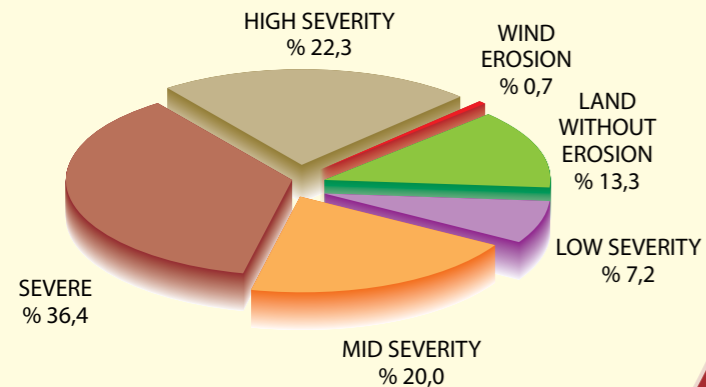


Desertification and Erosion in Turkey

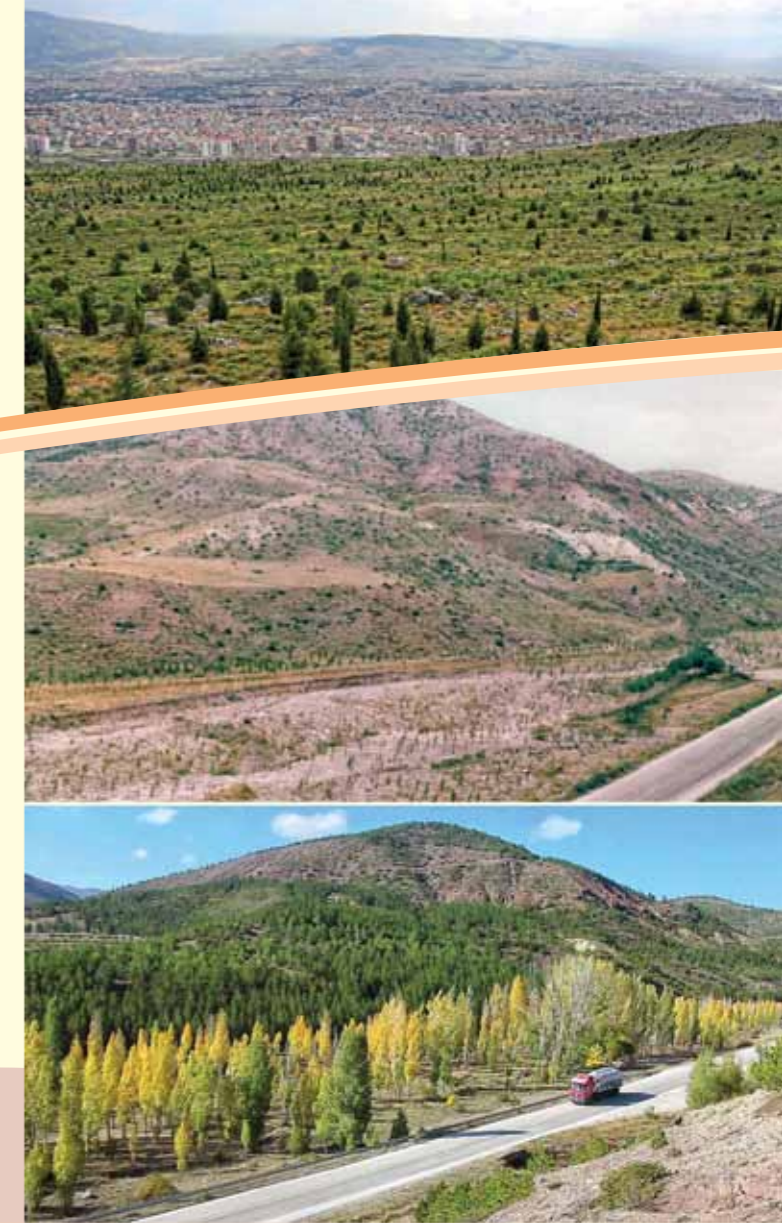
- Turkey; because of its climate, topography and soil characteristics, has a lot of different ecosystems. And it's very sensitive to erosion and flood disasters.
- 40% of our soils are 0-20 cm, 33% are 20-50 cm in depth.
- 2% of lands are not suitable for plant growing, because of alkali and salinity problems.
- Because of these reasons, the growing conditions in Turkey vary over short distances.
- Total amount of arid and semi-arid areas in Turkey is 51 million hectares. (65%)
- Rainfall is generally inadequate and irregular.
- One of the main problem of watersheds is erosion.
- 54% of forest lands, 59% of agricultural lands and 64% of rangelands have moderate and severe erosion problem.
- Because of its geographical position and different climate characteristics, Turkey is among the countries that is most affected by desertification and drought.
- 65% of Turkey, possesses arid and semi-arid characteristics.

Erosion in Turkey



International Our Works

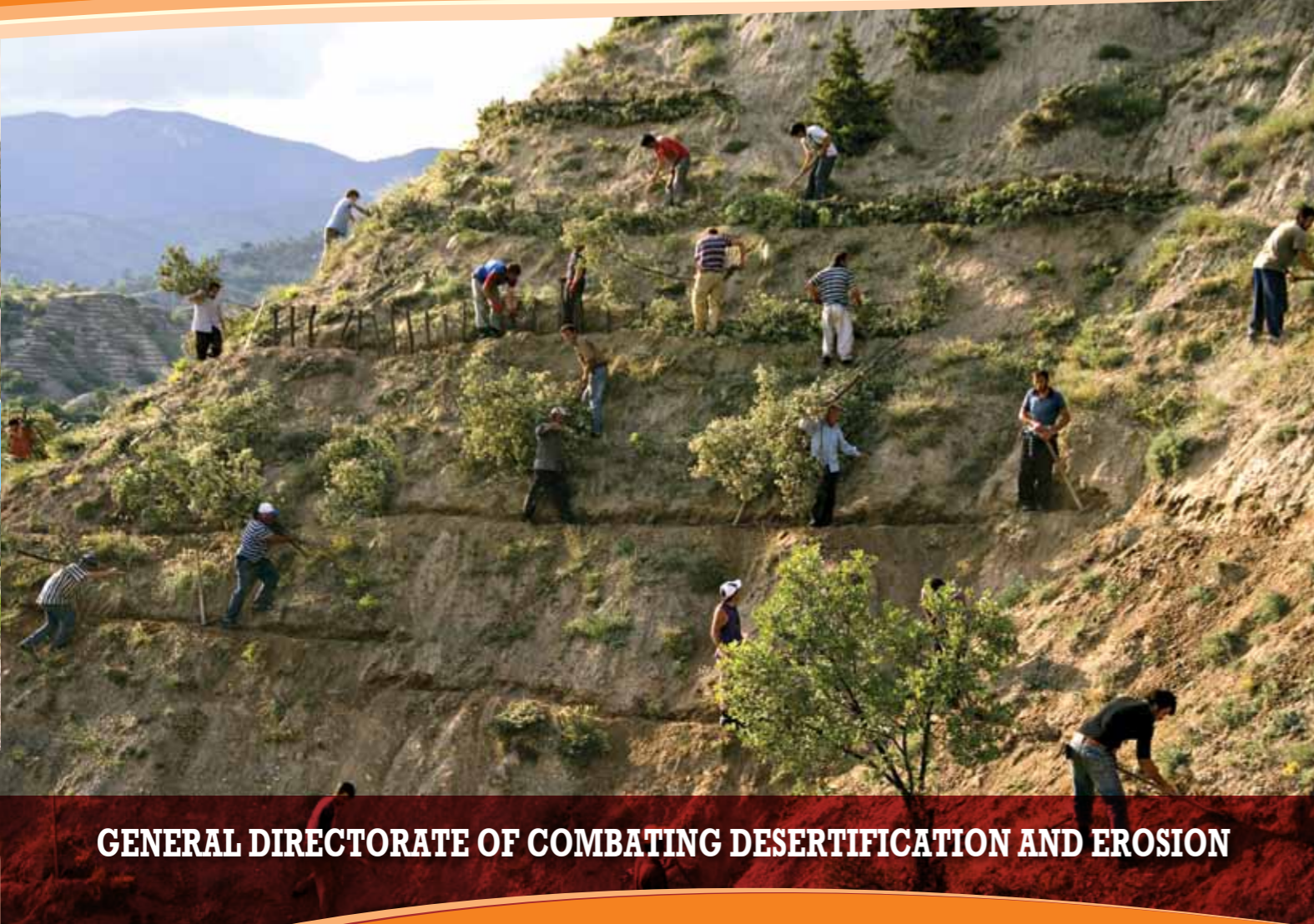
- **"Arid and Semi-arid Areas Workshop"** was held in Konya with the cooperation of FAO and attended by 45 countries' experts.
- Training and Technical Cooperation Project on Combating Desertification, Land Degradation, drought and Forestry for African Countries (DLDD)
- International Education Project (The Role of Civil Society Organisations in Combating Desertification)
- As a result of the decision taken at the **"Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia"** (CICA) Special Working Group meeting, International Research and Training Center on Combating Desertification will be established in Konya.
- International training course on **"The Role of Civil Society Organisations in Combating Deresertification"** was held between 13-18 June 2012. Participant from Asian, African and Balkan NGO's attended to the training course



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REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
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GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND EROSION

For this aim;

- To protect and develop natural resources,
- To combat desertification and erosion,
- To determine policies and strategies related to avalanche, landslide and flood control activities,
- To ensure coordination and cooperation between relevant institutions and organizations,

“General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion” has been established in 2011.

Our Missions

About combating desertification and erosion

- Determine policies and strategies,
- To ensure coordination and cooperation between relevant institutions and organisations,
- National and regional level planning, monitoring and evaluation,
- Research and development,
- Survey, inventory, job description analysis and determination of the unit price,
- Training, publication and promotional activities.

Projects

- Combating desertification and erosion,
- Avalanche, landslide and flood control,
- Integrated watershed rehabilitation,
- International plans and projects, providing support to projects

International Relations

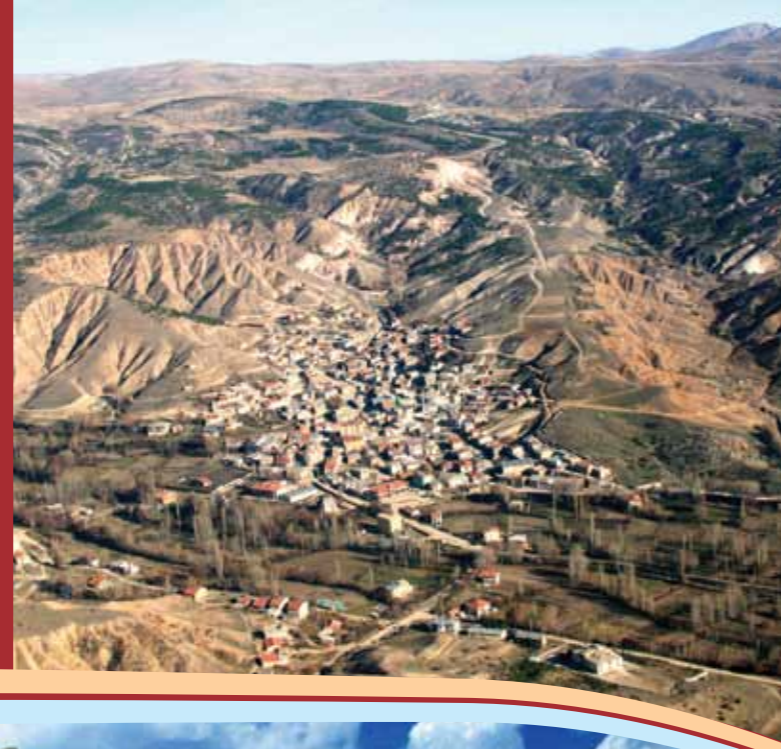
- Effective cooperation with international organizations,
- Bilateral and multilateral cooperation with countries, providing support to projects.

Our Priorities

- Preparation of National Watershed Management Strategy Documents,
- Preparation of Combating Erosion Action Plan,
- Establishing Turkey’s Desertification and Erosion Monitoring system,
- Revision of Combating Desertification National Action Program,
- Monitoring forest and vegetation change with remote sensing,
- Establishing experimental areas and stations with the aim of education and research in different regions of Turkey,
- Determination of afforestation, erosion, flood, avalanche potential areas and planning and preparing projects for priority areas,
- Implementing erosion, flood, avalanche control model works,
- Institutional capacity building and training experts,
- Establishment of climate change resistant forests,
- Sharing our country’s knowledge and experiences in combating desertification and erosion with Balkans, the Caucasus, Central Asia, Africa and neighbouring countries and developing international projects,
- Coordinating all units related to Combating Desertification and Erosion.

Activities

- For more effective and sustainable combat with desertification and erosion throughout the country, draft text of National Watershed Strategy Document is finished.
- Production of **"Action Plan for Combating Erosion in Turkey"** covering the years 2013-2017, started.
- To provide new insights, suggestions and creating models in General Directorate's projects, cooperation with national and international institutions and organizations are made.



Our Works

- The Identifying, Transferring and Cultivation of Endemic Plant Species Which Remained Beneath the Artvin-Deriner Barrage Lake Project.



- Keban Dam Watershed Erosion Control Project
- Ergene Watershed Right Shore Forestry Activities Plan



- Northeast Wildlife Corridor Afforestation Project



- Constructing Erosion Maps at watershed level by using National Watershed Database which was completed in 2011.
- Murat River Watershed Rehabilitation Project
- Konya Closed Watershed Combating Desertification and Erosion Project and model implementations.



- Rehabilitation in upper parts of watersheds causing floods and overflows, hillside land reclamation and gully erosion prevention activities project.



- Erosion Monitoring System studies.

