



Rehabilitation of Watershed

The first watershed based activities in Turkey were started in order to reduce the damages of floods and spates and provide the safety of existing dams through erosion control and afforestation projects.



Watershed Rehabilitation Projects

- Eastern Anatolian Watershed Rehabilitation Project
- Anatolia Watershed Rehabilitation Project
- Çoruh River Watershed Rehabilitation Project



Forest for people, forest for future



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF AFFORESTATION AND EROSION CONTROL



State of Forests in Turkey

Turkey has rich biological diversity value for plant types other than forest trees, non-wood forest products and fauna resources. The forest area in Turkey has been increased by 1,3 million hectares with the activities performed in the last 37 years.



In the first generation watershed rehabilitation projects, integrated participant approach was adopted where all related public institutes work in collaboration with the local community. All activities within the scope of the project targeted the upper parts of the watershed.

In the second generation watershed rehabilitation projects, the integration of lower and upper basins were provided. In addition to the activities performed in first generation rehabilitation projects, there were also activities for monitoring the water pollution, supporting organic agriculture, popularizing these activities throughout the country and providing support to the implementation of EU Nitrate Directive.

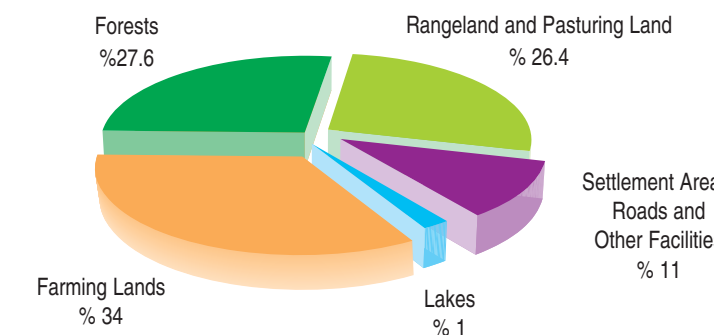
In the ongoing third generation Watershed Rehabilitation Projects, since the need for water resources is increased, the integrated water management was also included in the projects together with protection and development of natural resources.



WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROJECTS IN TURKEY

Forests cover an area of 21.5 million ha. in Turkey (27.6 % of country's land surface). 99.9 % of country's forests are owned by the state. Thereabout half of the forests consists of coniferous species and the other half consists of broad-leaved species. Besides possessing circa 9000 plant species, including 3000 endemic species, and rich fauna resources; Turkey is among the temperate zone countries which are rich in terms of biological diversity. In Turkey; the distribution of forest ecosystems is as follows; rainforests and temperate zone in the north, Mediterranean forest ecosystems in the west and south regions, arid-semiarid forest ecosystems having mainly oak species in the East-Southeast regions, and transition zone forest ecosystems in the coastal and inner regions. Turkey's forests have rich biological diversity values in terms of plant species other than forest trees, non-wood forest products and fauna resources.

Lands Distribution in Turkey





Policies in the Projects

Global warming and climate change are the biggest problems we face today. The most significant problem that requires to be solved in the world is to build a system which provides sustainable natural resource management meeting the basic needs of people. Therefore, it is necessary to apply participatory Integrated Watershed Rehabilitation Projects.



Problems in Watershed



Anatolian Watershed Rehabilitation Project

It is a project covering the activities for natural resource rehabilitation and decreasing the rural poverty in selected upper basins and decreasing and monitoring the agricultural, animal pollution and water pollution.



Global Purpose of Anatolian Watershed Rehabilitation Projects

The global purpose of the project is to start agricultural applications which will decrease the discharge of surface and ground waters, nutrients and other agricultural pollutants in watershed discharging in the Black Sea.



Policies in the Projects

- Protection, rehabilitation and management of natural resources
- Participatory approach
- Integration of income generating activities with protection, rehabilitation and management of natural resources
- Development of human resources
- Sustainability and generalization

Approach in such projects;

The approach which emphasizes the participation of the community to the decisions to be taken on the implementation is the main theme of these projects.



Problems in the upper watershed are; Erosion, over and irregular grazing in rangeland, poor vegetation, excessive and irregular use of forest areas, dispersed settlement, lowness in animal production, incorrect use of agricultural lands, insufficient, shallow and unproductive agricultural soils, incorrect agriculture methods, insufficient water resources, rural poverty, migration and lack of education and awareness.

Problems in the lower watershed are; rapid population growth, unplanned and irregular urbanization, increase in the need of water, pollution in water resources, increase in floods and spates, misuse of agricultural lands, increase in sedimentation in soil, decrease in quantity and quality of agricultural products, increase in infestation, forest fires and increase in degraded of natural resources.



Activities Within the Scope of the Project;

I- Rehabilitation of Degraded Natural Resources

- Rehabilitation of forests, rangeland and agricultural areas
- Measuring and monitoring the water pollution
- Environment friendly applications. (Fertilizer management, food management, organic agriculture and pesticide management)
- Generalization of renewable energy sources



II- Income Generating Activities

- Small scaled irrigation
- Agricultural terrace and production on these terraces
- Increasing and enhancing the product variety in agricultural activities
- Development of live-stocking, greenhouses, fishery and apiculture

III- Strengthening Policy and Regulatory Capacity to Comply With EU Standards

- Supporting the implementation of EU Nitrates Directive
- Creating and introducing rules for agricultural implementations
- Institutional support in organic agriculture

IV- Education and Awareness Raising

New developments and applied methods in issues of protection of natural resources, increasing of productivity in agriculture, use of inorganic fertilizer and pesticide by farmers and organic agricultural methods are taught to public with the training programs performed within the scope of the project and the activities for public awareness are continued during the project.

