



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Globally Important
**AGRICULTURAL
HERITAGE**
Systems



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND FORESTRY

Project

on
**Capacity Building
on Agricultural
Heritage Systems**
(TCP/TUR/3907)

Technical
Cooperation
Programme
(FAO)



Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) launched a Global Partnership Initiative for the conservation and adaptive management of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) as a response to the global trends undermining family farmers and traditional agricultural systems, during the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

GIAHS was endorsed as an FAO Corporate Programme in 2015 in recognition of its innovative and holistic approach to supporting traditional farming systems.

GIAHS represents not only stunning natural landscapes but also biodiversity, resilient ecosystems, and agricultural practices that create livelihoods in rural areas while uniquely combining tradition and innovation.


Since 2005, FAO has designated 86 systems as agricultural heritage sites in 26 countries, and ten new proposals from six different countries are currently under consideration.

About the Project

Türkiye, with its remarkable agricultural production base, is ranked among the top ten countries for the yield of numerous crops, fruits, vegetables, fishery, and dairy products. This achievement is attributed to the remarkable agricultural landscapes, which are the result of farmers' interactions with ecosystems, as this connection has made Türkiye renowned for its diverse and high-quality agricultural products.

Besides geographical differentiation between these sites, the rich diversity of ecosystems, agricultural know-how and cultures make Türkiye home to various product patterns and production methods that may vary significantly based on traditional knowledge and expertise as well as local conditions and consumption habits.





Thanks to this richness of territories, local gastronomies ensure the sustainability of local products and foods essential for biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and rural development.

As these systems/territories connect farmers to ecosystems through food and agricultural heritage, these potential agricultural heritage sites all around the country should be identified, designated, and conserved for national and global food security.

With this project, activities will be carried out to increase national awareness of the importance of the agricultural heritage systems under the “GIAHS” concept, and to develop traditional knowledge for the conservation and promotion of farmers’ knowledge, livelihood security, biodiversity and agricultural landscapes within the rural population.



Project Activities



Training will be organized for the relevant Ministry personnel on the GIAHS concept and application process.



Desk review will be conducted on Türkiye's potential and achievements for the agricultural heritage system.



Potential GIAHS areas will be identified and one will be selected.



Türkiye's GIAHS proposal will be submitted which covers the Action Plan as well.



The visibility of the GIAHS concept for the relevant unit at the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry would be enhanced.

5 Selection Criteria of GIAHS: The nominee should have the below functions

Food and livelihood security

Agro-biodiversity

Local and traditional knowledge systems

Cultures, value systems and social organizations

Landscapes and seascapes features

Communication

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For more information on GIAHS
<https://www.fao.org/giahs/en/>



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