

Greetings from Turkey;

This is the WWD 2013 Report of Turkey:

WWD 2013 has been celebrated in all provinces by both the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs, General Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks (MoFWA GDoNCNP) and the other relevant organizations with many organizations.

In the last meeting of National Wetlands Committee, it has been decided to give National Wetlands Awards (success and incentive) in three Categories namely; "Science and Research", "Management" and "Education and Awareness". These awards has been planned to be given per 3 years in WWD.

As a result:

The Success Award in Science and Research Category has given to Prof İlhami KIZIROGLU who made many researches about Birds in his significant Career. He also wrote many books on birds such as Red Data Book for Birds in Turkey.

The Incentive Award in this category has given to the Assistant Prof. Çağan Hakkı ŞEKERCİOĞLU who is a lecturer and researcher in the University of UTAH. The young scientist is also made many significant researches about biodiversity in many countries. He also had many awards from National Geographic, "Ambassador" of the Whitley Fund for Nature, Whitley Gold Award, and etc.

The Success Award in Management Category has given to Governor of Van Province for his significant supports to local Festival namely, Lake Ercek Flamingo Festival though, a big earthquake which was, in the same time. In the earthquake, nearly 600 people had died and many of the buildings have corrupted.

The Incentive Award in this category has given to the İZKUŞ (İzmir Bird Paradise Conservation and Development Society) which made many improvement projects for Gediz Delta.

The Success Award in Education and Awareness Category has given to prof. Ahmet ALTINDAG who made a water school for the Child University Project. And he has trained over 2000 children between the ages of 11-14 about wetlands, fishes and water.

The Incentive Award in this category has given to Mr Ahmet Sönmez YANARDAĞ who is a geography lecturer in the High School in Çorum Province.



Furthermore, MoFWA, GDNCNP Division of Wetlands produced interesting materials both for people and children. The book for Turkish Ramsar Sites (which also includes our new Ramsar site Nemrut Caldera) is published in Turkish and also in English. There is another book namely “The Reflection from Turkey’s Wetlands”. And there are 2 sets of Cards about Turkey’s Birds and Turkey’s Wetlands. These cards are especially for school children. There are 100 cards both in Turkey’s Birds and Turkey’s Wetlands.



(Reflection from Turkey’s Wetlands)

Some photos from Turkey’s wetlands (152 p.)

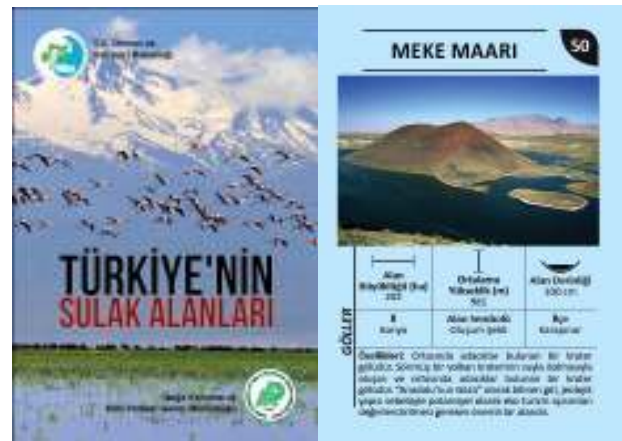


(Turkey’s Important Wetlands: RAMSAR SITES)

The general Information about 14 Ramsar Sites of Turkey (168 p.)



Birds of Turkey Card Set.
It includes 100 cards (Bird Species)
In the cards general information is given about bird species.



Wetlands of Turkey Card Set.
It includes 100 cards. In the cards general information is given about Turkey’s Wetlands

Therefore, many other special materials were produced and distributed for the day. As usual the WWD poster was translated. The posters are putted up on billboards.



Poster



billboard

Additionally, a big flamingo figure is published as a poster. And we produced 4 kinds of pins of birds, pelican, kingfisher, stork, and flamingo.



And also short video was prepared about Water and Wetlands. It has showed in 02/02/2013.

The WWD Ceremony has hold in Istanbul under the auspices of Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs, Prof Veysel EROĞLU. There were nearly 350 people in the Ceremony. Ceremony was started by the short video. After this, the Deputy General Director and the Minister gave Speeches about the importance of wetlands. The Minister said “we cannot protect the wetlands not only by Law, but also with Education and Awareness” in his speech.

After the speeches, there was a conference about “Blockage of water and the positive aspects of Artificial Wetlands in the manner of Nature Conservation for the Purpose of Sustainability of Biodiversity in Arid and Semi-Arid Ecosystems” Director of Wetlands Division Dr. Teoman MERİC has advertised 28 biodiversity of wetlands research in sub basin level projects. Then, the Minister Prof. Veysel EROĞLU has opened 2 exhibitions (1. Poster exhibition of Projects, 2. Photos from Ramsar Sites) In the Afternoon Session, there were 2 sessions first was for Lakes and the other for Delta, Lagoon and Marshlands. In the sessions, the projects from Turkish Wetlands were presented and discussed.



The Turkish Wetlands Team wishes you a Happy WWD 2013

The Story of the Day by amazing photos:

Our team has visited the amazing city of İstanbul and Bosphorous before the work.



And then, the preparations were started.





The speech of our Minister Mr. Prof. Veysel EROĞLU



The speech of Director of Wetlands Division Mr. Dr. Teoman MERİÇ



3 generations of directors in Wetlands Division (on the left is oldest)



This Report is prepared by Mr. Serhan CAGIRANKAYA CEPA National Focal Point of Turkey