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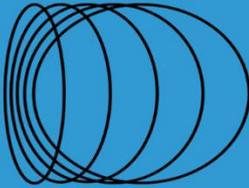
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**Disaster Training  
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**e - Newsletter**

İSTANBUL AYDIN  
ÜNİVERSİTESİ  
**AFAM**  
AFET EĞİTİM, UYGULAMA  
ve ARAŞTIRMA MERKEZİ



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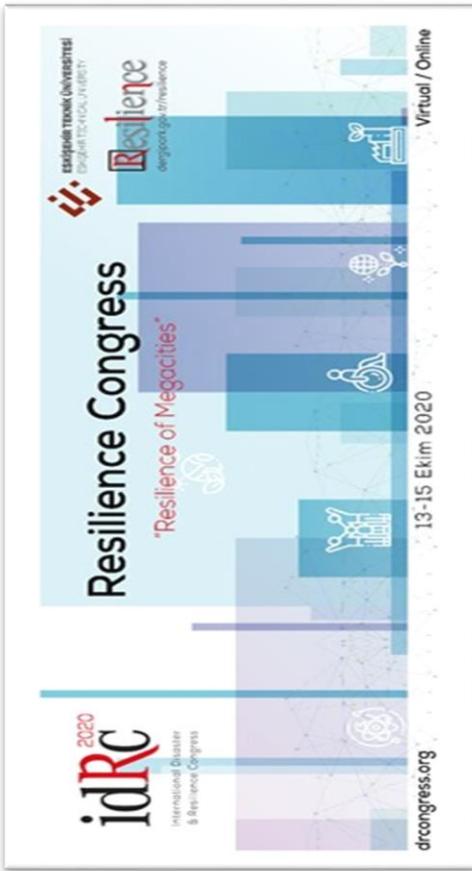


## Marmara Region Earthquake Preparedness Panel

Serhat Yılmaz, Coordinator of Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center, Prof. Dr. Şükrü Ersoy, Bezmiâlem Vakıf University Head of Disaster Management Department Dr. Lecturer Özcan Erdoğan and UMKEDER Founding Member Dr. Lecturer With the panel organized by the working group formed by its member Yeşim Ünal, the earthquake preparation of the Marmara Region was evaluated in all aspects.

The moderator of the panel, which was held between 13:00 - 15:00 on the 1st Day of the Congress on October 13, was Prof. Dr. Nilgün Okay (Istanbul Technical University). Panelists were Kemal Duran from Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Fazilet Altınışık from Bursa Metropolitan Municipality, Mustafa Cevher from Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, Kenan Çolak from Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality, Sevim Avcı Yener from Tekirdağ Metropolitan Municipality and Ömür Bayar from Yalova Municipality. joined as.

The panel was held with the cooperation of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Bursa Metropolitan Municipality, Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality, Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality, Tekirdağ Metropolitan Municipality and Yalova Municipality with an intense participation.





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## The Importance of Education in Early Years in Disaster Preparedness Panel

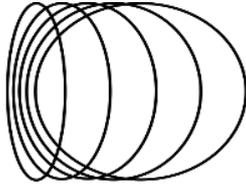
Istanbul Aydın University Disaster Training Application and Research Center coordinator Serhat Yılmaz, Yıldız Technical University Natural Sciences Research Center President Prof. Dr. Şükrü Ersoy, Bezmîâlem Foundation University Head of Disaster Management Department Dr. Lecturer Özcan Erdoğan and UMKEDER Founding Member Dr. Lecturer In the panel organized by the working group formed by its member, Yeşim Ünal, the importance of education given at an early age in disaster preparation was evaluated with all its aspects.

The panel was held between 09:30 - 12:30 on the 2nd Day of the Congress, moderated by Assoc. Dr. Emin Özdamar did it. Yuichiro Takada from JICA Turkey, Recep Şalcı from AKUT, Assoc. Dr. Tuba Gökmenoğlu, Dr. Elif Daşcı Dönmez, Dr. İbrahim Yavuz from Ministry of National Education, Dr. Alparslan Durmuş from Kızılay participated as panelists. The panel was held in cooperation with the JICA, AKUT and Turkish Red Crescent.





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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 this part of the article series we published under the title of "Main Problems in Disaster Management Approaches in Turkey", we evaluated what can be done against forest fires in our country.

### ***Forest Fires in Hatay Demonstrate the Necessity of Strategic Planning Approach***

It is a known fact that forest fires cause serious effects on humans and nature. It would be helpful to share some numbers to make clear the extent of these effects. As in the rest of the world, fires are seen as the most important factor threatening forest areas in our country.

Especially in the countries located in the Mediterranean Region, some parts of the south and west of Turkey are located in this region, many forest fire cases are encountered every year.

According to the data of the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, only 192 forest fire cases, large and small, were recorded between October 1, 2020 and October 14, 2020.

According to the ministry's data, 1,667,676 hectares of Woodland were burned in 106,663 forest fires from 1937 to 2019, when records of forest fires began to be kept in Turkey.



Image: [aa.com.tr/tr/gunun-basliklari/hatayda-orman-yangini/1253498](https://aa.com.tr/tr/gunun-basliklari/hatayda-orman-yangini/1253498)



Here we are talking about an area one and a half times the size of the entire island of Cyprus. Naturally such a large forested areas damaged as a result of the fires, soil, vegetation and cause damage to wildlife, carbon, nitrogen and water cycles, such as biogeochemical cycles and the woods and all of this along with a negative impact on their lives due to economic results reveal that in the context of both important in the process of fire fighting. The damage seen by the settlements and wildlife that we saw in the forest fires that took place in Hatay is a tangible view of these effects. These damages, on the other hand, make it mandatory to conduct some studies.

In fact, some substances such as watchtowers and patrol systems can be glazed as preventive measures. But these measures will unfortunately remain superficial in the fight against wildfires. Therefore, it would be a more accurate approach to evaluate the process within the disaster management cycle. In other words, two separate stages should be planned as risk and crisis management. At the Risk stage, our country's forest fire risks should be identified and a risk map should be drawn up in which these risks are prioritized. This risk map should be prepared with the participation of all institutions and organizations responsible for this area. In this way, a proactive strategy for the predicted fire risks can be implemented. The second phase of forest fire prevention should be crisis management. At this stage, it is necessary to develop intervention strategies, how to implement the fastest and most accurate response to a possible forest fire incident, how to re-convert damaged areas into woodlands, and strategies for remediation work. Of course, the legal infrastructure for the work to be done for both stages will need to be established.

In the context of Disaster Management, Improvement studies are the studies that should be carried out in the crisis management phase. The only goal of these studies should be to reforest the area as much as the least damaged woodland and to revive the natural life here. For these studies, the cooperation of many different specialties will be needed. For example, it is necessary to know the flora in the forest area where the fire occurred (all plants, fungi and unicellular ones in a particular area) and to conduct afforestation studies accordingly. In this case, the Forest Fire Risk Map of Turkey, which we recommend to prepare, should also contain information about the flora found in all forest areas in our country. Again, a similar study applies to fauna (all species of animals living in a particular region). In this case, it is necessary to use many branches of science such as botany, zoology, geology, sociology to improve the damaged forest area.



*Image:* <https://www.sozcu.com.tr/2019/gundem/hatayda-25-farkli-noktada-orman-yangini-5339345/>



*Image:* <https://www.trthaber.com/haber/turkiye/hatayda-orman-yangini-yeniden-basladi-514335.html>



Because in order to regain an area of vitality that has been damaged or completely lost in different dimensions, long-term work of experts from different disciplines will be needed.

Nature is the only element that determines the rule in the afforestation works to be carried out in the forest area where the fire occurred. To put it more clearly, it is necessary to have knowledge of all the flora of the woodland where the fire occurred. Because the flora is formed over a long time according to the natural conditions of the region. For this reason, first of all, it is necessary to complete studies on the extraction of flora information for Woodlands. This information will determine the afforestation work that will be carried out after a forest fire that occurs in any region.

Considering the plants and wildlife of a forested area, these environments are formed as a result of processes that have passed millennia. There can therefore be no mention of a full comeback. But we can do studies or rehabilitation that will support this process in the natural movement. As I mentioned earlier this support for rehabilitation work, or seeing, to have a comprehensive knowledge of forested areas related to this field, any existing or potential risks, identify and take precautions against these risks with all of these, you must plan in advance how to behave in case of a possible fire.

Serhat Yılmaz  
Coordinator of AFAM



*Image:*<https://www.haber7.com/guncel/haber/3022223-hatayda-yangin-yerlesim-yerleri-tehdit-altinda-bazi-araclar-zarar-gordu>



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