



Workshop on “Climate Friendly Agriculture and Innovative Methodologies”
1-3 November 2017
International Agricultural Research and Training Center, Izmir -Turkey

According to the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, agriculture is one of the leading causes of climate change, responsible for 14% of GHG emissions, mainly as a result of soil erosion, poor irrigation practices, the uncontrolled use of fertilizers and other agrochemicals, biomass burning and livestock production. When deforestation from farmland expansion is factored into calculations, agriculture is estimated to account for 30 percent of total GHG emissions globally.

Agriculture that works with Nature instead of against it is becoming more of a necessity. The world’s population is putting extreme pressure on all our resources, especially water; water conservation and soil conservation practices in the agricultural industry must become priorities. Just as agriculture enabled civilization, unsustainable farming will eventually lead to the collapse of civilization. Because agriculture relies on healthy soil, adequate water, and a delicate balance of gases in the atmosphere, farming is the human endeavor most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Agriculture, when done sustainably, holds an important key to mitigating climate change. The United Nations estimates that the global agricultural sector could potentially reduce and remove 80 to 88 percent of the carbon dioxide that it currently produces. Practices such as using animal manure rather than artificial fertilizer, planting trees on farms to reduce soil erosion, all hold huge potential for shrinking agriculture’s environmental footprint and mitigating the damaging effects of climate change. By tapping into the multitude of climate-friendly farming practices that already exist, agriculture can continue to supply food for the human population, as well as income for the world’s 1.3 billion farmers. Climate-friendly agriculture also can play a critical role in the global reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the mitigation of climate change.

The objective of the workshop is to share the knowledge required for developing new and innovative methodologies and tools to maintain the food security using climate friendly agricultural practices and techniques that will contribute to the protection of soil and water quality. The workshop will increase awareness of the ability of the technical and policy issues of the climate change, agriculture and innovative methodologies in the BSEC country members. All members are convinced that the challenges in the triangle of agricultural production, climate change and innovation requires combined efforts. The workshop supported by the General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies (GDAR), General Directorate of the European Union and External Relations and Organization of the Black Sea

Economic Cooperation (BSEC), will be held at International Agricultural Research and Training Center (IARTC) on 1-3 November 2017 in Izmir. On the first day, the program focus on the technical and policy presentations on climate change and agriculture, and natural resource management. For the second day, the representatives from countries are invited to present and discuss national research priorities on the topics. The last day of the workshop technical and social trips will be organized to the facilities and historical places in Izmir.