

# Azra Sungu

Leveraging Impact through Design

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## Experience

### Joon

Cofounder & CPO

2016 - 2019, Turkey

- Cofounded the social enterprise to assist disenfranchised communities in building livelihood by value-added craft production.
- Led the design team in research, design and prototyping stages of 4 collections.
- Created the service infrastructure from procurement to delivery for 50 producers.
- Selected and coordinated 3 groups of craft producers.
- Completed successful grant applications summing \$13000.
- Facilitated participatory design and human-centered workshops.
- Coordinated partnerships with non-profits and public agencies.

### Rentech

Industrial Designer

2016-2017, Turkey

- Designed over 15 interactive science experiment stations for science museums.
- Designed the visual interface of science experiment stations.
- Designed the 27000 ft<sup>2</sup> exhibition space of Golbasi Science Center.

### Evreka

Industrial Designer

2015-2016 Turkey

- Executed competitive brand analysis for the startup in the smart waste management sector.
- Developed the visual language of Evreka brand.
- Designed the infographics, pitch presentations and booth displays.

### Designer Meetups

Cofounder and Event Lead

2016-2017, Turkey

- Organized 5 interdisciplinary meetups on current challenges in design.
- Moderated 3 panels with guest speakers on technology, entrepreneurship and design.
- Facilitated speculative and human-centered design workshops.
- Reached 400+ audience through 6 events.

## Research

### Ph.D. Research

Institute of Design

2019-ongoing, USA

Currently exploring the potential of systems-oriented prototyping to leverage the transformative impact of community-led initiatives.

### Master's Thesis

Middle East Technical University

2016-2019, Turkey

Süngü, A. T. (2019). *Designing Transitions Towards Integration: Entrepreneurial Capacity Development for Syrians in Turkey*. (Master's Thesis, Middle East Technical University). (available for [download](#))

## Skills

- Team Management
- Leadership
- Community Building
- Qualitative Research
- MaxQDA Qualitative Analysis
- Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, Premiere Pro
- Rhinoceros, Keyshot
- Prototyping
- R Studio, Statistical Analysis
- Field Ethnography
- Public Speaking

## Education

Ph.D. in Design, IIT Institute of Design, 2019- ongoing, USA

MS in Industrial Design, Middle East Technical University, 2016-2019, Turkey

Erasmus Exchange Student, Ensci Les Ateliers, Paris, 2013-2014, France

Bachelor's in Industrial Design Middle East Technical University, 2012-2016, Turkey

## Awards

Fulbright Doctorate Scholarship Grantee, 2019-2021

Young Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Bilgi University, 2018

Hult Prize Social Innovation Competition, London Semi-Finalist, 2017

YFYI Startup Accelerator Program Finalist, 2016