

Capacity Building Farmer Trainings

As Balsu, we continue to carry farmer trainings that we started in the Western Black Sea Region after 2021 harvest, in the Middle and Eastern Black Sea Regions.

Practical pruning and fertilization trainings were held in hazelnut orchards with a total of 677 producers in 7 different areas in Düzce, 9 in Sakarya, 3 in Samsun, 10 in Ordu and 6 in Giresun. At the same time, we continue to meet with larger farmer groups through seminars upon their request.

Our trainings will continue in Zonguldak and the new hazelnut growing provinces of Bursa and Bartın.



Sustainable Hazelnut Villages Project

Balsu, which has been working on social responsibility since 2014, will create a model project hosted by Ferizli district of Sakarya province for better working conditions and prevention of child labor risks in hazelnut harvest with the Sustainable Hazelnut Villages Project.

In order to combat child labor in hazelnut harvest in Turkey and improve working conditions, RVO (Initiative Agency affiliated to the Dutch Government, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy) and Rainforest Hazelnut Program take action for the "Sustainable Hazelnut Villages Project" in Ferizli district of Sakarya.

Within the scope of its 3-year project activities covering the years 2022-2024, Balsu will bring together various representatives by establishing committees with public institutions, companies, non-governmental organizations, agricultural business intermediaries and leading producers in the region. In addition to producer/worker trainings and registered employment activities, the project aims to improve the accommodation of at least 10 workers group and to support 300 children with summer school, workshops and activities in addition to the setting up a "region based community" to tackle child labor related issues.

Please read "Sustainable Hazelnut Villages"

<https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/in-the-field/mobilizing-turkey-hazelnut-villages-project-profile>



"In a Nutshell" Origin - Winter Activities

Balsu in corporation with Young Lives Foundation is reaching out children, women workers, local authorities, labor contractors, worker's families in their own living places to prevent child labor in seasonal agricultural work. We work in the regions with the highest number of immigrants in seasonal agriculture. In the light of the 2021 harvest period data, we have determined Mardin and Diyarbakır as bases for winter-origin activities this year.



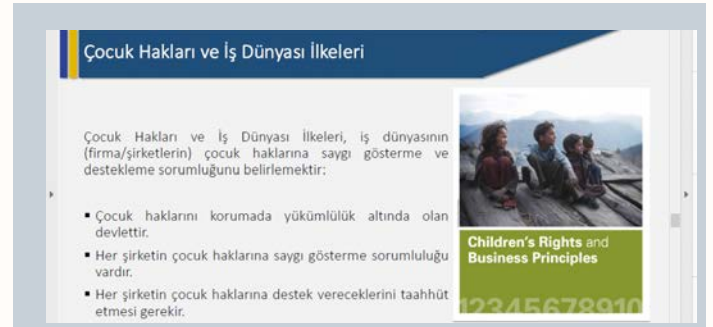
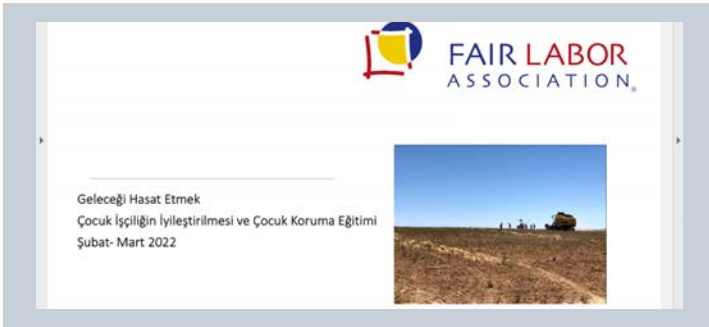
Within the scope of our project, we held meetings with Mardin İŞ-KUR Directorate, Derik District Governorate, Mazıdağı District Governorate, Diyarbakır Governorship, Diyarbakır National Education Directorate, Bağlar District Governorship. Balsu and Young Lives Foundation invited local institutions for the Origin-Winter activities that will take place in March.



"FLA" Child Labor Remediation and Children Protection Trainings

We participated in Child Labor Improvement and Children Protection Training for 6 weeks with the organization of Fair Labor Organization. The aim of this training, which is held as a session every week, is to approach child labor from children rights perspective and to integrate this perspective into all company policies and practices.

The session titles are as follows: Child Rights and Business, Supporting Children Rights in the Agricultural Supply Chain, Preventive Actions, Risk Assessment and Child Labor Monitoring Systems in the Agricultural Supply Chain, Basic Principles in Complying and Supporting Children Rights, Children Protection and Child Labor Protective Measures, Child Labor Case Management, Recovery Planning, Stakeholder Relations, Social Dialogue and Program Planning.



At the end of the training, the participants are able to define children's rights and company responsibilities, discuss how the activities will affect children's rights, have information about children protection measures, evaluate their current operations and systems and analyze ways to integrate and improve the children rights approach into their own systems.