

March 2011

## METU Studies in Development

### Report of the Editor – 2010

#### General Situation

*METU Studies in Development* is the academic periodical of the Middle East Technical University (METU) Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences (FEAS). It publishes articles in the fields of economics, administrative sciences, public administration and international relations. Board of Editors consists of faculty members and academicians from several universities in Turkey. The submissions are dispersed to members of Board of Editors according to their fields to assign reviewers.

*METU Studies in Development* was published as four issues per year between 1970 and 1999. Between 2000 and 2002, double issues have been published. It has been published as two issues per year since 2003. Due to increase in the number of articles that are submitted to the journal, it is decided to publish the journal in trimester in April, August and December.

In 2010, Vol. 37. No.1 consisted of four articles and the report of the editor in 81 pages; Vol. 37 No. 2 consisted of four articles in 110 pages and Vol. 37 No. 3 consisted of four articles and one book reviews in 101 pages. The number of authors who contributed to Vol. 37's first, second and third issues were 8, 10 and 9, respectively.

The website of the journal ([www2.feas.metu.edu.tr/METU SD/ojs/index.php/METU SD](http://www2.feas.metu.edu.tr/METU_SD/ojs/index.php/METU_SD)) in its new form became operational in September 2006. From January 2008 onwards, all submission and evaluation processes became online only. The journal staff thanks our former editorial assistant Mr. Hasan Dudu for his competence and making this major move possible almost single handedly.

Printing and mailing costs of the journal covered from the faculty allowance budget that is managed by the METU Development Foundation. The issues are printed in METU Printing House by the standing order of the Rector's office. The costs of printing materials (ink, carton etc.) are paid by Dean's Office of METU FEAS. This allows the journal fulfil its long-standing public service mission of nearly forty years of well-regarded and respected academic discourse.

**Table 1**  
Cost Structure of the Journal per Issue (TL)

<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Total</b>
Labor cost				1,100
Cover	85	Layer	0.88	75
Paper	4	Ream	68.8	275
Mold	8	Item	11.5	92
Total Material				442
Total Cost				1,542 (USD 1000)
Cost per unit (approximate): 2.8 TL (exc. mailing, 550 pieces)				

The journal is distributed free of charge to FEAS members and to libraries of the state universities and a few public institutions. The journal has a small number of domestic and foreign paid subscribers. Ninety issues are sent to METU Library, which in turn sends these to those universities and institutions that publish their own periodicals, in exchange. The journal thus amply pays back its production subsidy to the university.

### Statistics

The journal requires free registration to access its online content. The number of people that subscribe to the journal's website in 2007 was 263, in 2008 432, in 2009 754 and in 2010 475<sup>1</sup>. The number of total subscribers is 1883<sup>2</sup>. The registered users have free access to all (except the latest issue) journal content dating from 2000.

**Table 2**  
Statistics on Website

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	
Unique Visitor	570	4,414	14,383	12,416	9,430	
Number of Visits	702	5,876	18,548	16,889	13,383	
Page view	3,315	31,898	73,729	83,937	73,069	
View per Visitor	4.72	5.43	3.98	4.97	4.46	
Returning Visitors (%)	18.8	25.8	23.2	28.1	31.1	
Per Day	Unique Visitor	2	12	39	34	26
	Number of Visits	2	16	51	46	37
	Page views	9	87	202	230	201

In 2010, the number of unique visitors and the number of page views declined. This decline occurred because the website server was down during

<sup>1</sup> Statistics on website cover the period of January – December 2010.

<sup>2</sup> During upgrading and maintenance operations of the website in December 2010, some user accounts were deleted or merged.

maintenance and upgrading in December 2010. The number of view per visitor decreased to its 2008 level. However, the share of returning visitors in total visitors increased to 31% from 28%. The website was visited by 26 unique visitors by 37 times and they visited 201 pages per day throughout 2010.

**Table 3**  
Visitors by Countries and Territories (2010)

Country / Territory	Number of Visits	Share (%)	New Visits (%)
Turkey	10,840	81,0	64.86
US	673	5,0	86.78
UK	220	1,6	86.36
Germany	169	1,3	94.08
Canada	106	0,8	87.74
France	72	0,5	81.94
Italia	57	0,4	89.47
Iran	56	0,4	89.29
Philippines	55	0,4	72.73
Netherland	47	0,4	97.87
Other	1,088	8,1	-

Nearly 19% of the total visitors came from outside of Turkey in 2010 (17% in 2008). The major countries are USA with 673 visits; UK with 220 visits; Germany with 169 visits and Canada with 106 visits. Most (85%) foreign users visited the website first in 2010. Yemen's position at the 5<sup>th</sup> rank in 2009 and all new users that visited the website from Netherland indicates that *METU Studies in Development* started to have higher visibility for researchers in the developing countries.

*METU Studies in Development* received 50 manuscripts in 2010 (see Table 4). Five manuscripts have been received in 2009 whose processes concluded in 2010. Fifteen manuscripts that were sent in 2010 are in review.

**Table 4**  
Distribution of Submissions by Fields (2005 – 2010)

Fields	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Economics	36	80	16	49	32	65	39	64	29	57	32	64	152	64
Business Adm.	6	14	9	27	11	22	17	28	13	25	9	18	56	24
International Rel.	2	4	4	12	1	2	1	2	3	6	3	6	11	4
Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	0	0	3	9	1	2	4	6	6	12	3	6	14	5
Other	1	2	1	3	4	9	0	0	0	0	3	6	6	3
Total	45	100	33	100	49	100,0	61	100,0	51	100,0	50	100	239	100,0

Table 4 shows the number and proportion of manuscripts according to major field. Of these, 64% of are in economics while 18% from business administration. In 2010, as compared by 2009, shares of economics increased while shares of political science and public administration and business administration decreased.

**Table 5**  
Average Processing Periods (Week)<sup>a</sup>

Year	Field	Editor	1 <sup>st</sup> Referee	2 <sup>nd</sup> Referee	To Rejection (including editorial rejections)	To decision
2007	Economics	3	6	9	5	15
	Business Adm.	3	6	9	7	15
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	4		2	7	6
	International Rel.		5	6	12	6
	Other	5	8			13
	Total	3	10	12	11	14
2008	Economics	9	8	10	22	15
	Business Adm.	7	13	15	11	9
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	5	20	18	29	2
	International Rel.	9	9	10	24	
	Other					
	Total	8	11	13	20	26
2009	Economics	5	9	4	2	20
	Business Adm.	5	8	10	4	17
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	5	3		5	17
	International Rel.	8	6	2		15
	Other					
	Total	5	8	5	3	13
2010	Economics	4	7	4	13	20
	Business Adm.	3	5	7	6	13
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	10	4	9	25	25
	International Rel.	9				
	Other	7			9	
	Total	5	6	5	13	19

a: As of 31.12.2010

In Table 5, compilation periods of articles in different steps are shown between 2007 and 2010. In 2006, when a referee was found on average in 18 weeks, this period decreased to 8 weeks in 2008 and decreased further to 5 weeks in 2009 and stayed at this level in 2010. Reviewing period declined from 2006 to 2010. In fact, reviewing process is also considerably short in 2010, as were in 2009, but due to maintenance and upgrade in December 2010, some referee reports could not be uploaded to the onlin system in time. Thus, this figure does not justify the fact.

**Table 6**  
Refereeing Status of the Articles

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Single Referee	12	9	9	8	20	13
Two+ Referees	30	24	23	43	13	27
No referee found	3	4	3	3	1	2
Rejection by Editors	0	0	10	7	17	6
Recall by Authors	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	45	37	45	61	51	50

Table 6 shows detailed statistics of the refereeing process between the years 2005-2010. During this period, a significant portion of the articles has been assigned to one referee as were in the previous years. Two article yet (as of 10/3/2010) could not be assigned to any referees and two articles were recalled by their authors. In 2010, the authors of the article have been notified about the related decision in average 19 weeks.

The statistics for *METU Studies in Development* for the period of 1997 – 2010 are shown in Table 7. In the last decade, 40% of issued articles were written in Turkish. While in the period of 1995 – 2010, 84% of the authors were academicians or professionals that affiliated to universities or other institutions in Turkey, this ratio was 72% in 2009. This means that *METU Studies in Development* starts to be an important publication source for foreign researches as well as Turkish counterparts. In fact, *METU Studies in Development* is appraised in the category of national A group journals for the majority of state and foundations' universities in Turkey in the process of promotion and assignment for an academic position (see The Annual Report of 2004). The journal is also appraised in the category of international B group journals in the process of promotion and assignment for an academic position by METU. In addition, since 1971 the journal has been scanned by the *Econlit* index, which is a leading international citation index of American Economic Association in the field of economics.

**Table 7**  
Summary statistics for METU Studies in Development, 1997-2010

Volume	Number	Number of Articles <sup>a</sup>	Number of Articles in Turkish	Total Number of Authors	Number of Authors (from Turkey) <sup>b</sup>	Number of Authors (Foreign Affiliation)	Number of Book Reviews	Printing Date <sup>c</sup>	Special Issue
24	1997(1)	8	1	8	5	3	0		
24	1997(2)	7	2	8	7	1	0		*
24	1997(3)	7	1	10	7	3	2		
24	1997(4)	7	2	9	7	2	0		
25	1998(1)	9	0	15	9	6	0		
25	1998(2)	8	5	10	10	0	0		
25	1998(3)	7	2	9	8	1	0		
25	1998(4)	7	1	10	6	4	0		
26	1999(1-2)	9	4	13	13	0	0	2001	
26	1999(3-4)	17	17	20	20	0	0	2001	*
27	2000(1-2)	11	5	20	14	6	1	2001	
27	2000(3-4)	6	0	6	3	3	0	2002	
28	2001(1-2)	10	2	12	10	2	1	2002	
28	2001(3-4)	9	4	11	10	1	2	2002	
29	2002(1-2)	9	4	14	13	1	3	2003	
29	2002(3-4)	7	2	11	8	3	3	2003	
30 <sup>d</sup>	2003(1)	5	0	8	6	2	5	Apr.04	
30	2003(2)	5	2	5	5	0	0	Oct.04	
31	2004(1)	5	3	9	8	1	0	Dec.04	
31	2004(2)	5	2	8	7	1	0	Jan.05	
32	2005(1)	8	3	10	9	1	1	Jul.05	
32	2005(2)	12	0	23	21	2	0	Jan.06	*
33	2006(1)	6	4	7	6	1	1	Jun.06	
33	2006(2)	6	1	10	10	0	0	Dec.06	
34	2007(1)	5	3	7	7	0	0	Jun.07	
34	2007(2)	11	4	11	11	0	0	Dec.07	*
35	2008(1)	10	1	12	1	11	0	Jun.08	*
35	2008(2)	10	2	20	18	2	0	Dec.08	
35	2008(2)	11	8	22	21	1	1	Apr.09	*
36	2009(1)	10	6	17	9	8	0	June.09	
36	2009(2)	7	3	13	13	0	1	Dec.09	
37	2010(1)	4	2	8	8	0	0	Apr. 10	
37	2010(2)	4	2	10	10	0	0	Aug.10	
37	2010(3)	4	1	8	8	0	1	Dec.10	
Total:		266	99	394	328	66	22		

a Shorter Papers / Notes / In Memoriam are included.

b The authors that are affiliated with institutions from Turkish Republic and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

c The publication date is noted the inside cover page since Vol. 26.

d In Vol. 30, publication period was changed to two issues per year (in June and December).

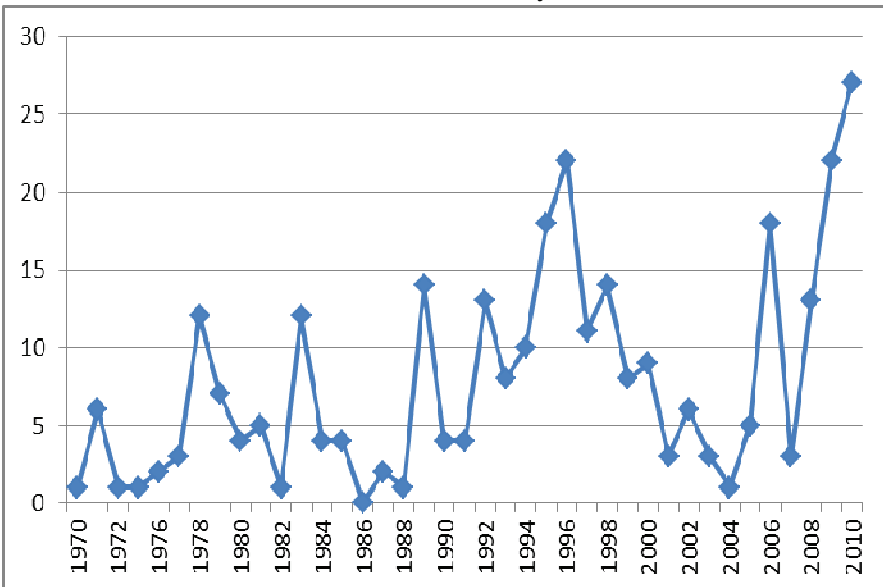
**Citations of *METU Studies in Development* in the SSCI**

The journal was published for almost forty years through the dedicated efforts of a small staff and limited resources of the METU FEAS. In the past, publication on time was an issue. Now that the journal has been back on timely publication track for the past five years and now it has international visibility statistics compiled within an online system for the past two years, the journal should qualify for an SSCI listing. For this purpose, first, the full text of past volumes was transferred to the web environment in pdf format. Among the ongoing studies is the transfer of the pre-2000 volumes of the journal to the web environment.

Increase numbers of citations are expected provision of with the easy online access to full text articles. Until recently, the journal could be found only at the central libraries of public universities. In addition, the EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier database provides full text access.

*METU Studies in Development* have been cited in the SSCI index for the first time in 1970<sup>3</sup>. The journal has been cited 302 times by 191 studies that have been published in the journals indexed by SSCI between 1970 and 2010. An increase in the number of citations has been observed over time. The journal was cited mostly in 2010 by 27 citations. The regular increase in the number of citations has been observed since 2008.

**Figure 1**  
Number of Citations by Year



<sup>3</sup> The numbers can be different from the previous years' reports due to fluctuating coverage of the SSCI.

The classification of the citations by fields is given in Table 8. A large part of the citations comes from the articles in the field of economics.

**Table 8**  
Classification of Citations by Fields

Field	Citations	
	Number	Percentage
Economics	151	50
Business Adm.	40	13
Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	19	6
International Rel.	48	16
Others	44	15
Total	302	100

Table 9 shows the distribution of citations to the journal by country. The majority of the citations were made by the Turkish researchers (55%). Turkish researchers are followed by the journals from the US and the UK. The share of citations by foreign researchers increased to 45% in 2010 from 28% in 2008 and 33% in 2009.

**Table 9**  
Distribution of Citations by Country

Country	Number	Percentage
Turkey	167	55,3
US	44	14,6
UK	11	3,6
Germany	5	1,7
Netherland	4	1,3
Canada	2	0,7
France	2	0,7
Jordanian	2	0,7
Peoples Republic of China	2	0,7

Table 10 shows the distribution by institution of the authors whose studies were cited in the 1980-2008 period. A significant proportion of the citations (32%) were made from METU and Bilkent University authors who have had a long-standing familiarity to the journal.

**Table 10**  
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Institution

<b>The institution</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
METU	51	19,4
Bilkent University	33	12,5
Boğaziçi University	18	6,8
İstanbul Technical University	13	4,9
Ankara University	7	2,7
Hacettepe University	6	2,3
Koç University	5	1,9
Ege University	4	1,5
Sabancı University	4	1,5
Turkish Republic of Central Bank	4	1,5
Atılım University	3	1,1
Dokuz Eylül University	3	1,1
Karadeniz Technical university	3	1,1
Loyola University Chicago	3	1,1
Marmara University	3	1,1
University of Minnesota	3	1,1
Yeditepe University	3	1,1

Journals which cited *METU Studies in Development* most are given in Table 10. Most of the citations to the journal are from “Emerging Markets Finance, Trade, and Applied Economics”.

**Table 11**  
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Journal

<b>Name of the Journal</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Emerging Markets Finance and Trade	12	6,3
Applied Economics	11	5,8
Developing Economies	8	4,2
Journal of Policy Modeling	7	3,7
International Journal of Middle East Studies	6	3,1
World Development	6	3,1
Middle Eastern Studies	5	2,6
Applied Economics Letters	4	2,1
Economic Modeling	4	2.1
European Journal of Operational Research	4	2.1
İktisat, İşletme ve Finans	4	2.1
Journal of Development Studies	4	2.1
Canadian Journal of Development Studies	4	2.1
Development and Change	4	2.1
Defense and Peace Economics	3	1.6
Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics	3	1.6
Amme İdaresi Dergisi	3	1.6
New Perspectives on Turkey	3	1.6
Türk Psikoloji Dergisi	3	1.6

*METU Studies in Development* will remain to be the best known and most respected academic journal in its field in Turkey, continuing to fulfill its mission as it has done for the past forty years.