### Istanbul Aydın University



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# Disaster Training Application and Research Center

e - Newsletter



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## DISASTER TRAINING APPLICATION AND RESEARCH CENTER









## We Held A Workshop of Water Drownings and Rip Current

In cooperation with Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center, Yıldız Technical University Natural Sciences Research Center and Bezmiâlem Vakıf University Disaster Management Department and with the support of TMMOB Chamber of Geological Engineers Istanbul Branch, "Drowning in Water and Rip Currents Workshop" was held on 20 June 2018.

Especially with the warming of the weather, news of drowning cases in all regions of Turkey are featured in various media. According to TUIK data, it is stated that an average of 700 people die annually due to this reason.

The reason for drowning, which is an important social problem for our country, is the lack of information about swimming and the currents in the swimming area. With the workshop we held on June 20, experts on the subject discussed how to prevent the loss of life caused by this problem and suggested solutions.

In the first session of the workshop, which we held in Yıldız Technical University Davutpaşa Campus Congress Center in 3 sessions, presentations were made by experts on current hydrodynamics, drowning cases in the second session, and medical approach in drowning cases in the last session.

After the third session of the workshop, to which intervention teams and non-governmental organizations such as UMKE, AKUT, S.A.B.A.H contributed by opening a stand, UMKE Teams simulated how to intervene in a drowning case and first aid applications.

It was emphasized that the workshop, which was held with the participation of many institutions that are stakeholders of the subject, such as Istanbul AFAD, Istanbul Technical University, Institute of Forensic Sciences, and the Coast Guard, should be held regularly by increasing its scope in the following years.

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Link: http://www.ntv.com.tr/saglik/100-bin-kisi-asirisicaklara-bagli-hastaliklardanolebilir,N3iJAlyejk6CejUkIUT-1g



Link: http://www.hurriyet.com.tr/kita-avrupasinda-2100-yilinda-100-bin-kisi-asi-40873419

## AFAM's Views on National Disaster Issues are followed with interest by the media

As AFAM, we regularly carry out studies for the media in order to maximize public awareness in this area, along with the activities we carry out to minimize our country's vulnerability to disasters.

In the study we carried out this month, the disaster risk of extreme hot weather movements, which poses more risk compared to the previous year, was evaluated. In the study, we gave information about the roles and responsibilities, emphasizing the importance of cooperation in combating the dangers caused by extreme temperatures, as in other types of disasters.

The entire article can be accessed by clicking the links under the images.



Link:http://www.medyatakip.com/medya\_sistem/yb\_kupurgoster.php?gnosif=Wfg\_wC7vRqUxxvgP\_kjisTQ..&mnosif= AgzZXzd\_uk.&st=2



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Hurricane Windstorm, 2017, Texas, USA. **Picture:** TIME Magazine

## Implementation of International Decisions to Combat Global Climate Change

Today's societies, which are defined as modern and mostly living in cities where industrial production is intense, cause hard-to-repair damages on the natural balance. Today, we frequently encounter disasters caused by extreme weather events that occur as a result of these damages caused by the desire of modern society people, who form a complex network between nature and them, to shape nature in line with their own needs and passions.

Almost every day, we see many news in newspapers and televisions, such as floods caused by sudden precipitation, deaths caused by extreme temperatures, melting glaciers, cold temperatures above seasonal normals, dried stream beds or lakes that are about to run out.

Moreover, as long as humanity does not develop and implement solutions for the destruction they caused in nature, the results of the research showing that there will be much greater losses in the near future are also published as news in different media.

In other words, as humanity, on the one hand, we harm natural life under the name of modernization, on the one hand, we say that the consequences of these damages will be severe, but on the other hand, we exhibit an inconsistent behavior by not making enough efforts to solve the problems.

For example, it will be sufficient to look at the decisions taken at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil with the participation of 172 countries, including 108 heads of state, and the work done since then.

If the agreements signed by the 172 countries participating in this conference, known as the Rio Summit, on biodiversity, climate change and combating desertification were fulfilled, how to reduce global warming below 2oC would not have been discussed at the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP21) held in Paris in 2015. Since it is known that global climate change is a problem that has been mentioned since the beginning of the 20th century, and despite the fact that there have been many meetings at the international level regarding this problem, the discussion of

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Istanbul Flood, 2017, Istanbul, Turkey. **Picture:** İHA



Drought, 2014, Suluova - Amasya, Turkey. **Picture:** Haber Amasya

how to tackle this problem still shows that either the decisions taken are wrong or if the decisions taken are correct, they cannot be implemented.

When we look at the decisions taken in dozens of international cooperation such as, Toronto Conference (1988), World Climate Conference (1990), Rio Summit (1992), United Nations Climate Conference (1996), Kyoto Protocol (1997), United Nations Sustainable Development Summit (2002), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2005), COP21 (2015), it can be seen that the problem and its solution are correctly defined.

What remains is the option that the decisions taken are not implemented. This situation is like a vicious circle in which the executives of a sinking company do nothing, despite holding constant meetings and saying that they will soon go bankrupt if no solution is found..

In short, the world now needs to discuss how to implement them rather than new decisions taken at the international level regarding climate change.

The commitment to regularly report the progress in climate targets of 195 countries participating in COP21 held in Paris in 2015 is a positive development in this context.

However, reaching the point of only reporting commitment in the time that has passed since the problem was noticed is also an indication of how slow progress has been made.

In addition, on the other side of the coin, the problems that financially difficult countries will experience in green technology investments and the announcement of the US withdrawal from COP21 will further slowdown the already slow progress in the fight against climate change. Although it is known that nature does not tolerate this slowness and responds more strongly every year, no reason provides a logical justification for this situation.

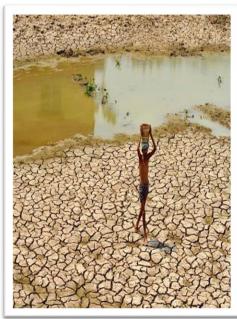
For example, in the report published by Munich RE in 2015, the distribution of the number of disasters between 1980 and 2014 reveals how the danger has gradually increased. In this report, events such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic activity occurred within a certain number of years, while meteorological, hydrological and climatic events such as storms, floods, extreme temperatures, droughts, forest fires triggered by climate change increased by nearly 200%.

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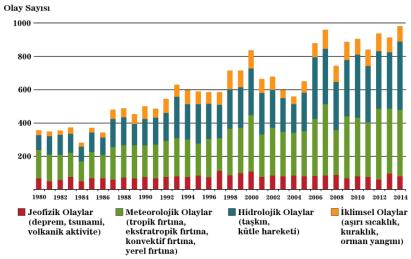


The Lake of Bhubaneswar, 2016, Odisha State, India. Picture: Hindustantimes



The Lake of Aral, 2015, Uzbekistan, Turkistan, Kazakstan. **Picture:** BBC

#### 1980 - 2014 Dünya Geneli Afet Etkisi Yaratan Olayların Yıllara Göre Dağılımı



Kaynak: 2015 Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft, Geo Risks Research, NatCatSERVICE - Ocak 2015

For example, in the report published by Munich RE in 2015, the distribution of the number of disasters between 1980 and 2014 reveals how the danger has gradually increased. In this report, events such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic activity occurred within a certain number of years, while meteorological, hydrological and climatic events such as storms, floods, extreme temperatures, droughts, forest fires triggered by climate change increased by nearly 200%.

As a result, in a world where the problem and its solution are clear, the steps to be taken towards global climate change are not accelerated. every year more people will die, more economic problems will occur, and if these inconsistent behaviors of humanity continue, the next stage will be mass extinctions.

Serhat Yılmaz Coordinator of AFAM