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An Approach Proposal in Sustainable Design: Design From Waste Materials in Context of Re-Use Method.

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The increasing environmental pollution, which is mostly due to human activities, had reached to a lifethreatening point therefore, it became a must to take urgent precautions against the pollution and set a common aim of achieving "sustainability of life" for all the World. Since sustainability gained importance at the end of 20th century, many researches, studies and applications have been made in multidisciplinary scale to protect the common future of World beings. Nowadays all disciplines are being investigated in terms of their effects to the nature via environmental approaches because every discipline that involves human activity share a responsibility about environmental issues and conditions. Like many disciplines based on the design field, both architecture and interior architecture are closely linked with the current environmental issues and sustainable architectural solutions come into prominence. Exclusively interior architecture projects are being evaluated by their effects on the environment and the user in terms of health issues, resource management and waste formation.

Waste formation is seen as one of the primary health problems worldwide and a great amount of waste is produced by construction sector. It bears a major importance that the materials used in buildings should be ecological and eligible for re-using or recycling. As an important pollutive and expensive matter to the environment; the waste can be transformed into an economic resource and a recycled/reused material. The sustainability of a design is closely related with the environmental consciousness of the designer since the material selection or the manufacturing method that a designer prefers play an important role. This situation brings a need for re-evaluating the curriculum for architecture and interior architecture disciplines with sustainable design principles to educate the future architects/interior architects with a responsibility and sensibility for healthy and sustainable environments. For that purpose, in the course "Sustainable Design", which is in the curriculum of Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design of Hacettepe University, Turkey, the students are asked to produce design works with only waste materials to help them gain a consciousness about sustainability and waste formation. The students first have observed the most common waste items in their immediate surroundings and then they came up with design interpretations which were made by the waste items. The decisions for material, form, size and construction method were left to students. All design works have been improved by the critics and suggestions from the course instructors. It is aimed to make the students experience the transformation of a waste item to a resource material and seek the approaches for using it in interior architecture discipline. This paper will analyze the end results of the course which were held in 2017 – 2018 Fall Semester and provide the findings for the re-usage of waste items as an important and holistic design method for promoting sustainability.