Energy, Water and Food Security: Security relevance of the Eastern Anatolia Project

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Turkey is gifted for natural resources, particularly water, however due to the diverse needs bound to the highly variable topography, climate, demography and problems of migration, the need to struggle for developing the sustainable use of water and land arises for the production of secured energy and food. Thus, the Government of Turkey has launched on an ambitious project to develop the southeastern part of the country, addressing the important issues of, primarily, food and energy security and international water rights. An area of 74000 km² is an incomparable laboratory to study the challenges in ensuring sustainability in agriculture, which in fact is the key subject in attaining food and water security with the latter covering the main energy source-the hydroelectric power obtained from water reservoirs. Developing new paradigms, concerns the design of the strategies of new challenges and implementing long-term research activities in the area for the ultimate goal ie the determination of the sustainable land and water management (SLWM) programmes and the current needs that Turkey faces.