

## **PREFACE**

The climate change affects agricultural production systems by changes in crop growth. In addition, it causes some physical and chemical variations on the earth surface. Some useful, but mostly detrimental effects of climatic changes are considered by most countries and communities; and the subjects are discussed with all of its dimensions in everywhere.

In this context, "Impact of Climate Changes on Agricultural Production System in Arid Areas, (ICCAP)" Project which was launched as a five year project in April 2002, was finished on March 2007. ICCAP was a cooperative research project with Japanese, Turkish and Israeli scientists on the climatic changes in the Mediterranean region.

The ICCAP project is supported by Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, RIHN in Japan and Turkish Scientific and Technical Research Council, TÜBİTAK in Turkey. Due to structure of the project, we had five sub-groups namely, hydrology and water resources, vegetation, plant productivity, irrigation and drainage, and agro-economics. The plant productivity consisted four minor divisions, C/N budget, micrometeorology, salinity, and livestock.

The main objectives of the ICCAP were to investigate the effects of climate variability and changes on agricultural production system such as farmland development, irrigation and drainage, cropping system, farm management, water balance and water circulation in arid conditions. The project is not intended to search the effects of climatic change on agricultural systems but to extract the historical knowledge of the climatic change in the basin.

The final reports here are the results of the extensive work which are prepared by all the sub-groups. I would like to offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to all those involved to this project, Japanese, Turkish and Israeli scientist. It was a wonderful and informative experience for all of us, especially for my side. I would like to explain many thanks to RIHN and TÜBİTAK for supporting this project. I wish to this issue can be useful for readers.

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