

Funda Gacal

Researcher and Consultant on
Energy, Climate & Health Policies



WORK EXPERIENCE

Health and Environment Alliance May 2016 - present

Energy & Health Policies Senior Consultant for Turkey

I am leading quantitative research on health, energy and climate change policies with a focus on air pollution, as well as coordinating campaigns to strengthen the engagement of the health sector for coal phase out.

Global Energy Monitor November 2019- January 2020

Project Based Researcher

Updated plant specific data for operating and planned coal power plants in Turkey.

IASS-Potsdam January 2019-January 2020

Project Based Researcher for Co-Benefits Project

I co-led the research to estimate the benefits of the increased share of renewables in Turkey's energy mix from air pollution and health perspective with Bogazici University.

WWF-Turkey Sep 2014 - May 2016

Program Officer in the Climate & Energy Program

I carried out research and projects that analysed the international climate change regime, energy policies, climate change economics and low carbon development to support the global climate change mitigation efforts.

Invisible Army Oct 2013 - May 2014

Consultant - Sustainability & Climate Change

Invisible Army was a social entrepreneurship that was in China, Turkey and the United States. I managed its sustainability program to fund the projects on climate change and environmental conservation.

WWF-Bolivia Feb 2013 - Aug 2013

Young Fellow - Climate Change Program

With the support of WWF fellowship, I analyzed spatial and socio-economic effects of climate change on South America, in particular, on Amazon and Pantanal regions by GIS program and field studies.

Opex Energy Oct 2012 - Jan 2013

Project Coordinator - Renewable Energy

Coordinated environmental permitting of two wind power projects (a total of 92 MW in Kayseri and Izmir cities), and pre-tender stages of solar energy investments in Opex Energy-Turkey, a branch of Deenma Group based in Spain.

Urban Strategy (Kentsel Strateji) June 2011 - Oct 2012

Project Coordinator

Coordinated environmental governance, public participation and disaster mitigation projects in Kentsel Strateji, an urban and regional planning office works on regional development by for-profit and nonprofit programs.

EDUCATION

Istanbul Technical University, Turkey

Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning

GPA: 3.03 with Honors

Attended Courses & Certificates

2019> **RENAC-Renewables Academy & IASS- Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies**, "Communicating Co-Benefits of Energy Policies- Train the Trainer Seminar", (4 days, Berlin).

2018> **Climate Reality Project**, "Climate Leadership Training", (3 days, Berlin).

2017> **NASA ARSET & UNEP**, "Satellite for Air Pollution Data Sets", (online).

2018> **Chamber of Environmental Engineers**, "AerMod and Air Pollution Modelling", (3 days, Ankara).

2018> **Turkish Medical Association & HEAL**, "Health Impact Assessment Training", (2 days, Istanbul).

2016> **Technical University of Denmark**, "Organic Solar Cells", (8 weeks, online).

2016> **University of Wisconsin**, "Climate Change and Public Health", (8 weeks, online).

2016> University of Toronto, "Alternative Energy Systems", (8 weeks, online).

PUBLICATIONS

Gacal F., Stauffer A., Health and Environment Alliance. **Chronic coal pollution Turkey. The health burden caused by coal power in Turkey and how to stop the coal addiction**: January 2021. ([English](#), [Turkish](#))

Coptly N., Gacal, F., Saysel A.K., Daloğlu İ., Çağlayan Ç., Yetiştı B. and Sankurt Aydın D., **Improving people's health and unburdening the health system through renewable energy in Turkey. COBENEFITS Report**. Potsdam, Istanbul: October 2020 ([English](#))

Gacal, F., **Lignite Coal - Health Effects and Recommendations from the Health Sector**, HEAL-Health and Environment Alliance, Brussels: 2018, ([English](#), [German](#), [Turkish](#)).

Gacal, F., **Coal Power Generation and Health in Three Regions of Turkey: Canakkale, Izmir, And Tekirdag, Turkey**, HEAL-Health and Environment Alliance, Brussels: 2018 ([English](#), [Turkish](#)).

Gacal, F. and Gordeljevic, V., 2017, **Fossil Fuel Subsidies and Health in Turkey** chapter in Gordeljevic, V., "Hidden Price: Health Benefits of Ending Fossil Fuel Subsidies", HEAL-Health and Environment Alliance, Brussels: 2017 ([Turkish](#), [English](#), [German](#), [Polish](#)).

Gacal, F. (editor to Turkish Translation) & Gordeljevic, V. Et al, **"Hidden Price: Health Benefits of Ending Fossil Fuel Subsidies"**, HEAL-Health and Environment Alliance, Brussels: 2017 ([Turkish](#)).

Sahin, U., Voyvoda, E., Yeldan, E., Berke M., Gacal, F., 2015, **Turkey's Low Carbon Development Pathways and Priorities**, Istanbul Policy Center (Sabancı University Stiftung Mercator Initiative) & WWF-Turkey, Istanbul: 2016, ([English](#), [Turkish](#)).

Gacal, F., Peker S., and Çapur M. **"Local Effects of Climate Change (İklim Değişikliğinin Yerel Etkileri)**, TEMA Foundatio and WWF-Turkey, Istanbul: 2015 ([Turkish](#)).

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2017> **Bursa Chamber of Medicines**, Environmental Award to HEAL, March 2017

2016> **Mediterranean Youth Climate Forum**, Tangier Conference Participation Grant

2013> **WWF International**, Youth Volunteer Fellowship (January 2013 - August 2013)

2008-2012> **Istanbul Technical University**, Dean's Honor and High Honor Lists

2007-2012> **Government of Turkey**, Prime Minister Bursary

MEMBERSHIPS

2018-active> Member of the **IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature**, World Commission on Protected Areas

2018-active> **Climate Reality Leadership Corps**, Climate leader trained in May 2018

2015- active> Member of Right to Clean Air Platform-Turkey

2014-2018> Member of Turkish Climate Network (İklim Ağı)