



SupMed



PROGRAM

EXPERIENCE-SHARING EVENT ON

**Technical, organizational and policy
levers and obstacles in promoting
agroecology in the Mediterranean area**

An event organized by CIHEAM Montpellier in partnership with ARC Egypt

Under the patronage of His Excellency the Egyptian Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of Egypt



17th-18th December 2024



Cairo, Safir Hotel



SupMed Project 2021-2025

www.supmed-project.com



FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL



CONTEXT AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS



SupMed is a development project funded by the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM). It aims to co-design and implement climate change adaptation strategies in Egypt and Lebanon.

Several strategies based on the promotion and implementation of agroecological practices have been put forward and field-tested in the Beqaa region in Lebanon and the Luxor governorate in Egypt. These strategies have been extensively discussed with local and national stakeholders and policymakers in order to study their application on a wider scale than the initial intervention areas. It is in this context that we wish to share the results of the project with other Mediterranean countries than Egypt and Lebanon. Five main outputs are expected:

Output 1 - discusses the extent to which the SupMed experience may be applied to contexts other than in Egypt and Lebanon. The term experience in this case refers to two important aspects: the methods used for co-designing strategies that are technically efficient, economically profitable and socially acceptable, and the key factors for considering the results of these strategies in future policies.

Output 2 - provides an opportunity for NGOs leading initiatives and projects in MENA region and Greece to share their experiences regarding the promotion of agroecological practices. The event will allow the comparing of lessons learned from these experiences and discussing the limits and advantages of promoting and adopting such strategies.

Output 3 - discusses, collectively (with NGOs, researchers, policy makers, and others), the key arguments and messages to be addressed to donors, policy makers, educational and research institutions and even professional agencies, with aims to encourage such stakeholders to invest in agroecology as a dominant production model where relevant. This discussion should serve to ultimately establish a common advocacy letter, to be signed by all participants with their consent, along with a roadmap for its dissemination. The CIHEAM-IAMM, as a leading actor in the Mediterranean, will take charge of disseminating this letter.

Output 4 - having this event serve as an opportunity for at least 12 farmer associations and 6 to 10 traders and exporters to meet and negotiate specific commercial contracts, therefore facilitating access to market.

Output 5 - arriving to have the three Ministers of Agriculture of Egypt, Lebanon and Greece make a common statement declaring the promotion of agroecology in their corresponding ministries and to explicitly subscribe agroecology as a priority for future policies.

DAY 1

TUESDAY 17 TH DECEMBER, 2024



08H00-09H00 Registration of participants
Registration will continue during the coffee break.

09H00-09H45 Welcome speeches

- **Adel Abdelazeem**, President ARC, Egypt
- **Thierry Dupeuble**, CIHEAM Montpellier Director
- **Jean Philippe Dop**, Conseiller régional aux affaires agricoles, Service Économique Régional (Levant, Iran et Irak). Ambassade de France au Liban – Beyrouth
- **Anne Isambert**, AFD Deputy Director Lebanon
- **His Excellency, Dionisis Stamenitis**, Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Food , Greece
- **His Excellency, Abbas Hajj Hassan** Minister of agriculture, Lebanon
- **His Excellency, Alaa Farouk** the Minister of agriculture, Egypt

09H45-10H20 SupMed project: Achievement and lesson learned on Agroecology adoption and performance (30 mn)
H. Belhouchette (CIHEAM Montpellier – Project coordinator)

10H20-10H40 Statement ceremony of a common Declaration and engagement to promote Agroecology by the three ministers of agriculture of Egypt, Lebanon and Greece

10H40-11H20 For All participants and in parallel to the coffee break: Exhibition of typical products grown by using agroecological techniques with 12 Egyptian farmers and associations, beneficiaries of SupMed project.
Moderator: Othman Elsheik, EASD- Luxor – focal point of SupMed project in Egypt

11H20-14H30 Testimonials and panels for discussing challenges and issues in implementing agroecology-based projects and initiatives
(10 mn each and 2 panels for general discussion)

Panel 1

- Field irrigation development: obstacles, success factors and policy alignment (Esam Mohamed Zaki Mohamed, Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Department of Agricultural Policy Research and Project Evaluation)
- Promoting barley cultivation in marginal rainfed areas towards sustainable development and food security (Heba Gomaa Ali Gomaa, Field Crops Institute, Barley Research Department)
- Place et défis des innovations agroécologiques en Algérie : quelques cas concrets (Karima Boudedja, CREAD-Algeria).
- Projets agroécologiques au Maroc : Etat des lieux et évaluation (Rachid Harbouze, IAV-Hassan Maroc)

Panel 2

- L'Agroécologie en Tunisie : Défis réels, Dynamique de questionnement et Transition Controversée (Fraj Chemak, INRAT-Tunisia)
- Agroecological practices and market access: can they unlock new opportunities? (Elise Noujeim, FTL Lebanon)
- L'agroécologie au Liban vue du terrain (Salem Darwich, Faculté d'Agronomie, Université libanaise)
- Living Labs as a Catalyst to Empower NGOs and Stakeholders in Driving the Transition to Agroecology (Georgios Kleftodimos, CIHEAM Montpellier)



14H30 Lunch: Open buffet

DAY 2

WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER, 2024



09H00-09H40 Agroecology and NGOs experience

- Hanine Abdallah, MADA Association
- Wael Yamine, Soils Permaculture Association Lebanon
- Elie-Nazih Hedwane, JouzourLebanon
- Othman Elshaikh, EASD- Egypt

09H40-11H50 Agroecology and policy: priority, finding, incentive, trade-offs, skills (12 mn each and 2 panels for 20mn each)

- Panel 1**
- Agroecology in the Egyptian context: Policies, initiatives and Bottlenecks (Gamal Siam, Professor emeritus, Agricultural Economics department, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University)
 - **L'intensification agroécologique pour promouvoir l'agriculture tunisienne : état des lieux et analyse critique** (Chamseddine Harrabi DG DGAFTA- Ministère de l'agriculture Tunisie)
 - L'agroécologie au Liban vue du terrain (Salem Darwich, Faculté d'Agronomie, Université libanaise)

- Panel 2**
- Agroecology in Morocco: an overview (Fouad Rachidi, Direction de la Recherche, de la Coopération et du Partenariat, Centre National d'innovations en Agroécologie, École Nationale d'Agriculture Meknès)
 - Greek National Action Plan on mitigating the negative impacts of water scarcity through Sustainable Public-Private Partnerships (George Vrontzos, University of Thessaly)
 - Politique de soutien aux agriculteurs en Algérie : concilier les défis de la sécurité alimentaire et de la durabilité (Amel Bouzid, CREAD Algeria)

Coffee break (30 mn)

12H20-14H10



Parallel session 1: Building Partnerships in Agroecology:
Be to be meeting farmers and associations with sellers and exporters

Moderator and reporting: EASD-Egypt

Parallel session 2: For more agroecology in Mediterranean region: General debate to setup a common advocacy letter and roadmap for dissemination

Moderator: Tahani Abdelhakim, Rapporteurs: Anne Cobacho and Ahmed Sabry

14H10 Lunch: Open buffet