

ANTALYA, Turkey

Overview of Antalya



Antalya



Source: R.Saygılı (2015), http://cografyaharita.com/haritalarim/41_antalya_ili_haritasi.png.

Key figures

	Population (2015)	Unemployment rate (2013)	Growth of regional gross value added (2011)
Antalya	2 288 456 (Antalya Province)	7.9%	14.4%
Turkey	78 741 053	9.0%	17.3%

Challenges for Antalya's resilience

- *Diversification of its industry mix and markets in the leading sectors*

The city has a limited number of industries, namely tourism and agriculture, as the main sources of revenue and employment, whose market is focused on relatively small numbers of foreign countries: Half of its exports are shipped to five countries: the Russian Federation (25%), the People's Republic of China (7.2%), Germany (6.8%), Ukraine (6.4%) and Kazakhstan (4.3%), while visitors from the Russian Federation and Germany account for a majority of tourists. As a result, any changes in these countries could have a major impact on Antalya's tourism and agriculture industries. This could also affect employment in other sectors directly, since more than 50 other subsectors, such as food, furniture and housekeeping, depend on the tourism sector.

- *Responding to population growth triggered by internal migration*

The population of the city is growing rapidly, mostly due to increasing internal migration. The population of Antalya increased by 27.9% between 2007 and 2015, and more than 40% of the net population increase was caused by net migration. The migrants, usually from low socio-economic groups, tend to settle in low-income neighbourhoods. One common consequence of internal migration is the migrants' difficulty in adapting to city culture. These groups are generally considered disadvantaged because they tend to take low-paid jobs and live in unfavourable conditions. The neighbourhoods they live in are usually disadvantaged areas lacking the opportunities of the city, making social cohesion difficult.

Another challenge is to develop capacity to accommodate the expanded population, while ensuring residents' well-being. Indeed, the city's transport, water and sewage system, electricity, other infrastructure and availability of social services have not kept pace with the population growth.

Elements for building resilience in Antalya

Economy

- *Antalya has potential for alternative tourism*, such as medical and sport tourism, thanks to its assets in hospital infrastructure and golf areas.
- *Meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions (MICE) tourism is also promoted by the city* through the Antalya Convention Bureau which develops the city's congressional potential and facilities.
- *Emerging sectors were identified for diversifying the industrial mix*, based on the assessment made by the United Nations Joint Programme (2011).

Society

- *Access to job opportunities for youth, females and migrants has been fostered* by the United Nations Joint Programme "Growth with Decent Work for All: a National Youth Employment Programme and Pilot Implementation in Antalya" (2009-2012) which encompassed several training activities, such as vocational training in the field of agriculture.

Environment

- *Improving water supply and sewerage treatment to keep pace with population growth and tourism*, by the implementation of the "Antalya water and wastewater project: additional financing project environmental management report" (2010).
- *Antalya has shifted to natural gas as the main source of heating, to accommodate population growth*. Indeed, the share of natural gas has increased by 10% in the last decade and now accounts for 48% of total energy generation.

Institutions

- *The regional development agency plays a leading role in developing Antalya*. The West Mediterranean Development Agency (BAKA) is a government organisation founded in 2010 that provides management and financial assistance to local territories to accelerate socio-economic development and increase local capacities.
- *ICT increases the capacities of the public sector for appropriate service delivery*, for instance thanks to the "Vision 81 Smart Cities" implemented in 2015 in collaboration with Turkish Telekom.
- *Citizen participation is solicited for large municipal projects*, in the form of referendum about major infrastructure and urban renovation projects, such as the EXPO Rail Line System Project.

Conclusions

- Expanding the market for alternative tourism such as medical, MICE and sports tourism has enabled the city to take advantage of its current strength in the core industry and provided a smart alternative to support industrial diversification. In addition to diversification of tourism alternatives, import countries for agricultural produce need to be diversified as well. This strengthens the city's economic robustness against future shocks.
- Close co-operation with the West Mediterranean Development Agency is a critical factor in strengthening the city's capacity in line with national priorities, such as the Tourism Strategy of Turkey 2023. This sets a good example of integrated multi-level governance approach.
- Growing population triggered by internal migration continues to put pressure on the city to update its infrastructure, in particular the sewage disposal system. The city could develop long-term land-use and infrastructure strategies in order to accommodate the population growth and infrastructure needs. Compact city policies featuring dense and proximate development patterns, areas linked by public transport systems, and high accessibility to local services and jobs could also provide a good solution to this challenge.
- Policies need to be developed to promote the employment of the youth, women and migrants, such as providing job training and enhancing business start-ups, since their inclusion in the job market is important to maintain social cohesion and sustainable economic growth. Policies also need to be put into practice in order to overcome the seasonal character of jobs in tourism and agriculture.