

TURGUT ALIZADA

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MBA-trained event program manager with 7+ years delivering large-scale B2B conferences, summits, and product launches for Fortune 500 and government clients across 5 countries. Co-founded and scaled event consultancy to \$20M revenue and exited via equity sale. Proven track record executing 72+ events (200K + attendees) with end-to-end ownership of vendor coordination, budget management, P&L oversight, stakeholder alignment, onsite execution, and post-event analysis.

EXPERIENCE

VEHO, Austin, TX

Jun – Aug 2025

Tech-enabled logistics platform with \$3B valuation, serving 220+ enterprise clients, backed by SoftBank & Tiger Global

Product Marketing & Strategy Manager Intern

- Drove \$120M+ pipeline generation by delivering commercial team off-site across 3 cities, managing onsite coordination and aligning 50+ participants across 6 teams on Q3/Q4 sales strategy and enterprise targeting
- Built 6-month event calendar for industry summits (Parcel Forum, logistics conferences), coordinating vendors and partners, managing contingency planning, and overseeing budgets
- Achieved 90% weekly adoption of AI-powered commercial platform by consolidating 35+ assets into centralized repository and delivering onsite and virtual trainings for 21 team members

COP29 Azerbaijan Operating Company, Azerbaijan

May – Jul 2024

State-led entity delivering \$1B UN summit for 57K global delegates from 110+ countries

Senior Program Manager - Event Operations

- Drove ClickUp adoption across 16 departments and 3K+ employees, improving workflow efficiency 32% and standardizing event coordination across cross-functional teams
- Achieved 70% activation and cut help desk requests 25% by directing mobile app rollout for 50K+ attendees, managing UAT and releases with operations, product and engineering teams
- Managed onsite operations during planning and live rehearsals, coordinating real-time issue resolution with ministerial-level stakeholders and international organizations (UNFPA, UN agencies)

GRAVITY CONSULTING, Azerbaijan

Jun 2018 – Apr 2024

Co-founded event and program management consultancy, scaled to \$20M revenue across 5 countries, exited via equity sale

Event Program Director & Co-Founder (2021-2024)

- Directed 10 regional events across Azerbaijan (131K participants) for largest education initiative, coordinating 145 staff and 335 volunteers with 93% participant satisfaction
- Executed Falcons Summit (530+ participants from 23 countries, 50 companies), building Azerbaijan's largest indoor curved LED display and managing \$750K+ budget with 10+ vendor coordination
- Produced B2B innovation conference (600 participants, 32 speakers) in partnership with Huawei and Ministry of Digital Development, managing venue logistics, A/V production, and 10+ vendor coordination
- Exceeded Samsung Galaxy preorder targets 25% by delivering product launch festival (4K+ participants), managing CMO engagement and coordinating 60-person onsite team with 15+ vendors
- Launched award-winning hybrid blockchain conference (360 participants) in partnership with Lenovo, integrating virtual platform and managing 3-day agenda
- Generated \$20M revenue over 6 years by delivering 72+ international events (600K+ total attendees) across Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Turkey, Netherlands, and U.S.
- Managed 30+ Fortune 500 and government clients including Deloitte, Samsung, Huawei, Lenovo, Xiaomi, Pasha Holding, Ministry of Digital Development and Transport, Innovation Agency Azerbaijan, UNFPA, Novco Group
- Scaled event operations from 6 to 340 team members in peak seasons, building cross-functional capabilities across event planning, A/V production, hospitality, and vendor coordination
- Led 100+ vendors across technical, creative, and logistics functions, managing contracts, RFPs, deliverables, and quality control for custom event installations

Event Program Manager (2018-2021)

- Executed large-scale youth music festival (11K+ participants, 21 celebrity performers), coordinating 63 staff and 45 volunteers across artist management, stage production, and onsite operations
- Led Xiaomi virtual product lunch (50K+ views across 2 platforms), managing end-to-end including livestream production, technical setup, and brand partnership activation

- Owned P&L management for 15+ events annually, tracking budgets up to \$500K, reconciling expenses, and delivering post-event financial analysis for government and corporate clients

STATE SOCIAL INNOVATION AGENCY, Azerbaijan

Jun 2017 – May 2018

State-backed digital-services enterprise with 30K+ daily clients across 240+ public services, 76M+ total transactions

Event & Public Relations Manager (2017-2018)

- Coordinated 50+ public events (15K+ total participants) across Azerbaijan, Europe, and Middle East, including presidential-level National Forum with direct engagement with President's Administration and ministerial leadership
- Led 15+ international partnership events with EU organizations, UN, and U.S. Embassy, coordinating vendors and managing \$350K total budget across timelines and cross-departmental stakeholder alignment

EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, McCombs School of Business, Austin, TX

May 2026

Master of Business Administration (STEM designated)

- Marketing Fellow | Operations Fellow | Merit Scholarship Recipient

ADA UNIVERSITY, Baku, Azerbaijan

May 2018

Bachelor's in International Studies (Concentration in Economics) - Consulting Intern at Deloitte (Jun – Sep 2015)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Event Management:** Eventbrite (ticketing & registration), vendor coordination platforms, artist & talent management, hybrid/virtual event delivery, onsite execution, post-event analysis
- **Project Management:** ClickUp, Jira, Asana, Airtable, Notion, Excel (budget tracking, P&L analysis, dashboards), cross-functional program coordination
- **Languages:** English (fluent), Azerbaijani (native), Russian (proficient)
- **Certifications:** Pragmatic Marketing Certified (PMC) Level II
- **Work Eligibility:** Eligible to work in the US; STEM OPT eligible (no sponsorship required for 3 years)