

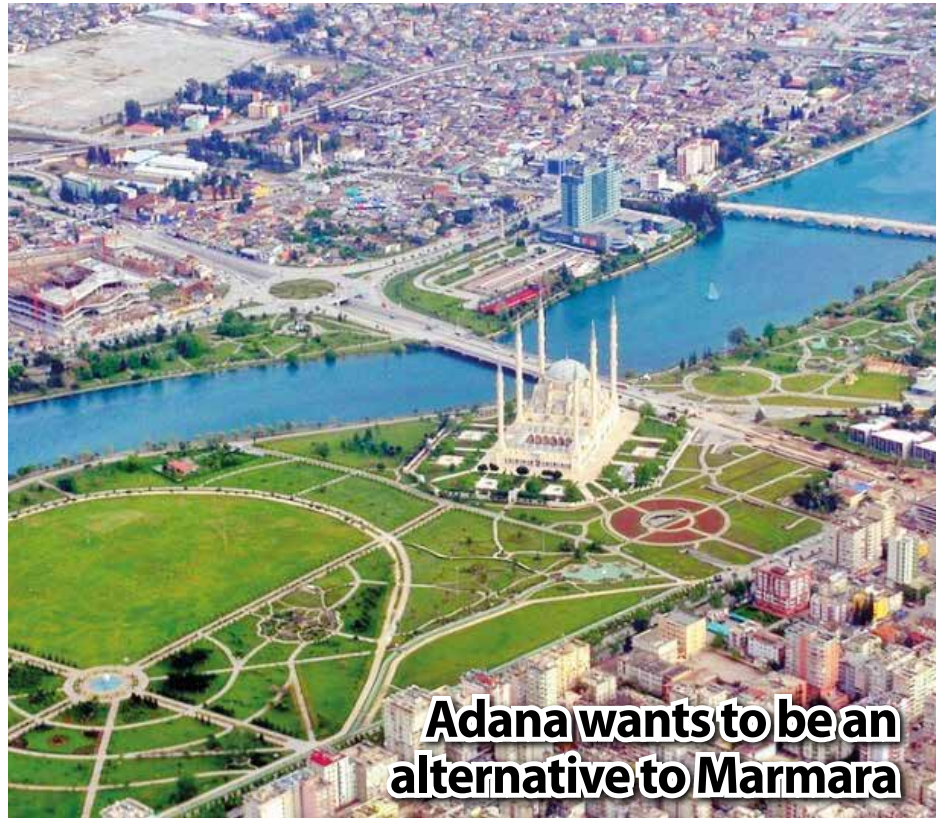
TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu:

We need an extensive reform process

Growth figures for the first quarter of 2017 confirmed a recovery in the last period. Leading indicators foresee that recovery will continue among consumption, investments and net foreign trade items. Both private and public consumption is expected to increase further. Therefore it's possible that we can achieve a growth of 5% in the second quarter too.

Machinery and equipment investments from private sector almost stagnated for the last couple of years. The decline reached at 10% for the first quarter which was a positive growth period. Today's machinery and equipment investments creates the production capacity of tomorrow. It matters for sustaining the future of growth.

People need excitement, encouragement, new goals to look up to, shortly an intensive reform process. Without reform, even with public supports, credits, loans and pumping domestic consumption, high growth rate won't be sustainable.



Adana falls within Europe, Middle East and African markets with its location on the intersection of three continents. With its sociocultural development level, mild climate and both mountain and sea tourism facilities within the same basin, Adana is the second tourism base of Turkey.

"We should define the right and efficient brand strategy for Adana by analysing successful city brand city exemplars like Barcelona and Amsterdam, or unsuccessful brand city examples in our country" says Adana Chamber of Industry Chairman Zeki Kıvanç. Adana Commodity Exchange Chairman Şahin Bilgiç says "We are struggling to contribute to our members and regional producers with our activities as Adana Commodity Exchange".

And Adana Chamber of Commerce Chairman Atilla Menevşe adds: "A branded Adana will be stronger and reach a favourable position in terms of competition. And for that we need definitely to form an Adana lobby."

R&D centers on the rise but not enough!



Turkey has around 800 research infrastructure in form of R&D center, techno-city, laboratory. The number of R&D centers in East and Southeast regions of Turkey are as much as the ones only in Kayseri. The only reason not to name those two regions with "no R&D centers at all" is the city of Gaziantep. There are 183 private and state universities in Turkey. Some of them has even 10 research centers while some of them has none. According to the data from Ministry of Development there is 38 new research centers being established at the moment, with 16 of them thematic. By the end of 2016, central research labs establishments are completed in 57 universities. Installation still proceed in 38 universities at the moment. The study regarding research infrastructures of universities and public authorities made by Ministry of Development reveals an R&D map of Turkey together with R&D and technological improvement regions data released by Department of Industry.

"Demands of Exchanges and Chambers are considered"



Exchanges and Chambers, gathered during Regional Meetings of Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB). During the consultation meetings economic developments, survey studies and realized practices were discussed and detail

presentations were made. Stating that demands of Exchanges and Chambers were taken into consideration and realized by the government, TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu underlined that positive effects of taken measures were in sight. "Our honorable president

made a request. Everyone should employ at least one more individual. And you made a success story in the first six months. You hired 1 million 200 thousand people. That's a record on global scale. There is no such example in any country" said Hisarcıklioğlu.



E-commerce a solution for remote markets?

Digitalization may ease the export procedures but most of the small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) don't have or master the relevant legislation knowledge, foreign language, market information and required qualified workforce or other elements needed to carry out export operations.

Likewise logistic adjustments and access to financing and even the required digitalization level to be able to realize e-export can still be a barrier for a lot of SMEs to upgrade do e-export. A whole integrated services like Trade Facilitation Center which will be supported by public and private sector

actors in Turkey provides a solution to overcome such barriers. Through this center especially SMEs will be able to reach additional services like law, education, market/product researches, e-commerce operations, finance, logistics, call center, audit and control from a single center.

National Agriculture Project



Aiming to carry Turkey to a regional leading position in agriculture in terms of competitive force, production diversity and standards and make Turkey a global player in global markets "National Agriculture Project" is initiated. Project consists of two main foundations; "Basin Based Support Model" in vegetative production and "Supporting Local Production Model" in livestock. 21 strategic products with supply deficit are included to the project scope. 941 counties are defined as agricultural basin and certified seed use became compulsory in order to make use of this support as from 2018. Likewise livestock purchase will receive grant and each calf of four months will be supported by 750 TL.

Answering our questions former Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and AK Party Şanlıurfa Deputy Faruk Çelik says "To improve the good level we achieved in agriculture today and to reach our 2023 goals we have to use our vegetable and livestock potential efficiently, utilize our lands better, transit to a production model based on efficiency and upgrade our agricultural competence to an upper level."