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(CIVVIH) – ICOMOS

3<sup>RD</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

**LIVING HERITAGE :  
CHALLENGES OF CHANGE AND IDENTITY**

# **AN EVALUATION OF URBAN CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION STUDIES WITHIN THE SCOPE OF RESILIENCE: CASE OF HAMAMÖNÜ IN ANKARA**

**STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING  
HISTORIC CITIES' RESILIENCE TO  
DISASTERS**

**Elif Mihçioğlu, Assoc. Prof. Dr.  
Rabia Çakıroğlu, Architect, MSc in Arch**

**TOBB University of Economics and  
Technology, Department of Architecture,  
Ankara, Türkiye**

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## CONTEXT AND PROBLEM DEFINITION

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- **Urban resilience** prioritized over sustainability in crisis-prone cities
- **RELi & CRI models** used to assess socio-economic resilience
- Focus on **Hamamönü** in Ankara – a historic district with 2006 rehabilitation
- Methods: **Field surveys, interviews, GIS analysis**
- Evaluation of area's ability to withstand shocks like **Covid-19**
- Aim: Propose a **sustainable roadmap** for heritage conservation



Fig.1. View of Ankara (1700-1799). Holland - Rijksmuseum - SK-A- 2055 oil painting. 117cm × 198cm. (Günel& Kılıcı, 2015: 39)

# RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK: CRI (CITY RESILIENCE INDEX)

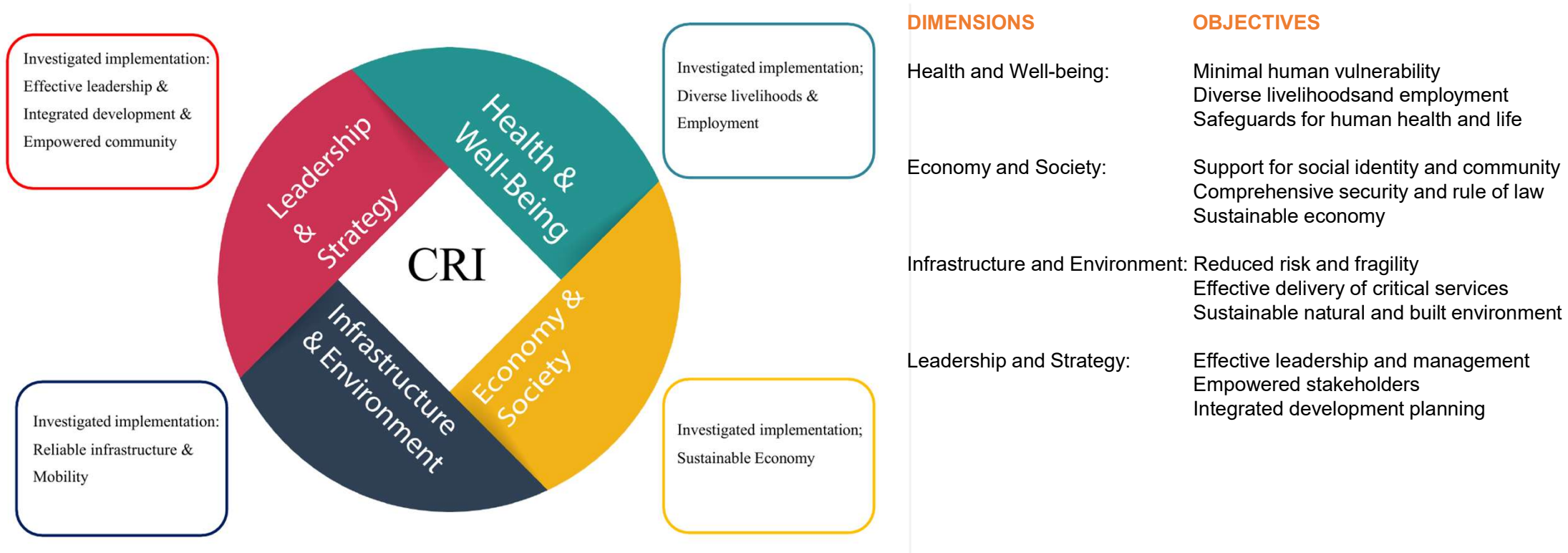
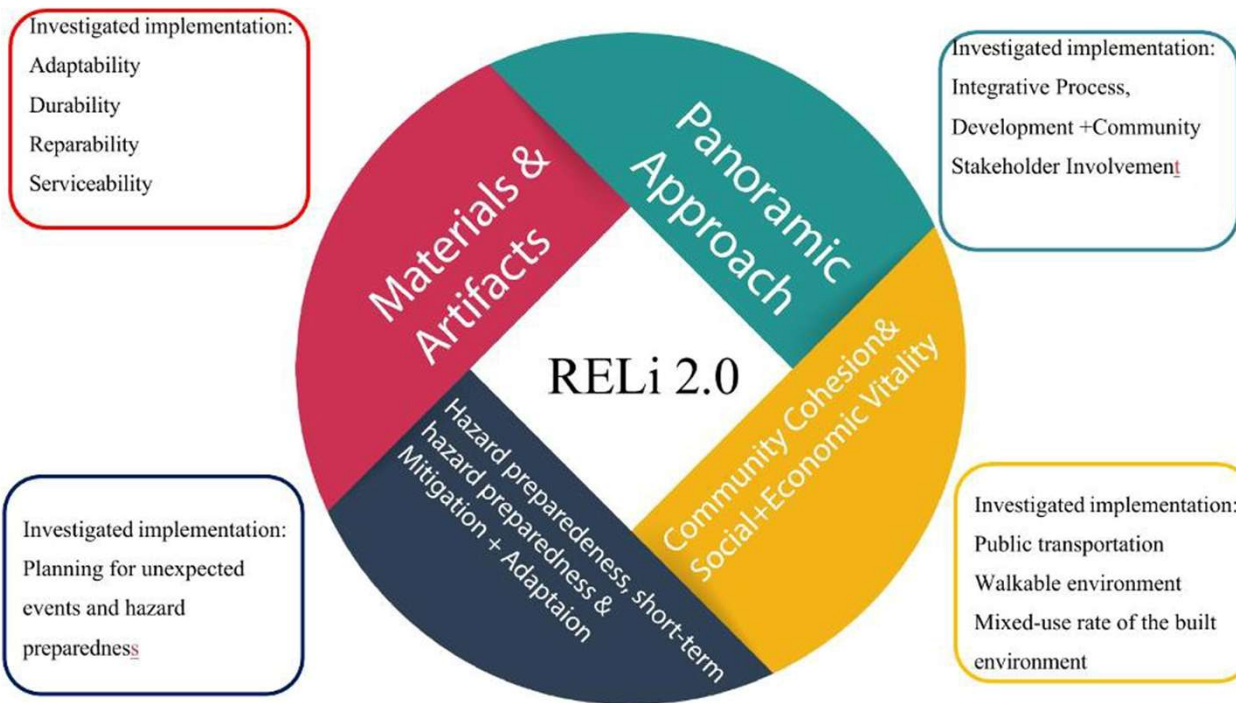


Fig. 2. (left) CRI Implementations by Arup, 2020 (schematized by Çakıroğlu, 2021)  
(right) 4 Dimensions and 12 Objectives of CRI

# RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK: RELI 2.0



## RELi 2.0' seven main indicators:

1. Panoramic approach
2. Hazard preparedness, short-term hazard readiness
3. Hazard mitigation and adaptation
4. Community cohesion, social and economic vitality
5. Materials and artwork
6. Productivity, health, and diversity
7. Energy and water

Fig. 3. (left) RELi 2.0 Implementations by US. Green Building Council Inc. dated 2020 (schematized by Çakıroğlu) (right) Seven main indicators of RELi 2.0 (Rockefeller Foundation, 2015)

# RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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## Data Collection Tools:

- Field surveys
- Structured interviews with local stakeholders
- Spatial analysis using GIS

## Frameworks Applied:

- Combined CRI (City Resilience Index) and RELi 2.0 for comprehensive resilience evaluation depending on the study area qualities
- Excluded non-relevant indicators (e.g., agriculture, wetlands)

## Focus of Analysis:

- Eight measurable categories identified
- Five directly linked to socioeconomic resilience

## Survey Approach:

- Targeted residents, workers, and visitors
- Enabled systematic assessment of physical, social, and economic impacts in line with international criteria



## HISTORICAL CONTEXT: HAMAMÖNÜ IN ANKARA

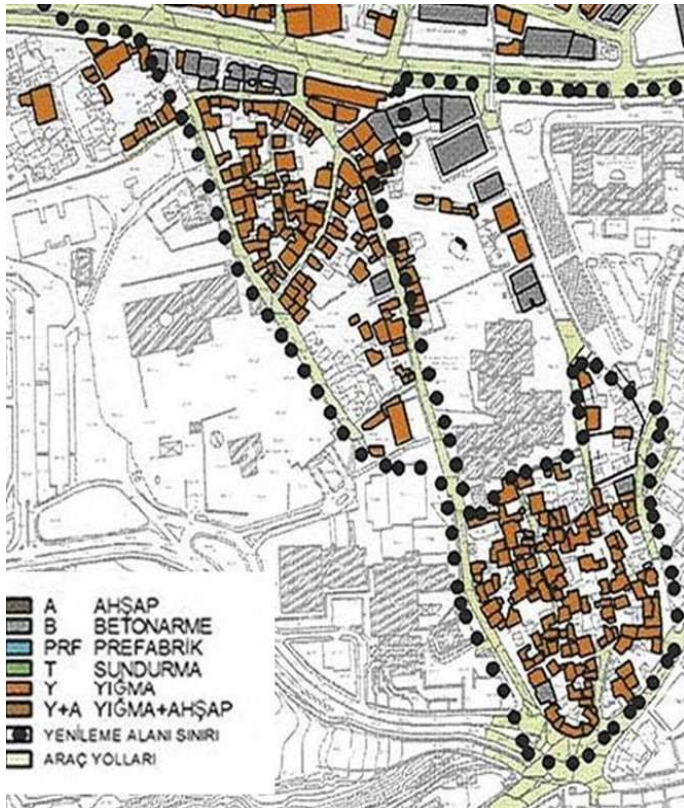


Fig. 4: (left) Analysis of Structural Systems and Materials of Buildings in the study area before the Rehabilitation Project (Metropolitan Municipality Archives, 2006, access date: 2020), (middle and right) Two views from the study area in 2006 before the conservation studies (Arslan, 2012)

# HISTORICAL CONTEXT: HAMAMÖNÜ IN ANKARA

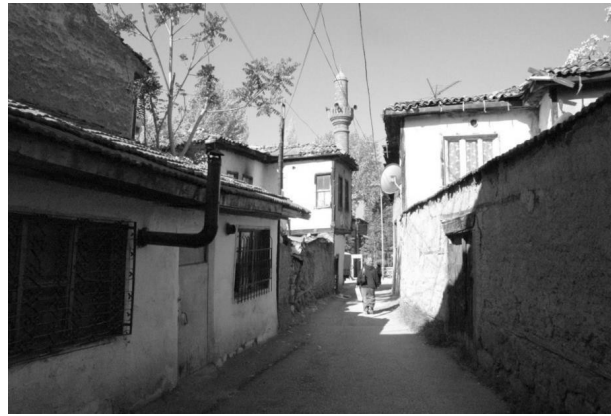
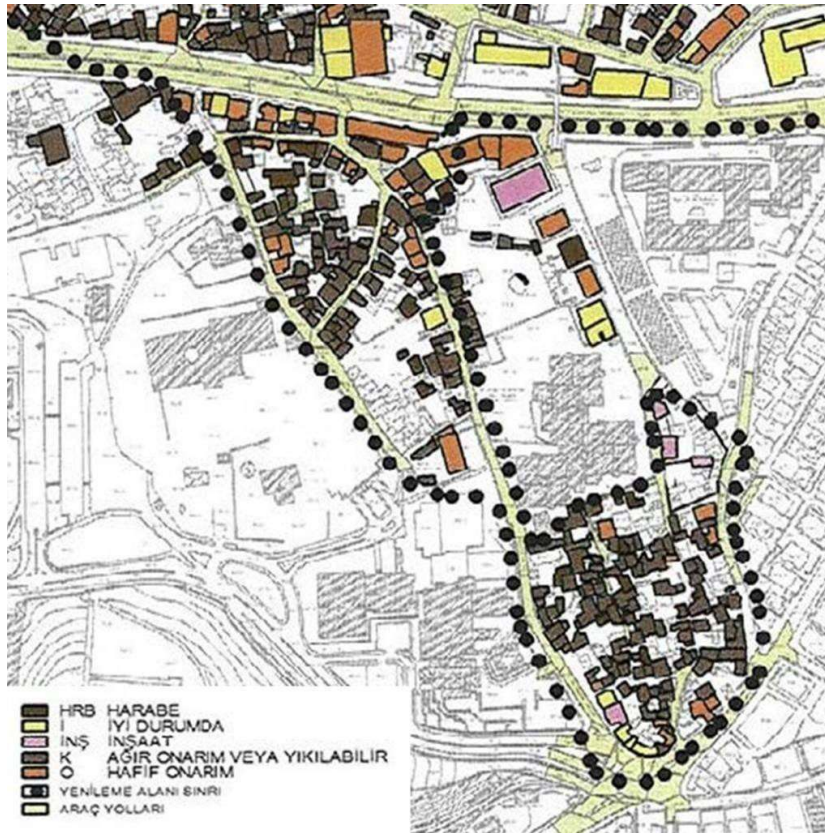


Figure 5. (left) Analysis of Building Conditions in the study area before the Rehabilitation Project (Metropolitan Municipality Archives, 2006, access date: 2020), (middle and right) Street views from the study area before conservation and rehabilitation studies



# HISTORICAL CONTEXT: HAMAMÖNÜ IN ANKARA

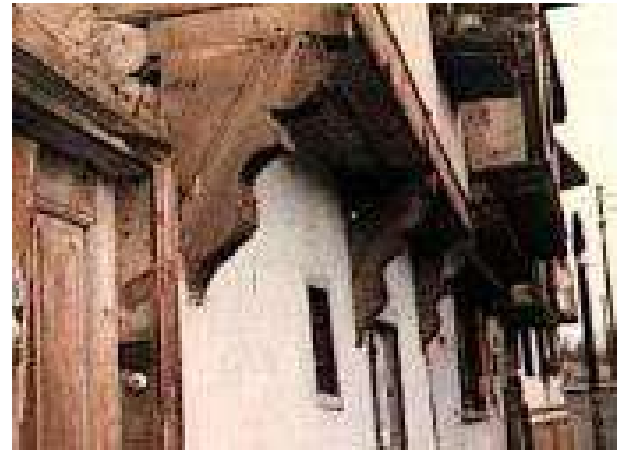
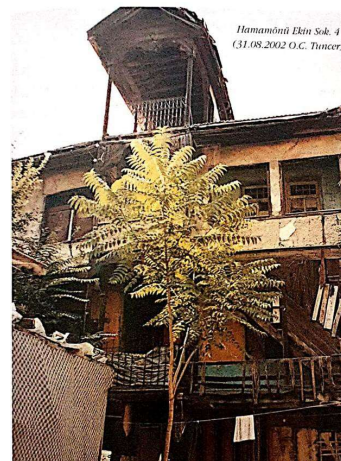
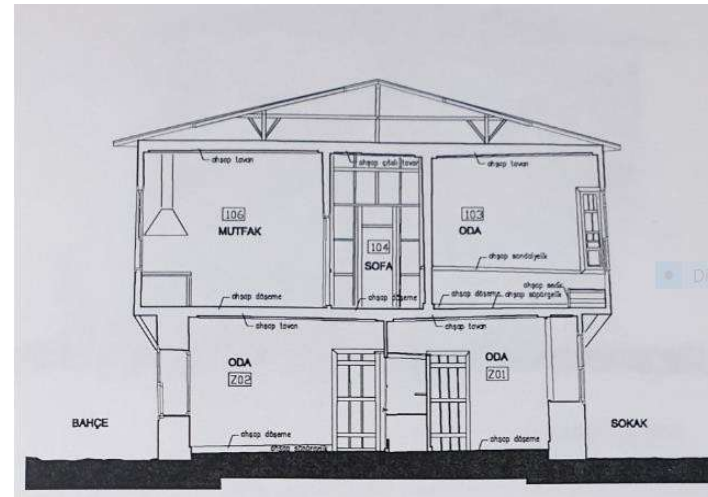


Figure 6:  
Architectural and  
structural system  
details from the  
houses in the area  
(Çakıroğlu, 2022),  
views of some  
houses.



## HISTORICAL CONTEXT: HAMAMÖNÜ IN ANKARA



Fig. 7. Northern and southern street elevations (top and bottom) and plan of Dutlu Street (center) in the study area before conservation studies.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT: HAMAMÖNÜ IN ANKARA



Fig. 8. Hamamönü Conservation and Rehabilitation Project Site Plan (İlçan and UTТА, 2010)



Fig. 9. Restoration of registered buildings in the study area (KM Architecture Office, access time: 2020)



Fig. 10. Before and after views of Dutlu Street (Yabacı, 2012)



# SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ

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Fig. 11. Aerial view of the study area in Hamamönü  
(left) in 2007(Google Earth, access date: 05.07.2020)  
(right) in 2020(Google Earth, access date: 05.07.2020),



# SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ

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## Socioeconomic Resilience Assessment – Key Questions:

- Is there **sectoral diversity** in businesses?
- Has **business growth** been achieved?
- Is **business continuity** ensured?
- Are **disadvantaged groups** employed?
- Do **local businesses** serve **beyond** Hamamönü?
- Are **income sources** **protected** from shocks?
- Is **job security** provided?
- Are **stakeholders** **involved** in employment creation?

## SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ: (1) ECONOMIC DIVERSITY

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Fig. 12. Restored Beynamlızade Mansion building in the study area (KM Architecture Office, access time: 2020)

Fig. 13. Northern view of İnanlı Street;  
(left) in 2006 (Altındağ Municipality Archives, 2021),  
(right) in 2020 (Çakıroğlu, 2021)



# SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ: (2) ECONOMIC CONTINUITY

Table 1. (left) Distribution of Active Years of Businesses in Hamamönü,  
(right) Economic Sustainability (Perceived Development Level of Businesses)

Work Period in Hamamönü	Distribution
1-5 years	35.2%
6-10 years	21.1%
11-15 years	20.8%
16-20 years	8.3%
21+ years	14.6%

When evaluating your business situation, what is your level of agreement with the following statements?	Agree	Disagree	Partially Agree
I changed the sector I work in	13,8%	25,2%	61%
My business has economically improved	9,4%	24,5%	66,1%
My rent level increased	25,8%	15,1%	59,1%
My customer satisfaction increased	14,5%	11,3%	74,2%
My workplace visibility increased	25,2%	7,5%	67,3%
My customer diversity increased	49,7%	3,1%	47,2%

## Findings about the economic continuity:

- Positive Perception of Rehabilitation
- Rising Rental Costs
- No Significant Welfare Increase
- Social Factors in Resilience
- Loss of local housing and community structure



## SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ: (3) POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION



Fig. 14. Views from Handicrafts Market building and its environs

- The Handicrafts Market prioritized **female vendors** as part of the rehabilitation project.
- Local **Altındağ Municipality** offered craft training and ensured a **safe, equal workspace**.
- **Low-income women** could sell goods without paying shop rent.
- **Home-based producers** reached **wider audiences** through market stalls.
- **Women entrepreneurs** received priority support (e.g., *Enderun Bookstore and Café*).
- **Credit and rent assistance** promoted **employment** for disadvantaged women.

## SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ: (4) CONNECTION WITH THE CITY

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Fig. 15. (left) External view of restored Kabakçı Mansion (Altındağ Municipality Archives, 2020), (right) another historic residential house reused as a café.

- Hamamönü businesses mainly serve nearby visitors, not the wider city.
- The area's pedestrianized layout limits broader economic connectivity.
- High delivery costs hindered expansion during the pandemic.
- A new model is needed to link Hamamönü economically to the city.



# **SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ:**

## **(5) RESILIENCE TO SHOCKS AND DISASTERS**

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Fig. 16. View from the restored imaret (charitable soup kitchen) buildings; main and additional (Çakıroğlu, 2021)

**Main findings related to resilience of the study area to shocks and disasters are:**

- COVID-19 exposed weak economic resilience.
- Service sector was shut down; only takeaway was allowed.
- 97% of workers reported negative impact.
- Residents felt more privacy and comfort.
- Key issues: job loss, debt, sales drop, rising costs.
- 13 businesses closed permanently.
- First crisis showed system's fragility despite past revitalization.



# SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ:

## (6) SOCIAL SECURITY AND EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

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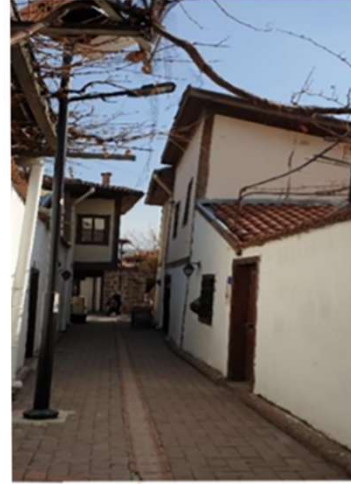


Fig. 17. (left) Views from gastronomically used historic houses in Hamamönü.

# SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION STUDIES IN HAMAMÖNÜ:

## (7) STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

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(From left to right)

Fig. 18A. South entrance of Fırın Street, 1999.(Tunçer, 2002, p.201)

Fig.18B. South entrance of Fırın Street, 2020. (Çakıroğlu, 2022)

Fig. 18C. Intersection of Fırın Street and İnanlı Street, 1999.(Tunçer, 2002, p.201)

Fig. 18D. Intersection of Fırın Street and İnanlı Street, 2020 (Çakıroğlu, 2022)

- Initial stakeholder participation efforts were limited.
- Emphasis was placed more on large investors than locals.
- Resident engagement and information sharing were insufficient.
- No inclusive economic model was implemented.
- Rising rents and weak infrastructure challenged small businesses.
- Project fell short of CRI and RELi 2.0 participation principles.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SOCIOECONOMIC RESILIENCE OF CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION WORKS IN HAMAMÖNÜ

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- **Centralized governance & participation:** KUDEB should lead with regular community engagement to align projects with local needs.
- **Economic diversity & mixed use:** Reuse traditional houses for residential, cultural, and artisanal purposes to reduce dependence on services.
- **Inclusive support:** Provide financial incentives, prioritize women and disadvantaged groups, and revive traditional crafts like *Ankara sof*.
- **Expand beyond local scale:** Strengthen trade links through citywide marketing, logistics, and better use of municipal/university properties.
- **Sustainable, long-term planning:** Adopt eco-friendly infrastructure and 25-year inclusive economic models guided by CRI & RELi 2.0.



## CONCLUSION

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1. **Balance is key:** Historic areas must preserve both tangible (buildings, streets) and intangible (uses, crafts, community) heritage while managing tourism pressures.
2. **Resilience first:** In today's crisis-prone world, resilience is a critical strategy for sustaining historic urban fabrics.
3. **Hamamönü's lessons:** Conservation since 2009 reshaped the economy, demographics, and social life—showing both progress and vulnerabilities.
4. **Core pillars:** Economic diversity, social cohesion, infrastructure safety, environmental sustainability, and cultural heritage are essential for resilience.
5. **Roadmap for the future:** Transparent governance, inclusive participation, and support for local crafts and disadvantaged groups can make Hamamönü a model for resilient historic areas.

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