



TÜREB chair Hakan Yıldırım poses ahead of a press interview.

Wind power capacity rising fast: Association

Emre Eser - ISTANBUL

Some 15,000 workers are employed in the Turkish wind power ecosystem, and Turkey is using only 10 percent of its wind energy potential, according to the head of a business association.

"Currently, our total installed wind power capacity is 8,000 megawatts [MW], but we do have a potential of up to 90,000 MW," said Hakan Yıldırım, chair of Turkey Wind Energy Association (**TÜREB**).

"The wind power technology is developing. The average amount of energy generated from a single turbine is increasing rapidly. Thus, our wind power potential is also rising," he told daily *Hürriyet*.

"At this point, some 15,000 people are employed in the wind energy sector," he added, referring to the newly opened factories in which wind turbine parts are manufactured.

These factories export nearly 70 percent of their products, according to Yıldırım's remarks.

According to **TÜREB**'s data, wind energy provided about 8 million Turkish homes with electricity last year.

More than 75 percent of wind farms are located in the Aegean and Marmara regions.