STRUCTURAL CHANGES AND REFORMS ON TURKISH AGRICULTURE 2003-2013
“We cannot move Turkey forward without developing the agriculture sector”

Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN
Prime Minister

“Our goal is to put mark on booming Turkey by thriving farming and to make further development for Turkey with its worldwide branded agricultural and food products”

Mehmet Mehdi EKER
Minister of Food Agriculture and Livestock
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with one arm reaching out to Asia and the other to Europe, Turkey is the unique country that bridges two continents in the world.

Our priorities are better reciprocal relationship and cooperation between the West and the East; as well as improvement of the dialogue and alliance among civilizations.

The Turkish experience proves that integration with the world is possible by harmonizing the existing values and traditions with the modern world.
THE MINISTRY OF FOOD
AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK
THE MINISTRY OF FOOD
AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The former Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs was reorganised as the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock in 2011.

The Ministry is mainly responsible for policy formulation, monitoring and inspections of implementations in respect of food, agriculture and livestock.

The main activities of the Ministry are:
• development of plant, livestock, aquaculture and fishery production,
• research studies on the development of agriculture sector and determination of agricultural policies,
• food safety and security,
• rural development,
• protection of land, water resources and biodiversity,
• strengthening the organisations and awareness of farmers,
• effective and efficient implementation of agricultural support programmes.

ORGANISATION CHART

MINISTER
Deputy Minister
Undersecretary

Deputy Undersecretaries

MAIN SERVICING DEPARTMENTS
• General Directorate of Food and Control
• General Directorate of Plant Production
• General Directorate of Livestock
• General Directorate of Aquaculture and Fisheries
• General Directorate of Agricultural Reform
• General Directorate of Agricultural Researches and Policies
• General Directorate of European Union Affairs and Foreign Relations
• Guidance and Inspections Board
• Strategy Development Board
• Legal Consultancy Office
• General Directorate of Personnel
• Department of Support Services
• Department of Training, Extension Services and Publication
• Department of IT
• Department of Press and Human Relations
• Internal Audit

RELATED AND AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS
• Turkish Grain Board
• General Directorate of Agricultural Enterprises
• General Directorate of Tea Enterprises
• Meet and Fish Institution
• Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (IPARD Agency)
• Directorate of Matsum Forest Farm
• Tobacco and Alcohol Market Regulatory

PROVINCIAL ORGANIZATION
• 81 Provincial Directorates and District Directorates
• Research Institutes
• Agricultural Production Stations
• Food Control Laboratories
• Directorates of Agricultural Quarantine
• Directorates of Warehouse and Customs Veterinary

RELATED AND AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS
BASIC INDICATORS OF THE TURKISH AGRICULTURE SECTOR
### BASIC INDICATORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Indicators</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Population (Million)</em></td>
<td>69,3</td>
<td>75,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Employment (Million)</em></td>
<td>21,3</td>
<td>24,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP (Billion $)</td>
<td>230,5</td>
<td>786,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP per Capita ($)</td>
<td>3,492</td>
<td>10,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exports (Billion $)</td>
<td>36,0</td>
<td>152,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imports (Billion $)</td>
<td>51,5</td>
<td>236,5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

- *Agricultural import amounts includes products such as woven fibers and their wastes, raw rubber, raw hides, leather, fur, cork, wood, lumber, paper pulp which are the raw materials in the industry. Excluding these materials, the imports of agricultural products amounted to 5.6 Billion Dollars in 2012. In this case, Turkey’s foreign trade of agricultural products had approximately 5.3 Billion Dollars surplus.*

**TURKEY**

- Total Area: 78 million ha
- Population: 75,6 million
- Number of provinces: 81
- Number of towns and submunicipalities: 2,951
- Number of villages: 34,334
- Agricultural Land: 23,8 million ha
- Pastures and meadows: 14,6 million ha
- Forests: 21,5 million ha
- Number of agricultural holdings: 3 million
- Average size per holding: 6 ha
As Agriculture is improving, Turkey is developing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Agricultural GDP (Billion $)</th>
<th>Agricultural Growth (%)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>-2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>37.0</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>43.5</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>-6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>56.4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>51.0</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>61.7</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>61.6</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
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Turkey Agricultural Products have become favourable in World Tables

- The export of agricultural products has increased from 4 Billion dollars in 2002 to 16 billion dollars in 2012.
- In 2012, foreign trade of food products resulted in 4.6 billion dollar surplus.
- Turkey has exported 1,663 kind of agricultural products to 188 countries which accounts to totally 16 billion dollars.
- Turkey has taken place in the top five with 30 products in the world agricultural production and with 20 products in exports.

Source: TURKSTAT-Standard International Trade Class (SITC) Rev3
SWITCH FROM DAILY ACTIONS TO LONG TERM STRATEGIC PLANNING

In 2010, The Association of Policy Analyses and Strategic Researches on Education and Management selected the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock as "the best Institution making Strategic Management and Implementation in Turkey".
PERIOD FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING IN AGRICULTURE

Agriculture has been handled as a strategic, competitive and multidimensional economic sector rather than a social and livelihood sector.

Agricultural Strategy Paper (2006-2010) and Agriculture Law

The Agriculture Strategy Paper (2006-2010) has set the main aims of agriculture as to constitute an agriculture sector sustainable, highly competitive and organised by taking into account economic, social, environmental and international development dimensions within the principle of the utilization of the resources effectively. In this framework, the agricultural support measures have been re-identified.

The Agriculture Law was adopted in 2006 which determines and regulates the policies for agriculture and rural development in line with the development plans and strategies. The Agriculture Law also defines the aims, scope and subjects of the agricultural policies, the instruments of agriculture and rural development support, the financing and administrative structure and the legal and administrative arrangements for the main research and development programmes to be implemented in the agriculture sector.

Strategic Plan (2013-2017)

- The first Strategic Plan of Ministry had been drawn up. “Agricultural Production and Security of Supply”, “Food Safety”, “Plant Health and Animal Health”, “Rural Development” and “Institutional Capacity” have been determined as strategic areas in that Strategic Plan.

- The plan was renewed in 2012 and the 2013-2017 Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock was setup.

- 5 strategic areas have been determined within the scope of the Plan:
  - Agricultural production and Security of Supply,
  - Food Safety
  - provide high quality supply of food and feed,
  - Plant Health, Animal Health and Welfare,
  - Agricultural Infrastructure ans Rural Development
  - Institutional capacity
Performance Programmes

Performance Programmes for 2010, 2011 and 2012 have been prepared which identify the activities and the budget to reach the medium and long term objectives and targets set in the Strategic Plan.

Agricultural Vision 2008-2012

- 5 year-Action Plan and Agricultural Vision for 2008-2012 have been prepared in cooperation with the representatives of public and private sector, trade associations, producer organizations, universities and non-governmental organizations.
- Agricultural Vision 2008-2012 is formed as a result of analysis carried out on more than 50,000 people composed of farmers and sector employees in 81 provinces, 545 districts, 3,649 villages.
- The principles of agricultural policy are identified as; good management, transparency, sustainability, consistency/coherence and predictability.
- In the scope of The Agricultural Action Plan the preferential 183 title was allocated by years and the precautional activities for each year were determined.
- The Period of 2002-2007 is identified as the period for “Urgent Measures and Changes in Agriculture” and the period of 2008-2012 as the period for “Sectoral Growth and Sustainable Development”.

Strategy and Action Plan to Combat with Drought

- Significant studies and implementation of extensive measures have been initiated to combat with drought which is one of the most important risk areas in agriculture. Legislative infrastructure has been strengthened.
- “Strategy and Action Plan to Combat with Drought” have been prepared.
- Crisis Centers for Drought at the provincial level have been established. Provincial Drought Action Plans have been prepared.
- Monitoring, Early Warning and Prediction Committee, Risk Assessment Committee and Agricultural Drought Management Coordination Board have been established.
- The studies for development and extension of varieties resistant for drought have been accelerated.
- “Agricultural Drought Test Center” was founded within Bahri Dağdaş International Agricultural Research Institute.

Sectoral Cooperation Meetings

- Sectoral Cooperation Meetings have been organised with a total 500 participants from 16 subsectors including producers, suppliers, industrialists and NGOs in order to determine the problems and solutions of subsectors with a participatory approach.
- The primary problems have been determined of the sector and Action Plans have been elaborated on the basis of subsectors.
- With the sectoral meetings on the Provincial bases the agricultural potential of our Provinces has been revealed, The Projects which will develop the agricultural sector determined and The Action plan about implementation prepared.
Agricultural Vision for the year 2023

The main target of Agricultural Vision were determined as; Turkey on the road to 2023 being a country which;
- provides its population with sufficient, best quality and safe food,
- develops its net exporter position in agricultural products,
- increases its competition power,
- is a leader in the field of agriculture both in its own region and in the world.

The main indicators of Turkish Agriculture to 2023 have been identified as;
- Agricultural GDP reaching to 150 Billion Dollars,
- Agricultural exports over 40 Billion Dollars,
- Being in the first 5 countries in the world in terms of agricultural GDP.
Now we have a young and dynamic population exceeding 75 million. We believe that as the world changes, the climate changes; the agriculture sector should adapt itself to these changes. We have changed our view to agriculture.

Mehmet Mehdi EKER
Minister of Food Agriculture and Livestock
15 laws related to Agriculture

15 basic laws leading up Structural Change and Transformation period in agriculture have been adopted.
- Law on Agriculture,
- Law on Organic Farming,
- Law on Agricultural Producer Unions,
- Law on Protection of Plant Breeder’s Rights for New Plant Varieties,
- Law on Agricultural Insurances,
- Law on Soil Protection and Land Use,
- Law on Seedling
- Law on Establishment of Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution,
- Law on Ending Guaranty arisen from Collective Village Loan/Group Loans supplied by Ziraat Bank and Agricultural Credit Cooperatives,
- Law on Approval of FAO Central Asia Sub-region Office Agreement between United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Republic of Turkey,
- Law on Biosecurity,
- Law on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed,
- Law on Restructuring of Agricultural Credits with problems and supplied by Ziraat Bank and Agricultural Credit Cooperatives,
- Decree Law Concerning the Organization and Duties of the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock, No 639 (OJ dated 08/06/2011, No 27958)
- Law on EXPO 2016 Antalya

Prevention of Fragmentation for Agricultural Lands

- Legal arrangements are carried out in order to prevent the fragmentation of agricultural lands.
- Within this scope, “Indivisible Parcel Size” was determined. It was hindered the fragmentation of special product lands and marginal agricultural lands to less than 2 hectare, cultivated agricultural lands to less than 0,5 hectare and the greenhouse agricultural lands to less than 0,3 hectare. The sale of agricultural parcel shares of which size is under Indivisible Parcel Size was obstructed.
- For the solution of the most important problem, fragmentation of agricultural lands, the draft bill of inheritance law has been prepared.

Land consolidation studies

- The land consolidation studies have gained importance against the problem of small scale agricultural holdings which is the leading problem within the structural problems in the agricultural sector in Turkey.
- While 450 thousand hectare land in total was consolidated in Turkey between 1961 and 2002, in 41 years, 3 million hectares land was consolidated between 2003 and 2012 in 10 years.
- The projects to perform one million hectares land consolidation each year have been planned.
Interest Free Financing in Agriculture

The agricultural credit interest rates which were 59% in 2002 became interest free for irrigation and livestock activities and decreased to 7.5% in other agricultural activities.

With the decrease in interest rates, the use of agricultural credits has substantially increased.

- While 529 Million TL credit was used by farmers in 2002,
- 22.1 million TL credit was used by farmers in 2012.

Agricultural credit periods were extended from 18 months to 24 months for operating credits and from 5 years to 7 years for investment credits. Credit rate of return has risen to 98%.
Introducing the “Firsts” into Turkish Agriculture

First time in Agriculture sector;

• The fruit growing basins were determined, product maps were prepared (2012).
• The first “Local Yoghurt Starter” of Turkey was developed and began to production (2012).
• Turkey took over the EXPO flag for EXPO-2016 Antalya (2011).
• Agricultural and Rural Development Support Institution (IPARD Agency) has been accredited by EU and the Conferral of Management Decision has been taken from EU (2011).
• “Agricultural Museum” was opened (2011).
• “3th largest Plant Gene Bank of the World” was opened (2010).
• “National Food Reference Laboratory” was put into service (2010).
• “Animal Biotechnology Center” was founded (2010).
• “Agricultural Drought Test Center” was established (2010).
• “Agricultural Basins Model” was elaborated (2010).
• “National Botanic Garden” was built (2010).
• “Veterinary Border Control Points” were opened (2010).
• Agriculture Web- TV started to broadcasting (2010).
• The farmers subjected to freeze disaster were supported (2010).
• “Agricultural Holding Registration System” was founded (2010).
• Thrace Region has been identified free of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and the situation has been approved by World Animal Health Organisation and European Union (2010).
• The negotiations with the European Union were opened in 12th Chapter “Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health” (2010).
• “ALO 174 FOOD CALL CENTRE” was formed (2009).
• National milk registration system and breeder sheep goat registration system were established (2009).
• The mandatory use of prescriptions for sale of pesticides was initiated (2009).
• Product committees were established (2009).

• Usage of “Certified Agricultural Consultancy Service” was supported (2009).
• Good Agricultural Practices were supported (2009).
• Licensed Warehouse Applications were started (2009).
• “The Farm Accountancy Data Network System” was established (2008).
• “Food Safety Information System” was founded (2007).
• The “Indivisible Parcel Size” of agricultural lands was determined in order to enable an effective land consolidation (2007).
• “Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (IPARD Agency)” was established (2007).
• “Dealership Examination System” was implemented for plant protection products (2007).
• 50% Grant and interest free 5 year – term loan applications were started for pressure irrigation system investments (2006-2007).
• Law on Agriculture was adopted (2006).
• Supported Agricultural Insurance implementations were initiated (2006).
• Aerial spraying was ended for sunn pest, transition to normal spraying was realized completely and biologic combating was started for sunn pest (2006).
• Accredited veterinary services were started (2006).
• Support Programme was started for the Environmentally Based Agricultural Land Protection (2006).
• R&D support was provided for private sector, university and non governmental organizations (2006).
• 50% Grant support was initiated for rural development investments (2005).
• Genetic resources of domestic animals were taken under protection (2005).
• “Organic Agriculture Information System” was founded (2005).
• Vaccination support was given (2005).
• The PCT (Private Consumption Tax) free fuel was given to fishing vessels (2004).
• Interest free loans were provided for agricultural development cooperatives (2003).
Reforming Agricultural Subsidies

Agricultural supports have been re-organised on the basis of quality, safety, productivity and rural development. **52 new support items** have been initiated.

- While the total agricultural support payments were 1,868 billion TL in 2002, it reached 7.1 billion TL in 2011 and to **7.6 billion TL in 2012**.
- The agricultural support payments were raised nearly **four times** compared to the payments in 2002.
- Totally over **50.6 Billion TL support payments** were paid to farmers in 2003-2012 period.

Agricultural Basin Model

- The agricultural basin model has been formed in order to plan and increase production while protecting natural resources and implement an efficient and rational agricultural support policy based on agricultural basins.
- Within this scope, totally 30 agricultural basins have been identified through evaluation of approximately 528 million data based on climate, soil, topography, land classes and land usage types.
- For each basin, the strategic, specific, supply deficit and competitive products have been selected. The maps have been drawn according to agricultural basins.
- The agriculture inventory has been elaborated based on the Agricultural Basins.
- The products to be supported have been identified by determining the regions where the products that are most efficiently produced using Agricultural Basins data.
- Moreover, in order to plan and lead the fruit production and increase the exportation, the suitable basins have been determined for the fruit species and the product maps have been prepared.
Incentives for livestock breeding

- New livestock support schemes were introduced.
- The farmers dealing with organic livestock breeding have supported by payments 50% higher than before.
- The calves born from the hybrids of meat races have been supported.
- The calves born through artificial insemination were included in the scope of agricultural support scheme.
- The credit support mechanism for the beekeepers having 50 hives or planning to possess more than 50 hives was introduced in 2010.

Supports for Certified Seed and Seedling

- The scheme for supporting farmers using certified seed and seedling was started in 2005.
- Use of certified seed increased from 150 thousand tons to 550 thousand tons between the years 2002 and 2011.
- The certified seed produced by private sector was included in the scope of agricultural support system in 2008.

Supports for Organic Farming

- Organic farming was included in the scope of support programme in 2005.

Farm Advisory Services

- Farmers/agricultural holdings using advisory/consultancy service have been supported since 2009.

The Period for Agricultural Insurance

- Implementations of agricultural insurance were started in 2006 to redress grievance of producers affected from natural disasters.
- For the first time, flood and inundation were included in the scope of agricultural insurance in 2010.
- The scope of agricultural insurance was extended in 2011. The flowering period of fruits grown in open area (2/3 of policy value was met by the government), cattle fattening and milking cows were included in the scope of agricultural insurance scheme.
CROP PRODUCTION
Significant Increases in Crop Production

**Paddy Production**
- While it was 360 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 880 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 145%.

**Corn Production**
- While it was 2.1 million tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 4.6 million tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 119%.

**Sun Flower Production**
- While it was 850 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 1 million and 370 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 61.2%.

**Cherry Production**
- While it was 210 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 471 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 124%.

**Banana Production**
- While it was 95 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 208 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 119%.

**Apricot Production**
- While it was 315 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 760 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 141.3%.

**Apple Production**
- While 2.2 million tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 2.9 million tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 31.3%.

**Citrus Fruits Production**
- While 2.4 million tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 3.5 million tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 40%.

Encouragement of Organic Farming

- There exists 1 million hectare of land where organic farming can potentially be performed in Turkey. Organic farming was included in the scope of support programme in 2005.
- “Organic Farming Strategic Plan of Turkey” and “Action Plan to improve and widespread of Organic Farming” have been prepared.
- Organic Farming Information System (OTBİS) has been established in order to provide a complete information exchange with competent organizations and provide a basis for the subsidies.
- According to studies performed in Turkey:
  - While 310 thousand tons of 150 kinds of organic products have been cultivated within 90 thousand ha area in 2002.
  - 1.6 million tons of 225 kinds of organic products have been cultivated within 615 thousand ha area in 2011.
  - In the period of 2002-2011, the increase in the number of products is 50% and in production area is %583 and in the amount of organic production is 416%.
- The share of the organic farming area within the total agricultural area in Turkey has reached to 1.3%.

Supports for Soil Analysis

In order to prevent the negative effects of the excessive and unconscious manure usage, soil analysis have been made obligatory for the farmers having an agricultural land more than 5 hectares in order to benefit from manure support schemes.
ANIMAL PRODUCTION
Significant Increases in Animal Production

Milk Production
- While it was 8.4 million tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 15 million tons in 2011.
- The increase in last 9 years has been 79.1%.

Red Meat Production
- While it was 421 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 916 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in the last 10 years has been 118%.

Poultry Meat Production
- While it was 726 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 1 million 724 thousand tons in 2012.
- The increase in last 10 years has been 148%.

Aquaculture Production
- While it was 61 thousand tons in 2002,
- It was reached to 189 thousand tons in 2011.
- The increase in last 9 years has been 209%.

Reclamation of the Animal Race

Artificial insemination studies, implemented in line with the Animal husbandry improvement studies, have been accelerated and during the last 8 years a success story that can be an example in the world has been achieved.
- While the number of artificial insemination in 2002 was 624 thousand, it was reached to 3.6 million in 2012.
- In the recent 6 years approximately over 2.5 million of artificial inseminations have been achieved annually.
- The number of artificial insemination in recent 10 years has been increased 5 times.

Pasture Improvement and Production of Fodder Crops

The studies concerning the pasture improvement has been given a great importance.
- While the area of pasture improvement study in 2002 was 8,3 thousand hectare, it was reached to 446 thousand hectare at the end of 2012.
- With the subsidies provided and reclamation studies performed, the area for fodder crop production in Turkey was reached to 2,2 Million ha in 2011 while it was 1,2 Million ha in 2002.
- 75% of Turkey's demand of qualified fodder crop which is 50 Million tons has been provided.
- For the first time, the opportunity of land leasing for long periods has been provided to the private sector with the condition of pasture improvement.
Aquaculture Production

- Aquaculture was included in the scope of agricultural support schemes in 2003.
- Aquaculture production; while it was 61 thousand tons in 2002, it rose to 189 thousand tons in 2011 with an increase approximately 209%.
- Turkey has become the 3rd developing country in the World in terms of aquaculture production.
- The exports of aquaculture products have risen to 412 Million Dollars while 80% of our exports are with the EU Countries.
- “The Artificial Reef Master Project” has been implemented in order to increase the biological diversity and production in our coasts. Turkey has risen to the first rank among the EU Countries in the production of trout.
- “SUBİS- Aquaculture Information System” has been established in order to adapt the statistics on the fisheries to the international standards. This system has provided the control of process of aquaculture products starting from capturing to marketing.
- The captures have been taken under control with “Vessel Monitoring System”;
  - Satellite based “Vessel Monitoring System” has been established in order to determine and prevent unlegal capturing activities.
  - 134 fishing vessels in 2009, 61 fishing vessels in 2010 engaged in fishing and transportation of tuna fish were monitored with Satellite Based Vessel Monitoring System.
  - “Heavy Metal Monitoring Programme for the Capture Fisheries” has been initiated. This programme aims the production of safe products, protection of the consumers’ health and improvement of the exports of the fishery products.
Safety Food - Healthy Life

Food safety has become one of the target areas of agricultural policy. Important studies have been carried out and legal arrangements have been made regarding food safety. The negotiations with the European Union were opened in 12th Chapter “Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health”.

Food Inspections were increased;

- Risky regions and products in terms of food safety have been determined.
- Inspections and controls have been increased;
  - While the number of inspectors was 1.500 in 2002, it increased to 4.732 in 2012.
  - While the number of inspections was 39.000 in 2002, it increased to 412.000 in 2012.
- The staff responsible for inspections in Municipalities and Provincial Special Administrations was trained through the by the Food Inspector Courses.
- Pursuant to Montreal protocol, methyle bromide application was abolished in 2007.
- The production and import of active substance of 181 plant protection products have been prohibited with the aim of harmonization to EU.
- “National Food Reference Laboratory” at international level was put into service in 2010.
- The number of private Food Control Laboratory was increased to 79.
- “Food Safety Information System” (GGBS) has been established.
- Guidebooks on Good Hygiene applications have been published.
- Biosecurity Law was published in 2010.

- The obligations to apply plant protection products by competent people in the vegetable production areas have been imposed. Application Certificate have been given to 192.000 producers.
- The chemicals used in production of all fresh fruits and vegetables have been registered.
- Traceability of chemicals used in agriculture has been enabled.
- Aerial disinfection (except for oil) has been prohibited.
- Awareness of the farmers has been raised on methods used to combat with diseases and pests and the kinds of pesticides to be used for vegetable production.
- Introductory handbooks more than 1 million about 27 separate subjects have been distributed to farmers.

In order to raise the awareness of the importance of the safe food, 2009 was announced as the “Year of Food” in the scope of “Safe Food- Healthy Life Campaign” which has been the most comprehensive social responsibility project in recent years.

The Campaign has been initiated based on the approach “to consume safe and healthy food”. The corresponding Ministries, non governmental organizations, private sector representatives and universities participated the Campaign.

A Food Call Center-ALO 174 that consumers can convey all their complaints, opinions and recommendations about food and food products has been established. The complaints and requests taken from the Call Center have been evaluated by the Provincial Directorates of the Ministry and the corresponding person has been informed in 15 days regarding the necessary action that has been taken into account by the Ministry.

ALO 174 - Food Call Center
Farm Advisory System

• The private advisory services are provided for producers to perform ‘Food Safety from Field to Table’ and to meet the needs of producers on knowledge, technique and methods.
• The advisors having contract with the related farmers, work closely on many subjects from production to harvesting and marketing.
• The implementation of private advisory services provides also job opportunities for the labour potential.
Our vision is:

HEALTHY AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIAL
HEALTHY FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCTS
HEALTHY GENERATIONS

The production of healthy food from unhealthy plant and animal products is not possible.

In line with this, our basic strategy is to pay the particular attention to plant and animal health and production of healthy and safety food.
Significant Studies on Plant Health

The attempts giving priority to human health and environment protection were intensified.

Struggles with sunn pests, improvement of the quality of wheat and the protection of environment

- The implementations of the agricultural aerial spraying against wheat pests have been ceased.
- The annual use of pesticides has been decreased by 80%.
- The use of pesticides has fallen from 901 tonnes to 104 tonnes in 2011.
- In order to enable biological combat; 56.3 million useful insecticides have been released to nature for the first time.
- The biological combat against sunn pests has been provided in 400 thousand hectare area without using any pesticides. Moreover, patriges have been released to the nature for this purpose.
- Afforestation has been carried out in order to provide shelters and feeding opportunities for useful insects.
- The absorption rate of sunn pests has been decreased to 7.3 per thousand from 3.8 percent.

“Distributorship System” for Plant Protection Products

- The uses of plant protection products in line with prescribed and convenient use and monitoring of the plant protection products have been provided.
- In 2002 the use of agricultural disinfectant decreased to 40 thousand tonnes from 54 thousand tonnes.

Plant Passport System

- The studies concerning “Plant Passport System and Operator Registering” have been initiated.
- Arranging a Plant Passport has become compulsory before the transportation of plants, plant products and other materials.
- Registration and monitoring of the chemicals used in the production of fresh fruit and vegetables have become compulsory since February 2009.
- The registration of chemicals used in plant production has become compulsory since 2010.

Prohibition of Aerial Spraying

- Aerial spraying which has negative effects on human health and environment has been prohibited except for the combat with olive fruit fly.

Moreover,

- According to the Montreal Protocol in which Turkey is a party, Methyl Bromide Application which has been obliged to be repealed in 2015, has been terminated in 2007 earlier than required.
- 600 thousand introductory handbooks in 27 different subjects about plant production have been distributed to the farmers.
- The use of plant protection products has been authorised only to the persons owing “Certificate for Plant Protection Products”.
More Effective Fight against Animal Diseases

The Implementation of International Standarts on Animal Welfare

- The infrastructure of the legislation of animal welfare comply with the EU has been established.

A Successful Struggle Against Foot-and-Mouth Disease

- Foot-and-Mouth-Disease Emergency Action Plan has been evaluated in order to improve the effectiveness of the fight against foot-and-mouth disease.
- For the first time a region in Turkey - Thrace Region has been identified free of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and the situation has been approved by World Animal Health Organisation and European Union.
- 90% of existing animals have been vaccinated two times a year against foot-and-mouth disease.

Bovine and Ovine Registry Systems

- Movements of the animals have been brought under control with “TURKVET - Veterinary Information Registry System”.
- Immediate access to lots of data has been performed including the number of animals and outbreak of the disease.
- All the bovine and ovine animals in Turkey have been tagged and registered.
- A new database was established for the purpose of registering ovine animals in 2010. Tagging, registering and vaccination studies of the ovine animals and Sheep-Goat Plague (PPR) were brought under control.

Successful Vaccination Campaigns

- With the successful vaccination campaign cattle plague disease has been swept away. It is announced officially that Turkey is being free of Cattle Plague. In 2010, 20 million of the ovine animals were vaccinated against sheep-goat plague at no charge. It has been aimed the eradication of the disease initially in Thrace Region.
- Struggle against hydrophobia at nation-wide has been carried on. The prevalece of the disease has been decreased by vaccinating the cats and dogs at no charge.
- Vaccination subsidy has been carried out in order to increase the participation of farmers in struggling against animal diseases.

Veterinary Border Inspection Posts

- Veterinary Border Inspection Posts have been established for control purposes at borders in 8 provinces - Istanbul, Izmir, Mersin, Hatay, Artvin, Şırnak, Edirne and Ağrı in order to perform the control services in line with the EU rules.
- The studies concerning the establishment of the “7 new Veterinary Border Inspection Post Directorates” have been initiated.

Measures Against The Bird Flu (Avian Influenza)

- Early warning, rapid diagnosis and quick intervention mechanisms have been established for Bird Flu disease.
- For diagnosis of the Bird Flu, 3 laboratories at the category of biosafety level - III and 4 laboratories at the category of biosafety level (L2) -II have been established.
“Veterinary Information System”
- Web based registration of the diseases which are seen country-wide has been initiated.

“Microchip identification of equine animals”
- A national project has been carried out for struggling against the infectious anemia of the horses in which all the equine animals have been scanned in 25 provinces and have been marked with microchips. The disease has been brought under control by paying compensation for sick animals.

“Authorised Veterinarians”
- The veterinarians have been accredited and authorised to work in slaughterhouses houses for the purpose of providing food safety.
- Legal basis for the “Authorised Veterinarians” application has been formed with the Law No 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed issued in 13.06.2010.
Rural Development Plan (2010-2013)

Rural Development Plan (2010-2013) has been prepared in order to develop the working and living conditions of rural population and to enable sustainable development. The measures and the activities needed to be implemented in rural areas and the resources required were determined in coordination with 24 related institutions and organizations.

Rural Development Plan (2010–2013) has been entered into force by High Planning Council decision dated 05 August 2010. The budget of the Plan has been identified as 27 Billion TL for which the areas of interventions and the responsible Ministries have been determined. The Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock has been appointed as the Coordinator Ministry responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the Plan.

Rural Development Support Programme

- “Rural Development Support Programme” aiming the integration of agriculture and industry providing the producers with 50% supported grants was initiated in 2006.
- Economical investments such as processing, packaging, wrapping, storing of the agricultural products and purchase of machinery-equipment have been supported under the programme.
- Within the scope of Rural Development Supports; 3,965 new processing facilities have been constructed between 2006-2012. Totally 772 million TL grant support has been provided for the progressing facilities.
- Approximately 42 thousand persons have been employed in the established facilities.
- Approximately 718 million TL grant support was provided for 182,000 machineries and equipments within the scope of purchasing machinery-equipment between 2007-2011.
- In total 1,5 billion TL were paid for the beneficiaries under the Rural Development Support Programme for new facilities and machinery and equipment purchased by the farmers.

Pressurised Irrigation Investments

- For the farmers investing on pressurised irrigation systems, Ziraat Bank provided 5 years termed and interest free loans.
- Within the scope of “Rural Development Support Programme”, the pressurised irrigation investments have been supported by 50%. The pressurised irrigation investments made collectively have been supported by 75%.
- As a result of these two supports totally 400 thousand hectare area has been opened to irrigation with pressurised irrigation systems.
Agricultural Development Cooperatives

- **Credit support** is provided to agricultural cooperatives for 37 types of projects including milk production, meat production, beekeeping, greenhousing and mushroom producing.
- In the period of 2003–2012, totally **2.1 billion TL credit** has been allocated for **1,872 cooperative** projects under the Project named as “Social Support in Rural Areas”.
- These projects supported totally **178 thousand families** which have been also employed. Members of these cooperatives have been totally received nearly **248,000 breeding heifers** and nearly **390,000 breeding sheeps** under the support programme.

Agriculture and Rural Development Support Institution (IPARD Agency)

- Under the pre-accession support of European Union in the period of 2007–2016, totally **868 million euros** has been allocated to Turkey to support rural development.
- By summing up the national contribution which has been **215 million euros**, totally **1.1 billion euros of public contribution** has been allocated to support the development of rural areas.
- The rural development funds have been used in line with the Rural Development Programme (IPARD Programme) in which the sectors and measures to be supported have been identified.
- The sectors targeted by the Programme are; milk, meat, fruit and vegetables and fishery sectors under the measures “Investments in agricultural holdings” and “Processing and marketing of agricultural products”. The programme also includes the measure “Diversification of rural development activities” in which on-farm activities (bee-keeping, pharmacological-aromatic plants and ornamental plants), rural tourism, local products and microenterprises and aquaculture production have been supported. The Programme has been designed for implementation totally in 42 provinces out of 81 provinces of Turkey (20 provinces in the first phase and additional 22 provinces in the second phase of the Programme). With the start of second phase, the programme is being implemented in 42 provinces currently.

In this context;
- **“Rural development Programme (IPARD Programme)”** has been prepared and approved by EU in February 2008.
- **“Law on Establishment of Agricultural and Rural development Support Institution (IPARD Agency)”** has been enacted and Conferral of Management Decision of EU has been taken in August 2011.
- **First call for applications for the projects was launched in July 2011.**
- **Upto March 2013, nine call for applications** for the projects have been launched.
Opening of Negotiations for Chapter 12 “Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health”

- The Negotiations with EU started in 2005 have been carried out in 35 Chapters. Three chapters are directly related to agriculture and under the responsibility of Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock:
  - Chapter 11 Agriculture and Rural Development
  - Chapter 12 Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health
  - Chapter 13 Fisheries
- The benchmarks concerning Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health (Chapter 12) have been fulfilled and the negotiations for this Chapter were opened on 30 June 2010.
- The procedures for approval, registration and control of all food production and selling places have been aligned to EU Standards.
- Within the scope of Turkey-EU Financial Cooperation:
  - 22 projects with 147 Million Euro budget have been completed.
  - 8 projects with 134 million Euro are still proceeding.

FAO’s success stories

- The report “Pathways to Success- Success Stories in Agricultural Production and Food Security” that includes the success stories of different Countries in the field of agriculture and food was published in 2009 by Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.
- Turkey has taken its place as one of the success stories under the part of the report named “Transformation in Agriculture to meet Global Demands”.

FAO Central Asia Sub Regional Office

- Central Asia Sub Regional Office of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of United Nations is opened in Ankara.
- More effective projects have been initiated with Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan in the field of agriculture.
- Turkey has gained a significant place even providing 10 Million Dollars fund for the projects in Central Asia via FAO Central Asia Sub Regional Office.
• One of the most important economical organisations of the world--Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published a report “Evaluation of Agricultural Policy Reforms in Turkey” in 2011 a long time after 1994 when the former report was published.

• Within the study which is composed of 6 parts; General information regarding the agricultural sector and macroeconomic improvements in Turkey; Changes in agricultural policy from mid-80’s up to date; Rural Development Programmes; Management of Agricultural and Natural Resources; Agricultural supports and Recommendations on Agricultural Policy Reforms have been included.

• The report underlined Turkey’s agriculture as World’s 7th biggest agricultural power. It is stated that the recent reforms have been effected the sector positively by underlining the significant place of Turkey in terms of agricultural export values.

• It is stated in the “The Observation and Evaluation of Agricultural Politics Report” of OECD 2012, in 2011 when the ratio of the total amount of agricultural support to the income per capita average is 1% in OECD countries it is 2.2% in Turkey and Turkey has one of the highest ratio of total support to the income per capita in OECD countries.


Turkey, The Most Successful Country In The World In Supplying Food To Its Citizens...

It is stated in the “Global Hunger Index Report 2012” of International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

• In the 1990-2012 period, Turkey was the most successful country among 15 countries which reduces their Global Hunger Index (GHI) more than 50% getting ahead of the countries which has great agricultural potential such as China, Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico.

• In the Report, Global Hunger Index in Turkey; was 5,7 in 1990 and when it was 3,1 in 2001 decreased to 1,5 in 2012.

Global Hunger Indexes

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Source: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) Report
Minimum Tillage Farming Technique

- Minimum tillage farming increases the yield of wheat at the rate of 5% and the yield of vetch, lentil and chickpea at the rate of 15%.
- In line with the results of R&D studies less tillage farming has been supported.
- Moreover, more than 50% of the cost of tillaging has been saved up.

Exports of Vegetable Seeds

- The R&D studies for developing F1 hybrid vegetable types were carried out in cooperation with Research Institutes, Private Sector and Universities.
- The production of native hybrid vegetable seed has reached to 45%, while it was less than 10% in 2004.
- In 2012, seed exports have been risen to nearly 121 million dollar.

Researches on Livestock

Within this scope:

- Project on Territorial Ovine Animal Improvement by the Public (with 75 thousand sheep and goats in 13 provinces) has been initiated.
- Project for Increasing the Milk Productivity of Awassi Sheep has been implemented.
- Animal Race Registration Studies have been carried out. Totally 20 genotypes have been registered of which 13 races, 4 types and 3 hybrid belonging to the sheep, goat, chicken, cat, dog and pigeon species.
- Anatolian Buffalo Improvement Studies have been performed.
- Anatolian Mottled Cow Development Project has been implemented.
- Territorial Merino Sheep Development Project has been implemented.
- Aquaculture researches have been improved.
- Researches on Poultry and Pets have been improved with the new hatchery activated in 2010 in the premises of Poultry Research Institute.
Establishment of National Botanic Garden

The establishment studies of Turkey’s first National Botanic Garden which covers approximately 200 hectare area were started in 2010. The National Botanic Garden has been established for the purposes of:

- Preserving and encouraging the plant diversity by forming good documented collections and handing them for the next generations,
- Establishing a world class herbarium and library at world standards which represent plant diversities,
- Performing all kinds of national and international educational, social and cultural activities in order to build social consciousness and awareness on the vital importance of the plant diversity,
- Informing policy makers concerning the plant diversity and importance,
- Representing the Country in related events and subjects.

Protection of Genetic Resources

- One third of the approximately 12 Thousand plants which are grown in Turkey have economical importance and endemic characteristics.
- The genetic resources have been brought under control by “The Project on the Protection of Genetic Resources”. The protection studies are going on by registering more than 12,000 plant species of which 4,000 are endemic. The 86,600 samples belonging to 2,500 plant types have been brought under control and have been used in improvement studies.
- World’s 3rd Biggest Plant Genbank has been opened in Ankara. The capacity of the Bank which is 250 Thousand samples and which is 3rd biggest bank after China and USA, is planned to be increased to 300 thousand types for the next stages.
- The Project for the Protection of the Pet’s Genetic Resources which includes the protection and identification studies of totally 13 races and 3 lines belonging to bovine, ovine and Poultry Pet races have been carried out.
- Totally 3,131 animals head from 12 ovine and 7 bovine and 5,822 bee colony from 1 bee race in 18 provinces of Turkey have been brought under control by 202 breeders within the framework of the “Project for the Protection of Animal Genetic Resources by the Public”.
- 2 Animal Genbanks have been established. One is in Lalahan Livestock Central Research Institute and the other is in Marmara Research Centre (GMBE) belonging to TUBITAK (Turkish Scientific and Technical Researches Institute). The studies concerning the cyropreservation and DNA level identification of DNA, cell, tissue, embryo and sperm belonging to 18 bovine, 7 ovine and 5 horse race have been carried out.
Establishment of Agricultural Science, Technology and Training Centres

Agricultural Science and Technology Centres have been established in order to increase yield, carry out new researches, bring in qualified human resources together and sustain development of agriculture.

Within this scope,

• Agricultural Hydrology Research Institute in Menemen/Izmir, has been transformed to International Research and Training Centre. The International Training Programmes have been performed in this Centre.

• “The Drought Testing Centre” has been established in the premises of the Bahri Dağdaş International Agricultural Research Institute in Konya.

• “Bull Testing Centre”, “Genbank” and “Biotechnology Unit” have been opened under Lalahan Livestock Central Research Institute in Ankara.

• “The Residue Laboratory” has been established in the premises of Fruit Growing Research Institute in Malatya.

• “The Aromatic and Pharmacological Plants Centre” has been founded in the premises of Western Mediterranean Agricultural Research Centre in Antalya. Aherbarium with 50,000 sample capacity has been established in Atatürk Garden Cultures Central Research Institute within the scope of Natural Ornamental Plants Project.

• “Research Centre for Agricultural Practices for Energy” under the Black Sea Agricultural Research Centre has been established in Samsun.

• “GAP (Southern Anatolia Project) International Research and Training Centre” has been established in Diyarbakir province.

In order to preserve and improve the rich biodiversity Turkey Seed Genbank with 250,000 material capacities has been established in Ankara. Joint Project Studies and training programmes have been realised in different Research Institutes by the participation of experts from 42 countries. Training Programmes were organised totally in 18 subjects (including foreign language) and by the participation of 589 researchers.

The Centres under construction are:

• “Vegetative Biotechnology Centre” under the Arable Crops Central Research Centre,

• “Turkish Geofits Garden” (bulbous plants and tuberous ornamental plants) under Atatürk Garden Cultures Central Research Institute in Yalova,

• “National Farmer Training Centre” in Şanlıurfa GAP Soil-Water Resources and Agricultural Research Institute,

• “Plant Tissue Culture Centre” in Aegean Agricultural Research Institute in İzmir,

• “Clover Improvement and Original Seed Production Centre” under the Çukurova and Kahramanmaraş Agricultural Research Institutes.
OTHER ACTIVITIES
The Registry System for Agricultural Holdings

- “The cooperation Protocol” between the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock and Turkish Statistical Institute was signed in 2010 for the purpose of the establishment of “The Registry System for Agricultural Holdings” which shall provide a structural transformation and development for the strengthening of infrastructure regarding agricultural statistics.
- This event is an important step in the context of fulfilling the obligatory criteria under the 11th Chapter on Agricultural and Rural Development and 18th Chapter on Statistics regarding negotiations with EU.
- The activities of agricultural holdings have been registered on the parcel basis by using the land registry data.

Product Councils and Agricultural Unions

- Law on Agricultural Producer Unions has been enacted.
- Totally 822 producer unions and 10 central unions have been established in line with Law on Agricultural Producer Unions.
- Totally 263 Breeder Unions and 4 Central Unions have been established.
- 4,479 Agricultural Cooperatives, 50 Regional Cooperative Unions and 2 central Unions have been established. Totally 9 Product Councils (Cotton, Nut, Olive-Olive oil, Citrus, Tea plant, Cereals, Legumes, Meat and Milk) have been established in order to define the national strategies for these products with the contribution of public institutes, NGOs and private sector on the product basis.

Agricultural Consultancy System

- The project called “Development of Agricultural Extension Services (TAR-GEL Project)” has been implemented since 2004. The Agricultural Consultants appointed by the Ministry provide free advisory services for farmers in villages/towns. In the beginning phase, 1,000 agricultural consultants were appointed in 2004.
- In the second phase, additional 2,500 contracted agricultural consultants were assigned in 2007.
- The number of agricultural consultants has reached to 10,000 in 2012 providing the consultancy services in approximately 35,000 villages/towns.
Private Sector Investments in Agriculture

- Capital Investments have been encouraged via the new reforms on agricultural policies, agricultural supports and incentives provided for the domestic and foreign investor who intends to make investment on the agriculture sector.
- The share of agriculture within the capital investments of private sector realized as 3% in 2012.
- In 2012, totally 13.6 billion TL fixed capital investment of which 7.1 billion TL being by the private sector has been made in agricultural sector.
- Totally 75.3 billion TL fixed capital investment has been made for agriculture sector between the years 2003-2012 of which 41 billion TL belongs to the private sector in this period.
- In the field of agriculture, food, beverage and tobacco the amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has risen to 2.2 billion dollars in 2012 when it was 14 million dollars in 2002 and 6.3 billion dollars FDI was made in the last 10 years.
- The Turkish banking system has also developed in line with the recent changes as well as the harmonization with EU. The banks have started to implement substantial supports via special campaigns for medium and large scale agricultural investments.

Supervising services for the agricultural investors

- “Agricultural Investors Supervising Officer” has been established within the Ministry to give information on the opportunities and incentives provided for the national and international investors intending to make an investment in the field of agriculture.
- The Office’s web page www.taryat.gov.tr have approximately 50,000 visitors in a month.

Agriculture WEB TV

- For the first time, WEB Agriculture TV began broadcasting on the web address www.tarimtv.gov.tr in order to provide agricultural information, documentation and news on a daily basis for producers.
- It is aimed to convey the agricultural agenda and developments regarding the agricultural production, food safety, rural development and hobby gardening by reaching the producers via WEB Agriculture TV with a rich archive and expertise.
- A model in European Union: The Information Portal of European Commission “E-practice” has given place to “Web Agriculture TV” in its webpage as a Model study.

Thousands of information sets distributed to the farmers free of charge

In order to increase the production and productivity providing to meet developed agricultural technology and information:
- Totally, 700.000 books successfully distributed to 7,000 villages
- In the campaigns, totally 100 books which has 5200 pages, have been distributed to the farmers by agricultural consultants who are working in 81 provinces.
Approximately 30,000 staff has been recruited between the years 2003-2012 in order to increase the human resources of the Ministry.

The books have been distributed to schools free of charge.

135,000 coloring books, short stories and activity books have been prepared in the context of “Safe Food, Healthy Life” for primary school students in order to raise awareness and knowledge of children about the importance of food safety.

The books have been distributed to schools free of charge.

The aim of the scheme is to reduce adverse effects of agricultural practices on environment, to prevent erosion, to sustain renewable natural resources, to protect the natural cover and the quality of soil and water in the vulnerable areas.

The studies have been carried out on the sustainability of renewable natural resources, appropriate soil cultivation techniques, generalization of irrigation and similar cultural measures, decreasing the negative effects of agriculture by taking necessary measures, prevention of erosion, good agricultural practices and organic agriculture and raising awareness of local people.

The project disseminated to 27 provinces and up to now for 37,7 thousand hectares 40 million TL paid as support to 12,933 farmers.

The horse race programme has been accommodated with the world standards. An increase more than 90% has been provided in revenues from all kinds of parimutuels. With the race organizations, significant success has been achieved in international platform.

The human resources of the Ministry have been increased by recruiting approximately 30,000 staff between the years 2003-2012.
South Eastern Anatolia Project (GAP) Action Plan (2008-2012)

One of the biggest integrated development projects of the world “GAP”

• In the GAP region where 1.7 Million ha land will be brought together with water, the training studies to provide the adaptation of farmers with irrigated farming has been given importance.
• It was aimed to encourage the modern techniques and methods of agriculture, to use the potential in agriculture at maximum level and to improve the alternative production opportunities.
• With the irrigated farming, the income level of region is planned to increase 5 times and the employment is to be provided for 3.5 Million persons.

GAP ACTION PLAN

• GAP Action Plan was put into effect in accordance with the Decision No 2008/11 of the Prime Ministry published in the Official Journal 18 June 2008 and No 26910.
• The goal of the GAP Action Plan is to provide economic growth and social development, to reach the national average in terms of the employment rates, to improve the infrastructure and to raise the quality of life of the people living in the GAP region.
• The Action Plan has four strategic development axes under which 73 projects have been implemented;
  1. Economic Development
  2. Social Development
  3. Improvement of Infrastructure
  4. Institutional Capacity Building

• Under GAP Action Plan totally 1,4 billion TL subsidy was allocated for the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock for the 2008-2012 period and 73 projects under four strategic development axes has successfully implemented.
• In the Plan, the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock carries out 9 activities under the axes of “Economic Development”, “Improvement of the Infrastructure” and “Institutional Capacity Building”.

•
Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) System

- Under the twinning project performed between the years 2007 and 2009, Farm Accountancy Data Network system has been established in nine provinces as Adana, Bursa, Erzurum, Giresun, İzmir, Konya, Nevşehir, Şanlıurfa, Tekirdağ in order to collect the accounting data of the agricultural holdings and to monitor the economic structures of agricultural holdings efficiently.
- The second twinning project started in 2011 in order to provide and extend the sustainability of the system. Under this project the provinces Malatya, Samsun and Istanbul have been included into the system. In 2012, 11 new provinces have been included to the system as Çanakkale, Balıkesir, Manisa, Aydın, Denizli, Muğla, Burdur, Antalya, Mersin, Osmaniye and Hatay. Thus FADN system is established in 23 provinces.

Establishment of Licensed warehousing system

- The Law on Licensed Warehousing of Agricultural Products was issued in 2005 which forms the basis for the system.
- The licensed warehousing system aims to facilitate the trade of agricultural products, to establish a system to keep the products in healthy condition and to make standardization of the products.
- A licenced warehouse has gone into operation with the collaboration of Turkish Grain Board (TMO).

Improvement of the Infrastructure of Agricultural Statistics

- “Strengthening the Statistical Capacity Project” with a budget of 1.150.000 Euros which has been supported by EU and prepared in order to strengthen the statistical capacity of the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock was started in 2010.
- The project aims to increase the quality of the agricultural statistics to comply with the legislation and methodology of EU.
- The Protocol between the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and Turkish Statistical Institute for the Establishment of Agricultural Information System in the basis of “Agricultural Holdings Register System” was signed in 2010. The data entry to the system has been carried out since 2011. The system will provide an important contribution for the increase of the reliability rate of the agricultural statistics in Turkey.
Turkish Agricultural Sector meets the food requirement of 76 million Turkish citizens and 32 million tourists. The Agricultural export accounts to 16 billion dollars to 188 countries with 1,663 products.