

## **Relationship between Rural Development and Migration in Turkey**

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**ABSTRACT:** *The definition of rural development is regarded as growth of a rural region with respect to economical, social and cultural sides. It can be clearly seen that it is not integrated part of development with respect to economic, social and cultural aspect. 5 years development plans which launched in 1960's have been implemented up to now. Also, in addition to that, in the regions having GDP per capita less than 75% of EU average, rural development projects and regional development projects have been implemented for stopping or alleviating the migration from underdeveloped regions, Eastern Anatolia, South Eastern Anatolia, Northern Black sea to the western part of Turkey, creating new job opportunities, facilitating the investments made for education, health and infrastructure. When analysed the main structure of the migration theme, it is not out of the question to clearly see the political side behind economic side of it. The migration has increased since 1980's. The migrated people were those who have to deal with main agricultural products and animal husbandry. In rural areas, life expectancy, GDP per capita, social environment, unemployment level must be considered to stop migration from those places to urban areas. The aim of this study is to find out the reasons which result from migration and that have some assumption for how EU rural development funds will lessen the out-migration from villages to districts and cities after being taken into account of all aspects of the situation.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Rural development, Migration, Regional development, EU*

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The depopulation of rural areas has been slightly increased for years due to the lack of investment and attraction in rural areas. Over surplus in employment has been appeared in rural areas because of the relatively low nonagricultural activities. On account of the low gross value added in agriculture and transferring labor force into cities, it leads to abandonment of agricultural activities as well as it creates urbanization problem and shanty towns in metropolis ( RDP, 2014; Tolunay and Akyol; 2006). In addition to this, the level of mechanization in particular, in the east regions of Turkey, is very low compared with western regions that absorb the migration. Moreover, the new creating job capacity of industry set up in the western region is not so strong. If added limited labor force creating capacity of industry and low labor force of agriculture, a distortion on socio-cultural and economic structure may be ensued (Gürlük, 2001).In this study, increasing incentives for agricultural sector and creating new job opportunities in rural areas, encouraging the diversification of economic activities for the people who have to give up agricultural practices as they cannot compete in the markets that would be recommended.

### **II. RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

In the 5 years of development plan of Turkey, rural development, which was taken into account as a community development, was described as development of society that combines the voluntary efforts of local people in order to improve their own social, economic and cultural conditions with the support of Government (T.C. Kalkınma Bakanlığı, 2013; Bora 1964).“Rural development is a strategy to enable a specific group of people, poor rural women and men, to gain for themselves and their children more of what they and need. It involves helping the poorest among those who seek a livelihood in the rural areas to demand and control more of the benefits of rural development. The group includes small scale farmers, tenants, and the landless (Anriquez and Stamoulis, 2007; Katar, 1999).In An Overview of USDA Rural Development Programs, rural development programs: the aim are those programs ‘When the effects of the 1929 Depression began to be felt by the rest of the nation, rural residents had been struggling for several years with low incomes and low standards of living. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration began aiding rural families in 1932. Later, the Farm Security Administration and the Work Projects Administration provided much needed assistance to rural families and farm households’ is defined (Covan, 2014).

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United Nations Organization describes development as efforts made by small group of people in order that they can improve their social, economic and cultural conditions and creating an integrated approach with Government and rural society. It is vital needed to collect data from site so that rural development strategy and policy can be well defined. The approach of “the more you collect data, the more you benefit from it” is not the right approach. There is no point using unnecessary information used in the plan. Therefore, it would be enough to collect the data that we can only use in the plan. After collecting information, another point that should be taken into consideration is how to implement the plan during the preparation of plan. It is mostly out of the question to make plan rural development which is a very complex and tough issue in a way applicable. Either it is lagging behind of the targets in the plan or gone behind of them. Because, knowing a lot of factors in advance may not be possible. They are thus not taken part in planning. This circumstance leads to some shifts on the targets taken place in plan. (Yıldrak, 1991). To reach the targets in the plan is often probable with implementation. To reduce margin of error at minimum by taking into account some errors, which might be, is essential. Preparing rural development plan completely requires social, economic and politics way as well as essential knowledge level. Therefore, the situation should be comprehensively and well analyzed. In fact, the institutions to which address it planned targets as well as the society addressed in rural development are crucial and so setting up a regular and coordination between people who taken charge in rural development and institutions are necessary.

Increasing population density, migration and changes in eco-systems are threatening to degrade rural regions. Rural areas will need to change if they are to continue to provide a living for growing numbers of people and to avoid slipping into poverty and falling prey to environmental disasters (Rauch et al., 2001). The most important success in rural development is to focus on local level rather than central decision mechanism. Plans, which are prepared, in central areas may mostly not be adopted the realities and data of region. For this reason, Central planning units prepare the plans with a certain framework. This means to use the methods which have been used before. Therefore, rather than up-down approach, bottom-up approach which covers new data and new thoughts on rural development should be acknowledged.

### **III. MIGRATION**

There are three types of population growth. Type 1 is characterized by a natural increase as well as an overspill of in-migration. This represents the most sustainable kind of population development, especially if there is an in-migration of young people, which will positively affect the regional birth rate. In type 2 a positive migration balance can compensate for a negative natural population development. In the long run, a regional development that solely depends on in-migration is not sustainable, as an unfavorable age structure or a low fertility rate weakens the region’s reproduction potential. Regions where a natural increase due to high fertility and a young population outweighs out-migration are pooled in Type 3. In the long term however, out-migration lead to a lopsided age structure that might endanger the birth surplus (Bilsborrow, 2002; European Commission 2007). In-migration is an important factor behind population growth in rural regions. In the most rural regions, especially, population growth is positively affected by internal migration (Oskam et al., 2010). The main reasons of inter regions and some specific features of migrated population in Turkey are as follows (Aslan and Boz; Çelik, 2006; Güreşci, 2010; Güreşci and Yurttaş; 2008).

- [1]. Fast population increase,
- [2]. Dispersing of agricultural lands through inheritance,
- [3]. Increasing inefficiency of usage of soils due to erosion,
- [4]. Desire to benefit from education, health and social services,
- [5]. No peaceful environment,
- [6]. Desire to increase work capacity

As seen in Table 1, between years 1995-2000, roughly 20 % of the migrated population in migrate for looking jobs from the areas where they live in. 25.99 migrate due to the people who migrate in the family. Earthquake, education and marriage are the causes of migration.

**Table 1.** Migrated population among the provinces concerning the reason for migration (1995-2000).

The reason for Migration	Migrated population	%
Looking for a job	955,471	19.95
Appointed population	633,509	13.23
Migration depending on someone in the family	1,244,614	25.99
Education	553,509	11.56
Marriage	355,656	7.43
Earthquake	146,636	3.06
Security	31,205	0.65
Others	809,031	16.90
Unknown	58,562	1.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,788,193</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**TSI, 2000.**

According to the table 2, the foremost shift in 1995-2000 is the migration from city to village. The rate of population from city to village increased to 1 million 343 thousand people from 681 thousand. 20% of the population regarding resident area in 1995-2000 had become to villages contrary to 1975-1980. Mostly the migrated population migrate from city to another city. The size of the population from one city to another city increased roughly 500 thousands and the proportion of the migrated population notably decreases to 57.8% in 1995-2000 from 62.2% in 1985-1990. The population who migrated from one village to another village had constantly sharp decreases. This proportion was 14.75% in 1975-80 while 4.68% in 1995-2000.

**Table 2.** Migrated Population and their proportion by place of residence

Settlements	1975-1980	1980-1985	1985-1990	1995-2000
Total	3,584,321	3,819,910	5,402,690	6,692,263
	100	100	100	100
From one city to another one <sup>3</sup> %	1,752,817 48.90	2,146,110 56.18	3,359,357 62.18	3,867,979 57.80
From one village to one city %	610,067 17.02	860,438 22.53	969,871 17.95	1,168,285 17.46
From one city to one village%	692,828 19.33	490,653 12.84	680,527 12.60	1,342,518 20.06
From one village to another one <sup>4</sup>	528,709 14.75	322,709 8.45	392,935 7.27	313,481 4.68

**TSI, 2000.**

Table 3 shows that there has been continuous increase in the urban areas. This affects all rural-urban balances and brings serious problems in the cities concerning deficient social, cultural and economic structures in the urban areas.

**Table 3.** Rural-Urban areas in Turkey (1927-2000)

Years	Rural (%)	Urban (%)
1927	75,78	24,22
1950	74,06	25,04
1970	61,55	38,45
1990	40,99	59,01
2000	35,50	64,90

**TSI, 2000.**

Table 4 shows that the most in taking provinces in 1980-2000. Seen on the table 4 below, Kocaeli, Istanbul and Antalya share the first three places in last two decades. The rates of in migration in Tekirdag, Antalya and Istanbul are 9.7, 6.4 and 4.6 respectively.

<sup>3</sup> Center of province and district is called city

<sup>4</sup> Villages are called village

**Table 4.** The top 10 provinces in taking migration in Turkey - % (1980-2000)

Provinces	1980	1985	1990	2000
Kocaeli	10,6	6,3	10,3	0,02
İstanbul	7,1	5,6	10,2	4,6
Antalya	2,6	3,2	8,0	6,4
İçel	5,6	5,4	6,6	1,2
İzmir	7,1	3,9	6,2	3,9
Bursa	5,8	3,9	6,0	4,5
Muğla	0,4	0,7	5,6	7
Tekirdağ	1,6	0,9	4,6	9,7
Aydın	1,6	1,4	2,6	2,6
Ankara	2,0	1,3	2,4	2,6

**Çelik, 2007.**

According to TSI Migration Statistics, the most highly cities of internal migration are Muş, Ağrı, Bitlis, Kars, Siirt. (TSI, 2015). Okun and Richardson (1961) indicate that regions having low income with stable economy give net migration. It is the reason that the regions possess agricultural characteristics. Some regions give population with respect to net migration in Turkey. These are agricultural depended regions which are lagging behind regarding as economy. As shown in Table 5, The most out migrated provinces in Turkey are Black Sea and Eastern Anatolia. The rates of those provinces increased double in 1990. Of main reasons, behind underdeveloped economy, security problems can be given as a result of high migration.

**Table 5.** The most out migrated 10 provinces - % (1980-2000)

Provinces	1980	1985	1990	2000
Kars	-11,9	-8,2	-17,8	-6,1
Tunceli	-9,8	-13,5	-16,6	-3,6
Siirt	-2,9	-4,3	-15,1	-7,5
Gümüşhane	-9,0	-5,7	-14,6	-7,5
Bayburt	-	-	-14,2	-5,9
Erzurum	-6,8	-6,6	-12,0	-5,5
Sivas	-7,8	-5,7	-11,2	-5,1
Muş	-6,9	-5,2	-10,6	-6,0
Artvin	-6,3	-5,3	-10,3	-6,3
Ağrı	-8,4	-5,6	-10,0	-5,6

**TSI, 2000.**

As indicated on Table 5, whereas the population between 1980 and 2000 significantly increase, the migrated population displays a parallel structure. The rate of migrant population across places of residence reached 11.02 percent in 2000 from 9.34 percent in 1980.

**Table 6.** Migrated population across places of residence and provinces, 1975-2000

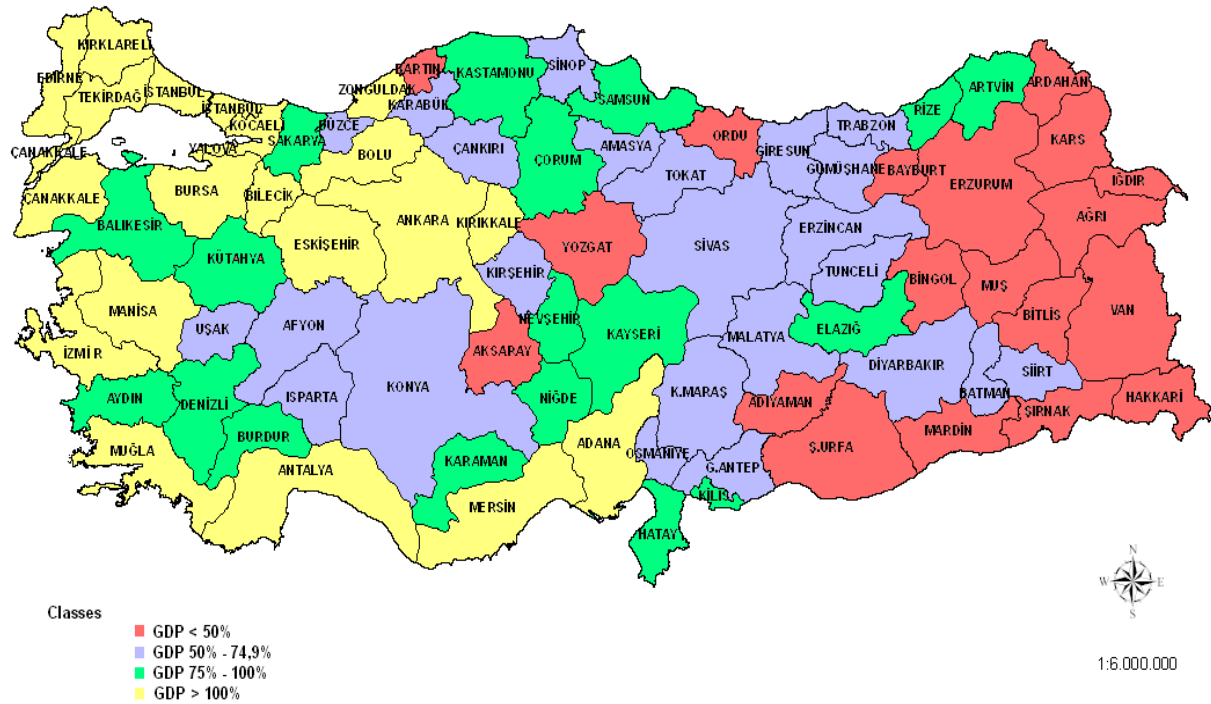
Census	Population of residence		Migrated population across places of residence		Migrated population across provinces	
			Number	%	Number	%
1980	38 395 730	1975-1980	3 584 421	9.34	2 700 977	7.03
1985	44 078 033	1980-1985	3 819 910	8.67	2 885 873	6.55
1990	49 986 117	1985-1990	5 402 690	10.81	4 065 173	8.13
2000	60 752 995	1995-2000	6 692 263	11.02	4 788 193	7.88

**Elaboration from Population census, 1980-2000.**

**Regional Diversity:** Within this broad picture there are significant regional variations. Turkey is a large country with a wide range of climatic and physical features. These give rise to a wide variety of different ecosystems, agricultural landscapes and farming systems. The diversity of Turkish agriculture is renowned, and

ranges from products typical of temperate climates through to Mediterranean crops (grapes, olives, citrus fruits, vegetables, etc) and subtropical species. They provide important new job opportunities and sources of income for small scale farmers and agricultural laborers and are an important characteristic feature of Turkish landscape. The less developed regions. The analysis of GDP gives a dualistic picture of Turkey. Regions with the highest per capita GDP (over the Turkish average) are all located mainly in the most developed provinces of the West part of the Country, including the biggest urban centers (Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir), the region of Adana and Mersin on the Mediterranean, the whole “corridor” between Ankara and İstanbul (Kocaeli, Sakarya, Düzce, Bolu, Yalova, Tekirdağ, Edirne, Kırklareli, Bursa, Eskişehir, Bilecik, Zonguldak, Karabük, Bartın) the region south of İzmir (Aydın and Muğla) and the region next to Antalya (Adana and Mersin). This first group of provinces holds together 46.6% of the population and produce 63.1% of the Turkish GDP. These are the areas that have intensive farming (livestock, milk production, fruits and vegetables). The presence of large urban centers in this group (İstanbul, İzmir, Ankara) indicates that proximity to large urban markets has played an important role in the development of relatively rich, competitive rural areas (see Annex 1.2). As indicated for the OECD types of areas, rurality is associated with a lower GDP. The poorest provinces (NUTS 3 level, see Map 1), with an income below 50% of the Turkish average (GDP average is 1910 Euro) are found in the Eastern part of the country: this second group of provinces includes all the provinces along and immediately behind the Eastern border (Ağrı, Muş, Bitlis, Kars, Iğdır, Ardahan, Van, Hakkari, Şırnak, Erzurum, Bayburt, Bingöl, Şanlıurfa, Adıyaman, Mardin); then there are isolated provinces such as Ordu and Bartın on the Black Sea; Aksaray and Yozgat in the Central part.

Map 1. GDP per capita at NUTS 3 level, 2001



### TSI, 2001.

GDP per capita is well differentiated according to different types of rural areas and increases, as may be expected, in relation to population density. “Predominantly urban” areas, accounting for 17,5% of the population, had an average income in 2001 of 3.002 Euro . This is more than double that of “wholly rural” areas with 18,9% of the population and an average income of 1.372 Euro . “Intermediate areas”, which account for approximately 42% of the population and GDP have also an intermediate level of income (1.945 Euro). “Wholly rural” areas account for a very modest share of total income (13,7%), with a wide disparity in relation to the one held by “predominantly urban areas” (28,5%).

**Table 7.** GDP per capita

OECD class	GDP per capita in Euro	Share of population %
Wholly rural	1.372	18,9
Predominantly rural	1.399	20,9
Intermediate	1.945	42,7
Predominantly urban	3.002	17,5
Total Turkey	1.907,12	100,0
		67.803.927

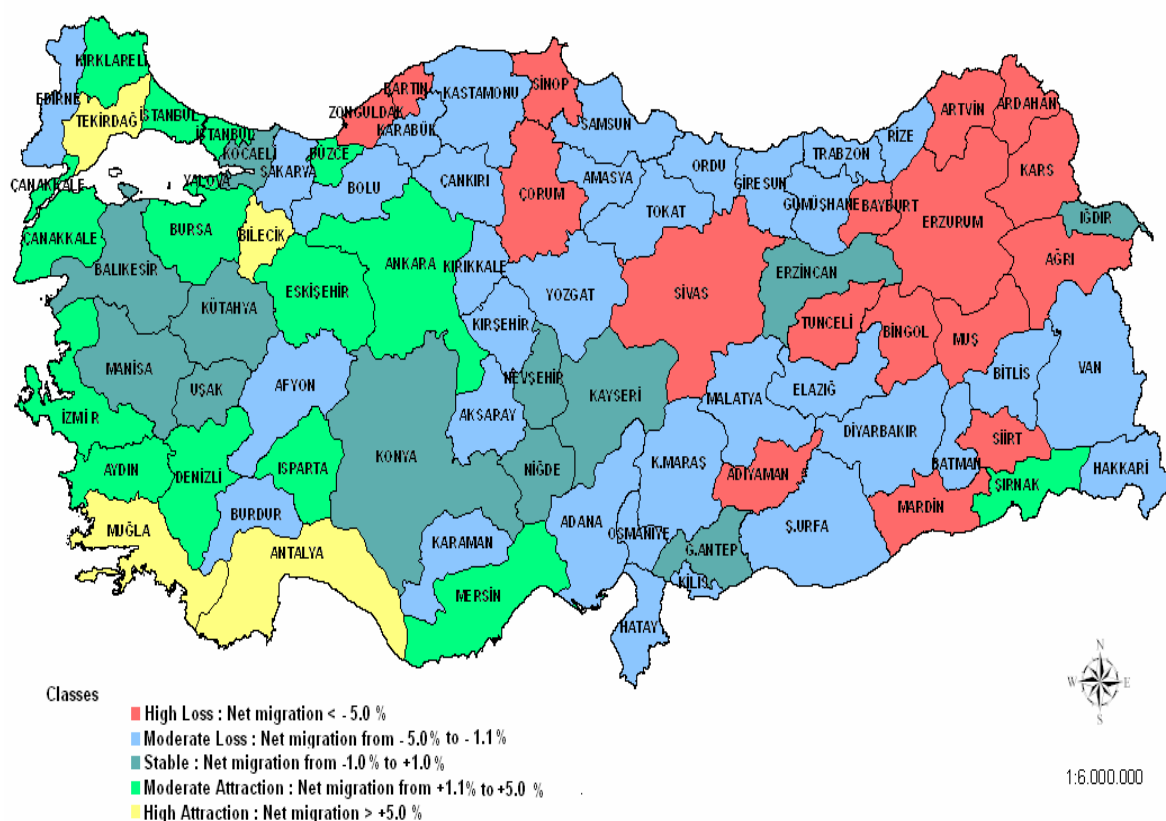
**Anonymous, 2008**

If the indicator used to measure internal disparities is changed, and net migration rates at inter-provincial level are considered, the picture obtained shows, as in the previous case of GDP (see Map 1 above), the co-existence of two situations : (a) traditional flows from the East part (the red areas in Map 2 which have the highest rates of negative net migration) to the West (yellow areas in Map 2 which attract population-Marmara region): these are internal movements from the less developed provinces to the most developed ones (b) rural-urban flows, hidden under moderate and stable out-migration rates for the whole province due to the fact that mobility in this case is mostly intra-provincial and requires village to city flows to be quantified. These intermediate situations are located in a dispersed pattern over the country, involve the majority of provinces and suggest emerging processes of endogenous development, which rely on local rural human resources, since these are still available due to high fertility rates.

In map 2, showing net migration rates at NUTS 3 level, it can be seen that the only province with a positive net balance in the other half of Turkey is Şırnak in the South East. There are 10 provinces, which may be considered as relatively stable with rates between -1 and +1 % net migration, located in the East, West, Centre and South, which have a high turnover of incoming and outgoing population which balances out. This suggests processes of change and transformation of the local socio-economic context, which may need support to consolidate and further expand. A further group of regions, the most numerous one (13 NUTS 2), has had moderate losses of population (between -5 and -1%) and is located geographically in a quite dispersed pattern: in the East (Van, Bitlis, Hakkari and Batman); in the South East (Kilis, Hatay, Diyarbakır, Kahramanmaraş and Osmaniye); in the Center-East (Malatya and Elazığ) in the Center (Yozgat, Kırıkkale, Aksaray and Kırşehir), in the Center-North (Samsun and Amasya); in the Black Sea (Kastamonu, Çankırı, Trabzon, Ordu, Giresun, Rize and Gümüşhane) and in the North-West (Sakarya and Bolu). The last group has high population losses (over -5% net migration) and is concentrated in the North-East (Ağrı, Kars, Ardahan and Erzurum) but also, quite significantly in the North West (Zonguldak, Bartın, Sinop, Çorum).



Map 2. Net Migration Rates at NUTS 3 Level



Anonymous, 2008.

Between 1995 and 2000, almost 8% of the population moved between settlements (almost 5 million people). The rate of net migration increases with rurality, it is negative for “wholly rural areas and positive for “predominantly urban areas. “Intermediate areas have the highest share of incoming and outgoing migrated. About 10% of the population is temporarily absent from their place of residence in all types of areas suggesting an even higher mobility rate than the one measured by official migration.

Table 8. Population movements

OECD class of area	% of permanent resident population	% Incoming migrated from other provinces	% Outgoing migrated to other provinces	Net migration	% net migration on total population	% Absent population	% Absent population
Wholly rural	18,8	17,0	23,3	-302.597	-2,5	19,4	10,3
Predominantly rural	20,8	17,5	21,1	-173.986	-1,4	22,4	11,1
Intermediate	42,8	43,2	40,8	112.933	0,3	42,0	10,5
Predominantly urban	17,6	22,3	14,7	363.650	3,1	16,2	9,5
Total Turkey	100,0	100,0	100,0			100,0	10,4
	60.752.995	4.788.193	4.788.193			7.050.932	10,4

Elaborations on TSI General Population Census, 2000.

At interprovincial level, where the process of urbanization can be best measured, the rate of migration from villages (-2,000 settlements) and district centers (-20,000 settlements) to provincial centers is higher in those provinces with dynamic urban centers. In quantitative terms interprovincial mobility represents 1.5% of the total population, with almost 1 million persons moving.

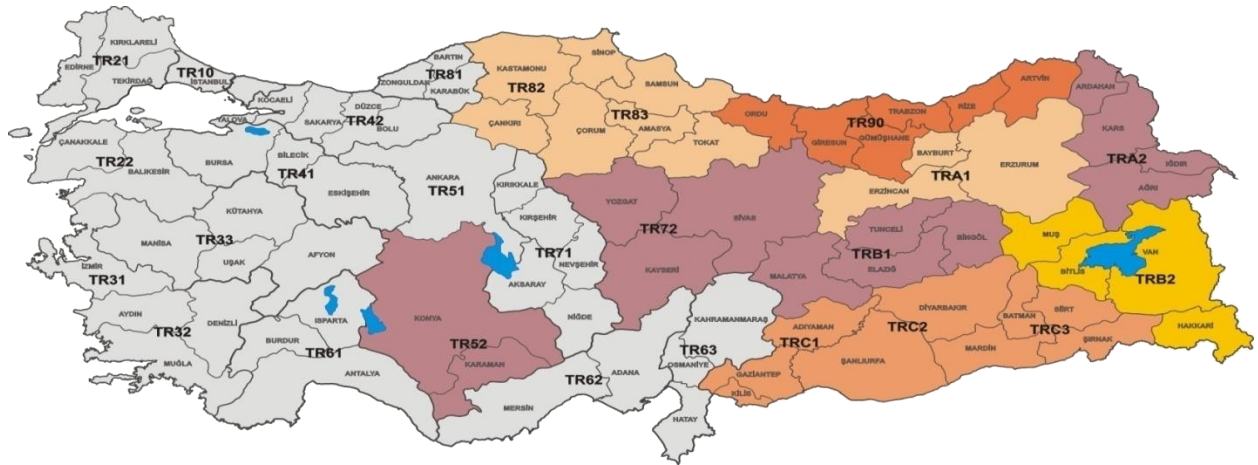
If all forms of mobility are considered, absences including, there is almost 20% of the Turkish population which has changed residence or is away (this of course excludes foreign migrates) during 1995-2000.

In principle there are two ways to improve rural incomes:

- a. Adjustment of the agricultural structure.
- b. Creation of non-agricultural employment.

The problem of low income and high unemployment in rural areas is to a great extent a problem of the agricultural sector, as a significant share of the labor force is employed in or dependent on agriculture (Anonymous 2003). In map 3 indicates the regional development agencies of which establishment procedures are still being continuing. Izmir and Çukurova (Adana-Mersin) development agencies which were set up in 2006 have already implemented some programs in the region in order to attract foreign investment and display regional potential in coordination with Universities, public institutions and stakeholders.

Map 3. Regional Development Agencies



Madenoglu, 2006

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

The main reason of migration in rural societies emanate from out factors. One of reason to attract people who wish to migrate to urban areas from rural areas is education and various education opportunities in the urban areas. Nonetheless, population increase, relation between urbanization and development should be analyzed wholly. Income unbalances and unemployment between rural and urban areas are merely interval variables. Furthermore, the core factors mainly are natural population increase and economic development increase. Essential variable is population increase according to the economic development. While many development plans continues to give priorities for urban infrastructure, they ignore rural infrastructure. This leads to in-migration to urban areas. Industrial policies in Turkey increase the migration from rural areas to urban areas. The main policy in Turkey should create new job opportunities, improve rehabilitation of infrastructure. Mechanization in agriculture, scattered lands, industrialization and services intensified in urban areas facilitate the migration from urban areas. Some problems with unbalanced urbanization emerge some troubles. Therefore, the problems of development in urban areas increase.

In general, mostly young people who hold higher education constitutes of the main characteristic in migrant population in Turkey. They prefer to move to developed regions and cities. The lower living standards and economic disadvantages of the residents of rural areas contribute to the increasing migration of population to urban areas. Moreover, another significant characteristic of population results from men who are employed by construction and manufacturing sector. Those who migrate from rural areas firstly migrate to closest towns and



cities after that they go to big cities such as İstanbul, İzmir and Ankara. Migrated qualified and young dynamic people in rural areas causes' loss of human potential. Northern Black Sea, Eastern Anatolia and South Eastern Anatolia regions, as a matter of fact that, merely elder people and children and illiterate people keep stay in the areas in which have out migration.

IPARD Rural development program which will be implemented after accreditation in mostly less developed 42 provinces and regional development agencies has been setting up in all Turkey. These agencies will probably bring a positive impact for the development of the regions. The most problematic area, Eastern Anatolia and South eastern Anatolia, gain project capacity every passing year with the development programs. For the next period of planning, we can see that diversification of economic activities, which can be as a generating income activities in rural areas, will be an additional income generating for those who are not able to competitive in free markets and micro enterprises which have to survive with a small amount of income for their own needs. If the programs to be carried out on site are successful, the migration to some extent will be lessened with the attraction of the rural areas by means of new activities.

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