

Combating Child Labor with a Focus on Business and Human Rights

On 9-10 June, a Meeting Against Child Labor was held in Adana with the cooperation of the Development Workshop-UNICEF, focusing on the Business World and Human Rights. Representatives of public, private sector and non-governmental organizations participated in the meeting, which lasted 1.5 days.

In this meeting, we conveyed the Good Social Practices we have done as Balsu within the scope of combating child labour.



Private sector cooperation and proactive approach are very important for the protection of human rights and the fight against child labor in the business world and production processes.

In addition, at the meeting, information was provided on the changing legal framework for the fight against child labor within the framework of the business world and human rights, and the roles/responsibilities of institutions.

Pre-Harvest Public Visits

As Balsu, we attach great importance to cooperation with public institutions in our work on sustainable hazelnut farming. In June, Sakarya Deputy Governor Selda Dural, who is responsible for the conditions of child labor and seasonal migrant agricultural workers, was visited together with the Genç Hayat Foundation, and the social dimension of sustainable hazelnut farming was emphasized during the visit.

In addition, the Deputy Governor was informed about the "Sustainable Hazelnut Villages" project in Sakarya-Ferizli region and was invited to the project working group meeting.



Balsu Procurement Centers - Dükkan



Balsu aims to reach hazelnut at its source and to ensure full traceability through its sustainability activities; Balsu also carries out the purchase of Inshell hazelnuts through its purchasing offices located in the provinces of Ordu, Samsun, Bartın, Zonguldak, Sakarya and Kocaeli.

Balsu, which makes visits to public institutions in the regions where the Hazelnut Purchase Center is located, started its activities in İkizce district of Ordu this year. The District Governor, the Mayor, the Director of National Education, the President of the Chamber of Agriculture, the Directorate of Agriculture were visited and sustainability activities at the procurement center were conveyed.

Rainforest Program Leadership Meeting



As Balsu, we met with Rainforest Alliance Turkey team, Rainforest Alliance Leadership members and Regional Directors on June 7.

In this meeting, which we attended as the sector representative, we had the opportunity to discuss the sectoral updates on Rainforest Alliance certification, the contribution of certification to our business model and its impact on the field.

At the meeting, we conveyed that digitalization steps are important and should be prioritized in order to move sustainability activities forward and strengthen certification systems in 2022 – 2023.

The Role of Climate Change in Sustainable Hazelnut Agriculture

National and international universities, agricultural engineers, sector representatives and farmers participated in the "Role of Climate Change in Sustainable Hazelnut Agriculture" workshop organized by Giresun Hazelnut Research Institute affiliated to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.



On the first day of the workshop, which lasted for two days, the effects of the increase in temperature and other changing climatic conditions on the development of the hazelnut plant and solutions were discussed. The most emphasized topics in the workshop were the increasing irrigation need of hazelnuts and the development of hazelnut varieties resistant to changing climatic conditions.



On the second day of the workshop, a hazelnut orchard was visited in Giresun Gürk y Village. While examining the gardening practices and results of the farm owner, suggestions were discussed. At the same time, diseases and pests were investigated in the garden and the effects of climate on diseases and pests were discussed.