

March 2014

METU Studies in Development

Report of the Editor – 2013

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 was published as two issues per year beginning in 2003. Due to increase in the number of articles that are submitted to the journal, it is now published in April, August and December.

In 2013, Vol. 40. No.1 consisted of five articles and the report of the editor, in 146 pages; Vol. 40 No. 2, which is dedicated to the academic achievements of Selim İlkin & İlhan Tekeli, consisted of twelve articles and an introduction by special issue editors in 317 pages; and Vol. 40 No. 3 consisted of four articles in 109 pages. The number of authors who contributed to Vol. 40's first, second and third issues were 8, 15 and 8, respectively.

The website of the journal (<http://www2.feas.metu.edu.tr/metusd>) 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 are covered from the faculty budget. 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.

The journal is distributed free of charge to FEAS members and to libraries of the state universities and some 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 2011 was 314¹. The number of total subscribers is 2,482 (2013). Entire online archive of METUSD is open to public.

Table 1
Statistics on Website

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Unique Visitor	4,414	14,383	12,416	9,430	4,200	7,923	7,261
Number of Visits	5,876	18,548	16,889	13,383	5,653	11,159	10,923
Page view	31,898	73,729	83,937	73,069	28,540	57,899	62,705
View per Visitor	5.43	3.98	4.97	4.46	5.05	5.19	5,74
Returning Visitors (%)	25.8	23.2	28.1	31.1	27	30	34,72

In 2013, number of unique visitors and number of visits declined slightly. On the other hand, number of page views increased.

Table 2
Visitors by Countries and Territories (2013)

Country / Territory	Number of Visits	Share (%)	New Visits (%)
Turkey	9,250	88.6	62.71%
U. S.	462	4.4	59.96%
U. K.	152	1.5	82.24%
Japan	100	1.0	97.00%
Germany	91	0.9	78.02%
Iran	45	0.4	71.11%
India	43	0.4	93.02%
Canada	40	0.4	92.50%
Pakistan	32	0.3	93.75%
Other	608	5.6	92.44%

¹ Statistics cover the period of January – December 2013.

About 12% of the total visitors came from outside of Turkey in 2013. US leads with 462 visits; UK with 152 visits; Japan with 100 visits. Most (80%) foreign users were first time users in 2013.

METU Studies in Development received 67 manuscripts in 2013 (see Table 3). Twenty one manuscripts have been received in 2012 whose processes concluded in 2013. Sixteen of manuscripts that were sent in 2013 remained in review.

Table 3
Distribution of Submissions by Fields (2006 – 2012)

Fields	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Economics	32	65	39	64	29	57	32	64	15	27	22	45	35	52	204	53
Business Adm.	11	22	17	28	13	25	9	18	6	11	9	18	13	19	78	20
International Rel.	1	2	1	2	3	6	3	6	26	46	1	8	2	3	37	10
Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	1	2	4	6	6	12	3	6	0	0	4	2	10	10	28	7
Other	4	9	0	0	0	0	3	6	9	16	13	27	7	15	36	9
Total	49	100.0	61	100.0	51	100.0	50	100	56	100	49	100	67	100	383	100

Table 3 shows the number and proportion of manuscripts according to major field. Of these, 53% are in economics while 20% from business administration.

In Table 4, compilation periods of articles in different steps are shown between 2008 and 2013. In 2006, a referee was found on average in 18 weeks, this period decreased to 2.6 weeks in 2013. On the other hand, in 2013, authors have been notified on the editorial decision on average in 16.4 weeks which was 7.9 weeks in 2012.

Table 5 shows detailed statistics of the refereeing process between the years 2006-2013. During this period, a significant portion of the articles has been assigned to two referees, except for some manuscripts received in 2009. The journal always starts by two or three referees but sometimes (due to a lack of response) the decision is made based on a single referee report (who is an experienced and trusted referee) and editorial evaluation. If the editorial board is in doubt, the author is informed and asked for permission to start the process anew if the author so wishes it (or recalls his/her submission).

Table 4
Average Processing Periods (Week)

Year	Field	Editor	1 st Referee	2 nd Referee	To Rejection (including editorial rejections)	To decision
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
2011	Economics	8	11	6	2	10
	Business Adm.	13	12	-	8	15
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	-	-	-	-	-
	International Rel.	2	4	4	0	8
	Other	-	-	-	3	3
	Total	3	5	4	3	9
2012	Economics	3.5	6.8	2.8	7.6	11.5
	Business Adm.	4.5	7.3	7.5	5.9	9.5
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	3.6	10.1	-	-	24.1
	International Rel.	0	3.3	1.6	8	7.2
	Other	-	-	-	0.8	0.8
	Total	3.5	6.9	3.7	4.5	7.9
2013 ^a	Economics	2	6.9	5.5	5.6	17.1
	Business Adm.	3.7	5.6	7.6	6.5	21.3
	Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	3.3	6.1	2.9	-	17
	International Rel.	0.1	14.6	11.9	0.3	14.8
	Other	-	-	-	2.2	7.1
	Total	2.6	6.6	5.5	14.7	16.4

a: As of 31.12.2013

Table 5
Refereeing Status of the Articles

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Single Referee	9	9	8	20	13	8	4	12
Two+ Referees	24	23	43	13	27	28	14	34
No referee found	4	3	3	1	2	-	-	5
Desk Rejection by Editors	0	10	7	17	6	18	31	16
Recall by Authors	0	0	0	0	2	2	-	-
Total	37	45	61	51	50	56	49	67

The statistics for *METU Studies in Development* for the period of 1999 – 2013 are shown in Table 6. In this period, 46% of issued articles were written in Turkish. While in the period of 1999 – 2013, 87% 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. A METU SD publication qualifies for an initial assistant professor position in the overwhelming majority of Turkish universities. Since 1971, the journal has been included by the Econlit index, which is a leading international citation index of American Economic Association in the field of economics.

Table 6
Summary statistics for METU Studies in Development, 1999-2013

Volume	Number	Number of Articles ^a	Number of Articles in Turkish	Total Number of Authors	Number of Authors (from Turkey) ^b	Number of Authors (Foreign Affiliation)	Number of Book Reviews	Printing Date ^c	Special Issue
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 ^d	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	
38	2011(1)	4	3	8	8	0	0	Apr. 11	
38	2011(2)	4	3	6	6	0	0	Aug.11	
38	2011(3)	4	3	5	5	0	0	Dec.11	
39	2012(1)	5	4	6	6	0	0	Apr. 12	
39	2012(2)	4	3	7	7	0	0	Aug.12	
39	2012(3)	3	1	5	5	0	1	Dec.12	
40	2013(1)	5	2	8	8	0	0	Apr. 13	
40	2013(2)	12	12	15	15	0	0	Aug. 13	*
40	2013(3)	4	1	8	8	0	0	Dec. 13	
	Total	258	118	393	343	50	21		

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).

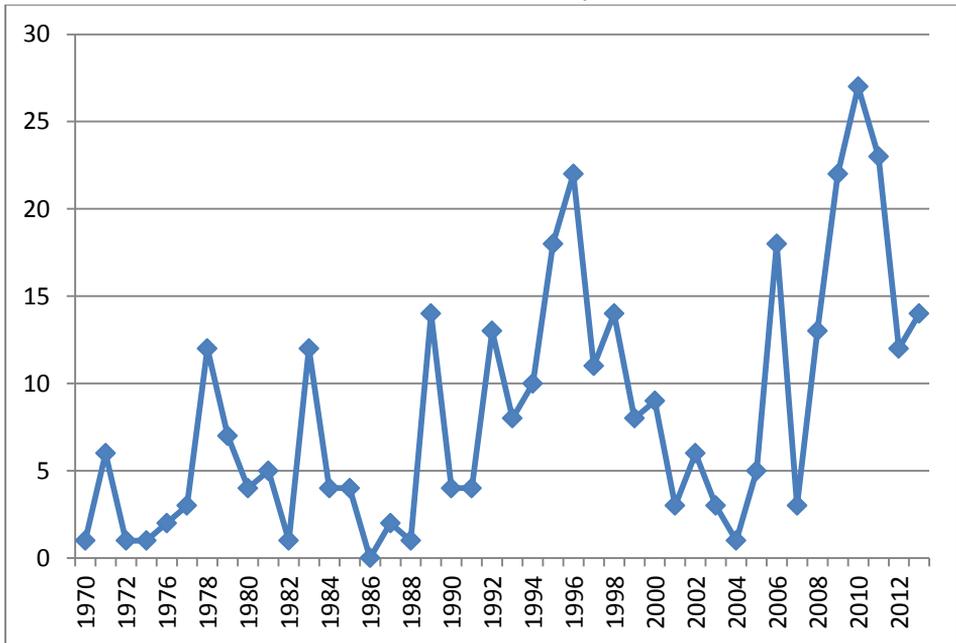
Citations of *METU Studies in Development* in the SSCI

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. The journal has been back on timely publication track for the past seven years and it has international visibility statistics compiled within an online system for the past four years. Also, the full text of past volumes (back to 2000) was transferred to the web environment in pdf format.

Until recently, the journal could be found only at the central libraries of public universities. In addition, the EBSCOHost Academic Search Premier database provided full text access.

METU Studies in Development has been cited in the SSCI index for the first time in 1972². The journal has been cited 351times by 228 studies that have been published in the journals indexed by SSCI between 1970 and 2013. An increase in the number of citations has been observed over time. The journal was cited mostly in 2010 by 27 citations.

Figure 1
Number of Citations by Year



² 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 7. A large part of the citations comes from the articles in the field of economics.

Table 7
Classification of Citations by Fields

Field	Citations	
	Number	Percentage
Economics	175	49
Business Adm.	50	14
Pol. Sci. & Pub. Adm.	60	17
International Rel.	22	6
Others	55	14
Total	362	100

Table 8 shows the distribution of citations to the journal by country. The majority of the citations were made by the Turkish researchers (57%). Turkish researchers are followed by the journals from the U.S.A. and the U.K. The share of citations by foreign researchers increased to 43% in 2013 from 28% in 2008 and 33% in 2009.

Table 8
Distribution of Citations by Country

Country	Number	Percentage
Turkey	200	57
U.S.A.	50	14
U.K.	15	4.3
Germany	5	1.4
Netherland	5	1.4
Canada	3	0.9
Taiwan	3	0.9
Jordanian	3	0.9
France	2	0.6
Peoples Republic of China	2	0.6

Table 9 shows the distribution by institution of the authors whose studies were cited. A significant proportion of the citations (25%) were made from METU and Bilkent University authors who have had a long-standing familiarity with the journal.

Table 9
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Institution

The institution	Number	Percentage
METU	54	15.4
Bilkent University	34	9.7
Boğaziçi University	20	5.7
İstanbul Technical University	13	3.7
Ankara University	10	2.8
Hacettepe University	8	2.3
Koç University	5	1.4
Ege University	5	1.4
Sabancı University	4	1.1
Turkish Republic of Central Bank	4	1.1
Marmara University	4	1.1
University of Minnesota	4	1.1
Yeditepe University	4	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 10
Distribution of Studies that Cite METU SD by Journal

Name of the Journal	Number	Percentage
Emerging Markets Finance and Trade	12	3.6
Applied Economics	11	3.3
Developing Economies	8	2.4
Journal of Policy Modeling	7	2.1
Middle Eastern Studies	7	2.1
İktisat İşletme ve Finans	7	2.1
International Journal of Middle East Studies	6	1.8
World Development	6	1.8
Economic Modelling	5	1.5
Applied Economics Letters	5	1.5
Amme İdaresi Dergisi	4	1.2
Development and Change	4	1.2
European Journal of Operational Research	4	1.2
Journal of Development Studies	4	1.2
Canadian Journal of Development Studies	4	1.2

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 three years.