

NEWS

Turkey's Specialized Free Zones Primed for Investments



Minister of Trade Ruhsar Pekcan called on international investors to look out for opportunities in Turkey, addressing the questions of Anadolu Agency (AA).

Minister Pekcan underlined the fact that Turkey offers investors a wide range of incentives, particularly for innovation and technology-oriented investments in the specialized free zones (SFZs). "We plan to expand the SFZ model for other high-tech and high value-added industries in the future", Minister Pekcan said. "It was initially rolled out for the software and information technology sector. But now I invite investors to consider offshoring to Turkey's SFZs," the minister added.

Turkey's qualifications, including its competitive edge in logistics, young and qualified labor, robust manufacturing capabilities and highly developed infrastructure set her apart from other investment destinations, Minister Pekcan highlighted.

For the source of information, please click [here](#).

Exporters Started 2021 with a Record

Turkish Exporters Assembly (TİM) announced the January export figures. In January, Turkey's exports reached 15 billion 48 million dollars, an increase of 2.5 percent compared to the same month last year, despite the coronavirus pandemic, making it the highest January export figure in the history. In January, 17 sectors increased their exports compared to the same month of the previous year. Especially the sectors that performed the strongest were the Jewelry, Air Conditioning, and Fruit and Vegetable.



For detailed information, please click [here](#).

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OECD Opens Istanbul Centre for Global Relations to Support Work with Partner Countries

The OECD opened a regional centre focused on global relations in Istanbul, creating a dedicated base for deepening co-operation with partner countries and helping them with policy guidance and technical support to build more inclusive and prosperous societies. The new OECD Istanbul Centre will be instrumental to help countries lay the groundwork for a sustainable post-COVID-19 recovery.

Part of the OECD's commitment to broaden the impact of its standards and recommendations beyond its 37 member countries, the Centre will be a hub for its regional programmes with Eurasia, Middle East and North Africa, South East Europe, and Southeast Asia, as well as with its Key Partners. Through analytical work, conferences, capacity building and high-level meetings, it will strengthen multilateral co-operation, encourage regional collaboration and offer guidance in areas like governance, transparency, adult skills, gender equality, and regional transport, energy and digital infrastructure. The Centre will also contribute substantially to advancing the implementation of the OECD's [Global Relations Strategy](#).

For detailed information, please visit [OECD website](#).

SECTORS

Technology That Improves the World

According to a recent Gartner report, Turkey is now to be considered as one of the world's outsourcing destinations since it has secured its place in the list of top 30 countries for Information Technology (IT), and offshore services.

The Turkish ICT Sector has been the locomotive of the country's Digital Transformation efforts, as well as working together with and increasing the productivity of all industry sectors in Turkey. Supporting globally leading Turkish mobile operators and banks, as well as the increasingly self-sufficient defense industry, Turkish ICT companies are well-positioned to be the regional leaders.

There are approximately 35 large companies operating in Turkey's software market. The product lines of these companies range from packaged programs to tailor-made software development for specific needs.

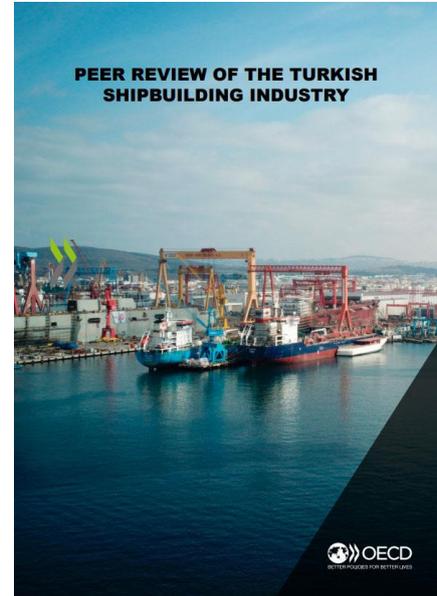
For detailed information, please click [here](#).



Peer Review of the Turkish Shipbuilding Industry

Turkey has a shipbuilding tradition of over 600 years. Indeed, the first shipyard was established in 1390 during the Ottoman reign. Following the foundation of the Republic of Turkey in 1923, shipyards were given a special interest and underwent a process of modernisation.

In 2019, Turkey was the 11th largest global shipbuilding economy in terms of seagoing vessel completions which amounted to 268 578 compensated gross tonnes (CGT). Turkish shipyards have been producing a variety of vessel types over the last ten years, including fishing vessels, trawlers, tankers, tugs, cruise/passenger ferries, dry cargo ships, offshore service vessels, bulk carriers, fully cellular containers (FCC), gas carriers and roll-on/rolloff (Ro-Ro) vessels. The Turkish shipbuilding industry also produces LNG-powered, hybrid-powered and electric-powered vessels. Turkey is also a significant global actor in ship repair, ship maintenance and ship recycling.



Yacht building is another important production area of Turkish shipyards. In recent years, Turkey has shown big progress in building boats and yachts and Turkey has become one of the world's leading mega-yacht building countries.

For the OECD Peer Review of the Turkish Shipbuilding Industry, please click [here](#).

Turkey to Use First Gas From Black Sea in Q1, 2023

Turkey will start using gas from the Sakarya Gas Field in the Black Sea in the first quarter of 2023, government sources told Anadolu Agency on Thursday.





Turkey's first national drillship Fatih discovered 405 billion cubic meters (bcm) of natural gas last year in the country's largest discovery ever in its history and the biggest offshore gas discovery worldwide in 2020 at the Tuna-1 well located about 170 kilometers off Turkey's Zonguldak coast. The Fatih drillship continued drilling appraisal wells in the region, the first of which was completed at the Turkali-1 last month. The drillship is currently working on the second well, the Turkali-2, at water depths of 3,050 meters, the sources said.

Fatih will drill 10 Turkali wells in the Sakarya gas field over the next two years, each at a diameter of 2 kilometers. Another of the three state-owned drillships, the Kanuni, will start work on well completion in the field by the end of March.

For detailed information, please click [here](#).

Send Us Your Inquiry

For your inquiries about Turkish exports,
please contact << ihrticari@trade.gov.tr >> by indicating
the Harmonized System (HS) Code of the product/sector of your interest.

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