



CIFAL Istanbul - At the Edge of New Age: 21st Century Leadership Journey Training Project

People

Deadline: 15 Apr 2026

Type:	Course
Location:	Web-based
Date:	19 Jan 2026 to 20 Apr 2026
Duration:	7 Days
Programme Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	https://cifalistanbul.org/
Price:	\$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	cisil.sohodol@bau.edu.tr
Partnership:	CIFAL Istanbul (1634)

BACKGROUND

“At the Edge of a New Era: The 21st Century Leadership Journey” Training Project is an educational programme implemented for the second time this year in collaboration with Zeren Group Holding, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University.

The programme is offered completely free of charge to university students from different cities across Türkiye. It is designed to contribute to the development of key competencies that students may need throughout their future career journeys. In this regard, the project aims to provide participants with foundational knowledge, awareness, and inspiration in the fields of communication, sustainability, leadership, and technology.

Within the scope of the programme, students participate in training sessions delivered by distinguished academics and professionals, gaining a holistic perspective on 21st-century skills in line with the evolving needs of today's world.

As a continuation of the training process, project ideas developed by the participants will be evaluated, and more than 50 students presenting the most successful project ideas will be entitled to participate in the "Workshop for Future Dreams" which will be held in person. The certificate ceremony of the programme is planned to take place in June.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To introduce participants to the core competencies required for 21st-century leadership, including communication, sustainability, technology literacy, adaptability, and strategic thinking.
- To strengthen participants' communication skills by exploring effective communication, persuasion, negotiation, networking, storytelling, and personal brand management.
- To enhance participants' awareness of digital transformation, emerging technologies, artificial intelligence, data-driven change, and the role of digital citizenship in today's world.
- To provide participants with a foundational understanding of sustainability, corporate social responsibility, ESG, ethical management, and the role of individual and institutional behavior in creating sustainable impact.

- To encourage participants to reflect on the relationship between daily decisions, organizational practices, and broader sustainability outcomes.
- To develop participants' leadership capacity by focusing on new generation leadership, team management, emotional resilience, creative thinking, change management, and navigating uncertainty.
- To support participants in understanding how leadership skills can be adapted to rapidly changing, digitalized, and technology-driven environments.
- To inspire students to transform knowledge into action by developing project ideas that respond to contemporary social, environmental, and institutional challenges.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The training programme is structured around four main modules: Communication, Technology, Sustainability, and Leadership. Following the kick-off session, participants are introduced to key topics that are essential for their personal and professional development in the 21st century, including effective communication, persuasion, negotiation, networking, personal brand management, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, digital citizenship, sustainability, ESG, ethical management, corporate social responsibility, new generation leadership, emotional resilience, creative thinking, change management, and coping with uncertainty.

The programme combines live online sessions with asynchronous learning components. Excluding the kick-off session, each live online session is followed by related asynchronous sessions, which participants are required to complete in order to deepen their understanding of the topics covered and gain more detailed sub-knowledge in the relevant subject areas. By the end of the programme, participants will have completed a total of 10 live online sessions and 19 asynchronous sessions. As a continuation of the learning process, participants will also be invited to develop project ideas, and more than 50 students presenting the most successful project ideas will be entitled to participate in the in-person

“Workshop for Future Dreams”. The programme is planned to conclude with a certificate ceremony in June.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the programme is based on a blended learning approach that brings together live online training sessions, asynchronous learning materials, expert-led instruction, and project-based engagement. The live sessions are delivered by distinguished academics and professionals, allowing participants to benefit from both theoretical knowledge and practical insights from different fields. The asynchronous sessions are designed to complement the live lectures by providing participants with additional explanations, examples, and supporting content, thereby enabling them to engage with the topics in a more comprehensive and flexible manner.

Throughout the programme, participants are encouraged to reflect on the knowledge they gain and to connect it with contemporary challenges in communication, technology, sustainability, and leadership. The project idea development process further supports active learning by encouraging students to transform their knowledge into concrete and creative proposals. In this regard, the programme aims not only to transfer information but also to inspire students, strengthen their awareness, and support the development of skills relevant to their future academic and professional journeys.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

Third and fourth grade university students across Turkiye