

The global youth unemployment is rising and higher than 40% of the world's active young population is either unemployed or living in poverty despite having a job. Youth inclusion is a critical social, economic and political matter. It is clear that 600 million jobs are necessary over the next ten years to absorb currently unemployed persons and provide job opportunities for the 40 million young people getting in the labour market every year.



The agri-food sector has a big potential to generate job opportunities for youth. Due to urbanization and changing diets, new ways to process, market and consume foods become necessary, thus agriculture may provide more job opportunities for youth. Nevertheless, rural youth are leaving small farming at such alarming rates due to several reasons.

When young people have increased their knowledge and skills about this sector, more and better farms and firms will be created and relevant sectors in agri-business, land management and agricultural engineering will also develop. Agricultural exports will aid create jobs throughout the entire value chain. In parallel, the social exclusion of youth in Europe will be decreased.

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NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

ENHANCING SOCIAL INCLUSION OF YOUTH THROUGH EMPLOYMENT IN AGRIFOOD SECTOR



PROJECT
AGRI FOOD
2021

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AGRI-FOOD PROJECT

“Enhancing Social Inclusion of Youth Through Employment in Agri-Food Sector”

AGRI-FOOD Project is funded by the Erasmus+ Program in the field of KA205 Strategic Partnerships for Youth.



The project is coordinated by the Bursa Metropolitan Municipality TARIMAS, and in this project, project stakeholders from three countries are working together. The project started on 01.02.2020 and the project duration is 20 months.

Our project will be carried out with 2 national partners and 2 international partners. Our national partners are the Central Research Institute of Food and Feed Control (CRIFFC) and the General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies (GDAR), while our international partners are the Center of Food and Fermentation Technologies (TFTAK) from Estonia and the National Technology Center for Food and Canning Industry (CTC) from Spain.

Needs Assessment Report

Agro- and agri- prefixes that usually refer to agriculture. Agri-food is a type of food that is agriculturally produced (as opposed to through hunting, fishing, gathering, and so on). Cereals, industrial crops, medical plants and processed food products (bakery and pastry products, frozen/canned fruit and vegetables, sugar, tea and oils etc.) are one of the agri-food products (Tănasă et al., 2016). Today, the agri-food industry is located in the centre of a very crucial economic complex that we call the "food system", its purpose is to feed populations.



Agriculture and Food Industry by Product Type:

- Beverages, Milk and Dairy Products
- Meat, Poultry and Fish Products
- Pasta, Biscuit and Bread
- Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery
- Fresh and Processed Fruits & Vegetables
- Spices, Cereals and Pulses
- Vegetable oils and Fats
- Honey
- Others

The agricultural food sector, which is the sector of both today and the future, has a strategic importance because it has a significant employment potential and is a source of income for the rural areas. A quarter of the 7.8 billion world population is employed in the agricultural sector. Meanwhile, the daily production value of the agricultural sector has reached 7 billion dollars.

However, the agri-food sector faces many problems. For this reason, employment in the agricultural sector is decreasing day by day and the agricultural population is getting older. The rates of those employed in this sector have decreased by 6% worldwide in the last 10 years. (ILOSTAT, 2019). The employment rate of the young workforce between the ages of 15 and 34 is lower in the agriculture sector compared to other sectors worldwide.

According to survey results, some problems faced by young people during entering agricultural labour market were determined

- Insufficient information on GAP and precision farming
- Insufficient knowledge about agri-food marketing
- A low entrepreneurial skills with regards to agri-food sector
- A limited information and skills about food safety and food processing among youth
- Insufficient information about value-added food products

