

## DOĞA KBA UPDATING PROGRAMME

As one of the world's first KBA inventories on a national scale, "Turkey's Key Diversity Areas" book was completed in 2006 with Doğa's coordination and the contributions of many organizations and scientists. In this work concerning eight different groups of living creatures, the data regarding plants, dragonflies, butterflies, inland water fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals were synthesised to identify 305 KBAs. Important Bird Areas, Important Plant Areas, the sea turtle and the Mediterranean monk seal areas, identified previously by other experts and organizations, provided important bases for this work of Doğa.

The KBA Updating Programme, started in 2018 by Doğa, was prepared with the purpose of researching the vulnerable and irreplaceable natural areas in Turkey thoroughly while acting in unison with all partners across the world.

### Aims of 2018 KBA Updating Programme

**Creating a network with all partners to update, monitor and conserve KBAs.**

**Review and update the KBA inventory and borders of Turkey according to the 2016 criteria of IUCN.**

**Including the current biodiversity data obtained since 2006 in the KBA inventory.**



Photograph: Alper Tüydeş

**HORIZON OF DOĞA:** A life in which we do not consider humans as separate from other living beings, in which we take into account the effect of our actions on all beings and their relationships, and therefore, carry a culture where there is no need for the protection of nature: the culture of nature.

Doğa, which was founded in 2002, works to preserve biological diversity, protect the rights of nature, carry the culture of nature and heighten the relationships built upon being good and sharing in every place it can reach, particularly in Key Biodiversity Areas, Important Bird Areas and Indigenous Landscapes. Everyone who internalises these principles, without any discrimination against language, religion, race, gender or political view, can become a part of Doğa as a member and volunteer. They can participate in the courses of Doğa School, which was founded by the organisation to carry the culture of nature through generations, and join the network of Yavaş Store.

**Please contact us to join Doğa's KBA Updating Programme and other programmes.**



Photograph: Ali İhsan Gökçen



[dogadernegi.org](http://dogadernegi.org)

Phone: 0232 421 21 26  
GSM: 0543 657 66 15

**Seferihisar Doğa School**  
[dogaaskina.org](http://dogaaskina.org)

**Yavaş Store**  
[yavasdukkkan.net](http://yavasdukkkan.net)

**Doğa Derneği Donation Account**  
TR 1800 0100 0712 6856 3001 5034



## KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS OF TURKEY



## GEOGRAPHIES OF HERITAGE



Photograph: **Ali Şenel**

## THE CONCEPT OF KEY BIODIVERSITY AREA

The concept of Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) is an approach of prioritisation used to determine vulnerable and irreplaceable natural areas. In order to achieve that, a series of ecological indicators are used, starting with endangered species or species with limited geographical distribution. KBAs are selected on the basis of tangible criteria related to standards based on the distribution and population of species and habitats that require conservation of the areas, and thresholds applicable on a global scale. On the other hand, there are a series of quantitative threshold values used to determine KBAs.

An international team that included experts from Doğa presented the first design for KBA criteria in 2004, based on the "Important Bird Area" studies by BirdLife International. Later, in 2016, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) developed the method of KBA further and recognised it as an international standard to determine the areas of top priority.

## KEY BIODIVERSITY AREA CRITERIA

According to the new standards determined by IUCN in 2016, there are five major KBA criteria and a series of sub-criteria:

- A. Threatened biodiversity
  - A1. Threatened species
  - A2. Threatened ecosystem types
- B. Geographically restricted biodiversity
  - B1. Individual geographically restricted species
  - B2. Co-occurring geographically restricted species
  - B3. Geographically restricted assemblages
  - B4. Geographically restricted ecosystem types
- C. Ecological integrity
- D. Biological processes
  - D1. Demographic aggregations
  - D2. Ecological refugia
  - D3. Recruitment sources
- E. Irreplaceability through quantitative analysis

Photograph: **Tijen Burultay**

## KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS OF TURKEY

**305 KBA\***

Their total surface area is 20.280.149 hectares.

They cover 26% of Turkey.

A total of 2996 species meet KBA criteria.

The greatest group of species meeting KBA criteria is plants with 2259 species.

The Mediterranean Region has the greatest number of KBAs with 73 areas.

451 species of the world live only in a single area of Turkey.



\*These statistics are based on the 2006 KBA inventory. The numbers might change following the completion of KBA Updating Programme.

Photograph: **Mahmut Koyaş**