



NEWSLETTER

MAY-AUGUST 2023

This newsletter provides information about the activities carried out in the four-month period between May and August 2023 as part of "An Integrated Model for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting in Türkiye" project.

CAOBISCO
Chocolate, Biscuit and Confectionery Industries of Europe

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Field Visits Before the 2023 Hazelnut Harvest Season

Representatives of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MoLSS) met with authorities in the Ordu, Samsun and Düzce provinces ahead of the upcoming hazelnut harvest season.

The visits were conducted as part of the "Integrated Model for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting in Türkiye" project – a collaboration of ILO and MoLSS financed by the Association of Chocolate, Biscuit and Confectionery Industries of Europe (CAOBISCO). The delegation of officials from ILO and MoLSS, which included also representatives of the Pikolo Association, as the implementing body in the programme, visited public institutions in the Eastern and Western Black Sea provinces and districts in which the project activities were being carried out.



The programme was launched on July 18, 2023 with a visit to Erkan Karahan, the District Governor of Altınordu, Ordu, and continued on July 19 with visits to Şükrü Yıldırım, the District Governor of Çarşamba, Samsun; Mustafa Özdemir, Head of the Çarşamba District Directorate of National Education; Muhammet Raşit Aktay, the District Governor of Ayvacık and Acting District Governor of Salıpazarı; Ali Savaş, Head of the Salıpazarı District Directorate of National Education; Dr. Polat Kara, the District Governor of Tekkeköy; and Mustafa



Uzunlar, Head of the Tekkeköy District Directorate of National Education, followed on July 20 with a visit to Talha Altuntaş, Deputy Governor of Düzce and District Governor of Yığılca.

The visiting delegation included Ayşegül Özbek Kansu, Senior Project Coordinator at the ILO Office for Türkiye; Mücahit Aksoy and Hamza Karakoyunlu, Labour Experts from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security; Onur Torun, Chairman of the Pikolo Association; and Numan Erkan, Esmâ Subaş and Engin Karahan, Training Coordinators in the Pikolo Association.

The comprehensive field visits gave project team the opportunity to see on-site the project activities, to consult with the authorities and to discuss seasonal preparations.

Regional Planning and Coordination Meetings in Samsun and Sakarya Before the 2023 Hazelnut Harvest Season

Regional Planning and Coordination Meetings for Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting were held in Ordu and Sakarya by the ILO Türkiye Office conducting the Combating Child Labour Programme ahead of the harvest season.

The meetings were attended by representatives of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MoLSS), the European Union Delegation to Türkiye and the heads of relevant public agencies as part of the projects “Integrated Model for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting in Türkiye”, “Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting” and “Elimination of Child Labour in Seasonal Agriculture”, carried out as part of the efforts to Eliminate Child Labour under the coordination of ILO and MoLSS.

Following presentations titled “National Fight against Child Labour” by Zeynep Baygeldi, labour expert from MoLSS, and the “ILO Office for Türkiye Elimination of Child Labour Programme” by Senior Project Coordinator Ayşegül Özbek Kansu, the participants discussed the findings, measures and interventions related to the use of seasonal child labour in hazelnut harvesting. Prof. Murat Gürkan Gülcan, education consultant to the ILO Office for Türkiye, moderated panel discussions focused on the action plans devised for the pre-harvesting period and the inter-institutional coordination of different agencies. During the meetings, which were attended by high-ranking officials from the public sector, the optimum approaches to the carrying out of project activities in the field were discussed.

Regional Planning and Coordination Meetings on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour used in hazelnut harvesting and seasonal agriculture were held on June 20, 2023 in Ordu with including Ordu, Giresun, Samsun and Trabzon, and from district governor’s offices in Altınordu, Ünye,

Fatsa, Ulubey, Persembeye, Piraziz, Bulancak, Çarşamba, Terme, Salıpazarı, Tekkeköy and Arsin, and on June 21, 2023 in Sakarya with the participation of officials from governor’s offices in the Western Black Sea region, including Düzce, Sakarya and Zonguldak, and from district governor’s offices in Alaplı, Yiğilca, Kaynaşlı and Kocaali. The meetings were attended by around 100 participants, including Nejat Kocabay, Senior Programme Manager and Ayşegül Özbek Kansu and Mehmet Koray Abacı, Senior Project Coordinators from the ILO Office for Türkiye; labour experts Elif Bor and Zeynep Baygeldi from the General Directorate of Labour of the MoLSS; and Mehmet Caner Demir, Sector Manager from the Delegation of the European Union to Türkiye, as well as Ordu Deputy Governor Levent Yetgin,



Giresun Deputy Governor Nurullah Cemil Erciyas, Sakarya Deputy Governor Selda Dural, Düzce Deputy Governor Talha Altuntaş, Ünye District Governor Ayhan Işık, Fatsa District Governor Avni Kula, Ulubey District Governor Süleyman Arat Bulancak District Governor Ünal Koç, Piraziz Deputy District Governor Kezban Yerlikaya, Çarşamba District Governor Şükrü Yıldırım, Terme District Governor Metin Maytalan, Tekkeköy District Governor Dr. Polat Kara, Ordu Provincial Labour and Employment Deputy Director Ali Yıldız, Giresun Provincial Labour and Employment Deputy Director Mustafa Sarı, Trabzon Provincial Labour and Employment Deputy Director İbrahim Büyük, Sakarya Provincial Labour and Employment Director Tekin Kaya and Düzce Provincial Labour and Employment Deputy Director Ferhat Acar, and also representatives from the provincial and district offices of the Social Security Agency, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Family and Social Services, municipalities and the Pikolo Association.



► DIRECT INTERVENTION ACTIVITIES

Orientation Training for Social Support Centre Teachers

Teachers who are members of the Pikolo Association, the implementing partner of the ILO Office for Türkiye, who will serve in social support centres as part of the direct intervention activities in 2023, were informed about child labour.



During the seminar, Senior Project Coordinator Ayşegül Özbek Kansu provided a detailed definition of child labour, its causes and consequences, the current state of child labour in the world and in Türkiye, and the Programme to Combat Child Labour being carried out by the ILO Office for Türkiye. A presentation was given on the National Programme to Combat Child Labour by experts from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security General Directorate of Labour. The education consultant of the project, Prof. Murat Gürkan Gülcan, made a presentation on child labour and education. Over the course of the programme, information was shared about the Pikolo Association, Programme-Operation Orientation was provided, and a session was held on Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL). Finally, a workshop was held by the Pikolo Association's Department of Communication.



Attendees the seminar held in Ordu on July 31, 2023 were 45 teachers from the Giresun, Samsun and Ordu provinces, while 25 teachers from the Düzce and Sakarya provinces attended the seminar held in Sakarya on August 2, 2023.



CAOBISCO Delegation's Field Visit

Officials from the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MoLSS), and the Association of the Chocolate, Biscuits and Confectionery Industries of Europe (CAOBISCO) paid field visits to Ordu and Samsun to monitor the harvest season activities on-site.



Representatives of ILO, MoLSS and the member companies of CAOBISSCO, the donor organization of the project, toured the project area as part of the Integrated Model for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting in Türkiye project. The visit was organized on August 15-17, 2023 to allow representatives from the donor organization to witness on-site the activities conducted under the project and to obtain detailed information on the actions taken for the elimination of child labour.



On the first day of the programme, Nejat Kocabay, Senior Programme Officer at ILO; Ayşegül Özbek Kansu, Senior Project Coordinator at ILO; and Mehmet Koray Abacı, Senior Project Coordinator at ILO, Aykut Geçer, Head of the Employment Policies Department of the General Directorate of Labour of MoLSS; İbrahim Konuk, Assistant Expert in the same department visited İsa Kaymak, Ordu Provincial Director of İŞKUR, and Mehmet Fatih Vargeloğlu, Ordu Provincial Director of National Education. During the visit, when and which the project activities carried out in Ordu were discussed, the participants also expressed their gratitude for the support provided by the public authorities under the project. The delegation then visited the Saraycık METİP area.



The delegation was expanded on the second day of the visit with the participation of Alicia Bellón Moral, Sustainability Manager at CAOBISCO; Rebecca Nguyen Van Thuy, Global Social Sustainability and Stakeholder Engagement Manager at Mondelez International; Aslı Köse, Ferrero Türkiye Farming Values Agri-Business Deployment Manager and Hazal Tonguç, Ferrero Türkiye Farming Values Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator at Ferrero.

The programme opened with a project briefing meeting during which a summary was provided of the efforts made over the past 10 years. The event continued with an open session during which the participants were invited to express their opinions, and give comments and suggestions, with contributions from Alicia Bellón Moral, Sustainability Manager at CAOBISCO, who stated that this 10-year project would benefit the future and that fruitful negotiations were underway between ILO and CAOBISCO for a possible fifth phase. Moral and Nguyen Van Thuy stated that they were pleased with the successes achieved in the project to date, emphasizing that the project apparently created another layer at every stage and that this was very impressive. They went on to state that all of the stakeholders had embraced and given their support to the project, allowing CAOBISCO's training activities to continue, and suggested that other activities could be added to further diversify and enrich the project.

Dursun Oğuz Gürsoy, Deputy Chairman of the Black Sea Hazelnut and Hazelnut Products Exporters' Association, drew attention to the fact that child labour in hazelnut harvest could be eliminated to a large extent if regulations were enacted regarding the conditions determined for farmers to receive financial support from the government each year, and if the elimination of child labour in hazelnut orchards was included as a requirement.

The delegation then paid a courtesy visit to Erkan Karahan, Altınordu District Governor, during which the delegation and the officials of the Altınordu District Governor's Office exchanged ideas related to the efforts of the project to eliminate child labour, the conditions of METİP areas, and the administrative regulations governing seasonal agricultural workers in the region, particularly in



Ordu. District Governor Karahan stated that the actions taken under the project to date would set an example for Türkiye as a whole, particularly those conducted in the Saraycık METİP area.

The delegation also visited the METİP area in Saraycık, and was shown around the prefabricated facility that had been established, containing eight classrooms, a nursery, a healthcare centre and an information room. They had the chance to witness first-hand the educational and cultural activities and games played at the school, and were informed that students actively participated in educational and sociocultural activities while their parents were working in the hazelnut orchards. Finally, the delegation visited two settlement areas in Terme, Samsun to observe on-site the improvements made by ILO to the housing units allocated to seasonal agricultural workers under the ILO public-private partnership project.

On the third and last day of the programme, the delegation visited Burçin Uysal Secondary School in Çarşamba, Samsun to see on-site the activities implemented under the project. The delegation was accompanied during the visit by Halit Doğan, Mayor of Çarşamba District, Mustafa Özdemir District Director of National Education, Onur Torun, Chairman of the Pikolo Association, and Ömer Dede, Board Member of the Pikolo Association, and was informed about the curriculum, the number of children, the age distribution and the monitoring activities, after which views were exchanged of how best to resolve the problems that arise.

The delegation also visited local hazelnut orchard owners and had the opportunity to speak to them about hazelnut production, the working conditions and the differences between locations, and also learned about various production processes, from harvesting, drying and shelling to calibration.

Finally, the delegation visited Yavaşbey Primary School in Salıpazarı district and viewed the activities carried out in schools under the project. The delegation was accompanied by Halil Algül, Mayor of Salıpazarı District and Ali Savaş, District Director of National Education, as well as project staff of the Pikolo Association.



Thanks to the Work of the Social Support Centres, 752 Children Went to School Instead of Working in the Orchards

Seasonal agricultural workers arriving in the project provinces at the end of July settle in METİP areas and in temporary settlement zones, and harvest hazelnuts until early September. Under an Integrated Model for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in Seasonal Agriculture in Hazelnut Harvesting in Türkiye project, 752 children attended educational activities carried out by 70 teachers and school administrators in five project provinces in the Black Sea Region (Ordu, Giresun, Samsun, Düzce and Sakarya) during the harvest period.

The families of the children identified through the Pikolo Association, the implementing partner of the ILO Office for Türkiye, were visited individually to collect information about the challenges they faced. The families explained that the major obstacles preventing their children from attending school were that they spent a certain part of the year outside their province of residence as well as financial issues. The teachers working on the project provided information to the orchard owners and middlemen about the project and the activities to be carried out to ensure the school attendance of 752 children in five provinces.

During the educational activities carried out in the harvest season, the children were provided with hygiene kits, stationery, and nutritional support to aid their physical and mental development, and the children were encouraged to participate in cultural and social activities in support of their psychosocial improvement. ILO's SCREAM (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media) programme was run during the summer, in which the participants were supported in learning about their rights through art.



2023 Harvest Period Elimination of Child Labour in Numbers

- Number of children withdrawn/prevented from work through provision of education Services



- Number of children provided with nutritional support



- Number of family members provided with counselling on the elimination of child labour in seasonal agriculture



- Number of agricultural intermediaries provided with counselling on the elimination of child labour in seasonal agriculture



- Number of orchard owners provided with counselling on the elimination of child labour in seasonal agriculture



701

- Number of Teachers Participated in the Programme



- Number of Students Enrolled in the SCREAM Programme



- Number of Children Provided with Stationery



640

- Number of Children Participated in Social and Cultural Activities



1850

- Number of Children Provided with Shuttle Services



- Number of Children Provided with Clothing Support



628

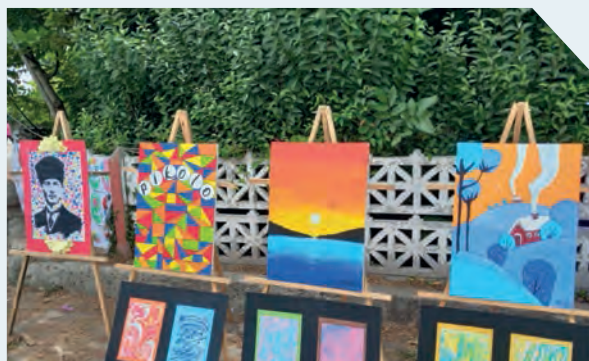
- Number of Children Provided with Hygiene Kits



640

2023 Closing Events

The Summer Schools held in social support centres as part of the direct interventions culminated with various events. Between August 22 and 31, high-ranking public personnel, including District Governors, Provincial Directors of National Education Provincial Directors of Labour and Social Security and District Gendarmerie Commanders, attended a number of events in various social support centres in the project provinces, including oratorios, painting exhibitions, reading competitions, folk dance shows, gymnastic performances and English choir recitals. The events were greatly appreciated by the audience, who witnessed a capping ceremony for the graduating children.



Monitoring Visits

On August 24-25, the project team attended field visits in the Sakarya and Zonguldak provinces.



On August 24, the project team participated in a closing event held at Zonguldak Alaplı Mollabey Social Support Centre as part of the ILO's private sector cooperation project. Following the visit to the Social Support Centre, the participants visited workers' houses in the Hacıhasan village of Alaplı, Zonguldak, where improvements have been made to living and working conditions.



On August 25, the project team visited the irregular camping area in Kazımiye, Sakarya, operated under the coordination of the mukhtar office as an ILO public-private partnership project. Following the visit to Kazımiye, the project team visited the project's Nazım Üner Social Support Centre in Kocaali, Sakarya. Information was provided about the educational activities and sociocultural studies carried out at the centre during the summer period.

► AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITIES

June 12 World Day Against Child Labour Events

The Programme on the World Day Against Child Labour, organized jointly by ILO and MoLSS, was held at the Ankara Holiday Inn Hotel. Throughout the programme, the participating institutions gave presentations about the meaning and importance of the day, while Ministry officials provided information about Türkiye's application to become a pathfinder country in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

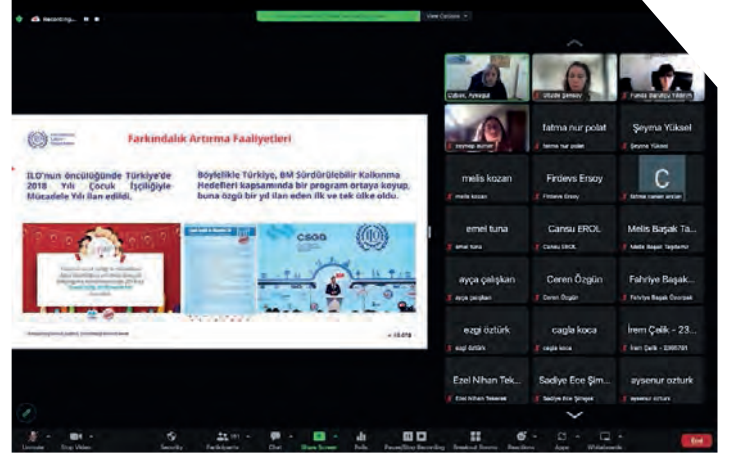
Illumination of Atakule in Ankara and Galata Tower in Istanbul

The International Labour Organization (ILO) Office for Türkiye and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security carried out a series of awareness-raising activities to draw attention to the importance of attending school rather than working in the fields, and to spread the "Eliminate Child Labour" message as part of the June 12 World Day Against Child Labour events. Atakule, a well-known landmark in the capital, and Galata Tower, a prominent feature of Istanbul's skyline, were illuminated with blue lights on the night of June 12 to public awareness. Additionally, the #SocialJusticeForAll and #EliminateChildLabour were projected onto both towers and on the giant screen at the entrance to Atakule.



Briefing on Combating Child Labour at Middle East Technical University and TRT GAP Programme

One of the activities carried out to raise awareness among different segments of society within the framework of the June 12th World Day Against Child Labour events was a briefing about the child labour programme provided by ILO Senior Project Coordinator Ayşegül Özbek Kansu to students of the Middle East Technical University Faculty of Education on June 7, 2023. The presentation was attended by 161 students who were informed about the definition, causes and consequences of child labour, child labour statistics in the world and in Türkiye, and the ongoing efforts to eliminate child labour. In addition, attention was drawn to the problem of child labour in a live "World Day Against Child Labour" broadcast by TRT GAP Diyarbakır Radio on June 12.



Meksika, Kosta Rika ve Honduras'ta Çocuk İşçiliğinin Önlenmesine Yönelik Oluşturulan Ulusal Yol Haritası Dokümanlarının Karşılaştırmalı Olarak İncelenmesi - Amaç ve Kapsam

- Evrensel olarak onaylanmış olan tek sözleşme: ILO 182
- En Kötü Biçimlerdeki Çocuk İşçiliği
- İttifak 8.7 (**Alliance 8.7**)
- 23 "rehber ülke" (**pathfinder, pionero, rehber**)

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Child Labour Presentation at the 14th Social Sciences Graduate Conference

On June 10, project assistant Ceren Berkkan gave a presentation on child labour at the 14th Social Sciences Graduate Conference held by the Turkish Association of Political Sciences at TED University.

The events carried out throughout the week served to promote the June 12 World Day Against Child Labour.

► MEDIA COVERAGE

<http://www.gazetebirlik.com/haber/universiteli-gencler-findik-iscilerinin-cocuklarinin-yuzunu-guldurdu-6174/>

<https://www.orduolay.com/haber/16384744/bu-sene-de-cocuklar-bahcede-degil-okulda>

https://www.ilo.org/ankara/news/WCMS_893016/lang--tr/index.htm

https://www.ilo.org/ankara/news/WCMS_888454/lang--tr/index.htm

https://www.ilo.org/ankara/news/WCMS_886326/lang--tr/index.htm



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CAOBISCO

Chocolate, Biscuits and Confectionery of Europe

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