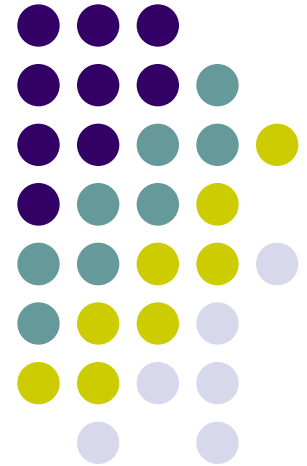


First Informal Meeting UK-TURKEY ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY (UTES)

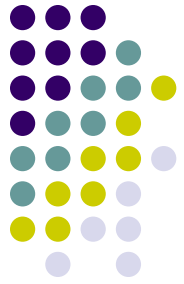
3rd of November 2008 / İstanbul





Agenda

- Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development
- Climate Change
- Useful Climate Change Statistics
- Turkey's National Efforts on Climate Change
- International efforts on Climate Change
- Relationships between ecosystem, services and human well-being
- Role of UTES



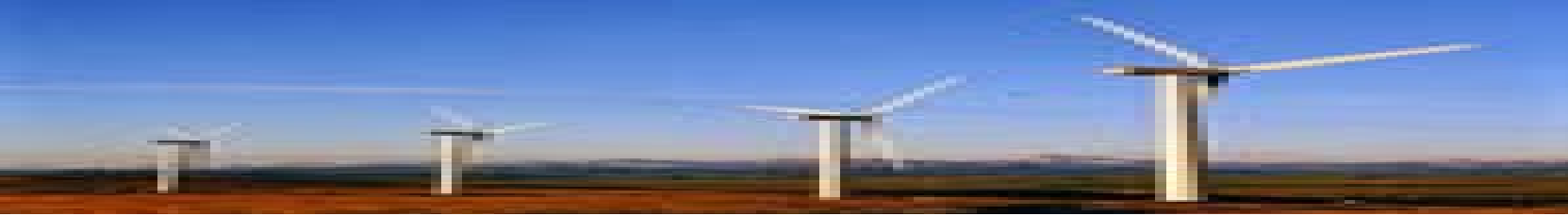
Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

- Environmental protection is an increasing concern of individuals, organizations and governments. Due to the pressures of population and technology the biophysical environment is being degraded, sometimes permanently. This has been recognized and governments began placing restraints on activities that caused environmental degradation. Since the 1960s activism by the environmental movement has created awareness of the various environmental issues.
- Protection of the environment is recognized as an indispensable part of economic and social development. With this principle, subjects related to environmental protection will be taken into consideration in the sectoral policies like industry, agriculture, energy, transportation, training, etc.
- In order to associate all the sectoral policies with the policies for improvement and protection of environment, all the public institutions, private sector, nongovernmental organizations and the academic circles must be in close cooperation.



Sustainable development

- In recent decades, we have become more aware of increasing damage to the environment and a widening global gap between the rich and the poor. There is a growing realisation that the way we develop is not sustainable. We need to find a way to improve our quality of life while living within our environmental limits and ensuring a fair society. This is sustainable development.
- A widely-used and accepted international definition of sustainable development is: 'development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs' - Globally we are not even meeting the needs of the present let alone considering the needs of future generations.
- Unless we start to make real progress toward reconciling these contradictions we face a future that is less certain and less secure. We need to make a decisive move toward more sustainable development. Not just because it is the right thing to do, but also because it is in our own long-term best interests. It offers the best hope for the future. Whether at school, in the home or at work, we all have a part to play. Our small everyday actions add up to make a big difference.



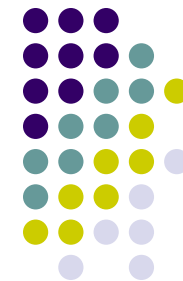
Climate Change

- Climate refers to the average weather experienced over a long period. This includes temperature, wind and rainfall patterns. The climate of the Earth is not static, and has changed many times in response to a variety of natural causes.
- The recent Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) leaves us in no doubt that human activity is the primary driver of the observed changes in climate.
- The main human influence on global climate is emissions of the key greenhouse gases - carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane and nitrous oxide. The accumulation of these gases in the atmosphere strengthens the greenhouse effect.
- At present, just over 7 billion tonnes of CO₂ is emitted globally each year through fossil fuel use, and an additional 1.6 billion tonnes are emitted by land use change, largely by deforestation. The concentrations of these gases in the atmosphere have now reached levels unprecedented for tens of thousands of years.



Useful Climate Change Statistics

- Annual average Arctic sea ice extent shrunk by 2.7 per cent per decade. Sea-ice decreases overall in summer by 7.4 per cent.
- Temperatures at the top of permafrost layer have generally increased since the 1980s by up to 3°C.
- CO₂ radiative forcing increased by 20 per cent from 1995 to 2005, the largest in any decade in at least the last 200 years.
- Warming of about 0.2°C per decade is projected for a range of emission scenarios.
- Even if the concentrations of all greenhouse gases and aerosols had been kept constant at year 2000 levels, a further warming of about 0.1°C per decade would be expected.
- Temperatures in excess of 1.9 to 4.6°C warmer than pre-industrial sustained for millennia will lead to eventual melt of the Greenland ice sheet. This would raise sea level by 7 metres — comparable to 125,000 years ago.



Turkey's National Efforts on Climate Change

1991-1994	National Climate Change Coordination Group was established. National Climate Programme was developed.
1995-1999	National Climate Change Report was prepared. Special Commission Report of the State Planning Organization was prepared.
2000-2003	The World Bank finalized ESMAP Report. Coordination Board on Climate Change (IDKK) was established. National Programme on Environment and Development was established. 2002 National Sustainable Development Report included a chapter on climate change. The World Bank finalized Energy and Environment Report.
2004	IDKK was revised. Ankara Climate Change Conference was held.
2005	REC Turkey was designated as the National Focal Point for Article 6 of the UNFCCC. GEF-SGP launched climate change programme area. The first Turkish NGO participated in a COP meeting.
2006	Public Research Projects were launched by TUBITAK.
2007	Supreme Council on Science and Technology adopted a research programme on climate change. Turkish Grand National Assembly established a Research Commission on Global Warming.



International Efforts on Climate Change

1991-1995	The final text developed by Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee included Turkey in Annex-I and Annex-II, due to her OECD membership. It was decided not to be signatory to the UNFCCC until this unfair issue is resolved.
1995-1999	Negotiations to be excluded from both of the Annexes were commenced. At the time of the adoption of Kyoto Protocol, Azerbaijan and Pakistan presented a submission to delete Turkey's name from both of Annexes.
2000-2003	A new negotiation strategy was developed that included deletion from only Annex-II. Pursuant to the Decision 26/CP.7, which was adopted based on Turkey's requests, referring to the common but differentiated responsibilities principle, taking into account her special circumstances, Turkey's name was deleted from Annex-II and Turkey was placed in Annex-I, in a position that is different than other Annex-I Parties. Turkey joined Johannesburg Renewable Energy Coalition in 2002. Law No:4990 was adopted on 21 October 2003 and published in the Official Gazette issue no: 25266.
2004	Turkey acceded to the UNFCCC on 24 May 2004. Turkey requested to benefit from GEF Funds for the preparation of first national communication.
2005	CDM – SYNERGY Workshop was held. GEF Enabling Activity Fund was allocated for preparation of first national communication. Regional Training Course on PRECIS was held.
2006	The first GHG Inventory was submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat. The first National Communication was submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat. Turkey held a side event at SB26 to present her efforts on climate change



Relationships between ecosystem, services and human well-being





Role of UTES

Acting in line with the principle of “sustainable progress” which aims to provide the balance between the economic development and the nature, performing studies and working for the development of the nature policies, preserving the biological diversity and finding solutions for climate changes, sustainable energy resources, waste management, water and waste water management. The Society will support directly or indirectly these activities by the means of training, researches, Project development and implementation of these.

The Society aims to undertake the following for the realization of this mission and for increasing the awareness of this subject;

- Creating a platform in where information and experience can be shared,
- Provision of training target groups,
- Organization of symposiums, conferences and panels,
- Participation in the symposiums, conferences and panels in Turkey and abroad,
- Publishing of a information journal on ecological issues twice a year,
- Preparing visual and audio-visual informative material for the schools and other related institutions,
- Providing consultancy services regarding related technologies and conformity with regulations,
- Supporting people and institutions that are working for the preservation and protection of the ecological balance and natural resources and conducting studies and developing projects aiming this purpose,
- Upon obtaining the required permits, performing mutual activities with international associations and foundations which share the same objectives and purposes.

Thank you for your attention

