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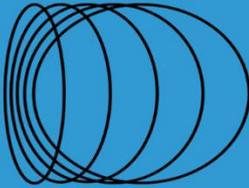
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**Disaster Training
Application
and Research Center**

e - Newsletter

İSTANBUL AYDIN
ÜNİVERSİTESİ
AFAM
AFET EĞİTİM, UYGULAMA
ve ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ



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Disaster Preparedness Training and Disaster Emergency Planning Studies of Faculty of Dentistry Hospital and ADSM Staff Started

Corporate level disaster preparedness studies are responsibilities that should be done in order to maintain the continuity of the post-disaster services. People will need help from healthcare organizations even if the personnels of the healthcare facilities are disaster victims and people will need them even more, that's why the disaster preparedness studies are the primary responsibility of them.

As a necessity of this responsibility, Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Dentistry Hospital has started a joint study with the Disaster Training Application and Research Center in order to maximize disaster preparedness.

The first step of the study, which consists of four steps, is the Disaster Preparedness Trainings, where all personnel can complete their individual preparations for disasters. In the second step, Disaster Emergency Planning will be carried out, in which the risks against a possible disaster and emergency will be reduced and the institution can respond with its own capacity. In the third step of the study, a drill that will test the operability of all activities that will be carried out is going to be held. In the fourth step, update of the planning will be made according to the feedback from the drill.

On August 14, 2017, the disaster preparedness training of the Bahçelievler Oral and Dental Health Center personnel was carried out and the work started.





The First Chapter of The “Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey” Article Series Was Published in Many National and Local Media

As Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center (AFAM), we started a study to evaluate the adequacy of disaster preparedness studies carried out in our country. For these studies, we started a section named “Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey” in our monthly e-bulletin. In this section, we analyze all disaster preparedness activities carried out by both non-governmental organizations and public institutions and provide opinions on what kind of complementary activities can be supported to achieve the ideal level of preparedness. In this section, which we will support from time to time with interviews with experts working in this field, we also closely follow international studies that can set an example for our country. The first chapter of this study, which we consider as a responsibility we must fulfill in minimizing the negative effects of disasters on our national development, aroused attention from many national and local media and published in our July 2017 e-bulletin.

The full text version of the first chapter of the article series can be reached out from the links under the news images.



<http://www.milliyet.com.tr/afet-oncesi-hazirlik-afet-anindaki-mudahaleden-istanbul-yerelhaber-2236315/>



<http://www.ihahaber.com.tr/haber-afet-oncesi-hazirlik-afet-anindaki-mudahaleden-daha-onemli-667022/>



<http://www.yenimarmaragazetesi.com/afet-oncesi-hazirlik-afet-anindaki-mudahaleden-daha-onemli-128294.html>



“18th Anniversary of the 17th August 1999 Earthquake” Interview from AFAM

Our interview on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the "17 August 1999 Marmara Earthquake", in which 17,840 people lost their lives and the epicenter of which was Düzce, was published in many local and national media.

In the interview we conducted as Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center, which is one of the institutions whose opinions are given importance in the studies carried out on disasters in our country, the situation from the 1999 Marmara Earthquakes to the present day was evaluated.

In the interview, it was tried to inform the public about the increased sensitivity of the public to earthquake-specific activities due to seismic activities in the Aegean Region and the questions regarding the possible impact of earthquakes in this region on the possible Istanbul Earthquake.

The full text of the interview can be reached out from the links under the news images.



<http://www.hedefhalk.com/yilmaz-istanbulu-18-yildir-depreme-hazirlayamadik-1163155h.htm>



<http://www.sozcu.com.tr/2017/gundem/korkutan-aciklama-olasi-istanbul-depremini-tetikleyebilir-1976401/>



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Forest Fires in Turkey Pose a Great Risk for the Future

Our forests, which are one of our most important natural resources, which are under intense pressure due to increasing population, expanding agricultural lands, urbanization and industrialization, are at great risk due to the increasing fires every year. Forest fires, which are more intense in the Mediterranean, Aegean and Marmara Regions, cause the destruction of 9,818.5 hectares of forest area with an average of 2,649.1 fires throughout the country, considering the data of the last ten years. An annual investment of 50 million dollars is required in order to reintroduce these areas to forest lands. When all these results are taken into account, it is seen that the human factor is involved in the formation of forest fires that create a catastrophic effect, with an average of over 90%.

When only the 2016 data are examined, it is seen that 157 of the 3.188 forest fire incidents occurred due to intent, 990 due to negligence, 1731 unsolved and 310 due to natural origin.

When the current situation is examined, informing the population of the country about the precautions that can be taken and the negative consequences of forest fires will contribute to the reduction of larger climate problems that we will encounter in the future and the sustainability of our forests, which is one of our most important natural resources.



12.09.2017, Geyve District Forest Fire / *Sakarya*



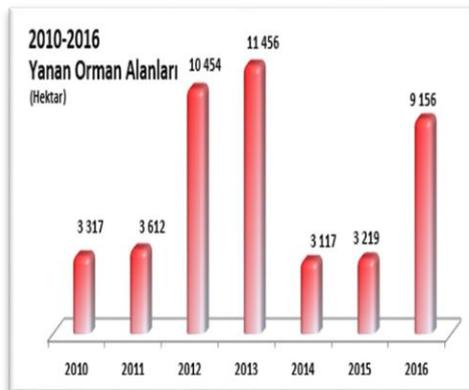
11.09.2017, Domaniç District Forest Fire / *Kütahya*



07.09.2017, Mençe District Forest Fire / *İzmir*



2016 Official Statistics / T.C. Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs – General Directorate of Forestry



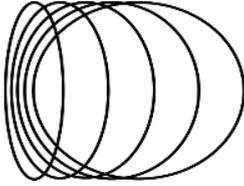
2016 Official Statistics / T.C. Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs – General Directorate of Forestry



2016 Official Statistics / T.C. Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs – General Directorate of Forestry



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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.

In the second chapter of the article series we published under the title of "Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey", we will touch on the importance of disaster and emergency planning studies at individual, institutional, local and central levels.

Adequacy of Disaster Emergency Planning Studies in Our Country

The experiences we have gained from the disasters we have experienced in the past times show that the lack of knowledge and awareness, socially and administratively, is at the root of the disasters reaching large dimensions. For this reason, there is a need for studies that will determine what kind of dangers we are facing and prevent the damages caused by these dangers before the disaster.

Based on this approach, which we define as risk reduction, every preparation to be made before the disaster will reduce the losses and damages caused by the disaster. The lack of risk awareness in disasters throughout history have been the reason for heavy losses. However, despite the fact that the importance of risk reduction efforts has been grasped throughout the world in the last 20 years, when we look at the part of the 21st century that we have left behind, it does not seem possible to say that it has hadn't successful a period against disasters when the costs paid by both the world and our country are taken into account.





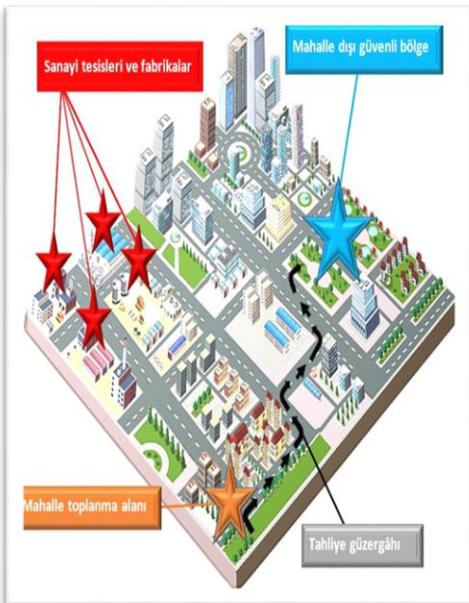
One of the most important factors causing this situation is the lack of complementary studies that will ensure that the risk reduction activities carried out for disasters remain at a certain level and that they are internalized by the society. In other words, no matter how much disaster preparedness is administratively, a major event or accident caused by nature, human or technology that will take place in a region where individual preparations are not completed will result in a disaster. Because whatever the source, disasters are social events and affect societies.

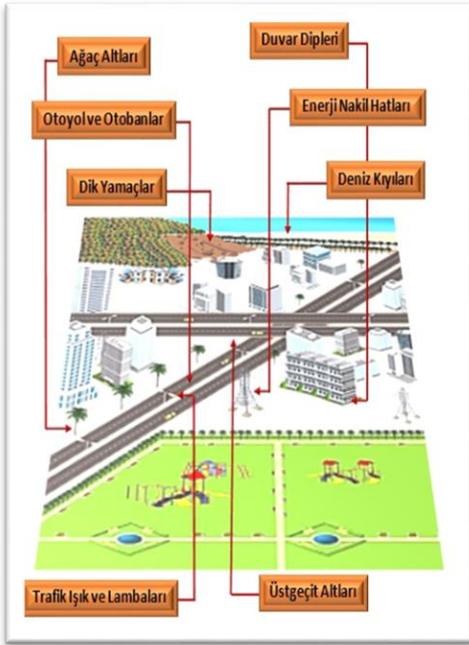
In other words, if the health personnel serving in hospitals, educators working in schools, employees who provide production and service continuity in banks, factories, public institutions, and even individuals who will take part in disaster management studies are damaged by the disaster, both the interruption of daily life and the work that should be carried out after the disaster will be disruption inevitable. For this reason, the individual is at the heart of the work carried out for disasters, and the work carried out must be carried out with understandings that are community-centered and offer solution partnerships that encourage active participation.

The most effective method that will provide the social response of this understanding in the activities carried out for disasters is the harmony between the planning studies to be carried out at the level of individuals, institutions, organizations, local and central government.

The main purpose of planning studies is to ensure that the risks that may harm human life and places during and after any event or accident that may cause natural, human or technology-induced disasters and emergencies are eliminated, if possible, before the event or accident. In the simplest terms, it can be called the process of determining the disease correctly, determining the appropriate treatment method and applying this method. It is vital to carry out pre-disaster planning studies, as it is not possible to predict when and where disasters and emergencies will occur.

Due to their legal responsibilities, central and local governments, institutions and organizations have obligations to plan for disasters and emergencies. However, the plans are not learned by the individuals working in the institutions that are the ultimate influencers, or by the residents of the city at the provincial, district and neighborhood level.





In fact, most of the time, the plans made as a requirement of legal obligation remain on paper and are used only to say "we are doing disaster and emergency planning studies" in inspections. This situation, on the other hand, causes the planning works made during disasters and emergencies not to be operated and we do not encounter the tables we have encountered after the disasters we have experienced throughout history. For this reason, it is necessary for each family to prepare a disaster and emergency plan in order to learn the parts of the disaster emergency plans made at the institutional level, at the local and central level, which are of interest to the citizens, and to operate the prepared plans more efficiently.

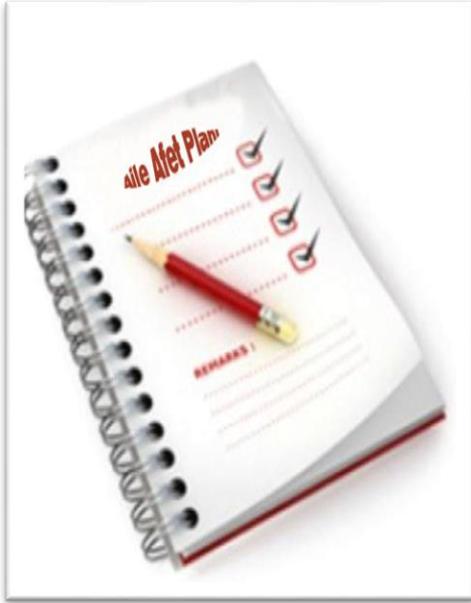
It is generally unpredictable when the disaster will occur and each family member can be in different places such as workplace, school or home during the day. With the disaster emergency plans to be prepared by the families, it is possible to plan which emergency routes the family members can use in case of a possible disaster wherever they are, where the nearest assembly area is, how they will be picked up from school if the child is at school, and what kind of approach the workplace will take in case of disasters and emergencies. they can include.

This will enable individuals to inquire about emergency routes in the neighborhoods where they live or work through local and central administrations, to actively participate in the disaster and emergency plans of the schools they send their children to, and to actively participate in solving the problems that may arise and their responsibilities in their workplaces. Thus, the prepared plans will be developed in line with the needs demanded by the individuals and placed in a community-based structure, their operability will be questioned and tested with regular exercises. Planning work, which is prepared by foreseeing all possible risks for a possible disaster and emergency situation, regularly applied and prepared with the participation of all family members, will prevent panic that may occur during disasters.

As a standard, family disaster and emergency plan to be prepared by families;

- Issues that may cause disasters and emergencies or pose a risk in the province, district and neighborhood where you live,
- Structural soundness of the building,
- Damages caused by the items used in the house in possible vibrations,





- Emergency meeting places and how to communicate with family members in case of not being together at the time of disaster,
- Basic life needs that may be required in the event of a disaster,
- How to meet the special needs of children, elderly and disabled individuals, if any, among family members,
- How to access important documents,
- How to act in case of disaster and emergency,
- In what situations and how to call emergency numbers,
- How to evacuate in which situations,
- How to turn off infrastructures such as electricity, natural gas and water in the house when it is necessary to evacuate,
- What kind of measures can be taken against secondary risks such as fire and flood must be answered clearly.

Apart from this standard step, the family disaster plan to be prepared should be developed according to the special needs of the family members and all the preparatory works and plans should be tested with exercises before they can be operated with the desired performance in case of a possible disaster or emergency. All these preparatory work should be done with the awareness that disaster risk is an unchangeable reality of our country in order to be able to be protected from the effects of disasters without creating pessimism about disasters.

It should not be forgotten that the basis of all preparations for disasters is to ensure the safety of human life and property, to prevent economic losses by ensuring environmental sustainability, and to protect the continuity of business and daily life. For all these reasons, all individuals are responsible for disaster preparedness.

Serhat Yılmaz
Coordinator of AFAM

