

## **NIHA-PROJECTTEAMS 2009 REPORTS**

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## 1. EU THURSDAY SEMINARS 2009

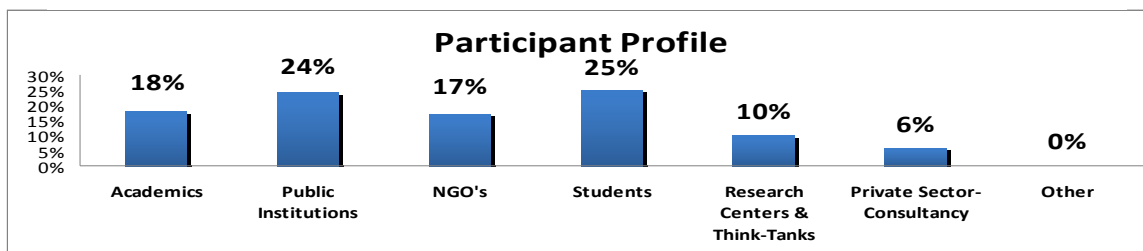
TEAM			
Senem Güler	Project Officer		
Emine Arslan	Project Officer	Sep 2008-Oct2009	
OTHER CONTRIBUTORS			
Elif Atasoy	Intern	Sep 2009/Jan 2010	
Duygu Avaroğlu	Intern	Sep/Dec 2009	

The EU Thursday Seminars aim to create a communication platform for experts and academics in Turkey on a variety of EU related fields. This communication platform is vital for many reasons. Seminar topics are generally chosen among 'hard core' policy issues and connect with NIHA's major priority areas. Second, they contribute to long-term cooperation and durable networks between practitioners and academics especially in the Netherlands and Turkey.

All themes covered are closely related to Higher Education, Vocational Education and/ or Innovation/Research. We aim at increasing ties in those fields through intensive or occasional collaboration between The Netherlands and Turkey's universities, NGOs, institutions and companies.

AGENDA 2009					
#	Date	Place	Role	Referee/s	Subject
1	2009/04/09	NIHA	Organisation	Senem Güler & Emine Arslan	The roles and contributions of think-tanks in Turkey-EU relations.
2	2009/05/14	NIHA	Organisation	Senem Güler & Emine Arslan	The evaluation of the "Health in Transition Program" regarding its economical sustainability.
3	2009/06/25	NIHA	Organisation	Senem Güler & Emine Arslan	Stakeholder Analysis of the Health in Transition Program and its general effects on the public institutions.
4	2009/11/12	NIHA	Organisation	Senem Güler	Health Service Management Turkey and the Case of the Netherlands.

**Participant Profile for the 2009 Events (out of 100 participants)**



## DETAILS

### o **The roles and contributions of think-tanks in Turkey-EU relations**

Developing relations between Turkey and EU, apart from the state actors, depends on the universities, NGOs, and the media. Among the most important NGO's we find the so-called think-tanks. The main roles and contributions of think-tanks in Turkey-EU relations can be summarized as:

- a. Producing accurate and timely knowledge in order to illuminate both sides by representing Turkey to the EU and vice versa. In this regard, presenting Turkey to the EU and *vice versa* should be the main aim of the think tanks.
- b. Convening meetings, setting up projects and conducting research to reveal the strategic opportunities between the parties.
- c. Helping to mitigate biases and their harmful effects on parties' perceptions.
- d. Providing information for the Turkish public regarding the EU, its institutions, and its functioning. This function of think-tanks is of vital importance in the sense that conspiracy theories dominated EU-Turkey relations for a while.
- e. Cooperating with universities to help the political ruling elite in constructing their ideas regarding the future of the relations.
- f. Designing internship programs with European think-tanks and universities. This will help scholars have access to accurate knowledge and concrete data while doing research on Turkey, hence help them gain a more objective perspective on (the position of) Turkey

In order for the Turkish think-tanks to fulfill their missions, it is necessary for the political ruling elite to change their paradigm. In the existing context, Turkey-EU relations are based on a *state-centric/bureaucratic paradigm* which leaves little room for civil society. Perhaps, one urgent mission of think-tanks in Turkey is to convince the political ruling elite to put more emphasis on the role and potential of think-tanks (and other civil society institutions) regarding Turkey-EU relations.

On the other hand, Turkish think-tanks should also develop their relations with universities and increase the frequency of joint actions in their researches.

2009's first EU Thursday Seminar addressed the importance of think-tanks in Turkish-EU relations. NIHA hosted 39 participants from predominantly NGO's (13 participants) and academia (10 participants). This event not only resulted in informal academic cooperation and direct contacts between NIHA and other researchers, but also new internship opportunities were formed, for instance an internship cooperation was set up between USAK and ORSAM, two influential organizations.

- o **The Evaluation of the "Health in Transition Program" Regarding Its Economical Sustainability**
- o **Stakeholder Analysis of the Health in Transition Program and Its General Effects on the Public Institutions**
- o **Health Service Management Turkey and Case of the Netherlands**

Healthcare policies are largely dependent on a country's domestic policies and socio-economic structures, yet in Turkey there are different dynamics. On the one hand, working towards EU membership, Turkey passes through a process of Europeanisation. Accordingly, Turkey follows the "Health in Transition Program", which is considered a big step towards the harmonisation of Turkish healthcare policy with EU norms and perceptions. On the other hand, Turkey is still trying to overcome the developmental differences between its regions. The projections of this reform process can be seen in the political-economy, legislative/institutional frame and at the end of the

day in the higher education curriculum. Due to NIHA's main scopes and geographical orientation, Turkish healthcare reform process and its applications have been discussed respectively.

The last three seminars of the EU Thursday Seminars covered the topic of healthcare from economical, legislative and educational perspectives. The major aim of the seminars was to enhance the bonds between public institutions and universities. NIHA hosted 61 participants with the majority from academic and public institutions.

## 2. PROJECT 'HIGHER EDUCATION IN ELDERLY CARE IN TURKEY AND THE NETHERLANDS'

TEAM			
Senem Güler	Project Officer		
Funda Demir	Project Officer		
OTHER CONTRIBUTORS			
Nurcan Taşer	VET-coordinator		

Due to an increase in the ageing population, and thereby facing a considerable demographic transition by 2025, Turkey is increasingly pressured to revitalize the existing "elderly care curriculum" in its higher education institutions. Cooperation with the Netherlands maybe fruitful in this, due to the strength of Dutch policies on elderly care and the common need to revitalize nursing school policies.

NIHA can be a bridge between Turkey and the Netherlands in this project. It aims to establish a TR\_NL Elderly Care Education Dual Program in Turkey. The expected duration of the project is about 18 months (depends on the grant).

## 3. FALL SCHOOL 2009

TEAM			
Senem Güler	Project Officer		
Emine Arslan	Project Officer	Sep 2008-Oct2009	
OTHER CONTRIBUTORS			
Cem Gündoğan	Project Officer		
Aslı Kaymak	Dpt. Director		

AGENDA 2009					
#	Date	Place	Role	Referee/s	Subject
1	2009/09/28-2009/10/01	NIHAnkara	Organization/Initiator	Senem Güler & Emine Arslan	Developing Foreign Policy on Energy Issues

## **“Developing Foreign Policy on Energy Issues”**

### **Fall School Project**

**28 September–01 October 2009**

### **Project Summary**

The project **“Developing Foreign Policy on Energy Issues”** was held by NIHA between 28 September and 01 October 2009 at NIHA premises. The project was designed as four-day school with energy experts from both academia and industry, one of the most important foreign policy issues. Incorporating various perceptions, the relationship between energy and foreign policy is a current debate. Parallel with changes in the global political arena, energy is becoming an increasingly important factor in forming foreign policies. Therefore, energy issues were firstly explained in terms of the relations between **Turkey** and its **periphery**. Henceforth, the focus shifted to exchanging knowledge and experience with sector professionals.

The project was designed as a fall school and its activity plan consisted of courses on EU-Turkey, Eurasia-Turkey and Middle East-Turkey relations from an energy perspective. The first three morning sessions covered regional policies and the afternoon sessions have been devoted to sector seminars. The last day consisted of a one-day case study on negotiation agreements.

### **General objectives:**

- Establish a communication platform in which think-tanks, strategic research centers, young academicians and professionals come together to share knowledge of energy issues.
- Organizing an interactive course/seminar covering current issues within the energy sector.
- Contributing to strengthening of the relations of academia, think tanks and industry by inviting MA and PhD students from urban as well as rural universities.

### **Project aims:**

- Discuss Turkish foreign policy from an energy perspective within a four-day course/seminar program, given in English to thirty MA and PhD students
- Pay specific attention, through presentations and lectures, on regions and the sector.
- Practice with negotiation techniques within the framework of various energy issues and conduct a case study.
- Provide academic support from the Netherlands for the case study on “Negotiation techniques”.
- Allocate one part of the day to the interactive “senior-junior activity” involving experts from the sector
- Publish the lecture notes.
- Record the lectures and provide visual material.
- Develop a platform for Dutch and Turkish academicians, sector experts, students and young professionals to exchange and gain knowledge, experience and an insight on energy issues especially with regards to foreign policy formulation

### **Results:**

- 41 MA and PhD students from universities and public institutes attended the fall school.
- Each lecture has been recorded and visual materials have been delivered to the participants and the speakers.

- Paul Meerts from the Clingendael Netherlands Institute of International Relations participated as the foreign academician by leading the case study “Negotiation Techniques on Oil Issues”.
- Relations between METU-NIHA have been developed and in collaboration with the department of the Eurasian Studies the case study on “Negotiation Techniques” also took place at METU
- 12 speakers from different backgrounds held lectures. Students had the opportunity to communicate with those professionals in an academic and interactive environment.
- NIHA boosted the relations between the Netherlands and Turkey’s universities, NGOs, institutions and companies

**Course Schedule for the project “Developing Foreign Policy On Energy Issues”**

No	Names	Cours days and hours	Topics	Total course hours
1	<b>Sedat LAÇİNER</b> Chair International Strategic Research Organization USAK	28.09.09 Monday 10:30-12:30	Turkey-EU relations from energy perspective.	2 hours
2	<b>Osman GÖKSEL</b> Director Baku-Tiflis-Ceyhan and Nabucco Project	28.09.09 Monday 13:30-15:30	BTC and Nabucco Projects	2 hours
3	<b>Serkan KELEŞER</b> General Manager İGDAŞ/UGETAM (Istanbul Practical Gas and Energy Technologies Research Engineering Industrial Trade Co.Inc.)	28.09.09 Monday 15:30-17:30	The importance of Industrial and natural gas strategies in Turkey and Europe.	2 hours
4	<b>Meliha ALTUNIŞIK</b> Department Chair METU International Relations	29.09.09 Tuesday 09:30-12:30	Turkey-Middle East relations from energy perspective	3 hours

5	<b>Pınar İPEK</b> Lecturer Bilkent University International Relations	29.09.09 Tuesday 13:30-15:30	Turkey- Middle East relations from energy perspective	2 hours
6	<b>Sencer İMER</b> Director Hacettepe University Strategic Research Center	29.09.09 Tuesday 15:30-17:30	"Senior-Junior" Activity	2 hours
7	<b>Mete GÖKNEL</b> Former General Manager BOTAŞ (Petroleum Pipeline Cooperation)	29.09.09 Tuesday 15:30-17:30	"Senior-Junior" Activity	2 hours
8	<b>Necdet PAMİR</b> Member World Energy Council Administrative Board	30.09.09 Wednesday 09:30-12:30	Turkey- Eurasia relations from energy perspective	3 hours
9	<b>Cenk PALA</b> E.ON Ruhrgas Turkey General Manager	30.09.09 Wednesday 13:30-14:30	The Strategic importance of oil and natural gas.	1 hour
10	<b>Hasan Alsancak</b> Deputy General Manager Energy Security BTC Co. Turkey	30.09.09 Wednesday 14:30-15:30	Energy Security	1 hour
11	<b>Mehmet Ali KAYA</b> Head of Department for International Projects and Business Development TPAO	30.09.09 Wednesday 15:30-17:30	National and International energy projects and investments of TPAO and its regional strategies.	2 hours

12	<b>Paul MEERTS</b> Clingendael Institute	01.10.09 Thursday 09:30-12:30 12:30-17:30	Negotiation Technics on Energy issues	7 hours
Total Course Hours				29

## 4. SUSTAINABILITY AND GREEN EDUCATION

### TEAM

Gerben Wedekind	Project Officer/ Liaison Officer	
Cem Gundogan	Project Officer	
Martine van der Lee	Project Officer	Sep/Dec 2009

### OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Jak den Exter	Director	
Uğur Göçen	Project Officer	Nov/Dec 2009

Although Agriculture - now dubbed Sustainability and Green Sector - has been a focus area since the establishment of NIHA, it used to lag behind somewhat when compared to other priority areas. However, in 2009 the pace regarding this priority area was consciously and successfully increased, and foundations have been laid for further intensification of NIHA's project activities within this field for the upcoming year.

All themes covered in the fields of Sustainability and Green Education are closely related to Higher Education, Vocational Education and/or Innovation/Research. We aimed at increasing ties in those fields through intensive or occasional collaboration between universities, VET-schools, NGOs, related institutions and companies.

## SUSTAINABILITY AND GREEN EDUCATION

The year 2009 marked an intensification of NIHA's sustainability and green sector activities. Although Agriculture - now dubbed Sustainability and Green Sector - has been a focus area since the establishment of NIHA, it was not on par with developments in other priority areas. However, in 2009 the pace regarding this priority area was consciously and successfully increased, and foundations have been laid for further intensification of NIHA's project activities within this field for the upcoming year.

#### **4.1 Initiating the agriculture focal area**

The first half of 2009 was an exploratory phase. NIHA focused on increasing its knowledge of Turkish and Dutch green sectors, while simultaneously aiming to increase its visibility to potential Turkish and Dutch partners. The working visit, organized at the end of February in cooperation with CAH Dronten and which aimed at identifying the potential as well as the educational needs of the horticulture sector in Izmir, constitutes an excellent example of the aforementioned.

Moreover, during this phase the network of relevant contacts in the Netherlands and Turkey increased tremendously. At the end of July, NIHA had established relations with virtually all Dutch and a great number of Turkish (higher) vocational schools, universities as well as enterprises, research institutes, NGOs and relevant government agencies and had submitted a first MATRA proposal (in cooperation with CREM BV) on setting up sustainable vocational schools.

#### **4.2 Geothermal energy**

NIHA carried out exploratory work (numerous meetings; a Green Breakfast session on Central-Anatolia's significant geothermal energy potential contributing multiple working papers and a working visit to the Yozgat regions) towards a geothermal energy education project. Currently, NIHA is cooperating with Bozok University on the establishment of a geothermal energy education facility.

#### **4.3 Involvement in 'Kies Kleur in Groen' (lit.: 'Choose Color in Green')**

NIHA has actively participated in a study visit undertaken within the framework of the "Kies Kleur in Groen" ("Choose Color in Green") initiative, an initiative in which virtually all Dutch (higher) vocational schools have joined ranks to increase the number of students of non-Dutch descent within this sector. During this study visit NIHA provided the more than 30 participants with inside knowledge on Turkey, its agriculture sector as well as its education system (through for instance a presentation). Dutch participants of the study travel indicated that they are interested in organizing a return visit for their Turkish colleagues. NIHA was asked to map expectations and demands for Turkish-Dutch cooperation in green education from the Turkish side.

#### **4.4 Sustainable Campus Project**

During the second half of 2009, NIHA initiated a "Sustainable Campus" project, which is to be submitted early 2010 and is undertaken in close cooperation with EcoFys Turkey, Middle East Technical University, Sabanci University, Delft University of Technology and Erasmus University Rotterdam, marked the second half of 2009. Another highlight was the structural incorporation and participation of NIHA within the Kies Kleur in Groen-platform, which aims to increase its activities in 2010.

Concluding, 2009 has been the year that NIHA established itself in the Sustainability and Green Sector. Many initiatives have been employed, knowledge has been increased and the network of contacts has grown, although room remains for improvement. Many of the in 2009 employed initiatives will only bear fruit from next year onwards, and therefore it is imperative that NIHA continues to intensify and expands its activities.

<b>AGENDA 2009</b>					
<b>#</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Referee</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1	26 February/ 2 March	Izmir region	Organisation	Gerben Wedekind	<b>Working visit</b> to the Turkish horticulture sector in cooperation with CAH Dronten;
2	27 March	Ankara	Application	Gerben Wedekind	<b>Submission matra project proposal</b> "Sustainable Education in Turkey" in cooperation with CREM BV
3	10 June	Ankara	Organisation	Cem Gundogan; Gerben Wedekind	<b>Green Breakfast session</b> "Exploring Geothermal Energy Potential in Middle-Anatolia"
4	17 June	Yozgat	Organisation	Cem Gundogan; Gerben Wedekind	<b>Working visit</b> within the framework of envisaged "geothermal energy education project" to Yozgat region in cooperation with Bozok University
5	6 May/ 8 May	Afyon/ Aydin	Organisation	Gerben Wedekind	<b>Working visit</b> to greenhouse sector in Afyon/ Aydin region
6	30 May/ 7 June	Konya/ Bursa/ Istanbul	Participation/ Contribution	Gerben Wedekind	<b>Working visit participation/ presentation</b> within the framework of the "Kies Kleur in Groen Initiative" ("Choose Colour in Green Initiative"):
7	22 October	Delft (NL)	Participation	Gerben Wedekind	<b>Meeting</b> within the framework of envisaged matra project "Sustainable Campus Turkey" in cooperation with EcoFys; Middle East Technical University; Sabanci University; Erasmus University Rotterdam; Delft University of Technology
8	16 December	Ede (NL)	Participation	Martine van der Lee; Gerben Wedekind	<b>Meeting</b> within the framework of the Kies Kleur in Groen Initiative
9	December	Utrecht	Partipation	Martine van der Lee	<b>Meeting</b> within the framework of Kies Kleur in Groen with Ali Ocak from APS (national center for school improvement)

## 5. CONFLICT MANAGEMENT NETWORK PROJECT

TEAM		
Martine van der Lee	Project Officer	Sep 09 – Dec 09
Cem Gündoğan	Project Officer	Apr 09 – Dec 09
Uğur Gocen	Project Officer	Nov 09 – Dec 09
Fedor Meerts	Project Officer	Apr 09 – Sep 09

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS	
Aslı Kaymak	Deputy Director

Aiming to bring together experts and knowledge in the field of conflict management in Turkey and the Netherlands, the conflict management network project has been initiated in April 2009. At this stage, the project has successfully passed a first stage of research and analysis and is currently involved in organizing related events and setting up structural opportunities for bilateral cooperation.

This report will highlight the main findings of the initial feasibility study as well as summarize the activities that have been organized thereafter. It will conclude by outlining the planned events and their main targets.

### 5.1 Stakeholders Analysis

The first project-phase consisted of conducting an extensive stakeholders analysis. This analysis served two purposes. First of all, it allowed NIHA to 'test' its assumption that many organizations and individuals in Turkey experience a significant need for the concentration of knowledge through further cooperation among each other as well as with institutes abroad. Second, it provided the opportunity to ask for commitment of relevant stakeholders through introducing the aims of the project. Accordingly, NIHA carried out interviews with approximately 30 (potential) 'stakeholders', not only coming from the academic world, but also related to civil society, think tank and policy-makers. To include most relevant actors, these interviews have been carried out in both Istanbul and Ankara.

In line with NIHA's mandate to bridge Turkish and Dutch higher education institutes, key stakeholders appear to be faculties from Turkish universities. Among them, many researchers focus on conflict management through the analysis of specific conflicts, while a handful work directly on conflict resolution from a conflict resolution perspective. We found that not all academics are in contact with one another. During the interviews, they raised several questions, of which the most poignant are related to the definition of conflict resolution/ management as such and the kind of actors to include: should we focus on a core group or draw more generic stakeholders into the network as well? These issues will be brought to the fore during joint stakeholders meetings in Istanbul and Ankara.

### 5.2 Conflict Management Network Activities

Subsequently, NIHA has organized events to bring people together in this field. The network project kicked off with a young professionals meeting entitled '*Conflict Management in Turkey: From Micro to Macro*' organized in November. Specifically designed for young students,

academics and practitioners, the meeting aimed to shed different lights on the field of conflict management in Turkey and attracted 40 participants coming from different sectors. Concretely, the young professionals meeting already resulted in the following: the German Marshall Fund of the United States plans to finance the publication of a conflict management 'how to/ best practice'-guide on the Turkish-Armenian conflict written by faculty from Bilkent University, who have met at the young professionals meeting.

Second, NIHA has published a monthly e-newsletter named *Conflict Management Perspectives*. The newsletter highlights past events and announces upcoming activities in Turkey and the Netherlands. It also plans to focus on research and other projects in Turkey as to keep actors informed about the status of the field. NIHA plans to dedicate the first half of 2010 to organizing further activities, as outlined in section 2.5.

### **5.3 Interest in Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution**

NIHA has been approached by a network of attorneys interested in alternative dispute resolution through mediation. The Turkish parliament is at this moment of writing reviewing a mediation bill, which should allow judges at civil courts to refer both parties to a mediator, instead of settling the dispute him/ herself. However, several lawyers observed a knowledge-gap of mediation in Turkey. They contacted NIHA for cooperation in setting up a series of tailor-made trainings. An explorative meeting has been conducted in December 2009. Organizations working on mediation in the Netherlands have in the meantime shown interest in contributing to the design of these trainings (see section 2.4).

### **5.4 Bilateral Cooperation Turkey – Netherlands**

In December, NIHA has conducted several meetings with Dutch institutes working on conflict management, among them Utrecht University and the University of Amsterdam. Representatives from both universities indicated a strong interest in further cooperation within this field in Turkey. Specific interest was shown in the fields of mediation, online training modules on conflict management and knowledge exchange through lectures and participation in a summer school.

### **5.5 Follow-up Activities**

Bearing observed trends and previous activities in mind, NIHA will therefore concentrate on the following in 2010:

- **Joint Stakeholders Meetings Istanbul – Ankara**: To be able to discuss the observations from the stakeholders analysis as well as discuss the continuation and shape of the project, NIHA plans to organize joint stakeholders meetings in both Istanbul and Ankara. Stakeholders interviewed for the analysis will be invited to take part.
- **Conflict Management Summer School**: Setting up a summer school on conflict management in probable cooperation with youth organizations and think tanks in Turkey and academics in the Netherlands which aims at bringing together both students and experts on conflict management in Turkey for a four to seven days intensive training. NIHA will look into funding opportunities.
- **Design of Mediation Trainings**: In cooperation with the aforementioned attorneys' network NIHA will focus on exploring possibilities for tailor-made training models for alternative

dispute resolution which aims at increasing conflict management skills in law practice. Simultaneously, NIHA will scrutinize possibilities for financing by third parties. This part of the project is still in an initiating phase.

- **Online education modules on conflict management:** In close cooperation with the University of Amsterdam NIHA will approach organizations within its network for cooperation on setting up online programs/digital lectures in this area.

<b>AGENDA 2009</b>					
<b>#</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Referee</b>	<b>Subject</b>
	September 20-22	Istanbul	Meeting	Cem Gundogan, Martine van der Lee	Finalisation of stakeholders analysis through meetings with Koc University, Bogazici University, Istanbul Kultur Universitesi and the International Crisis Group
	November 6, 2009	Ankara	Networking event/ Young Professionals Meeting	Martine van der Lee	Young professionals meeting with 40 participants entitled 'Conflict Management in Turkey: From Micro to Macro'
	December 12, 2009	Ankara	Meeting	Martine van der Lee, Ugur Gocen	Meeting with attorneys from an alternative dispute resolution network on mediation trainings in Turkey
	December 24, 2009	The Hague/ Amsterdam	Meeting	Fedor Meerts, Martine van der Lee	Meetings on Turkish-Dutch cooperation and conflict management and mediation with representatives of the University of Amsterdam and Utrecht University
	December 31, 2009	Ankara	Publication	Ugur Gocen, Cem Gundogan, Martine van der Lee	Publication and distribution of the first monthly edition of conflict management perspectives, an online newsletter