# **BURSA**

Population:3.194.720Altitude:155 m



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### **Project Details**

**School Name:** Inegol Vocational Training Centre **Project name:** The Essence of Life: Seed

#### Purpose

We believe that seeds are the essence of life, and that the mistakes made by humanity pose a serious threat to seeds. By implementing this project, we aimed to increase the level of knowledge and awareness about heirloom seeds improvement and growing.

#### **Target Audience**

The target audience of our project consists of apprentice students, teachers and school administrators in our school, our local tradesmen and the land communities involved in our project. **136** apprentice students, **6** teachers, **1** institution support staff, **1** school administrator and numerous land community members worked for the project;



- **8** vegetable gardens were built from waste wood materials,
- 15 pine trees were saved from cutting,
- **96** heirloom seedlings were planted.

#### Collaborations

Avrasya Furniture

# 1 Person

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In our project, we preferred to focus on heirloom seeds improvement and growing. We held a preparatory meeting with apprentice students and the school administration.



The team interviewed a farmer with experience in the heirloom seeds use and growing, received preliminary information from him, and conducted research on the subject. We bought heirloom seedlings.



Using waste wood materials, we collected from the local tradesmen, we made eight vegetable gardens and painted them together. We filled the vegetable gardens with soil.

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It is a great feeling to

observe the day-to-day growth of

the seedlings we planted

We carried out informative activities in our school in order to raise awareness about the process of building vegetable gardens, the importance of using heirloom seeds, and heirloom seeds growing.



We planted cucumber, corn, strawberry, potato and tomato seedlings using heirloom seeds in our vegetable gardens. We made a plan to share the seeds we will obtain from growing plants with others. We have strengthened our muscles to protect the ancient past of our planet.



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#### What do beneficiaries and practitioners think about the project?

When I was a child, I couldn't understand why my grandmother was picking the seeds of the tomatoes she ate and wrapping them in cloth. With this project, I not only understood my grandmother better, but also realized how valuable it is to protect our heirloom seeds and transfer them to our grandchildren. In order not to be dependent on foreign sources in food and not to have problems in accessing qualified food, we invite everyone to take care of our heirloom seeds, to reproduce and share them.

It was an unforgettable experience to be able to bring the heirloom seeds, which have managed to exist on our planet for thousands of years, back together with the soil.



#### Recommendations for implementing and improving the project

- Including heirloom seeds growing in the scope of professions subject to apprenticeship training
  Ensuring the sustainability of heirloom seeds growing by establishing a mentoring system among students regarding seeds grown at school
- Establishing incentive systems for heirloom seeds growing
- Receiving public support by sharing information locally

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- Providing apprentice students with professional skills in clean agriculture
- Organizing heirloom seeds exchange festivals to establish collective solidarity processes







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