

ENERGY POLICIES AND NEW ENERGY STRATEGIES FOR TURKEY



Energy policies are important in Turkey because it imports 60% of its energy use, according to research conducted by TUIK. In recent years, the government has increased its investment in sustainable energy sources. Despite this encouraging news, Turkey currently produces 20% of electrical energy from renewable energy sources (18% hydroelectric power plant %2 wind turbines); policies are generally geared towards petroleum and natural gas energy.

Many meetings and conferences have been conducted to discuss an increase in usage of both renewable energy sources and Turkey's foreign energy policies. One of these conferences was the International Energy Congress and Fair (EIF) conducted October 4 & 5, 2012 in Ankara, Turkey.

EIF 2012, for two days, opened Ankara's biggest fairground to all attendees, with its "Energy Challenge" competition organized for university students and with an "Energy Law Course Program;" providing a platform for valued academicians. The conference, which is annually organized in Ankara, Turkey, has a wide participant base primarily formed of academicians, students, company executives, bureaucrats, and non-governmental organizations.

At the conference, authorities from Turkey, Saudi Arabian, Northern Iraq, and the USA, debated energy policies, energy economies, and the relationship between energy and international foreign policies. Many individuals presented scientific presentations in sessions related to renewable energy investments and finance, petroleum and natural gas investments, power generation in Turkey, plus recycling of wastes and energy generation. Existing energy codes, provisions, and regulations were debated in the light of all discussions.

Turkey is not a self-sufficient country in terms of energy resources because of its population density. Although Turkey has seriously attempted renewable energy production and usage derived from wind turbines and solar fields, the infrastructure has not been implemented for renewable energy power and an insufficient amount of "alternative" energy has been produced.

Despite the discouragement, private sector investors have increased research and development in alternative energy and public awareness has increased in regards to energy and renewable energy production and use.

Source: <http://www.globalsiteplans.com/environmental-design/energy-environmental-design/energy-policies-and-new-energy-strategies-for-turkey-international-energy-congress-and-fair/>