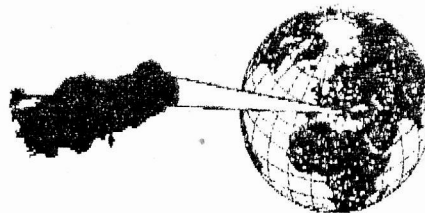


" BOOK CONTRIBUTION "
 (1994, International GIS Sourcebook)

Turkey



BY AHMET B. ORUN

Turkey has its own strategic location between West and East. In recent years, several large-scale projects have been started, such as the Southeast Anatolian Project and Ataturk dam, which are expected to have a big influence in the Middle East due to water conflicts between the neighboring countries. Highway construction projects also are given priority in parts of the country where there is a lack of transportation. These types of projects are more important for developing countries than developed ones and necessitate wide use of technologies such as GIS, as well as provision of financial support.

In recent years, satellite images have begun to be used for large-scale projects in spite of their high costs. Unfortunately, satellite data are not desired or demanded widely by the construction companies in Turkey; they prefer more conventional data-gathering methods. Satellite images and remote sensing are becoming more integrated with GIS and should be implemented in more sophisticated uses in the near future.

With the spread of personal computers into the universities and research institutions, PC-compatible GISs have been introduced. These types of software are more suitable for educational purposes and are less expensive than specially designed systems.

GIS activities in Turkey take place at the universities and some government offices (see box). The GIS-related work done at government offices are project-based, but at the universities, work is generally research-based and at relatively small scales.

GIS activities are becoming widespread in geographic, space and other earth science departments in Turkey. But the major problem is still a lack of sufficient qualified staff in GIS, where this kind of interdisciplinary field necessitates teamwork and people still are reluctant to share all their

knowledge and experiences. However, in the last couple of years, the scientific community is getting in better shape and becoming more of a participant in such fields. ☺

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Turkish Organizations Involved in GIS

Tubitak - Marmara Research Centre
 Uzay Bilimleri Bolm
 P.K. 21, 41470 Gebze, Kocaeli
 Turkey

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 Ahmet B. Orun
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GIS activities:

- Ataturk Dam expansion observation by METEOSAT and reservoir capacity estimation.

- Bosphorus pollution observation by Landsat.

- Global positioning system (GPS) measurements of visible features on the imagery.

- Map-imagery integration and image correction using ground control points, and

- Data format conversion.

Yildiz Teknik Universitesi
 Jeodezi ve Fotogrametri Bol.
 Besiktas, Istanbul
 Turkey

Contact person: Dr. Ayhan Alkis
 Phone: 1-259-70-70/348,
 Fax: 1-259-67-62

GIS activities:

- Consulting for 1:1,000 and 1:500-scale base map production for Istanbul Urban Land Information System,

- Consulting for the Ankara Urban Land Information System,

- Map digitization of Istanbul area and processing in microstation software,

- Cadastral map digitization,

- Digital mapping of urban sewer system,

- Superimposition of maps and project layers,

- Conduction of Ph.D. and M.Sc. thesis about GIS, and

- Symposium on Urban Land Information Systems.

Cukurova Universitesi
 Fen Bilimleri Enst. Mud.
 Balcali, Adana
 Turkey

Contact Person: Dr. Ural Dincel
 Fax: 71-326-945

GIS activities:

- Data conversion,

- Map and image digitizing,

- Field investigation (vegetation, soil, etc.) and

- Map-image integration.

Islem Inc.
 Sakarya Cad. No. 30/3
 P.K. 215
 Yenisehir, Ankara
 Turkey

Contact Person: Mehmet Tankan
 Phone: 4-468-0830,
 Fax: 4-467-4148

GIS activities:

- Processing of SPOT and Landsat images,

- Image and map digitizing, and

- Land use investigation.

Istanbul Teknik Universitesi
 Insaat Fak.
 Jeodezi ve Fotogrametri Bol.
 Ayazaga, Istanbul
 Turkey

Contact Person: Dr. Cankut Ozmeci
 Phone: 1-276-33-32
 Fax: 1-276-17-34

GIS activities:

- Digital processing of satellite images,

- Ground-truth investigation in Istanbul,

- Pollution observation at Istanbul Bosphorus, and

- Topographic map management.