

COMPARISON OF TURKISH AND WORLD AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural development is the core of the social and economic development that developed countries have achieved in today's world. Agriculture has played an important role in industrialization of countries, and much of the credit for this could be given to producer organizations. In countries with small scale farm enterprises, modern and economic agricultural production is possible only with producer organizations. In this study, agricultural producer organizations were compared according to their organizational structures with an emphasis on the necessity of producer organizations for agricultural development.

Keywords: agricultural development, EU countries, effective, Turkey

INTRODUCTION

In developed and developing countries, various farmers' organizations are used in the solutions of the fundamental problems of agriculture that have lasted for many years in the accomplishment of agricultural development and in the production and implementation of agricultural policies (Turan, 2001). Since resources are limited in agriculture, it has a high risk factor related to the natural conditions; it has special preservation conditions of products and because of the price fluctuations caused by supply-demand mismatch, the necessity of organizations is gaining importance (Kiraci and Ozdemir, 2005).

The priority is to increase the competitiveness of EU countries which are developed in agriculture and to have strong organizational structure (Yılmaz, 2008). To have an appropriate structure of agricultural organization is the case for every country, as a member of EU. Therefore, there is not a single example of organization model to be applied to every country. Within the EU countries, there are some types of organizations according to their own conditions and some upgraded institutes formed with the participation of these supply various functions.

DISCUSSION

Agricultural Organizations in Turkey

Since the most agricultural holdings are not big enough in Turkey and they couldn't supply capital formation, the investments couldn't be made; agricultural input

couldn't be raised and modern agriculture technologies couldn't be applied in businesses. For the farmers living in rural areas and taking part in agricultural production to use the production resources more effectively, to supply the agricultural productions under appropriate conditions, to apply the modern agriculture techniques, to market their products after evaluating in a good way and to benefit from the public services more effectively is just possible by the help of organizations.

In fact, organizational powers, like organized farmers are the way to create agricultural policies, to determine the conditions of application and by the help of this to influence the political mechanisms and to be effective in the market, to actualize the rural development by increasing productivity due to the modern production techniques (*Inan et al, 2000*).

In Turkey, the majority of the agricultural enterprises (65-67%) have between 10-50 acres of land. In addition, landless families have an important role in agriculture

Purposes of producers' organizations in agriculture:

- to protect the interests of the producers,
- to monitor innovation and advances and supply the information for all kinds of exchange,
- to create political pressure,
- to fasten the process of democratic decision making,
- to supply the necessary input and technologies to increase the quality and productivity,
- to increase the effectiveness of rural areas in economy,
- to increase the producers' income and standard of living.

When we order the organizations taking part in organizations of the rural areas according to their task of organization, 3 organizations are important (*Anonym, 2000*):

1. *Public Organizations offering agricultural service*: Some of these organizations are Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Trade, State Planning Agency, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Finance.
2. *Effective pressure groups*: There are 3 different pressure groups to create effective methodologies in agriculture in different areas like vocational, educational research and solidarity:
 - a. Vocational and social purpose organizations: As determination of agricultural policies and agricultural technical service class, education, research and vocational organizations there are some kinds of organizations like Turkish Agricultural Eng. Union, TCAE Chamber of Agricultural Engineers, Turkish Veterinary Medical Association, Chamber of Veterinarians, Chamber of Food Engineers, Agriculturists Association, Agriculturists Organization, Association of Veterinary Technicians.
 - b. Producers' Organization: As a professional organization in agriculture, there is the Union of Chambers of Agriculture of Turkey.

- c. Voluntary organizations: It consists of foundations and associations related to the producers in agriculture.
3. *Organizations with Economic Purpose:* Agriculture corporative where producers really want to become organized, producer associations, exporter associations and firms are taken up in this group. Several countries in the economic organization of agriculture have developed a multi-model. One of the most successful of these models is cooperative.

Agricultural Chambers

Agriculture Chambers are professional organization and its functions are developing agriculture sector in the advantage of agriculture, providing professional services, helping the government to become fact agricultural plans, arrange the relations among the farmers and providing the reliance between public and the farmers, for these reasons it was established 1957 with 6964 law and has got judicial position. Agricultural Chambers were organized at the country level and the upper units have been set up.

Farmers Union and the Associations

Associations have been established according to the law of non-governmental organizations. They have been established in the base of either product, region or professional names. The most important ones are Manisa Viniculture Association, Aegean Region Milk Animal and Milk Producers Association, Aegean Farmers Assoc., Adana Farmers Associations, Banana Producers Association.

Agricultural Producer Unions

Purpose: to plan agricultural production according to demand, to improve the quality, sell the products according to standards, take precautions to increase marketing power on the national and international level, encourage the organizations to establish unions . Agricultural Producer Unions' rules relating to establishment, functions, methods, process are organized in respect of agricultural producers' law.

Agricultural Sales Cooperatives and Unions

Cooperatives and Associations work about putting other producers' also its partners' products to use, meet the requests and protect the economic self interests. There are 16 associations and 324 major agricultural sales cooperatives in Turkey. These are; Taris, Trakya Assoc., Marmara Assoc., Black sea Assoc ,Rose Assoc, Ant Assoc., Fisko Assoc., Zinc Assoc, Olive, Cotton, Grape, etc.. In order to establish an Agricultural Sales Cooperatives at least three Union of Agricultural Cooperative must come together.

Village Development and Other Agricultural Corporations Central Association

It is a central organization of Village Development and Other Agriculture Corporation. It works in different areas belong to agriculture. (Animal Breeding-Milk Production and its process , green house, carpet production, olive and olive oil process, honey, rice production and its process, floriculture, sapling, tomato paste,

jam, canned food, etc.) Related to Central Association; there are 25 associations 1 central branch, 2.700 unit corporates. It protects partners' self-interests against Offices inside and outside of Turkey.

Agriculture Credit Corporate

Agriculture Credit Corporate gives short term and middle term credits to its partners. Besides Agricultural Credit Corporate have opened middle term equipment credit recently. By the side of material credits Agriculture Credit Corporate provides as in kind credits manure, food, seed, seedling, agriculture medicine, agriculture equipment and consumption things completely or retail. Among these the most important activity is providing chemical manure.

Agricultural Development Corporates

Agricultural Development Cooperatives is a multi-purpose cooperatives, has been operating in various areas. The main reason for the establishment of the multi-purpose cooperatives is the agriculture of our country dominated by a structure in poly-culture. Farmers' livelihoods are provided by being in wide variety of agricultural activities. Therefore, the input needs of farmers become different, the evaluation or marketing of these products requires different activities.

European Union (EU) Countries

Today, the countries where the agricultural organization is the most common, are the European Union (EU) countries. In the European Union agricultural organizations have an important place for formulating policies for the agricultural sector and the implementation of these policies, 50-60% in agro-based industry are carried out through these organizations (Kızıloğlu, 2009).

The organization of farmers can be handled in Grouped in various ways in the EU. Based on scientific topics in general aims of these organizations, 2 different way of organizing economic and professional appears (Eraktan, 2004).

1. *Economic organization:* It includes cooperatives, associations, companies and even some trade unions which aim to become more powerful to come to the field of production and marketing.
2. *Professional organization:* It consists of operator sector organizations which inform farmers about production and market conditions and aims at protection of interests including chambers of agriculture and farmers' associations. These are organizations which aims in general, gives information about market conditions from producers to consumers at every stage until it reaches the manufacturer's and the protection of interests.

These two different ways of organizing are able to go the top structures, national and EU level within the existing legal rules among themselves by performing a number of mergers.

Producer organizations which have Recognition of the criteria is defined as Associations Producer by met among themselves and if they can acquire the right to recognition in accordance with EU criteria.

As profession associations; agriculture societies, farmer corporations, inter branch organizations and operator's organizations do not do any commercial activities too. Also these associations have associations in the national level.

Upper associations that are organized in regional level form national societies. Associations in national level become organized in EU level and they have economic goals like General Committee for Agricultural Cooperation in the European Community,

In the EU constitution Committee of Professional Agricultural Organizations represent farmers with professional dimension.

Except COPA and COGECA, organizations that compete each other do not make any effort protect their commercial self-interests. That defends mass of farmers that have different problems without sale worry (*Anonym, 2006*).

International Agricultural Associations

Via Campesina

Via Campesina consists of farmers organizations, small and middle scale farmers, people who work for agriculture, is an international movement and it is in the aim of meeting basic demands in the agriculture sector. Many countries such as from Africa to North America, Mexico, Canada, America, from South America, Southeast and East Asia to South Asia, Europe including Turkey are its member.

COGECA is General Committee for Agricultural Cooperation in the European Community. COPA: Committee of Professional Agricultural Organizations has international upper associations. Agriculture Loan Corporations and Agriculture Societies Organizations from Turkey are member of COGECA (*Anonym, 2011*).

CONCLUSION

In the world especially developed countries give priority to organizing to increase prosperity level in agriculture sector and effective of actions from production to marketing. In Turkey Organizations in agriculture are supported in pioneering of Agriculture Ministry. With this agricultural associations and producers corporations are important members of organizing in agriculture. On the other hand it can't be said that corporations and producer associations work effectively. One of the important reasons of this is impact of producers organizing and insufficient education and information level on its effectiveness.

Become organized in agriculture contribute to increasing information level on movement together and producers' activities, chasing reforms and developing joining in democracy. With this small family enterprises will provide production factors in suitable conditions and will sell their products in suitable prices. Corporations are very vital tools for being good position in market and in coming together as farmers like developed economies. Countries that have small enterprises like Turkey, farmers just can do agriculture with corporations in modern and economic scale.

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