

## SUMMARY:

- The trainings and analytical reports contributed in the negotiation capacity of the Turkish government.
- The introduction of materials like informal translation of texts of UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and Nairobi Work Programme, guidance publications for NGOs and negotiators, Cemre – the Turkish Climate Change Bulletin, Newsletters of COP11/12/13 enabled to satisfy the basic needs of the Turkish stakeholders on access to direct and up-to-date information.
- The nationwide organizations that include NGO Meetings, exhibitions, brochures, posters, films and publications have supported the capacity building of both technical experts and civil society.
- Pursuant to the extensive dialogues that have been developed with the civil society, as of 2008, 3 Turkish NGOs (TEMA Foundation, environment-ENGO, the Society for Energy Economics, research-RINGO, the Turkish Businessmen and Industrialists' Association, business-BINGO) have been accredited to the UNFCCC Secretariat. (As of 2005, there were no Turkish NGOs in the list that involved more than 700 NGOs.)
- Throughout the period, REC Turkey has contributed in the dissemination of national actions at the international level either by participating directly in many international events, or facilitating participation of Turkish government and stakeholders or by establishing contacts with national and international media.
- By hosting or organizing informal high level meetings at home and abroad with many international delegates, specifically with the European Commission, REC Turkey also facilitated enhancement of international cooperation.
- Through the analysis and strategies that enable accession of Turkey to the Kyoto Protocol without interfering with the national interests of the country which have been disseminated among key governmental institutions including ministries, Turkish Grand National Assembly and the Secretariat General of the President of Turkish Republic, valuable contributions have been provided in the decision making process of the politicians.
- The efforts for the facilitation of dialogue between the Turkish government and the representatives of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have played a pioneering and effective role in the final decision having the IPCC General Assembly in Turkey in 2009.
- Following the necessary interventions to avoid possible adverse effects of the carbon markets on the negotiating position of Turkey and economical interests of Turkish stakeholders, pioneering actions have been designed that involved public information meetings, web announcements in Turkish, organization of participatory workshops and development of strategies for a more appropriate design of voluntary carbon markets in Turkey.
- Various analysis and strategies have been developed for the nationally appropriate involvement of Turkey in the international climate change regime in the post-2012 period.



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## 2005-2008 ACTIVITY REPORT AS THE TURKISH NATIONAL FOCAL POINT ON UNFCCC ARTICLE.6

(EDUCATION, TRAINING, PUBLIC AWARENESS)



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER  
Turkey

## BACKGROUND:

The New Delhi Work Programme, adopted by decision 11/CP.8 of the 8th Conference of the Parties (COP8) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), presents Parties a 5-years framework for action on Article.6 of the Convention that focuses on education, training and public awareness. The programme defines 6 main areas of interest; international cooperation, education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information. Article 15(c) of the New Delhi Work Programme recommends Parties to designate a national focal point for the implementation of the programme.

Thus, on 9 May 2005, REC Turkey was designated by the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Forestry as the National Focal Point on Article.6, based on her assets as availability of skilled staff, valuable experience in training and capacity building, careful monitoring of international agenda and excellent capacity for establishing national and international partnerships. As being on of the most important efforts of the Turkish government within the scope of the fulfillment of the commitments under the UNFCCC, this action has been welcome by many national and international stakeholders. Being recognized as one of the early examples of its kind, the experience of Turkey has been considered as a good practice by many countries, specifically in the Central and Eastern Europe.

## I. International Cooperation

### I.1. Internationally Supported Projects:

- *“Establishment of REC to Turkey”*

**Finance:** European Commission

**Partners:** Ministry of Environment and Forestry

- *“Promoting Climate Change Policies in Turkey”*

**Finance:** LIFE Fund of the DG Environment of the European Commission and Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (co-finance)

**Partners:** Ministry of Environment and Forestry General Directorate of Environmental Management, Exergja

- *“Capacity Building of Stakeholders and Government in Climate Change”*

**Finance:** UK Government Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Environment for Europe Fund

- *“Dissemination of ZeroCarbonCity Campaign in Turkey”*

**Finance and Partner:** British Council Turkey

- *“Climate Change Public Awareness Campaign in Turkey”*

**Finance:** Embassy of Finland

- *“Development of the Turkish Version of Multimedia Educational Kit – The Turkish Green PACK”*

**Finance:** LIFE Fund of the General Directorate of the European Commission and Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (co-finance), BOSCH Turkey **Partners:** Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Ministry of National Education, Bird Research Association, Nature Society.

### I.2. Promotion of International Projects in Turkey

- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) and Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV)

### I.3. International Dialogues with High Level Officials of Turkish Government

- Mr. Artur RUNGE-METZGER, European Commission, DG Environment, Head of Unit Climate strategy, international negotiation and monitoring of EU action (2006, 2007)

- Mr. Jose ROMERO, Senior Scientific Adviser, International Affairs Division, Federal Office for the Environment of the Swiss Confederation (2007)

- Ms. Carola Traverso SAIBANTE, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), (Bonn 2007)

### I.4. Participation of Turkish Stakeholders in International Processes

- The first Turkish NGO Accreditation to UNFCCC Process (TEMA Foundation, ENGO, the Society for Energy Economics (EED), RINGO, the Turkish Businessmen and Industrialists' Association (TÜSİAD), BINGO)

- REC International Workshops (Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT), Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, TÜSİAD, Environment Commission of Turkish Parliament, Eurosolar Turkey, Turkish Union of Municipalities)

- International Meetings (Eurasia Strategic Research Center (ASAM), Insulation Businessmen (İZODER), British Council Chevening Fellowships)

### I.5. Presentation of REC Turkey at International Meetings and Press

- COP11 (Montreal, 2005, Climate Talk Series), ICCI (2007, 2008), IAEE (2008), UNIDO (2005), Ecologic (2006, 2007), REC (2006, 2008), BBC Turkish, Climate-I, CC:inet, PointCarbon, CarbonFinance, Turkish Daily News, Today's Zaman, Bizim Anadolu (Canada), Radio Berlin, TRT International

### I.6. Supporting Turkish Delegation in UNFCCC Negotiations

- COP11 (Montreal, 2005), COP12 (Nairobi, 2006), SB26 (Bonn, 2007), COP13 (Bali, 2007)

## II. Education

Turkish version of Multimedia Educational Kit – The Turkish Green PACK had been promoted at 81 provinces of Turkey, reaching to a total of 5,000 primary school teachers. GreenPack involves special educational materials like game cards, texts, dilemma games, DVDs, cartoons that also address climate change

## III. Training

### III.1. Technical Training of Government Experts

Through “Training of Pioneers in Climate Change” which was held three times in 2006 and 2007 a total of 79 experts have been trained on key issues of climate change process.

### III.2. Seminars for Negotiation Delegates

Two seminars, post-COP11 and pre-SB24, were held in 2006 which enabled participants to be informed about agendas and outcomes of the meetings.

### III.3. Technical Training Tools

- “UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol; Texts and Supplementary Info”
- “Handbook for Negotiators”
- “A to Z of Climate Change”
- “Update on Nairobi Work Programme on Adaptation”
- Sectoral Leaflets

## IV. Public Awareness

### IV.1. Brochure

85,000 copies of the brochure “Climate is changing...And You?” are printed and disseminated via mass media and at the meetings.

### IV.2. Film

- “Climate is changing..And You?” animation film
- Turkish dubbing of the film VoX-Pop.
- A DVD on “Capacity Building in Climate Change”

### IV.3. Exhibitions and Conferences

NorthSouthEastWest Exhibition was displayed in 17 cities, 15,000 exhibition booklets were disseminated, and panels were held in 5 cities. Keynote speeches were delivered at around 100 events nationwide.

### IV.4. Media

More than 500 media coverage in national (Hürriyet, Cumhuriyet, Radikal, Referans, Zaman, Birgün, Taraf, Yeni Şafak) and local media and web pages. More than 100 interviews and articles in popular and sectoral journals like İzolasyon Dünyası, Global Enerji, Enerji ve Kojenerasyon Dergisi, Strateji, YeşilİZ, Actveline, Tempo, ODTÜ Mezun-

lar Derneği, Toplum ve Hekim, Para, Ekonomi. Invited as a speaker at around 50 radio and TV programmes in national media like TRT, CNNTürk, NTV, Kanal A, Kanal B, Ata TV, TRT Radyo1.

### IV.5. Research Commissions of Turkish Parliament

Invited as a speaker in 2007 and 2008 at the Climate Change Research Commissions of 22nd and 23rd Sessions of Turkish Grand National Assembly.

### IV.6. Video Conferences

Within the scope of ZeroCarbonCity Campaign, 10 video conferences were organized and facilitated in 2006-2008 where participants in Ankara and Istanbul have discussed and exchanged information between their counterparts in UK, Azerbaijan, Romania, Greece, Macedonia, Austria.

## V. Public Participation

### V.1. Participatory Dialogue Meetings

“Meetings of NGOs for Climate Change” were held in Ankara, İstanbul (2), İzmir ve Adana in 2006 and 2007. The meetings were not only a means to inform NGOs about the current progress on climate change at the national and international level but enabled NGOs to express and exchange their views with government representatives.

### V.2. Participation of NGOs in Negotiations

The booklet “NGOs in Climate Change Negotiations” was disseminated to NGOs. The process for NGO accreditation was explained. As a result, 3 Turkish NGOs focused on 3 different areas (TEMA Foundation, environment-ENGO, the Society for Energy Economics, research-RINGO, the Turkish Businessmen and Industrialists' Association, business-BINGO) were accredited to UNFCCC Secretariat. A discussion platform between COP participants of Turkish delegation and Turkish NGOs were held after COP13, which was the first of its kind.

### V.3. Working Groups

Multistakeholder working groups were organized on Climate Change Regime, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change, to introduce and develop sectoral strategies and implementation proposals.

## VI. Public Access to Information

### VI.1. Web pages

Literature and up-to-date information in Turkish and English were disseminated through [www.rec.org.tr](http://www.rec.org.tr) and [www.iklimlerdegisiyor.info](http://www.iklimlerdegisiyor.info). The first web announcements in Turkish for the voluntary carbon projects in the Gold Standard process were realized. Public-NGO Meeting that was held on 9 January 2008 for the evaluation of the outcomes of COP13 was recognized as the first Turkish web broadcasted event on climate change.

### VI.2. Cemre – Climate Change Bulletin

The one and only climate change bulletin in Turkish was published as annex to Yesil Ufuklar magazine of REC Turkey. The 16-pages quarterly magazine covered topics like glossary, agenda, special features etc. Special interviews were held with the late Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Ms. Joke WALLER-HUNTER (the last press interview before passing away), Environment Commissioner of EC H.E. Stavros DIMAS, Undersecretary of Ministry of Environment and Forestry Prof. Dr. Hasan SARIKAYA and former Deputy Undersecretary of Ministry of Environment Dr. Osman Niyazi ÇAKMAK.

### VI.3. COP Newsletters

COP11-Montreal(2005), COP12-Nairobi (2006) and COP13-Bali (2007) were reported via 2 or 4 pages of electronic newsletters called “COP Guncesi”. The publication enabled Turkish stakeholders to follow back-to-back the progress achieved at the COP sessions in Turkish.