



Global Wind Day (15 June): The Silent Power of a Sustainable Future

Celebrated annually on **15 June**, **Global Wind Day** aims to raise awareness of wind energy as a clean, reliable, and sustainable source of power. Initiated by the European Wind Energy Association and the Global Wind Energy Council, this special day has become one of the most significant symbols of energy transition and climate action worldwide. Humanity is currently facing interconnected global challenges, including climate change, energy security concerns, and the depletion of natural resources. Fossil fuel-based energy systems remain among the largest contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, expanding the use of renewable energy sources is of critical importance, particularly in relation to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** and **Goal 13 (Climate Action)**.

Among renewable energy technologies, wind power stands out as one of the most powerful drivers of this transformation. According to the latest reports of the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), the global installed wind energy capacity reached approximately **1,300 GW** by the end of 2025. In the same year, a record-breaking **165 GW** of new wind power capacity was installed worldwide, with nearly **28,400 new wind turbines** commissioned across 57 countries. Today, 138 countries generate electricity from wind energy. The contribution of wind energy to global electricity production continues to increase steadily. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), wind power accounted for approximately **8% of global electricity generation in 2024**. Recent assessments indicate that wind-generated electricity reached **2,715 TWh in 2025**, increasing its share of global electricity production to **8.5%**, the highest level ever recorded.

The role of wind energy within renewable energy systems is expected to become even more significant in the coming decades. The International Energy Agency projects that renewable energy sources will provide approximately **43% of global electricity generation by 2030**, with wind energy accounting for a substantial portion of this growth. During the same period, renewable energy is expected to satisfy more than **90% of the increase in global electricity demand**. Offshore wind technologies are also emerging as a major pillar of the global energy transition. Current projections suggest that worldwide offshore wind capacity could quadruple by 2035, reaching approximately **420 GW**. This development demonstrates that energy security objectives and climate commitments can be advanced simultaneously through investments in renewable energy.

From Türkiye's perspective, wind energy holds strategic importance for strengthening energy security and reducing dependence on imported energy resources. The country possesses considerable wind potential, particularly in the Aegean, Marmara, and Central Anatolian regions. Expanding the utilization of domestic and renewable energy resources offers significant opportunities for reducing carbon emissions, lowering energy costs, and advancing sustainable development goals. Universities play a crucial role in this transition, not merely as observers but as active contributors. Through scientific research, technological innovation, energy efficiency initiatives, and the education of future generations, higher education institutions can significantly contribute to building a sustainable energy future. Increasing the adoption of renewable energy practices on university campuses and enhancing students' awareness of clean energy technologies are essential steps toward creating more sustainable societies.

On the occasion of Global Wind Day, we are reminded that wind is not only a natural phenomenon but also one of the fundamental energy resources of a low-carbon and sustainable future. Supporting renewable energy investments and strengthening sustainability awareness across all segments of society are essential for achieving a cleaner environment, more resilient cities, and a more livable world for future generations.

The power of the wind does more than turn turbines—it also drives our collective hopes for a sustainable future.

Maltepe University Sustainability Office