 March 2020.

storage rooms.⁷² The school contains an application house, that allows students to practice engagement within a less formal setting and to practice everyday chores.

Images 18, 19 and 20: Images of the application house within the Eti Soda Special Education School taken on 3 March 2020⁷³



3.1.1 Statement of Levent Yüksel, The Principal of Eti Soda Special Education School

“This school is a bridge institution, an institution needed in every district in Turkey. The importance of this institution can be seen from the fact that the number of our students has steadily increased since we opened. We started off with 40 students, which rose to 66 and now we currently have 80 students under our roof. Our activities focus not only on students with disabilities but also on their parents. We not only give training sessions but psychological support to the families of these children. We are indebted to the Eti Soda family, and the Beypazarı municipality for constructing this institution. Whenever we have a problem Eti Soda has supported us both materially and spiritually. For example, Eti Soda helps us when we have a problem with our building. Recently our water storage broke down and Eti Soda immediately sent in technicians to get it repaired. We are also planning on having a joint event with Eti Soda on the 23rd of April, World Children’s Day. Either we will go to Eti Soda or they will come visit us.

We provide a three-tier education system in this school. We run a pre-school, a middle school and a high school in this building. We accept students until they are 28 years old. The students that are registered to this school are children and adults who have medium to high levels of mental disabilities.”

⁷² This information was found in an informative pamphlet provided by Levent Yüksel on 3 March 2020.

⁷³ These images were taken during S-RM’s visit to Eti Soda on 3 March 2020.

Image 21: Image of Ahmet Keşküş, the Vice General Manager of Eti Soda, with Levent Yüksel taken on the 3rd of March 2020⁷⁴



3.2 BURSARIES TO LOCAL STUDENTS IN TURKEY

Between 2013 and 2018, Eti Soda and Kazan Soda together gave bursaries to approximately 80 local students. As a part of this programme, students are given money on a monthly basis for their personal needs during their education.⁷⁵ Kazan Soda currently provides bursaries to 43 students, 35 of whom are in university, 7 of whom are in high school and one student who is in primary school.⁷⁶ The 35 university students receive the bursary from the start to the end of their university degree.⁷⁷ Eti Soda currently provides bursaries to 30 students.⁷⁸

3.3 BURSARIES TO LOCAL STUDENTS IN WYOMING, US

Ciner Resources has supported the Bigler Memorial Scholarship, a need-based scholarship provided to a second-year student studying at the Western Wyoming Community College ('WWCC') since at least 2017.⁷⁹ The scholarship was founded by the Bigler Family and OCI Chemical, the predecessor of Ciner Resources, in 2005, and is designed to cover living expenses during the school year. The deadline for the current scholarship application closed on 28 March 2020, and the recipient will be decided on by representatives from the Bigler family, the WWCC and Ciner Resources.⁸⁰

The specifications of the scholarship programme:

- ▶ The scholarship is a need-based scholarship;
- ▶ The recipient must be a full-time student starting their second year at WWCC; and
- ▶ The student must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 during his or her first year.



TERRY A. BIGLER
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

ciner

⁷⁴ This image was taken during S-RM's visit to Eti Soda on 3 March 2020.

⁷⁵ This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to Kazan Soda on 5 March 2020.

⁷⁶ This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to Kazan Soda on 5 March 2020.

⁷⁷ This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to Kazan Soda on 5 March 2020.

⁷⁸ This information was provided by Meryem Keşküş.

⁷⁹ Source: 'Herrera Receives 2018-2019 Bigler Memorial Scholarship', *Sweetwater Now*, 13 April 2018.

⁸⁰ Source: 'WWCC Students: Apply for the Terry A. Bigler Scholarship Today!', *Sweetwater Now*, 23 March 2020.

Preference is given to students who have graduated from a southwest Wyoming high school, and students enrolled in Mine and Industry Maintenance Programmes.⁸¹ For example, Cameron Morris, the recipient of the 2019-2020 scholarship, is working towards obtaining an Associated Degree in Electrical Instrumentation with a certificate in Electrical Mine Maintenance.⁸²

Image 22: Image of Cameron Morris with the Bigler family, a WWCC representative and Ciner Resources representatives.⁸³



Ciner Wyoming also reports to provide two scholarships a year to Wyoming's outstanding college-bound students. This scholarship programme is also sponsored by Wyoming's congressional delegation and is categorized as a Wyoming Congressional Award.⁸⁴ The sponsorship initiative was initially started by OCI Resources, Ciner Wyoming's predecessor. Ciner Wyoming has continued OCI Resources' participation since 2015.⁸⁵

3.4 TRAINEESHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS AT ETI SODA AND KAZAN SODA

Eti Soda implements a traineeship programme for engineering students from technical high schools and for university students. While the internships for university students approximately last one month, technical high school students have longer internships, lasting approximately four months. The internship applications are made on an ad hoc basis. Every year approximately 60 to 70 technical high school students have their traineeship at Eti Soda. As part of their traineeship programme, a representative from the high school meets with an Eti Soda representative to discuss the student's progress every week. While the internship programme accepts students from all regions in Turkey, the interns are predominantly from the Beypazari region.

Kazan Soda's traineeship programme is very similar to that of Eti Soda's. In 2019 alone, Kazan Soda had 37 internships/placements. Of these 37 placements, nine students were attending technical and career-focused high schools, four were attending career-based educational

⁸¹ Source: 'WWCC Students: Apply for the Terry A. Bigler Scholarship Today!', [Sweetwater Now](#), 23 March 2020.

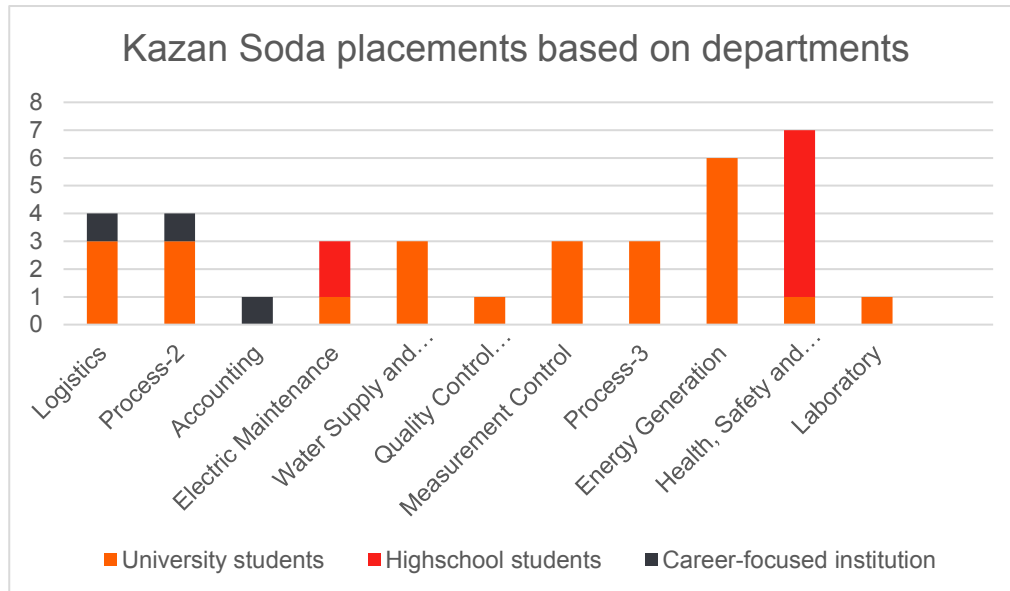
⁸² Source: 'Congratulations to Cameron Morris on Being the 2019-2020 Terry A. Bigler Scholarship Recipient', [Sweetwater Now](#), 15 April 2019; 'Herrera Receives 2018-2019 Bigler Memorial Scholarship', [Sweetwater Now](#), 13 April 2018.

⁸³ This image was taken from the article 'Congratulations to Cameron Morris on Being the 2019-2020 Terry A. Bigler Scholarship Recipient', [Sweetwater Now](#), 15 April 2019.

⁸⁴ We did not identify from the public record whether Ciner Wyoming or Ciner Resources provides two scholarships a year to Wyoming's outstanding college bound students.

⁸⁵ This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 3 April 2020. We did not identify from the public record whether Ciner Wyoming or Ciner Resources provides two scholarships a year to Wyoming's outstanding college bound students.

institutions, and 24 were university students. Three of the student trainees were also bursary recipients (see Section 3.2). These students were placed in various different departments in Kazan Soda, including the Quality Control Department, Energy Generation Unit, and Logistics.⁸⁶ The majority were engineering students.



Kazan Soda accepts students from educational institutions all over Turkey. However, it has protocols in place with some local educational institutions that give the students of these institutions' priority in the selection process. One of these institutions is the Başkent Üniversitesi Meslek Yüksek Okulu, an Ankara-based career-focused institution connected to the Başkent University. The university student placements are usually approximately 21 days long, but depend on the requirements of their programme. While doing their placements, the students are also encouraged to attend training sessions set in place for permanent staff. Furthermore, towards the end of their internship, students are asked to make a presentation to the Kazan Soda staff according to a topic of their choice. According to Erdem Keskin, these presentations aim to increase the students' knowledge on the topic of their choice, but also to increase their confidence in public speaking. For example, in 2019, a student from the Ankara University, following her month long-placement in the Water Supply and Purification Department of Kazan Soda, gave a presentation on water purification techniques.

3.4.1 Statement of Begüm Ünlü – Employee of Eti Soda, former intern and bursary recipient

"I received a three-year bursary from Eti Soda to study electrical engineering in the Sakarya University in Turkey. During my studies, in 2015, I had the opportunity to do a one-month long internship at Eti Soda's energy generation unit. Following my internship, I remained in contact with Ihsan Bey, who was my supervisor during the internship. He supported me during my education and answered any questions that I came across. My internship at Eti Soda showed

⁸⁶ Students were also placed in departments such as Process-2 and Process-3. These are both manufacturing departments that are separated according to the use of certain manufacturing equipment. For example, Process-3 includes the use of a centrifuge, dryer and the bicarbonate system. Source: This information was provided by Meryem Keşküş on 20 March 2020.

me how different working life was from theory. My internship in Eti Soda really brought a lot into my life.”

Image 23: Image of Begüm Ünlü taken at the Eti Soda Factory on 3 March 2020



3.5 INTERNSHIPS AT CINER WYOMING

Ciner Wyoming offers two different types of internships to students every year: skilled trades internships for mechanics and electricians, and engineering internships. Each year, approximately five positions are opened up for skilled trade internships and five to eight positions are put in place for engineering internships. The skilled trade internships are orchestrated in partnership with the local community college.⁸⁷

Support to Local Educational Institutions

3.6 HALIDE EDIP ADIVAR PRESCHOOL RENOVATION WORKS

In 2017, Eti Soda funded the renovation of the Halide Edip Adıvar Preschool, a preschool located in Beypazarı. The renovations included the painting of the building, the replacement of its windows and thermal insulation works.⁸⁸

3.7 KAZAN SODA AŞ VEHICLE DONATION TO ÖZEL NEV-ÇE ÖZEL EĞİTİM VE REHABİLİTASYON MERKEZİ

In August 2018, Kazan Soda donated a Ford minibus to the Özel Nev-Çe Özel Eğitim ve Rehabilitasyon Merkezi, an educational institution for individuals with disabilities in Kazan, Ankara.⁸⁹

3.8 CONSTRUCTION OF A LIBRARY FOR A LOCAL EDUCATION INSTITUTION IN BEYPAZARI⁹⁰

In 2019, Eti Soda funded the construction of a library inside the Beypazarı Şehit Hacı Kazım Ozan Anadolu İmam Hatip Lisesi, a local high school in Beypazarı. Eti Soda also provided books for the students. This project was initiated after Ciner Holding received a letter from Aleyna Ersoy,

⁸⁷ This information was provided by Craig Rood on 3 April 2020. Ciner Wyoming's internship initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information on the matter.

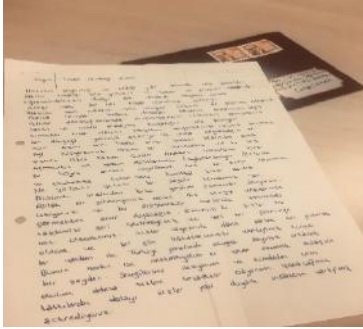
⁸⁸ Source: [Eti Soda website](#); This information was confirmed by the Eti Soda Sustainability Team.

⁸⁹ This information was provided by İlhami İlter during S-RM's visit to Kazan Soda on 5 March 2020.

⁹⁰ This information was provided by the Eti Soda sustainability team; [Eti Soda LinkedIn](#).

a student at the school, asking for the company's assistance in obtaining more books for the students.

Image 24 and 25: Image of Aleyna Ersoy's letter to Ciner Holding and the school's students



3.9 CINER WYOMING'S SUPPORT TO EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Alongside initiatives in Turkey, WE Soda also supports educational initiatives in the United States through Ciner Wyoming.

- ▶ In 2019, Ciner Wyoming was among the companies that funded the educational trip of 32 students from Lincoln Middle School, a public middle school in Wyoming, to Washington DC.⁹¹
- ▶ In 2018, Ciner Wyoming was among the sponsors that funded the trip which Green River High School, a public high school in Wyoming, took to Washington DC to participate in the National Finals, an educational competition relating to the US Constitution organized by the Center for Civic Education, a non-profit organization which aims to promote democratic principles and student development.⁹²
- ▶ In 2018, the company was among those who partnered with Carol Mead,⁹³ the former first lady of Wyoming, to distribute 7,500 copies of her second children's book to fourth graders in Wyoming.⁹⁴

4 PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT



WE Soda entities carry out social initiatives that aim to protect and preserve the environments in which they foster. Some of these initiatives focus on minimizing or offsetting the companies' environmental impact. While all of the Turkey-based WE Soda initiatives engage in afforestation, Kazan Soda has the most comprehensive environmental corporate social responsibility initiatives.

4.1 BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND MONITORING PROJECT⁹⁵

⁹¹ Source: 'Green River Students Tour Washington D.C., New York City on Week-Long Trip', *Sweet Water Now*, 3 July 2019.

⁹² Source: *Center for Civic Education*.

⁹³ Carol Mead is the spouse of Matthew H Mead, the former governor of Wyoming, who was appointed as a board director at Ciner Resources in January 2020.

⁹⁴ Source: 'CINER Honored by Wyoming's First Lady Carol Mead for Supporting Her Second Children's Book', *Sweet Water Now*, 7 September 2018.

⁹⁵ All information and photos relating to the biodiversity conservation and monitoring project is from the Biodiversity Action Plan composed by Ekoiz in September 2017. Meryem Keşküş sent this action plan to S-RM during the company's visit to the Kazan Soda factory. All photos related to the conservation and monitoring project were taken by Ekoiz.

In 2016, Kazan Soda initiated a project focusing on preserving the biodiversity in the area surrounding the Kazan Soda factory. The project was conducted in partnership with Ekoiz, an environmental consultancy based in Ankara, Turkey. Eight academics participated in this project, including Prof Dr. Hayri Duman ('Duman'), a flora specialist and ecologist from Gazi Üniversitesi in Ankara.

In 2016, Duman visited the project area under different seasonal conditions in order to observe the flora. These visitations were done in March, June, July and November. From these visits, a detailed list of the taxons within the project area was accumulated. From this list, the project team assessed which taxons were endemic, and which had the risk of becoming endangered even if they had not been categorized as endemic.

Image 26 and 27: Images from the March 2016 Field Works (left) and images of the different endemic plants (below)⁹⁶



The 2016 field visits and works found 246 different types of plants in the area designated for this project. Of the 246, 41 were endemic to Turkey, and six have a specific local or regional spread. These six types can be found below:

- ▶ *Aethionema dumanii*, which was named after Prof. Duman.
- ▶ *Campanula damboldtiana*
- ▶ *Erodium sibthorpiatum* subsp. *Sibthorpiatum*
- ▶ *Scutellaria yildirimlii*
- ▶ *Sideritis galatica*
- ▶ *Salvia tchihatchefii*

Out of the six taxons listed above, only *Campanula damboldtiana* has a local spread. As such, it has been categorized as "critical, CR" in the International Union for Conservation of Nature ('IUCN') red list, a comprehensive list of threatened species in the world.

⁹⁶ All photos related to the conservation and monitoring project were taken by Ekoiz. All information and photos relating to the biodiversity conservation and monitoring project is from the Biodiversity Action Plan composed by Ekoiz in September 2017.

In order to protect these six endemic plants, the Kazan Soda team and the Ekoiz team started initiating protection plans following the end of the team's field visits. It was decided that the seeds of these six endemic plants would be collected at appropriate times and sent to the Ankara Seed Genetic Bank. This would guarantee that even if these plants were to be adversely affected, they could be re-planted in the region. As at August 2019, the seeds of *Salvia tchihatchefi* and *Aethionema dumanii* had been delivered to the seed bank. The remaining four seeds were delivered between August 2019 and March 2020.⁹⁷

In light of its efforts to protect and raise awareness regarding these endemic plants, and following Ekoiz's suggestion, Kazan Soda established a greenhouse of approximately 8,000 m² for endemic plants. According to Erdem Keskin, the landscaping works surrounding the conservatory will be completed by May 2020. Once the conservatory is complete, Kazan Soda hopes to raise awareness about these plants in local schools and villages through field trips.⁹⁸

In the future, the company aims to spread the presence of these plants to areas that would not be impacted by the factory. This translocation aims to minimize any adverse impact to these plants. Following this step, in order to guarantee the success of the translocation, Ekoiz recommended for the area to be monitored and assessed at least twice a year. Ekoiz is currently not under contract to carry out the monitoring of the conservatory in 2020.⁹⁹

4.1.1 Statement of Prof Dr. Hayri Duman, a flora specialist and ecologist from Gazi Üniversitesi, an Ankara-based university

"The project that we did with Kazan Soda was especially done to assist with the protection of local and regional endemic plants. In order to protect these plants, one can contribute to the storage of the plant's seeds in a seed bank, and one can increase awareness through the display and promotion of these plants in order to contribute to their protection in their natural habitat. With this aim in mind, a small botanic garden was created within the grounds of Kazan Soda. The botanic garden was created in order to increase awareness of these plants, and to inform and educate everyone on this matter. The botanical garden is not currently fully complete. The vegetative parts of some plants that have a local spread have been moved to the botanical garden thereby increasing the plants' population within the garden and strengthening works have also been undertaken.

The endemic plants that have been placed under protection in the botanic garden, and whose introduction to the populace is being considered, are generally distributed only in Ankara's outskirts and similar habitats. One of these plants is only grown in the region around Kazan Soda. If even ten of that plant is damaged, that would be a serious damage to that plant's population. Kazan Soda's project contributes to the protection of these plants.

We have suggested to the appropriate individuals that once the botanical garden is complete it will contribute to further education and promotion. A contract has not yet been signed for works that will take place in 2020."



⁹⁷ This information was provided by both Hayri Duman and Erdem Keskin on 16 March 2020.

⁹⁸ This information was provided by Erdem Keskin during a phone call on 16 March 2020.

⁹⁹ This information was provided by Hayri Duman during a phone call on 16 March 2020 and further confirmed through email correspondence.

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TRAINING OF LOCAL WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

On 30 October 2019, two separate training sessions relating to environmental awareness and environmental protection were given to local women in the Kazan Soda factory. Each session was attended by ten local women from the Incirlik, Fethiye and Ilyakut Villages. The environmental awareness training was given by Özge Atılı, a Kazan Soda environmental engineer. The environmental protection training was given by Murat Doğan, the general manager of Ekoiz. The latter presentation outlined the aims of the biodiversity project, what had been achieved so far through this project and outlined what the locals need to pay attention to while they are within this environmentally protected area.

Following this training, the ten local women, alongside Kazan Soda employees, engaged in environmental planning in the area surrounding the conservatory. These local woman were paid by Kazan Soda for their involvement in this project.¹⁰⁰

Image 28: Image of Murat Doğan's training sessions to local woman from the Incirlik, Fethiye and Ilyakut Villages¹⁰¹



4.3 MAMMAL CONSERVATION PROJECT¹⁰²

As a part of this conservation and preservation project, mammals in the area were also monitored. Inside the biodiversity working grounds, and its surrounding vicinity, the project team identified 23 different types of mammals. These identifications were made following field work, discussions with locals in the area and literature relating to the subject. None of these 23 mammals found within the area are classified as globally endangered by the IUCN categories. However three types of bats found in the surrounding area were classified as vulnerable in nationally based categories, and *sciurus anomalus*, a squirrel, was categorized as rare. Because there are no caves and hollows in the project area, it was assessed that the bats would not be negatively impacted by the Kazan Soda factory.

¹⁰⁰ Information received from Erdem Keskin during S-RM's visit to the factory on 5 March 2020.

¹⁰¹ This image was provided to S-RM by Meryem Keşküş.

¹⁰² Information and photos relating to this project are from the Biodiversity Action Plan composed by Ekoiz in September 2017, unless stated otherwise. Meryem Keşküş sent this action plan to S-RM during the company's visit to the Kazan Soda factory on 5 March 2020.

Image 29: Anatolian Ground Squirrel¹⁰³



In order to protect the ground squirrel, as well as the other mammals that have been identified in the area, Kazan Soda educated project personnel and locals (See Section 4.2). According to Erdem Keskin, one of the big problems with protecting the squirrel population has been the fact that their habitat is essentially the fields of the local villagers. However, the perception of these mammals by these locals has been largely negative as a result of the perceived impact that these mammals have on their crops. Kazan Soda therefore aims to increase the squirrel population on its own factory grounds, and it aims to do this largely by supporting the habitats these squirrels live in. As aforementioned, training and educational seminars on biodiversity and conservation have been given to local women, containing information about the importance of protecting the mammals and their natural habitat. In order to make sure the habitats of these squirrels and other mammals are preserved, afforestation initiatives of Kazan Soda are only made in areas that have been deemed appropriate for this purpose.

4.4 KAZAN SODA AFFORESTATION PROGRAMME

Kazan Soda undertook a tree planting event in 2019, which led to the planting of approximately 30,040 trees in the area surrounding the factory. The trees planted included:

- ▶ Cypress: 30,040
- ▶ Juniper: 17,000
- ▶ Acacia: 40
- ▶ Creeper: 50
- ▶ Rose: 50
- ▶ Cedar: 2120
- ▶ Larch: 275
- ▶ Fruit trees: 510

¹⁰³ All photos related to the conservation and monitoring project were taken by Ekoiz. All information and photos relating to the biodiversity conservation and monitoring project are from the Biodiversity Action Plan completed by Ekoiz in September 2017.

Image 30 and 31: Images from a tree planting event run by Kazan Soda¹⁰⁴



Following this tree planting initiative, Prof Dr. Hayri Duman gave advice with regards to which trees should be planted in future initiatives.

4.5 CINER WYOMING'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WYOMING NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION

Ciner Wyoming is a mining industry participant of the Wyoming Mining Natural Resource Foundation ('WMNRF'), a mining industry partnership focusing on conservation and environmental stewardship in Wyoming. The foundation, which was set up in 2015, aims to engage mining companies with various stakeholders, including academics and landowners, to foster cooperation in the implementation of environmental conservation practices. Ciner Wyoming has been a participant in WMNRF since 2015. Terrell K. Johnson, a Ciner Wyoming senior environmental engineer, was amongst the WMNRF's founding members. Ciner Wyoming is currently represented on the board of the Foundation by Tyler Schiltz, an environmental superintendent at the company, who is both the treasurer and vice president of WMNRF.¹⁰⁵

Since its establishment, the Foundation's primary goal has been to "avoid, minimize or offset" the negative influence that trona mines may have on sage-grouse habitats in Wyoming.¹⁰⁶ According to Tyler Schiltz, as a part of this effort, WMNRF has partnered with SWCA Environmental Consultants, in order to develop a Habitat Quantification Tool that "will be used to quantify the "value" of lands that lie within the Foundation members' area of interest for Sage-grouse habitat", thereby providing actionable information that will directly be used to achieve the Foundation's primary goal. In order to protect the sage-grouse and its habitat, the WMNRF is also currently developing a voluntary conservation strategy that will form the basis of a Candidate Conservation Agreement/Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances ('CCA'/'CCAA'). If this agreement is signed with both state and federal agencies, including the US Fish and Wildlife Service, it will ensure sage-grouse conservation.¹⁰⁷ The agreement will also ensure the sustainability of mining operations in the case that the sage-grouse is listed as an endangered species.¹⁰⁸

In addition to the preparation of the CCA Agreement, the Foundation has undertaken several different projects since it was established.¹⁰⁹

- ▶ In April 2017, the WMNRF hosted an invasive plant workshop at its facilities. The workshop was attended by 58 individuals representing local, state and federal

¹⁰⁴ This image was provided to S-RM by Meryem Keşküş.

¹⁰⁵ Source: WMNRF.

¹⁰⁶ This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz, an environmental superintendent at Ciner Wyoming and the Vice President of WMNRF, on 1 April 2020.

¹⁰⁷ Sources: WMNRF; This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz.

¹⁰⁸ This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz on 1 April 2020.

¹⁰⁹ This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz on 1 April 2020.

agencies as well as academics. The workshop covered the prevalence of invasive plants in southwestern Wyoming, and the potential solutions to deal with them.

- ▶ Since 2017, the Foundation has undertaken an annual weed spraying initiative with the Sweetwater County Weed and Pest District.¹¹⁰
- ▶ In fall 2019, WMNRF provided part of the funding for a sagebrush planting initiative that was undertaken as a part of the Abandoned Mine Lands ('AML') Native Plants Project, a project established by multiple state agencies in order to restore the sagebrush steppe ecosystem in Wyoming.¹¹¹ The planting initiative forms one tier of the AML Native Plants Project. As a part of the educational outreach project, the state agencies partnered with the Lander Wyoming Middle School, a middle school located in central Wyoming, in order to plant sagebrush trees and to raise awareness about the sagebrush steppe ecosystem.¹¹²

Image 32: Image of Lander Middle School students planting sagebrush seedlings¹¹³



4.6 CINER WYOMING WATERFOWL RECOVERY PROGRAMME

A waterfowl recovery programme was started by OCI Resources, the predecessor of Ciner Wyoming, in the factory grounds in 1975. As a part of the programme, Ciner Wyoming collects, rehabilitates and releases birds that have flown into the evaporation ponds on the factory grounds.¹¹⁴ There are multiple ponds within the Ciner Wyoming factory grounds that vary in the percentage of sodium carbonate decahydrate. Typically, during the end of the summer months, as a result of evaporation, ponds become more saturated, and following a temperature drop, the sodium carbonate decahydrate precipitates and forms crystals. This corresponds to the time of the fall migration, which sees the ponds used by waterfowl. As a result of crystal formation in their wings, these waterfowl become impaired.¹¹⁵

According to Tyler Schiltz, *"The birds, if not helped, will die of hypothermia, dehydration, or loss of buoyancy. Ciner's waterfowl rescue program is designed to, if possible, flush all migratory waterfowl from the ponds, or capture and rehabilitate all waterfowl affected by the deca on the*

¹¹⁰ This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz on 1 April 2020.

¹¹¹ These state agencies are the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

¹¹² Source: [Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality](#).

¹¹³ This image was taken from the website of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. The photo was taken by an employee of this government department. Source: [Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality](#).

¹¹⁴ Source: Ciner Wyoming Sustainability Report 2019.

¹¹⁵ This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz on 1 April 2020.

ponds by use of airboat, amphibious eight wheeled boats, or a kayak, then releasing the birds into the Green River after cleaning". In order to rescue these birds, Ciner Wyoming typically hires three individuals before the fall migration begins. These individuals patrol the perimeter of the ponds every day during the migration period which lasts from the end of July until mid-November. Once waterfowl are spotted on the pond, the team either tries to flush these birds or to capture them. Rubber fishing nets are used in order to catch the waterfowl, and shredded paper-lined bins are used for the birds' transfer to the waterfowl rescue facility located within Ciner Wyoming grounds. All birds that are captured will be placed on warm clean water in order to facilitate the dissolution of the decahydrate from their feathers. Waterfowl who are distressed will be treated separately and administered rehydration fluids and heat for waterproofing purposes if the team sees fit. Following their rehabilitation, the birds are released at Green River, a river located in the west of Ciner Wyoming grounds.¹¹⁶

In 2019, 630 birds were saved and approximately 3384 were flushed off from ponds.¹¹⁷

4.7 LAVENDER PROJECT

In 2018, 33,000 lavender flowers were planted in the area of the Kazan Soda facility. Kazan Soda's aim is to increase lavender farming in the region, by beginning lavender oil production. Kazan Soda believes that if the local populace sees that lavender farming could be profitable, it will be taken up to a wider extent. The lavender project was also started in order to support Kazan Soda's beekeeping initiative (see Section 1.5). Bees are attracted to flowers such as lavender.

4.8 ETI SODA AFFORESTATION INITIATIVES

Eti Soda has planted 5000 trees in a field designated for reforestation off the Beypazarı-Çayırhan Highway.¹¹⁸ The company has pledged to plant 2000 trees every year and has assumed the responsibility for watering the field.

4.9 ETI SODA EPD CERTIFICATE

Eti Soda has taken steps towards making its production cycle more environmentally friendly. In November 2017, Eti Soda became the first company in its industry to acquire an Environmental Product Declaration ('EPD') certificate in Turkey.¹¹⁹ An EPD certificate does not certify a product as environmentally friendly, but is rather an independently verified document that delivers information relating to the environmental impact of a product's production process.¹²⁰ As such, the company was able to directly see the environmental impact of its production process, and build a roadmap to mitigating this impact.¹²¹

¹¹⁶ All of the information relating to the waterfowl recovery programme was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz on 1 April 2020. Ciner Wyoming's involvement in this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

¹¹⁷ This information was provided to S-RM by Tyler Schiltz on 1 April 2020.

¹¹⁸ Eti Soda's involvement in and contribution to this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

¹¹⁹ Source: [Environdec](#).

¹²⁰ Source: [Environdec](#).

¹²¹ Source: [Semtrio](#).

5 PARTNERSHIPS WITH NGOS



In addition to the support WE Soda gives to its local communities in Turkey, the companies advance a broad array of UN SDGs through their partnerships with non-governmental organisations in the United States. To date, Ciner Wyoming and Ciner Resources, WE Soda's US entities, have donated to and partnered with many NGOs and initiatives.

Ciner Wyoming's partnerships include:

- ▶ Relay for Life, a fundraising initiative organised by the American Cancer Society, a society which supports individuals with cancer and conducts and shares research relating to cancer. Ciner Wyoming has sponsored Relay for Life between 2015 and 2019;¹²²
- ▶ United Way, a community-focused non-governmental organisation. In 2018, Ciner Wyoming participated in the annual United Way Campaign. Ciner Wyoming's workplace campaign led to a donation to the United Way of Southwest Wyoming.¹²³ In addition to donations, Ciner Wyoming employees volunteers in United Way initiatives. For example in 2018, Ciner Wyoming participated in the Helping Hands Day, a day in which volunteers help complete projects submitted by organisations and people in need, in Southwest Wyoming.¹²⁴ As a part of this initiative Ciner Wyoming staff participated in five projects that were largely linked to the maintenance of hygiene. This included replacing faucets for an early care and learning centre, and washing 25 of their windows.¹²⁵
- ▶ The Boys and Girls Club of Sweetwater County, a local branch of a national organisation that provides programs to empower children and youth. Ciner Wyoming funded the update to the facility's infrastructure and safety enhancements after the club building was vandalized.¹²⁶ Furthermore, in both 2018 and 2019, Ciner Wyoming sponsored the annual golf tournament run by the club;¹²⁷
- ▶ American Red Cross, a humanitarian organisation providing support and relief following emergencies and disasters in the US. Ciner Wyoming sponsors three blood drives a year at the plant. The company reportedly donates approximately 75 units of blood per year;¹²⁸
- ▶ Wyoming Community Foundation, a community foundation that collects donations from the community and uses them to support non-governmental organisations and social initiatives in Wyoming;¹²⁹

¹²² Source: [Relay for Life](#); Ciner Wyoming's involvement in and contribution to this event has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

¹²³ Source: [SW United Way](#).

¹²⁴ Source: [SW United Way](#).

¹²⁵ Source: [SW United Way](#).

¹²⁶ Source: [Boys and Girls Clubs of America](#); Ciner Wyoming's involvement in and contribution to this NGO has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information. This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood.

¹²⁷ This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 1 April 2020. Ciner Wyoming's involvement in and contribution to this NGO has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

¹²⁸ This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 1 April 2020. Ciner Wyoming's involvement in and contribution to this NGO has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information. However, American Red Cross of Wyoming's only community partner is United Way, an NGO that Ciner Wyoming is partnered with.

¹²⁹ Ciner Wyoming was listed as a donor of the Wyoming Community Foundation in 2016.

- ▶ In 2018, donations were made to Feeding America, a hunger-relief NGO that aims to reduce food insecurity in the US.¹³⁰

Ciner Resources' partnerships include;

- ▶ Pro-bono Partnership Atlanta, an Atlanta-based NGO that connects volunteer attorneys with NGOs that require legal services.¹³¹ In 2018, Pro-bono Partnership Atlanta listed the Ciner Resources Corporation as a volunteer partner in their annual report.¹³² On June 28 2018, Marla Nicholson, Vice President and General Counsel at Ciner Resources, recorded a webinar with Pro-bono Partnership, about the "Top 10 Considerations for Non-profits Choosing a Technology Provider",¹³³
- ▶ In 2018, Ciner Resources donated money to Direct Relief, an NGO that provides essential medical resources to those affected by poverty and disaster;¹³⁵
- ▶ In 2018, Ciner Resources donated money to the Paediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, an NGO that aims to support both children who have been diagnosed with brain tumors and their families;¹³⁶ and
- ▶ Veterans Empowerment Organization of Georgia, an NGO that provides support to veterans. On June 2019, Ciner Resources visited the facilities of the Veterans Empowerment Organization and provided lunch for veterans and made donations.¹³⁷ Ciner Resources visited the facilities at a time when the organization's own kitchen was out of function.

Images 33 and 34: Image of Ciner employees serving lunch to veterans (left) and image of Ciner employees with members of the Veterans Empowerment Organization of Georgia (right)¹³⁸



¹³⁰ Source: '2018 Annual Report', [Feeding America](#), 2018.

¹³¹ Source: [Pro-bono Partnership Atlanta](#).

¹³² Source: '2018 Annual Report', Pro-bono Partnership of Atlanta, 2018.

¹³³ Source: [Pro-bono Partnership of Atlanta](#).

¹³⁵ Source: 'Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report', [Direct Relief](#), 2018; [Direct Relief - about](#).

¹³⁶ Source: '2018 Annual Impact Report', [Paediatric Brain Tumor Foundation](#), 2018.

¹³⁷ Source: Facebook.

¹³⁸ These images were taken from the Facebook page of the Veterans Empowerment Organization of Georgia.

6 PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE PROJECT IDEAS

Projects under development

6.1 PROJECT FOCUSING ON GENDER EQUALITY

Kazan Soda has engaged in discussion with Başkent Üniversitesi, a Turkey-based university, in order to participate in a project focusing on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The details of this project are not yet finalized. However, Erdem Keskin has met with Prof Dr. Ali Serhan Koyuncugil, a statistics and computer operations professor from Başkent Üniversitesi, in order to discuss this possible partnership. The project will likely focus on supporting female entrepreneurs.¹³⁹

6.2 THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT

The Greenhouse Project is currently under development and has been approved by the Eti Soda leadership. It is an initiative that will make use of the residual steam created by the Eti Soda factory. Eti Soda, in partnership with ANFA Limited Şirketi ('ANFA'), a state-owned company, is creating a greenhouse within factory grounds, which will employ young women from local villages. ANFA is giving a purchase guarantee for the vegetables that will be grown in this greenhouse. The profit from this project will reportedly be distributed among the Çakıloba, Bağözü, and Başören villages. This project is aligned with the Ankara Municipality's efforts to increase vegetable farming in the region. The municipality started focusing on vegetable production after a sharp increase in the price of these goods.¹⁴⁰

6.3 CITY OF GREEN RIVER SPLASH PARK EXPANSION

The Green River Splash Park is a zero-depth water playground located in Green River, Wyoming. The Green River City Council has been discussing the expansion of the splash park since at least 2012.¹⁴¹ The community splash park expansion project is currently in its design phase and will be funded by Ciner Wyoming once this phase is concluded.¹⁴²

6.4 HEAD START PROJECT

Ciner Wyoming will fund the remodelling of the Sweetwater County School District 1 Head Start building. Head Start is a federal programme in the United States which aims to prepare children (up to the age of five) from low income families for school, by enhancing their emotional, social and cognitive development.¹⁴³ The project is currently in its design phase. Ciner Wyoming will fund the safety updates to the facility, including the fire systems, locks and alarm updates. The company also reports that it will fund the remodelling of the bathrooms to make sure they comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and remodel one of the rooms.¹⁴⁴

¹³⁹ This information was provided by Erdem Keskin on the 5th of March 2020.

¹⁴⁰ This information was provided by Ahmet Keşküş on the 2nd of March. Kemal Uysal, the local authority of the Çakıloba village, confirmed that this project was currently in development.

¹⁴¹ Source: 'City of Green River City Council Budget Workshop Proceedings', *Green River*, 7 June 2012.

¹⁴² This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 27 March 2020. Ciner Wyoming's involvement in and contribution to this project has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

¹⁴³ Source: *Wyoming Child*.

¹⁴⁴ This information was provided by Craig Rood on 27 March 2020. Ciner Wyoming's involvement in and contribution to this project has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

Projects under consideration

6.5 EBRU ART PROJECT

Ebru is a disappearing art form in Turkey. Kazan Soda's management believes that if training sessions in this art form are given to local women, they could use their new skills in an entrepreneurial manner. According to Erdem Keskin, if local women earn an income from this art form, they will keep it alive. A project like this could not only increase income in the localities but also foster an art form that is slowly disappearing from Turkish culture. This project is currently not under development, nor has it been given approval as of March 2020.

6.6 HIRING TRAINEES ON A CONTRACTUAL BASIS

Kazan Soda intends to implement a programme whereby they hire former interns and/or students who had placements in the company on a contractual basis for certain projects. They aim to implement this programme in summer months.¹⁴⁵

7 CINER GROUP CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



All Ciner Group entities embody the Ciner Group's goals to increase access to education.¹⁴⁶ The Ciner Group has constructed or renovated at least 14 schools across Turkey. Some of these educational institutions were built or renovated in response to earthquakes that either damaged these institutions or led to their total collapse.

LOCATION OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ESTABLISHED



Educational Institutions

Hüsnü Ciner İlköğretim Okulu ('Hüsnü Ciner Primary School')

Turgay Ciner funded the construction of the Hüsnü Ciner Primary School, a public school located in Hopa, Artvin, in 1999.¹⁴⁷ The school, which was constructed in memory of Hüsnü Ciner, Turgay Ciner's father, contained 33 classrooms at the time of its opening. The school currently reports to have 600 students and 47 teachers.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁵ This information was provided by Erdem Keskin during S-RM's visit to Kazan Soda on 5 March 2020.

¹⁴⁶ See Appendix B for information regarding the verification process.

¹⁴⁷ Source: 'Turgay Ciner'den ilkokul seferberliği', *Sabah*, 20 August 2000; *Hopam*.

¹⁴⁸ Source: *Husnu Ciner İlköğretim*.

Feyzullah-Turgay Ciner Ortaokulu ('Feyzullah-Turgay Ciner Middle School')

The origins of the Feyzullah-Turgay Ciner Middle School date back to 1911. Following the damage caused to the building from the 17 August 1999 Gulf earthquake, Park Holding AŞ, a Ciner Group entity, funded the reconstruction of one of the school's sub-buildings and the renovation of its main building.¹⁴⁹ Furthermore, equipment that was damaged during the earthquake in laboratories and classrooms was replaced. The school re-opened in 2000 under the name Turgay Ciner İlköğretim Okulu, and operated as a primary school until becoming a middle school in 2012. The school currently reports to have between 838 and 1,049 students.¹⁵⁰

Turgay Ciner İlköğretim Okulu ('Turgay Ciner Primary School')

The Turgay Ciner Primary School was constructed in Yıldırım, Bursa in 2001 by Turgay Ciner.¹⁵¹ The school reports to teach 1,124 students.¹⁵²

Çayırhan Turgay Ciner Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi ('Çayırhan Turgay Ciner Technical Anatolian Highschool')

Park Teknik AŞ, a subsidiary of Park Holding, established the electrical engineering, machine technology and information technology departments of the Çayırhan Turgay Ciner Technical Anatolian Highschool.¹⁵³ These departments were established in 2002, and at present are the school's sole departments. The school currently reports to teach 123 students.¹⁵⁴

Çeltiksuyu Sabah Gazetesi İlkokulu ve Ortaokulu ('Çeltiksuyu Sabah Newspaper Primary School and Middle School')

The Çeltiksuyu Sabah Newspaper Primary School and Middleschool was constructed in Bingöl, Turkey in 2003 by Sabah Gazetesi, then a subsidiary of the Ciner Group. The school, including a student dormitory, was constructed following the 2003 earthquake in Bingöl, which led to the collapse of the local primary school and the death of 84 students and a teacher.¹⁵⁵ The primary school and middle school operate from the same building. The middle school currently reports to teach 193 students, while the primary school teaches 83 students.¹⁵⁶

Güner Ciner Özdemir Kız Öğrenci Yurdu - İstanbul Üniversitesi Cerrahpaşa Tıp Fakültesi ('Güner Ciner Özdemir Women's Dormitories of the Cerrahpaşa Medical University')

The Güner Ciner Özdemir Women's Dormitory is a student dormitory, constructed on the grounds of the Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa Medical Faculty.¹⁵⁷ The dormitory has a capacity for 76 students. The dormitory was funded by the Park Group and began operating in June 2003.¹⁵⁸

Kocaeli Üniversitesi Ciner İletişim Fakültesi ('Kocaeli University Ciner Communications Faculty')

The Ciner Communications Faculty was opened in September 2004.¹⁵⁹ A Ciner Group subsidiary funded both the construction of the faculty and the equipment necessary for teaching.¹⁶⁰ The university reportedly had not had a building dedicated to the communications facility since the 17 August 1999 earthquake.¹⁶¹ However, the Kocaeli University website does not list Ciner's

¹⁴⁹ 'Feyzullah Turgay Ciner Ortaokulu Stratejik Planı 2015-2019', [Feyzullah Turgay Ciner Ortaokulu](#), 2015.

¹⁵⁰ Source: [Feyzullah-Turgay Ciner Ortaokulu](#).

¹⁵¹ Source: Feyzullah-Turgay Ciner Ortaokulu; 'Kısa Kısa Kısa', Sabah, 3 January 2011.

¹⁵² Source: [Turgay Ciner İlkokulu](#).

¹⁵³ Ciner Grup's involvement in and contribution to this initiative has not been verified due to a lack of publicly available information.

¹⁵⁴ Source: [Çayırhan Turgay Ciner Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi](#).

¹⁵⁵ Source: 'Validen SABAH okuluna ziyaret', [Sabah](#), 29 November 2012; [Sabah](#).

¹⁵⁶ Source: [Çeltiksuyu Sabah Gazetesi Ortaokulu](#); [Çeltiksuyu Sabah Gazetesi İlkokulu](#).

¹⁵⁷ Source: [İstanbul Üniversitesi](#).

¹⁵⁸ Source: [Cumhuriyet](#); [Sabah](#).

¹⁵⁹ Source: [Sabah](#).

¹⁶⁰ Source: Sabah; Kocaeli University.

¹⁶¹ Source: 'Merkez atv grubundan eğitime bir eser daha', [Yeni Asır](#), 17 April 2004.

contribution to the department, and does not refer to the facility as the 'Ciner Communications Faculty'.¹⁶²

Silopi Gazipaşa İlköğretim Okulu ('Silopi Gazipaşa Primary School')

Silopi Gazipaşa was constructed in 2005 by Silopi Elektrik Üretim A.Ş, a Ciner Group subsidiary.¹⁶³ The school, which began operating on 10 December 2005, teaches 535 students.¹⁶⁴

Silopi Beşiktaş İlköğretim Okulu ('Silopi Beşiktaş Primary School')

Silopi Beşiktaş Primary School was established in 2005 in Beşiktaş village in Silopi.¹⁶⁵ The school, which was the first primary school to open in the village, was funded by Silopi Elektrik Üretim A.Ş.¹⁶⁶ It is unclear how many students are currently studying at the school, or indeed whether it is still operational.¹⁶⁷

Park İlköğretim Okulu ('Park Primary School')

Park Primary School was constructed in Şirvan, Siirt in 2007. The school has 118 students.¹⁶⁸ We did not verify who funded the school in publicly available sources.

Park Elektrik Çok Programlı Anadolu Lisesi ('Park Elektrik Multi-Programme Anatolian High School')

The Park Elektrik Highschool was established in Silopi, Şırnak in 2009.¹⁶⁹ The school's construction was funded by the Ciner Group subsidiary Silopi Elektrik Üretim AŞ and the school is located opposite the factory. The school currently teaches 349 students.¹⁷⁰

Park Elektrik Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi ('Park Elektrik Technical Anatolian High School')

The Park Elektrik Technical Anatolian High School was established in Şirvan, Siirt in 2009. The school currently reports to have 168 students.¹⁷¹ We did not verify who funded the school from publicly available sources. However, as a result of its similar naming convention to the Park Elektrik Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi, we assess it likely to be Silopi Elektrik Üretim AŞ.

Turgay Ciner Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi ('Turgay Ciner Anatolian Technical High School')

In 2010, Turgay Ciner funded the construction of a 16-classroom building and multiple craft workshops in Afşin, Kahramanmaraş. These buildings were built on the grounds of a 'practical arts school' built in 1979. Following the completion of the buildings, the practical arts school was abandoned, and the school was named the Turgay Ciner Technical High School. The high school currently reports to teach 570 students.¹⁷²

¹⁶² Source: [Kocaeli Üniversitesi](#).

¹⁶³ 'Silopi Termik Santrali her yıl 600 öğrenciye burs veriyor', [Haber Türk](#), 10 August 2019.

¹⁶⁴ Source: [Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı](#).

¹⁶⁵ Source: [Fotomac](#).

¹⁶⁶ Source: [Fotomac](#); 'Silopi Termik Santrali her yıl 600 öğrenciye burs veriyor', [Haber Türk](#), 10 August 2019.

¹⁶⁷ Source: [Milli Eğitim Bakanlığı](#).

¹⁶⁸ Source: [Park İlkokulu](#).

¹⁶⁹ Source: [Şırnak Belediyesi](#); 'Silopi Termik Santrali her yıl 600 öğrenciye burs veriyor', [Haber Türk](#), 10 August 2019.

¹⁷⁰ Source: [Park Elektrik](#).

¹⁷¹ Source: [Park Elektrik Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi](#).

¹⁷² Source: [Turgay Ciner Mesleki ve Teknik Anadolu Lisesi](#).

Other Initiatives

The Ciner Group has engaged in multiple other social initiatives in Turkey. Four examples are presented below.

Sponsorship of local Turkish sports teams and initiatives

The Ciner Group routinely sponsors local youth sports teams across Turkey. For example, in October 2019, the Şırnak Uluslararası Yetenek Avcıları Futbol Akademisi ('UYAFA') Team, a local youth sports team from Şırnak, Turkey, sponsored by the Ciner Group, won second place at a football tournament held in Barcelona, Spain.¹⁷³

Bursaries to students

In 2009, the Ciner Group partnered with the Governorate of Şırnak to provide a monthly bursary to 400 students registered to study at Şırnak University.¹⁷⁴

Sponsorship of art and culture initiatives in Turkey

The Ciner Group was a strategic founding partner of Santralİstanbul, an arts and culture institution located in Istanbul. The Group supported the establishment of Santralİstanbul by partially funding the conversion and restoration of the Silahtarağa Power Plant, an Ottoman-era power plant that was transformed into Santralİstanbul. Santralİstanbul was officially opened on 8 September 2007.¹⁷⁵

Microfinance initiatives

In November 2008, Turgay Ciner donated funds towards the establishment of a micro-credit institution focusing on funding initiatives by local woman in Elbistan, Kahramanmaraş.¹⁷⁶

8 WE SODA DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

The decision-making processes and criteria around corporate social responsibility projects in the US and Turkey differ from one another. These differences likely result from the fact that WE Soda's Turkish entities predominantly focus on social projects around their plants in Beypazarı and Sincan, while the US entities also donate to nation-wide NGOs and larger state-based community projects.

Eti Soda and Kazan Soda employees meet with the local authorities from the villages that surround their factories at least twice a year in order to discuss any complaints they may have with regards to the factory and in order to discuss how the companies could benefit the local community as a whole.¹⁷⁷ However, it must be noted that in addition to this formalized structure local authorities have meetings with the management of both Eti Soda and Kazan Soda on a more regular and request-based basis as well. The Turkey-based companies receive many requests from their communities over the year. While there are no set guidelines on which

¹⁷³ Source: 'Şırnak UYAFA Takımı, Barselona'da 2. Oldu', *Habertürk*, 18 October 2019.

¹⁷⁴ Source: 'Şırnak Valiliği'nden burs müjdesi', *İhlas Haber Ajansı*, 9 September 2009.

¹⁷⁵ Source: *Santralİstanbul*; 'Çağdaş sanatlar müzesi', *Türkiye Gazetesi*, 28 June 2006.

¹⁷⁶ Sources: 'Mikro Kredi Turgay Ciner Elbistan Şubesi Açıldı', *Bizim Elbistan*, 28 November 2018; '700 Lira İle Patron Oldu', *Bizim Elbistan Gazetesi*, 22 April 2013; 'Kadın Girişimciye 13 Bin TL Mikrokredi', *Hürriyet*, 27 February 2015; '4 bin 465 kadın mikro finanse' oldu', *Maras News*, 31 May 2016.

¹⁷⁷ Information provided by Ahmet Keşkül on 3 March 2020 and Erdem Keskin on 5 March 2020.

requests will be accepted, both Eti Soda and Kazan Soda choose to support projects that will benefit the community as a whole as opposed to individual requests.

Requests for donations and community support at Ciner Wyoming are directed to the Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of Manufacturing. These requests are then typically sent to Ciner Wyoming's Director of Public Relations and Community Affairs.¹⁷⁸ For Ciner Wyoming, the decision-making process with regards to these social projects depends on the size of the contribution that is requested from the company. For example, large community projects are first vetted by the company's team followed by a team in Ciner Resources. With these large community projects, the decision ultimately rests on Turgay Ciner. Donations involving public relations opportunities are ultimately decided by Ciner Wyoming's Director of PR and final approval is given by Ciner Wyoming's CEO. Small donations need to be approved by Ciner Wyoming's leadership team.

Just like WE Soda's Turkish entities, the criteria used in decision-making largely revolves around donations that will benefit communities as a whole. Ciner Wyoming largely supports:

- ▶ Projects that focus on youth-oriented activities,
- ▶ NGOs that focus on health,
- ▶ Events that emphasize youth safety,
- ▶ Local public services such as the fire department or ambulance services, and
- ▶ Activities and events that employees participate in.

Ciner Wyoming does not donate to religious organizations and does not typically donate to fraternal organizations.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁸ This information was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 3 April 2020.

¹⁷⁹ Information relating to Ciner Wyoming's decision making was provided to S-RM by Craig Rood on 3 April 2020.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- ▶ Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- ▶ Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
- ▶ Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
- ▶ Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- ▶ Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- ▶ Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- ▶ Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- ▶ Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- ▶ Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
- ▶ Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- ▶ Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- ▶ Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- ▶ Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- ▶ Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- ▶ Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- ▶ Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- ▶ Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Image 3: UN Sustainable Development Goals



APPENDIX B

The verification of Ciner Group schools has largely been based on news articles written by media groups currently or formerly owned by the Ciner Group. The majority of these schools' websites do not contain information relating to their origin. However, as the schools were predominantly either named after Turgay Ciner or Ciner Group entities, it is likely that these educational institutions were either constructed, renovated, or heavily materially supported by Ciner Group entities.

APPENDIX C

On 2, 3, and 5 March 2020, S-RM visited the Eti Soda and Kazan Soda factories in order to find out more information relating to these companies' social corporate responsibility efforts. During this visit, S-RM made field visits to the Eti Soda Demonstration Vineyard, the Eti Soda Special Education School, and the Çakıloba grape molasses facility and village hall.

In order to verify projects, S-RM has relied on:

- ▶ Conversations with Ciner Wyoming, Eti Soda and Kazan Soda employees;
- ▶ Third-party verification, during meetings arranged by Eti Soda and Kazan Soda employees;
- ▶ Calls made to appropriate individuals with knowledge of the matter; and
- ▶ Public record sources.

It must be noted that the existence of all of these projects has not been verified independently by S-RM.

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