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TRUMAP Project

Networking and Dialogue on Black Truffles and Medicinal and
Aromatic Plants in Turkey and Spain

WORKSHOP REPORT MAPS PRODUCTION IN TURKEY

Partners:

Forest Sciences Centre of Catalonia (CTFC) and
Yaşama Dair Vakıf (YADA Foundation)



WORKSHOP REPORT
MAPS PRODUCTION IN TURKEY

7 representatives from NGOs, private sector and public authorities which are working on medicinal aromatic plants, came together in Fethiye on June 17th, 2016. In the workshop, stakeholders discussed current situation and needs of MAPs production in Turkey.

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METHOD: In the light of general situation of medicinal aromatic plants in Turkey, a SWOT analysis method is used. Strengths and weaknesses as well as broader opportunities and threats was discussed in the workshop.

RESULTS OF SWOT ANALYSIS:

1. Strengths

- Comprising a wide range of species
- Advantage of endemism

- Increasing private sector's and customer's interest
- Increasing public sector's support and encouragement
- Number of best practices regarding MAPs production
- Usage in various fields such as landscaping, cosmetics, medicine, aromatherapy and food industries
- Existence of special education programs about medicinal aromatic plants in universities
- Increasing demand on medicinal aromatic plants in domestic and foreign market

2. Weaknesses

- Lack of technical knowledge and experiences
- Bureaucracy
- Issues of the body of current law implementation
- Lack of regulation regarding wild collection
- Weakness of communication between institutions
- Insufficient cooperation between institutions
- Lack of long-term plans
- Lack of publicity in domestic market and foreign market
- Insufficient number of entrepreneurs
- Not allocating sufficient resources for research and development
- Lack of inspection during the plant-based products going through customs,
- Lack of inventories

3. Opportunities

- Creating opportunities for wild collection
- Private sector's investment desire in medicinal aromatic plants sector
- Considering importance of non-wood forest products
- Increasing natural products market

4. Threats

- Not a sustainable sector. The increase in demand for MAPs is putting pressure on natural resources.
- Growth of imported natural products in domestic market
- Political instability in Turkey
- Illicit production in MAPs sector
- Unsustainable consuming of species and their genetic diversity
- Collecting unconsciously from wild
- Withdrawing of investment incentives
- Changing of legislative regulations frequently

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Improving sustainable production
- Training courses in state departments regarding MAPs sector
- Giving an importance of specialization
- Improving Advertising and marketing activities
- Fulfilling lack of knowledge about which species should be planted
- Improving technical skills and knowledge
- Providing technical and financial support
- Building capacity and encouraging innovation
- Creating best practice stories: MAPs can help small-scale farmers to strengthen their livelihoods directly through income generation.

Annex 1 – Photos of workshop







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