

#### BALSU SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2025



### **2025 Harvest Data Analysis of Seasonal Migrant Agricultural Workers**





As Balsu, we continued our activities for seasonal migrant agricultural workers intensively during the 2025 harvest. Through 111 worker training sessions conducted across 5 provinces, 17 districts, and 54 neighborhoods, we reached a total of 1,830 seasonal migrant agricultural workers. Through trainings on occupational health, safety, and hygiene, 1,924 personal protective equipment and hygiene kits were provided. Additionally, through the harvest season activities of the Young Lives Foundation, 1,598 food and hygiene kits were provided to seasonal migrant agricultural worker households.

In order to implement the registered employment stages in seasonal agriculture, our seasonal social workers took action in processes such as agricultural work contracts and labor contractor certification. Within the scope of the B.E.S.T Program, 147 internal harvest observations were carried out to evaluate the effectiveness of field practices.





#### Harvesting with Net at the Balsu Model Orchard

This year, harvesting at our Balsu model orchard was carried out using the net method. With this method, hazelnuts were protected against aflatoxin risk, the rate of defective nuts was significantly reduced, and productivity was increased by achieving cost efficiency with lower labor requirements.

As the impacts of climate change on agricultural production become increasingly evident and economic costs continue to rise, we continue to share best practice examples with our farmers, promoting alternative and sustainable harvesting methods.





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### **Ongoing Efforts to Combat the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug**

We are continuing the mechanical control efforts that we started at pre-harvest within the scope of wintering control during post-harvest. These activities, carried out through farmer briefings and pheromone trap support, are continuing with the participation of a total of 1,654 farmers across 3 provinces and 15 districts. These efforts are of critical importance for reducing the brown marmorated stink bug population and minimizing its impacts in the next season.





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### **Balsu Participated in the ILO Project Impact Assessment Study**

We participated, together with the İstanbul Hazelnut and Products Exporters' Association (İİB), in the impact assessment study of the project titled "An Integrated Model for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting in Türkiye" which has been carried out by the International Labour Organization (ILO) Türkiye Office within the scope of its collaborations.

Since 2013, we have shared our experiences in preventing child labour and promoting decent working conditions in seasonal agriculture. We believe that our contribution will provide an important basis for the improvement of future practices and for strengthening collective learning in the sector.





### ClimaTech 4 Industry Project – Conference on Strengthening Climate Adaptation in Industry

We participated in the <u>Conference on Strengthening Climate Adaptation in Industry</u>, organized within the scope of the <u>ClimaTech 4 Industry</u> - Climate Change Risk Analysis Project, carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye, the Istanbul Chamber of Industry, and TÜBİTAK.

During the conference, climate change-related risks identified on a sectoral basis, their financial impacts, and ongoing and planned projects aimed at mitigating climate change were shared. The outputs of the Climate Change Risk Analysis Project are of great importance for assessing the financial impacts of climate risks and planning adaptation efforts, and they will contribute to Balsu's sustainability and climate adaptation goals.

