



UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Safeguarding the environment for future generations



Todd Brown/UNEP

Our mandate in Türkiye

The United Nations Environment Programme supports Türkiye in advancing integrated environmental action through policy guidance, technical expertise, strategic partnerships and regional cooperation. As the leading global environmental authority, UNEP promotes solutions that address climate change, nature, land and biodiversity loss, energy efficiency and pollution in a coherent and mutually reinforcing manner. Its work aligns with Türkiye's national development priorities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2026–2030.

Our impact

Through the Generation Restoration Initiative, UNEP has partnered with Istanbul to create greener urban spaces and enhance the conservation of migratory bird species, while also working under the Mediterranean Action Plan and Barcelona Convention to boost Türkiye's marine protection, coastal resilience, and regional climate cooperation through a new Climate Change Regional Activity Center in Istanbul.

Additionally, UNEP's collaboration with the Zero Waste Foundation of Türkiye has facilitated greater reach of the International Day of Zero Waste campaign. It achieved mobilized global action from governments, cities, businesses, and youth toward waste prevention, circular solutions, and sustainable consumption.

Flagship programmes

- **Act & Invest:** UNEP supports the implementation of Türkiye's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) through integrated climate action, investment mobilisation and strengthened institutional capacities.
- **Advancing zero waste solutions through science-policy support:** Partnering with the Zero Waste Foundation and UN-Habitat, UNEP uses science-based data and digital tools to establish the Istanbul Environment Center, a knowledge hub for circular economy and resilient cities.
- **Mediterranean Forests Initiative:** Promotes forest resilience, ecosystem restoration and climate adaptation through regional cooperation and sustainable land management.
- **Barcelona Convention / Climate Change Regional Activity Centre:** Enhancing regional cooperation on climate action in the Mediterranean.

Our priorities in Türkiye



Zero waste and circular economy: Advancing sustainable consumption, circular economies, food waste prevention, nature-based solutions, and responsible critical mineral sourcing for the green energy transition.



Climate action and decarbonisation: Supporting Türkiye's 2053 net-zero target and NDC through sustainable cooling, buildings and energy systems, organic waste reduction, reducing short-lived climate pollutants, and supporting access to climate finance.



Urban sustainability and resilience: Strengthening urban heat resilience while advancing climate-positive buildings. 'Beat the Heat' implementation drive on heat resilience, with high engagement in Antalya, Balıkesir and Gaziantep. Supporting food waste management and circular economy solutions.



Ecosystems and climate resilience: Protecting, restoring, and conserving freshwater and water-based ecosystems through technical and science-based support. Strengthening climate resilience by addressing water-related risks and promoting investment in nature-based solutions to mitigate climate impacts.

UNEP promotes solutions that address climate change, nature, land and biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste



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