

Turkey

THE ACTIVITIES REGARDING EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS

➤ In order to strengthen women's cooperatives, ensure their sustainability, improve their institutional capacity, extend their visibility and enable entrepreneur women to take active participation in economic and social life through cooperatives; a cooperation protocol was signed on 30th October 2018 between the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Trade which carry out activities in the field of women's cooperatives.

Within this scope, the activities have been started to empower women in the rural areas by organising through cooperatives.

➤ “The Strategy Paper and Action Plan on Women's Empowerment (2018-2023)” which was put into practice by the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services includes the following activities for enhancing the situation of women in rural areas;

- The activities for empowerment of rural women shall be prioritized.
- In the agricultural businesses, promotion of women's entrepreneurship shall be ensured particularly through utilizing the technological means and developments.
- Awareness-raising activities shall be carried out for development of formal female employment especially in the agricultural sector.
- Vocational and skills training programs shall be developed for seasonal female agricultural workers.
- Legislative amendments shall be carried out to facilitate women's coverage by the social security, particularly in agricultural sector.
- The activities for strengthening women's cooperatives shall be increasingly continued.

➤ A protocol was signed between the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Union of Turkish Agricultural Chambers on 14th May 2012 in order to train women who live in rural areas and work as farmers on subjects such as agriculture, gender equality, violence against women, human rights and freedoms; and to develop inter-institutional cooperation. Under the Protocol, trainings on “Climate Change and Woman”, “Cooperatives, Rural

Development and Organisation”, “Entrepreneurship and Leadership” as well as “Equality between Women and Men and Gender Equality” were given to nearly 8.600 female farmers in 81 provinces.