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TRUMAP Project

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

WORKSHOP REPORT TRUFFLE SECTOR IN TURKEY

Partners:

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



WORKSHOP REPORT

TRUFFLE SECTOR IN TURKEY

9 representatives from NGOs, private sector and public authorities which are working on truffle sector, came together in Fethiye on June 17th, 2016. In the workshop, stakeholders discussed current situation and needs of truffle sector in Turkey and propose recommendations for effective managing of the sector.

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

RESULTS OF SWOT ANALYSIS:

1. Strengths

- Existing of truffles in natural areas in Turkey
- Implementation of The National Truffle Action Plan by the General Directorate of Forestry
- Increasing public interest on truffles
- Popular subject
- To be seen as an alternative product
- Long season period (7 months)
- Rapid growth in public sector interest
- Increasing public sector's support and encouragement
- Increasing research and development studies
- Existing plantations and nurseries
- Presence of "Truffles Promotion and Research Association"
- Developing international relations and cooperation on truffles

2. Weaknesses

- Low interest in using natural truffle areas (collection of wild truffles)
- Weaknesses in legislation
- Lack of Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock interest for private truffle production
- Wild boar population in truffle natural area
- Lack of inventory surveys
- Misinformation in public opinion (lack of information, becoming a legend)
- Lack of access in real information (species of truffles, implementation studies)
- High investment costs
- Lack of state promotion and support for investment
- Unconsciousness of individual collectors
- Lack of inspection of individual collectors (need of certificate and collecting document)
- Not well known in domestic market
- Low number of best practices
- Improper practices (sapling production, planting and monitoring)
- Lack of control for imported saplings
- Lack of implementation power by local branches of General Directorate of Forestry

3. Opportunities

- Less competition in truffle sector
- Increasing interest of gastronomic tourism and gourmand tours
- Cooperation between Turkey and Spain
- Rapid growth of interest in truffles and truffle sector in Turkey
- New potential sites for truffles

4. Threats

- Destruction of natural areas
- Not well known in domestic market
- Failure possibilities of first truffle plantings
- Price instability

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Contributing to progress of legislation (especially, eco-tourism and customs legislation)
- Making activities for increasing Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock's interest
- Establishing controlling and monitoring system for imported saplings
- Providing truffles investment in incentive systems
- Providing truffles investment in General Directorate of Forestry, Forest-Village Relations Department
- Providing documentary taxes indemnity
- Training activities for individual collectors and establishing certification system
- Dissemination activities for best practices in truffle sector
- Truffles Promotion and Research Association cooperation with private sector, public authority and NGOs and producing new projects for truffle

Annex 1 – Workshop Photos







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