

Istanbul Aydın
University



EDITORIAL BOARD

Assoc. Prof. Mustafa AYDIN
(Chairman of the Board of Trustees)

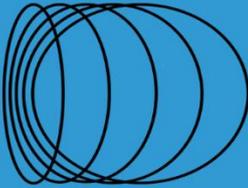
Prof. Dr. Yedigir İZMİRLİ
(Rector)

Serhat YILMAZ
(Coordinator)

Disaster Training
Application
and Research Center

e - Newsletter

İSTANBUL AYDIN
ÜNİVERSİTESİ
AFAM
AFET EĞİTİM, UYGULAMA
ve ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ



July 2017
Issue: 01

written and edited by
Serhat YILMAZ

translated into English by
Cağla DEĞİRMENÇİ

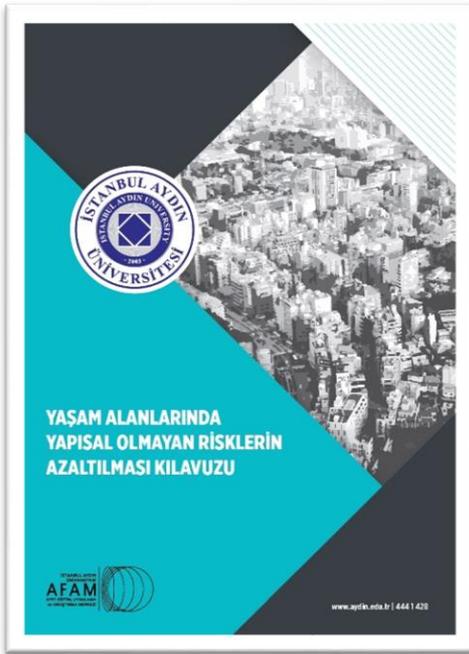


Guideline for Reducing Non-Structural Risks in Living Areas Is Out

Earthquakes that have occurred throughout history in our country, which is located in the earthquake zone, remind us that we will face the reality of an earthquake at any moment. Since when and where the earthquake will occur cannot be predicted in advance, we may encounter a possible earthquake at home, school or workplace.

No matter how high the earthquake resistance of the building we are in during the earthquake is, the items called non-structural elements used in the building can harm us. Refrigerators, washing machines, cabinets, lampshades, items stocked in high places, which are used in the house and make our daily life easier, can be overturned or moved during a possible earthquake, causing economic losses, injuries and even deaths. It is stated that 50% of the injuries, 3% of the deaths and 30% of the material losses as a result of the 1999 Marmara Earthquakes are caused by non-structural factors.

As Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center, we have prepared a Guide for Reducing Non-structural Risks in Living Spaces in order to minimize such losses that may occur in a possible earthquake. Applying the applications in this guide, which explains step by step how to reduce non-structural risks in all your living spaces such as home, school and workplace, with quick and simple methods, in your own living spaces will help prevent you and your family from being harmed by a possible disaster. You can access the Guide for Reducing Non-Structural Risks in Living Areas from the Research/Research Centers/Disaster Research (AFAM) section on the Istanbul Aydın University website.





Dissemination of Disaster Preparedness Training Program for Disabled Individuals Continues

According to the 2011 Population and Housing Survey, 6.6% of our country's population has at least one disability. In another study carried out jointly by the Turkish Statistical Institute and the Prime Ministry Administration for Disabled People, this rate rises above 12% when people with chronic diseases are added to the disabled citizens. Considering the disaster situation in Turkey in general, there is a need for studies on disaster preparedness of individuals who need help from others for various reasons. A disaster preparedness project, which will be carried out by considering the families of individuals with chronic diseases and/or disabilities, who are among the more vulnerable groups in disasters and make up more than 12% of the total population, will provide very important social gains.

As Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center, we have developed a training program for hearing, mentally, physically and visually impaired individuals in order to contribute to such a social gain. In the training program, in which the activities that should be done before, during and after the disaster of individuals and their families with chronic diseases or various degrees of disability, it is explained step by step how the damages of a possible disaster can be prevented.

We held a meeting with the Justice and Development Party Bahçelievler Municipality Councilor and the Head of Disabled Coordination Center Yücel Yıldızhan together with the Barrier-Free Life Research Center, which continues its activities within the body of our University, in order to disseminate the prepared education program. At the meeting where the steps to be taken to deliver education to disabled individuals within the borders of Bahçelievler Municipality were planned, a questionnaire was prepared to evaluate the preparedness of the municipal council members for disasters and sent to be filled by the council members.





Two Floods in Istanbul, 9 Days Apart, Bring Life to a Standstill in the City

Istanbul experienced two major flood disasters with an interval of 9 days. The first occurred on July 18, the second on July 27, in the flood events that occurred as a result of the precipitation of 128 kg per square meter in some regions, many settlements, many metro and metrobus stations, underpasses were flooded and hundreds of citizens were stranded. In the statement made by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, it was reported that 6,388 personnel, 1,194 vehicles, 417 motor pumps and 786 submersible pumps were used to combat the effects of the flood. In addition, it was observed that nearly 3,000 lightning incidents took place in the two weather events, followed by fires at many points and over 200 trees toppled due to the severe storm.

The collapse of the minaret of the Çarşı Mosque in Kanarya Neighborhood, the collapse of the wall of the Armenian Cemetery in Kurtuluş, the collapse of a crane in Haydarpaşa, and the flooding of some citizens due to the floods that occurred after the heavy storm and heavy rains that occurred in the city on July 27. More than 20 people were injured, 2 of them seriously.

It is estimated that the total damage in both weather events in insurance companies is over 700 million TL. Especially with the heavy rain that occurred on July 27, the hail that reached the size of a walnut caused damage to many vehicles and structures and increased financial loss.

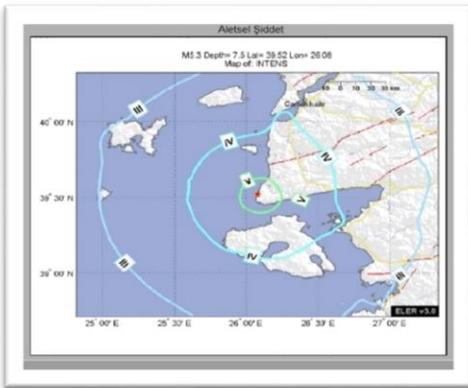




Earthquake Storms in the Aegean Sea, the Most Active Earthquake Region of the World

Since February 2017, 3 important earthquakes have occurred in the Aegean Region, which is the most active earthquake region in the world, affecting the surrounding provinces. According to the data obtained from the Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute, the earthquake with a $M_v = 5.3$ and intensity of 5.0, the first of which occurred on the center of Çanakkale Gölü - Ayvacık on February 6, 2017 at 06:51 local time, felt in the provinces such as Bursa, İzmir, Balıkesir and İstanbul. Secondly, the earthquake that occurred at 15:28 local time on 12 June 2017 off the coast of İzmir Karaburun was recorded as $M_v = 6.2$ and intensity of 6.0. The earthquake was felt in a wide area including Balıkesir, Manisa, Aydın and İstanbul. Finally, on July 21, 2017, an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.6 and a intensity of 7.0 occurred in the Mediterranean - Gökova Bay at 01:31 local time and was felt in the entire Southwest Aegean Region. After 3 earthquakes, hundreds of aftershocks with magnitudes above $M_v = 4$ occurred in the region.

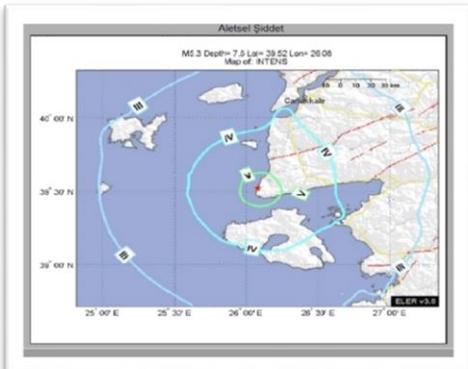
After the earthquake that occurred in the Gulf of Gökova, tsunami waves reached 100 meters inland from the coastal areas, causing many businesses to flood. As a result of the collapse of the wall of a building on the Greek island of Kos in the earthquake, two people, one Turkish and the other Swedish, lost their lives. Due to the panic that occurred at the time of the earthquake, more than a hundred citizens were injured in various degrees.



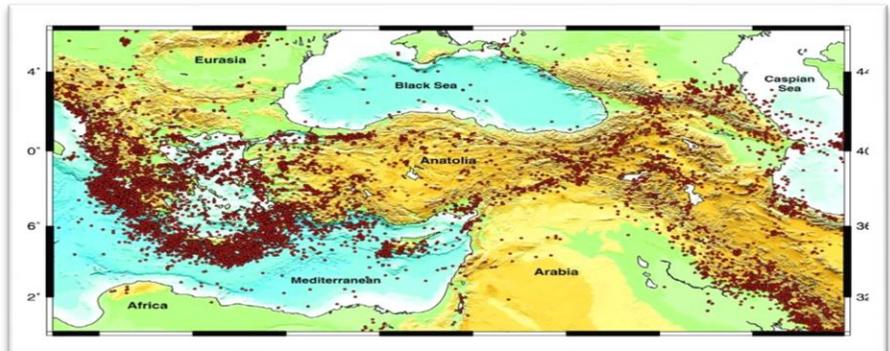
6 February 2017 Çanakkale, Gölü - Ayvacık Earthquake, Estimated Intensity Map (Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute)



12 June 2017 İzmir, Karaburun Earthquake, Estimated Intensity Map (Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute)



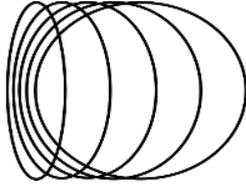
21 July 2017 Mediterranean, Gökova Harbor Earthquake, Estimated Intensity Map (Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute)



Aegean Sea 1973 – 2007, Distribution of Earthquakes of $M_v > 4.0$ and Above Magnitude on the Map (USGS-NEIC)



ISTANBUL AYDIN
ÜNİVERSİTESİ
AFAM
AFET EĞİTİM, UYGULAMA
ve ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ



Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey

As Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center (AFAM), we implement many studies simultaneously to improve our social capacity against events that may cause disasters and emergencies in our country. During these studies, we have the opportunity to observe the problems that form the basis of our vulnerability to disasters as a society.

We have created the "Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey" section in our e-bulletin that we will publish regularly in order to benefit from the experiences gained in the field by all our partners working in this field for the solution of these problems we encounter. In this section, where a different problem and solution offers will be evaluated in each issue, we will also submit the solution offers of all our partners involved in the field of disaster preparedness for appraisal, if they share them.

Under the title of "Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey", firstly, the effects of disaster preparedness trainings applied by different sources on the problem of the inability to establish a risk reduction culture in individual preparedness studies for disasters throughout the society are evaluated.

The Importance of Spreading a Risk Reduction Culture and Setting a Standard in Education

The Marmara Earthquakes, which occurred in 1999 and caused great destruction, exposed the fact that the whole of Turkey is a "disaster country" and showed that the crisis management studies carried out in the name of disaster preparedness should be changed. In this respect, the 1999 Earthquakes, which were accepted as a milestone in the preparations for disasters carried out in Turkey, also caused the start of a process of awakening from sleep.

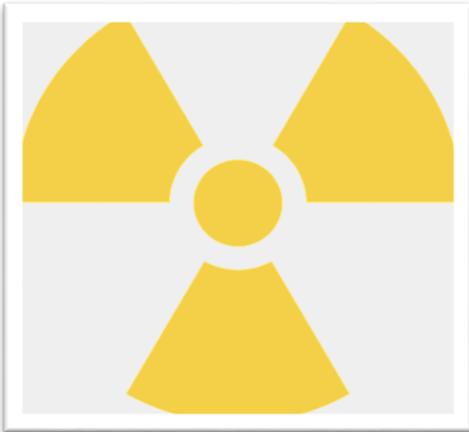
When the subject is handled specifically in Istanbul, many scientific studies conducted for the whole of Istanbul for the post-1999 period reveal the dangers posed by the North Anatolian Fault Line for the city and reveal "how risk is produced" in living spaces with the ever-increasing population density.





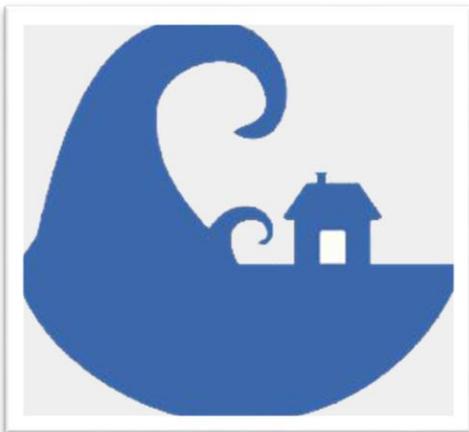
When the studies implemented in countries facing similar risks around the world and which can be considered exemplary in terms of their results are examined, it is seen that all of them are built on community-based systems with a pro-active approach.

Most of the recent studies show that especially the efforts to reduce disaster damage are carried out in a community-based way and the disaster management perspective is in close relationship with social development. In this context, the general picture that emerged as a result of the widespread use of risk management approach is the necessity of conducting disaster management studies in a community-based manner and with social participation.



In the light of all these data, in order to minimize the effects of a possible earthquake that may occur in Istanbul, we need to complete our preparatory work as soon as possible against situations that may cause disasters, with risk-reducing measures at the level of individuals, families and institutions, taking into account holistic disaster management.

For this reason, there is a need for widespread and accurate education studies that will rid our society of false prejudices and emotional obsessions on disasters and emergency management, and that can lead to radical changes in attitudes and behaviors. Thus, our country will be able to get out of the spiral of destruction and wound healing after a disaster. For this, as in modern disaster management, risk management consisting of loss, damage reduction and preparation studies should be given more importance than crisis management consisting of intervention and improvement works. For this reason, we need to give more importance to the community-based studies with a thought of “Do not let our people trapped under the rubble!” than the studies with a thought of “How do we save our people from the rubble?”.



After the painful lessons we learned from the disasters we experienced in our country, many non-governmental organizations, private and public institutions and organizations started to receive and/or provide disaster preparedness trainings. But now the messages given to the society made our people more confused and they still do not know exactly what to do before, during and after disasters. In order to eliminate this complexity, first of all, standards should be established in the trainings shared with the society on disaster preparedness and the quality of education should be monitored.



In other words, information and awareness-raising campaigns together with the right education and training programs for “Creating a Disaster Resilient Society” should be developed and implemented widely as soon as possible. In particular, the trainings should be more skill-oriented, the studies that are accepted as successful in the international arena as a form of training should be well examined, but imitation should not come to the fore and common messages should be given to the society, the accuracy of which does not bring any doubt.

In summary, the importance given to disasters in education, in-service courses and public advertisements given in schools, various institutions and courses organized by CSO today is not enough to create a strong awareness of disasters in all individuals who make up our society.

Similarly, in the current education and training activities, the subjects aimed at raising awareness of disaster and teaching the right behavior are not suitable for life-oriented learning by doing and experiencing. In addition to these, in the education and training programs for disasters, preparation issues such as all hazards/risks, disaster mitigation and planning are not handled as a whole, and they have incorrectly focused on only one of many disasters and studies in a single phase of the disaster management system. All these studies should be expanded to cover the whole society and disasters. For example, not only debris occurs in an earthquake, but also secondary hazards such as floods or fires occur too. For this reason, more comprehensive training programs should be prepared for post-disaster preparedness and search and rescue training should not be given only.

As a result, we have personal, institutional and social responsibilities to protect our family and neighbors from all of the dangers in the every step of disaster management system. For this reason, we need to make the disaster preparedness studies widespread in every level in order to create a society resistant to the disasters. For this reason, we should stop discussing the danger itself and whether there will be disasters, see the work done so far as a start, and look at disasters and disaster management as a whole and give more importance to preparation. We should not forget that taking the necessary preparations and measures before disasters will save more lives than effective intervention during disasters. This is an obligation that must be fulfilled in the short term and on a national scale.

