

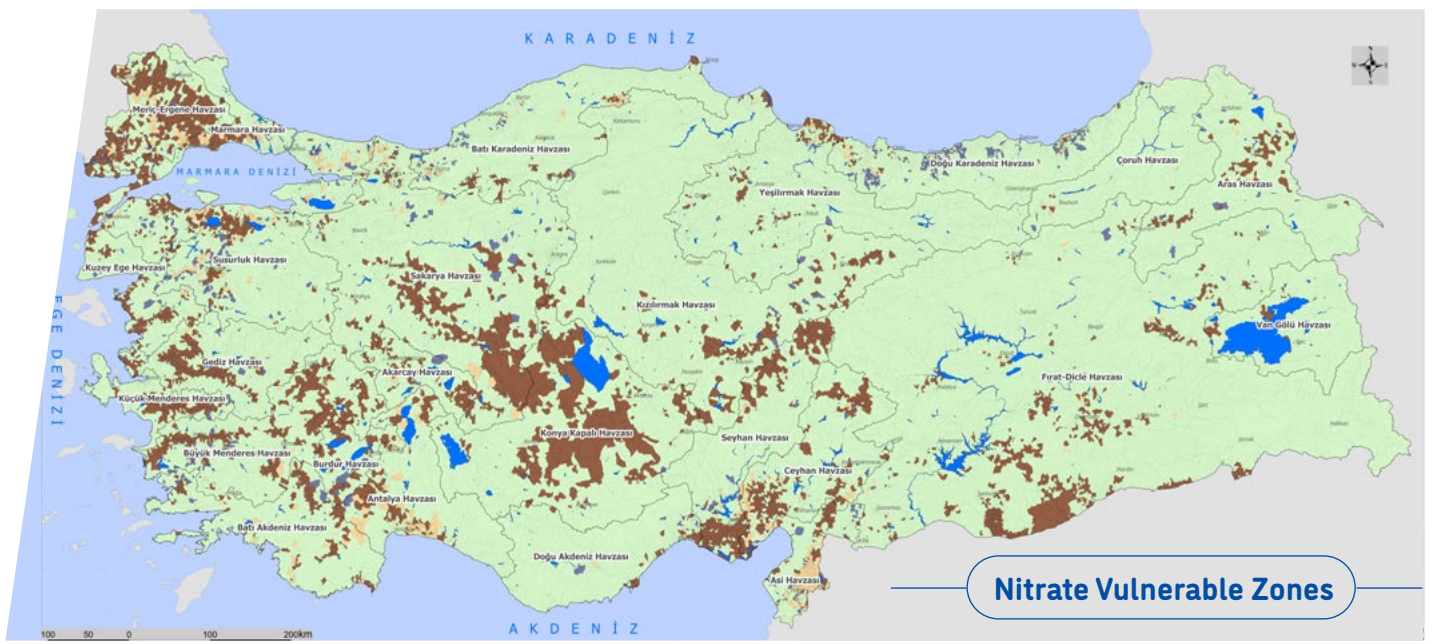


This project is co-funded by  
the European Union and the Republic of Turkey.



**Protection of Waters Against Agricultural  
Pollution Through Establishment of a  
Monitoring and Reporting Methodology for  
the Nitrate Action Plans Project**





## Current Situation

Türkiye's economic growth and rapid development of agricultural sector in recent years have put significant pressure on surface and ground waters. Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry takes necessary actions to restore the balance between natural resources, the environment, and agricultural activities. Likewise, it carries out studies to prevent and reduce the negative effects of agricultural activities on water resources.

The Regulation on the Protection of Waters Against Agricultural Nitrate Pollution was published on 23 July 2016 and the Communiqué on the Code of Good Agricultural Practices for the Prevention of Nitrate Pollution in Waters Caused by Agricultural Activities, prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation, was published in the Official Gazette on 11 February 2017 and entered into force. In this context, pollution caused by agricultural activities is monitored by the Nitrate Information System (NIBIS) and Nitrate Vulnerable Zones and Nitrate Action Plans (NAP) are prepared in accordance with the Code of Good Agricultural Practices.

## What is Nitrate Information System (NIBIS)?

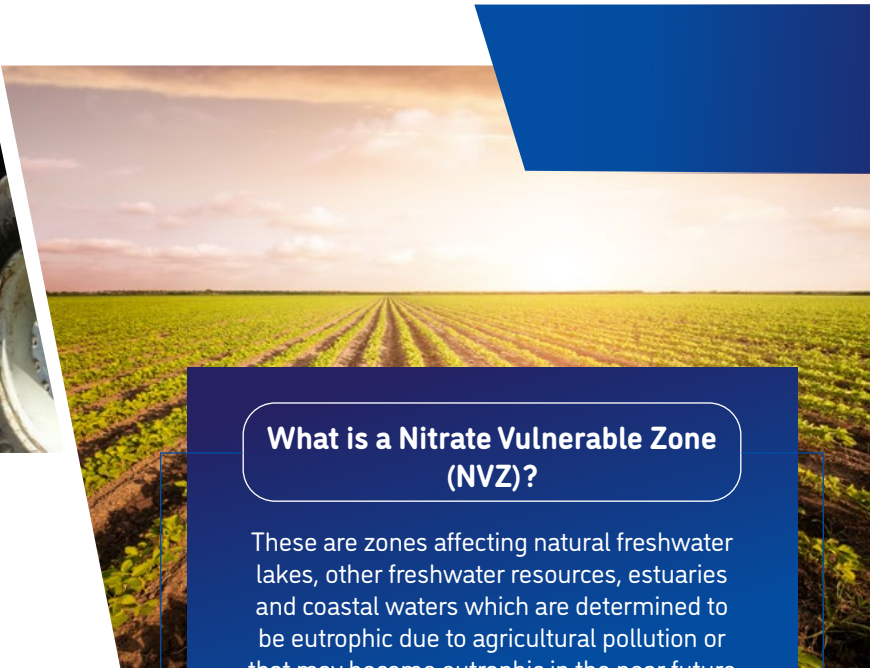
NIBIS is a web-based data collection, monitoring, mapping and reporting system in which environmental pollution control and management studies are carried out. The results of the monthly agricultural pollution monitoring made by the 4,846 measurement stations in the provincial directorates throughout Türkiye are collected via NIBIS and can instantly be evaluated.

Thematic maps can be created by using the data received from measurement stations via NIBIS.

Nitrate pollution can be calculated and presented on an area basis by the thematic maps created.

In addition, changes in nitrate pollution over time can be monitored on the map.

<https://nibis.tarbil.gov.tr>



## Project Scope

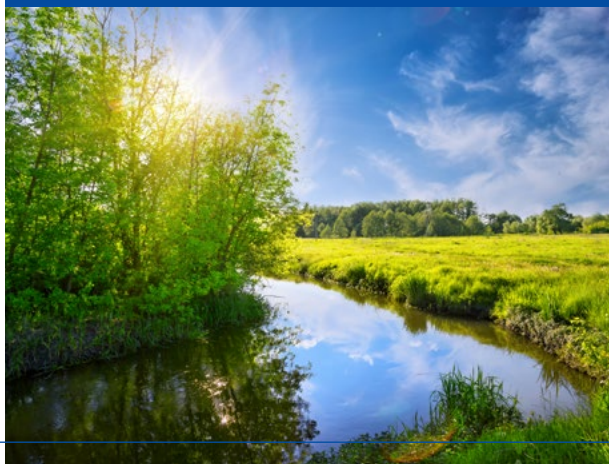
The scope of this project is to establish a Nitrate Action Plan Monitoring Methodology which includes an appropriate farm selection method for NAP monitoring and to establish a reporting system.

Methodology and reporting tools will be integrated into NIBIS and the effectiveness of Nitrate Action Plans will be monitored and reported.

In addition, it is aimed to develop the technical capacities of the Ministry's central and provincial personnel in monitoring and reporting the Nitrate Action Plans, and to raise awareness about the recognition and acceptance of the Action Plans by the farmers and stakeholders.

## What is a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ)?

These are zones affecting natural freshwater lakes, other freshwater resources, estuaries and coastal waters which are determined to be eutrophic due to agricultural pollution or that may become eutrophic in the near future if necessary precautions are not taken.





## Project Results

The project has three main outcomes, and it will achieve its objectives through 16 activities that will be implemented during the project cycle which is two-year.

Activities will be carried out in 25 river basins of Türkiye and pilot study will be in the Gediz River Basin primarily.

### Target Groups and Stakeholders

Central and provincial staff of the Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, farmers, farmer cooperatives and agricultural producer organisations, Universities, Research institutes, Ministry of Turkey Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Interior, Municipalities, and NGOs.

#### RESULT 1

Establishing Nitrate Action Plans Monitoring Methodology prepared specific to Türkiye and integrated into NIBIS together with annual and four-year reporting templates.

#### RESULT 2

Increasing technical capacity of central and provincial staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to reduce the nitrate pollution resulting from agricultural activities in Nitrate Vulnerable Zones together with capacity building in the field of Nitrate Action Plans implementation and monitoring.

#### RESULT 3

Raising awareness of local communities on agricultural nitrate pollution as well as Nitrate Action Plans implementation and monitoring.



This project is co-funded by  
the European Union and the Republic of Turkey.



## Protection of Waters Against Agricultural Pollution Through Establishment of a Monitoring and Reporting Methodology for the Nitrate Action Plans Project

### Project Identity

#### Title:

Protection Of Waters Against Agricultural Pollution Through  
Establishment of a Monitoring and Reporting Methodology for  
The Nitrate Action Plans Project

#### Contract No.:

EuropeAid/140563/IH/SER/TR

**Duration:** 24 months

**Budget:** 2.002.500 Euro

**Source of Funding:** The European Union

#### Contracting Authority:

Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and  
Climate Change, Department of EU Investments under General  
Directorate of European Union and Foreign Relations

#### Beneficiary:

The Republic of Türkiye, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
General Directorate of Agricultural Reform

#### Contractor:

NIRAS IC Sp. z.o.o. (Poland) in consortium with Agriculture and  
Food Development Authority (TEAGASC) (Ireland), National  
Agriculture Consultancy (NASS) (Bulgaria) and MEKANSAL  
Information Technologies CAD and GIS Solutions (Türkiye)



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
URBANIZATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Environment and Climate Action  
Sector Operational Programme



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND FORESTRY



**NIRAS**

*This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union and the Republic of Turkey. The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of NIRAS IC Sp. z.o.o. and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.*