

# BALSU SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2021

## Farmer Trainings in Samsun Province's Ayvacık District's Local NGO (Action Association)

With the cooperation of Ayvacık Local Action Group and Balsu, a two-day training was organized for farmers to increase the yield and quality of hazelnuts and to grow sustainable hazelnuts.

Good agricultural practices in hazelnut cultivation, good environmental practices, certification processes, good social practices and occupational health and safety training modules were conveyed during the first day of the training that reached nearly fifty hazelnut farmers. An applied training was held at the second day of the training that pruning and fertilization processes were conveyed in practice.



During the session held by the Young Lives Foundation, our approach and activities within the scope of combating child labour was conveyed. Also, the farmers were informed about the implementation of our children protection program in Ayvacık in 2022.



## Sustainable Supplier Development

As part of the 2022 certification preparations, we continue supplier visits to determine new farmer groups to be formed in the Eastern and Western Black Sea Regions and to update existing farmer groups.

Mutual cooperation protocols are also signed during our supplier visits in order to ensure traceability criteria and sustainable hazelnut farming.



## Registered Employment: Certification of Labour Intermediaries

We reached the labour intermediaries, whom we visited and trained in the 2021 hazelnut harvest period, by phone in this period as well. During the phone calls, we have emphasized that agricultural labour intermediation should be done in a documented way and that they needed to obtain an official labour intermediary certification from the governmental employment agencies of Turkey.

It was seen that there were 68 undocumented agricultural labour intermediaries living in Mardin, Diyarbakır, Şırnak, Batman, Şanlıurfa, Kocaeli and Sakarya regions, and 59 of them wanted to participate in certification activity that will be held by Balsu in cooperation with Young Lives Foundation.

In March 2022, training and certification for agricultural labour intermediaries will be carried out within the scope of "Origin- Winter" activities.

