

## FAO-TURKEY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (FTPP II)

### *“Crop Festival Series”*

*as part of SAVE YOUR FOOD Campaign under the Reduction of Food Loss and Waste in Central Asia, Azerbaijan and Turkey*

## BACKGROUND

Globally, around 14 percent of food produced is lost between harvest and retail, while an estimated 17 percent of total global food production is wasted (11 percent in households, 5 percent in the food service and 2 percent in retail).

We’re producing more food than we know what to do with, while more than 800 million people around the globe suffer from chronic food deprivation every day. Farmers waste a significant share of their crop before it even leaves the field due to factors beyond their control, such as produce not being the right shape or size for supermarket tastes, or inaccurate forecasting by retailers of how much produce they will buy, leaving farmers with excess crop on their hands.

What can we do to reduce the amount of food waste and facilitate access to nutritious food for people who are suffering? One major front for action in the effort to reduce food loss is developing better food harvest mechanisms and practices. Gleaning is one of the widely known practices of gathering of unharvested food from the farm fields, which is then donated to local food banks and shelters.

Thus, Crop Festival series are aimed at giving volunteers an opportunity all over the country to engage them to reduce food loss hands-on by rescuing fresh, surplus fruit and vegetables from farms where it would otherwise be wasted and get it to good causes. In doing so, we will reinstate an ages-old practice to avoid waste into contemporary times. The event will also provide an occasion to celebrate the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste Reduction, which is observed every year on 29 September.

## OBJECTIVE AND FOCUS

**To address the above-mentioned issues and inspire relevant stakeholders, mainly local governments/authorities, CSOs and consumers to take necessary actions in tackling FLW in Turkey; FAO and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Republic of Turkey organize a “Crop Festival Series” as part of SAVE YOUR FOOD Campaign.**

The key objectives are:

- 1) To raise awareness and inspire a behaviour change among the consumers by actively engaging them to contribute to reduce food loss,
- 2) To inspire local governments, CSOs organize more gleaning activities aiming to rescue fresh, nutritious produce and ensure their delivery to local agricultural cooperatives, food banks and other platforms for re-evaluation,

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3) Generate an open discussion that will move all involved, representing policy makers, private sector and non-profit on how each can be part of the solution in a collaborative approach.

The planned series are aimed at implementing nationwide in gleaning periods of selected cities in one-year term. At the end of the year, the amount and the type of food being gleaned in the scope of crop festival, and the purpose they have been used for could be mapped.

The volunteers will receive basic trainings on first aid and harvesting by Konak District of Izmir Provincial Directorate prior to the festival.

### AUDIENCE

The festival seeks to bring together volunteers, public figures (i.e., singers, actors) and key stakeholders from public, private and non-profit sector working to reduce food loss and waste in Turkey.

The target audience will comprise primarily the consumers as well as the representatives of the public and private sectors, academia and civil society organizations.

### SUPPORTING PARTNERS

Food Rescue Association (GKTD)  
Basic Needs Association (TİDER)  
Komili  
WFP Turkey  
UNDP Turkey  
UNV Turkey

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### *1<sup>st</sup> Crop Festival Program (tentative)*

*25-26 September 2021, Izmir*

#### *Saturday, 25 September*

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**09.30-11.30** Gleaning Activity @ Gümüldür, Izmir with the participation of actress and activist *Zeynep Tugçe BAYAT* and prominent Chef *Sahrap Soysal*

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**10:00-11:00** Opening and welcome by moderator *Ilgaz GÜRSOY, TV Presenter/Journalist*

A video message by *Mert FIRAT, Goodwill Ambassador, UNDP Turkey*

#### **VIRTUAL PANEL\*: No Food Left Behind**

##### **Panelists:**

- *Burak ÖZ, Policy and Food Security Expert, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*
- *Zeynep OZKAN, Head of EU Harmonization Department & Save Your Food (Gıdanı Koru) Campaign Project Coordinator, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Turkey*
- *Berat INCI, Chairman, Food Rescue Association*
- *Elif Necla TÜRKOĞLU, Beylikdüzü City Council President and Founder of Beylikdüzü Food Bank*
- *Zeynep Tugce BAYAT, Actress and activist*
- *Hayrettin Uçak, President, Aegean Exporters' Associations*
- *Sabri Çetin, Mandarin producer*

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**11.30-11.45** Redistribution of rescued food to soup kitchens

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**12.00-13.30** Lunch and Presentation of Certificates at Gümüldür

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**13.30-14.30** Cultural tour at Claros Ancient City

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**14.30-17.00** Cultural tour at Ephesus

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#### *Sunday, 26 September*

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**13.00** Gathering and Preparations @ *Gastronomy Brand Academy*

**13:00-13:30** Training

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**13:30 -15:00** Save Your Food Workshop @ *Gastronomy Brand Academy* (with the participation of Chef Sahrap Soysal, Assistant FAO Representative in Turkey Ayşegül Selışık, Deputy Director General for EU and Foreign Relations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Volkan Güngören and in close collaboration of Konak District of Izmir Provincial Directorate)

**15:00-15:30** Tasting

**15:30** Closure

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*\*Please note the virtual panel will be broadcasted live by Gıdanı Koru social media accounts*

*\*\*Kindly note the line-up may change depending on the developments and availabilities of the participants/speakers.*

*\*\*\* Kindly note project coordinators and executors will be ready to proceed in case of any developments on the agenda.*

*\*\*\*\* Volunteers will receive first aid and gleaning trainings prior to harvesting*