



Promotion of Civil Society Dialogue between EU and Turkey Project

Ensuring food safety at an enlarged EU's most easterly point

Meeting the Challenge

Yüksekova, a town in Turkey's eastern province of Hakkari, has Iran to the north and Iraq to the south, and 30 surrounding villages dependent on livestock breeding. For the farmers of

this region to drive forward rural development they need to find ways to get better value from their herds. One important contribution to this is to greatly raise the well-being of their animals, particularly in terms of reducing the cases of diseases that can be transmitted from

animals to humans. Thus, the Yüksekova Chambers of Agriculture decided to work with a counterpart Chambers in Lower Saxony (Germany) to bring to their region and their farming members those practices from the EU that help to prevent such diseases.

The Benefits

The long term impact of this project will be enhanced food safety from the 'farm to the table' in this eastern district of Turkey and a farming community and its professional organisation with the know-how for ensuring EU standards in livestock rearing. This in turn will mean more export opportunities for the farmers, as they seek to sell their meat in an enlarged EU, and a higher sense of awareness to the damage that illegal imports can bring from the east.

In the more immediate future, the project will empower the Yüksekova Chambers to establish and run a local Livestock Health Centre, and to build links between the farmers of Hakkari and their colleagues in Lower Saxony.

"We really need this Health Centre for our livestock and its very useful to hear from our friends in Germany about how to reduce the risks of disease"

Yüksekova farmer



Partner

- Germany, Chamber of Agriculture of Lower Saxony

The Project Facts

A total budget of 155,500 Euros

- 14 month project ending in September 2009.
- Activities include supporting the establishment and equipping of a Livestock Health Centre, the training and mobilisation of a technical task force, training of farmers, awareness-raising activities in 30 rural communities, seminars in Germany and Turkey, and organisational development of the Chambers of Agriculture.

For Further Information:

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