

## Panel on “Agricultural Organization in Turkey and Japan” has been Held in Eskişehir

Panel on “Agricultural Organization in Turkey and Japan” has been held on 05 March 2011 in Eskişehir Province with the cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and JICA Alumni Association.



Under the protocol signed on 17 September 2004 between Undersecretariat of State Planning Organization (SPO) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on “Young Leaders Program”, “Young Leaders Training Program on Agricultural/Rural Development Course” was realized between 21 September and 09 October in 2010 in Japan. Project staffs of DOKAP-TARIM Project and Sivas-Erzincan Development Project that are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, leader farmers and female farmers who succeeded in “Agricultural Knowledge Contest among Female Farmers” attended this training program. Group consisted of totally 18 persons, 6 of which are technical staffs (3 of them from center and 3 of them from provincial directorates; 2 of them are female and 4 of them are male) and 12 of which are farmers (8 are female farmers and 4 are male farmers). This panel realized in Eskişehir has been organized in order to share experience gained during Young Leaders Training Program in Japan.



A wide range of participants including Deputy Governor of Eskişehir, Director General of General Directorate of Organization and Support (TEDGEM) and staffs, Head of Risk Management and Projects Department from General Directorate of Agricultural Production and Development (TÜGEM) and project staffs from this Department, Senior Representative and staffs from JICA Turkey Office, President of JICA Alumni Association and Board members, provincial representatives of DOKAP-TARIM Project from Artvin, Staffs of Sivas-Erzincan

Development Project from Sivas, Eskişehir Provincial Director of Agriculture and staffs of Provincial Directorate of Agriculture, and Chairman and members of Sarıcakaya and Mihalgazi Agricultural Development Cooperatives have participated in the Panel.



In the opening speech, Provincial Director of Agriculture Mr. Mevlut GÜMÜŞ has expressed their pleasure for realization of this panel in Eskişehir and also thanked to representatives of the Ministry, JICA and Alumni Association for their supports.

President of JICA Alumni Association, Dr. Hüseyin VELİOĞLU (General Secretary of Cattle Breeders' Association of Turkey and Former Director General of TÜGEM), who made a speech on behalf of the Association, expressed his pleasure to witness the effective activities of female farmers in Eskişehir and also stated that participation of 2 representatives from cooperatives in Eskişehir to JICA training program in Japan has been a right decision.



Mevlut GÜMÜŞ  
Eskişehir Prov. Director of Agr.

Dr. Hüseyin VELİOĞLU  
President of JICA Alumni Association

Hiroyuki TAKADA  
JICA Senior Representative

Mr. Hiroyuki Takada, Senior Representative of JICA Turkey Office, emphasized the attention that regional development is one of the priority areas of JICA Turkey Office, and he expressed their pleasure for results of agricultural projects that they are implemented in close cooperation with the Ministry, and also stated that Young Leaders Training Program was realized successfully in Japan. Moreover, he stated that Japanese farmer group consisting of mostly female farmers shared information by visiting implementation areas of DOKAP-TARIM Project in Trabzon, and added that JICA is trying to continue this Young Leaders Training Program.

Mr. Ahmet Savaş İNTİŞAH, Head of Department from TÜGEM, emphasized that these Panels realized firstly in Ordu and then in Eskişehir have provided basis for exchanging information and experiences of persons participated in trainings in Japan, and this exchanging will shed light on further studies. Also he stated that the Ministry is ready to cooperate with JICA, JICA Alumni Association in organizations of these kinds of activities.

Mr. Mehmet TAŞAN, General Director of TEDGEM, stated that 29 Agricultural Development Cooperatives whose members are completely female farmers works effectively throughout the country, and studies to increase this number continue, and Knowledge Contest among Female Farmers Program, which was realized as positive discrimination by TEDGEM, made tremendous impact.

Finally Mr. Nahsen BADELİ, Deputy Governor of Eskişehir, stated that level of Turkey in terms of women's rights is very well in the World, elective franchise of women was realized before most of the European Countries by declaration of the Republic, and also he emphasized the role of women in agriculture, which is very important, and he stated that his speech was approved by participation of so many female farmers to the panel as panelists or audiences.



Ahmet Savaş İNTİŞAH  
Head of Department from TÜGEM



Mehmet TAŞAN  
General Director of TEDGEM



Nahsen BADELİ  
Deputy Governor of Eskişehir

In the Panel, chaired by Doç. Dr. Emin ÖZDAMAR, Senior Program Officer of JICA Turkey Office, Panelists realized successful presentations on following subjects; Nimet Kaleli Expert from TEDGEM "Importance of Agricultural Organizations in Rural Development in terms of Women", Saliha AKBAŞ Project Coordinator of DOKAP-TARIM Project from TÜGEM "Agricultural Organization in Japan", Ütüye TINAZ Chairman of Sarıcakaya Agricultural Development Cooperative "Effects of Experience in Japan to Cooperative Works" and Aslıhan BOLAT Leader Female Farmer from Tokat "Gains of Experience in Japan in views of Farmers".



Aslıhan BOLAT  
Leader Farmer (TOKAT)



Ütüye TINAZ  
Chairman of Sarıcakaya Cooperative

Panel, in which information and experiences of four Panelists who attended to Young Leaders Program in Japan have been shared, has realized successfully. Panelists emphasized that they had very useful information in the training in Japan, especially on One Village-One Product model, Japanese Agricultural Cooperative (JA) system, processing studies to create added value to agricultural products and packaging and marketing of agricultural products. Leader Farmers

stated that they are willing to work especially on packaging and processing and One Village-One Product, which can be adapted to their own practices.

Female farmers groups consisting members of Sarıcakaya and Mihalgazi Agricultural Development Cooperatives gave a novel touch to the panel. At the end of Panel, Mrs. Zeynep AKGÜN, Chairman of Mihalgazi Agricultural Development Cooperative, has presented handmade gifts to panelists, and then appreciation plaques have been presented to panelists by JICA Alumni Association.

#### Images from Panel

