



Press Release
CIHEAM Headquarters
15 October 2017, Bergamo, Italy

G7 BERGAMO

THE CIHEAM fully involved to tackle the root causes of rural migrations

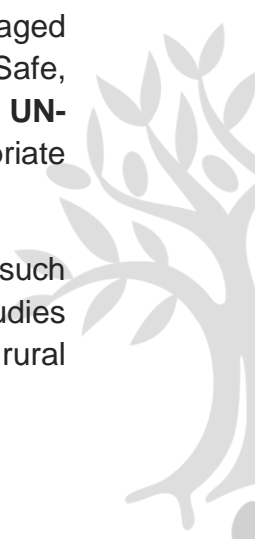
The Agriculture Ministers of the G7 Countries, the Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Economy of the African Union, representatives of the European Union and international organizations such as FAO, OECD, IFAD and the World Food Program met in Bergamo on October 14-15, 2017 to address the global challenges of agricultural sector. In their Final Declaration, the Ministers mentioned the work of the **International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM)** in addressing the root causes of rural migration in the Mediterranean region. The CIHEAM attended the meeting and was represented by its Vice-President, M. Gianni Bonini.

Protecting Farmers, Developing rural areas and enhancing cooperation to feed the planet

The main topics of the G7 discussion was the protection of producers' income amid the market crises or emergencies related to natural disasters and climate change and the role of agricultural cooperation in migration management.

In this regard, the G7 Agriculture Ministers and International Organizations encouraged States involved in the development of the two **Global Compacts** (the first for Safe, Orderly and Regular migration and the second for Refugees) and the work of the **UN-Global Forum for Migration** to give agriculture and rural development appropriate consideration.

They invited the UN-Global Migration Group in cooperation with relevant actors such as the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), to consider the possible linkages of migration on agriculture and rural





development. Strong of its long experience in promoting local development, he CIHEAM is indeed currently working on concrete solutions to bring long-term responses to rural distress migrations especially through a dedicated multi-actor platform.

As requested by the CIHEAM Member States during the 11th Agricultural Ministerial Meeting in Tirana (2016), the Organization is implementing a “Mediterranean Platform for Policy Dialogue on Drivers of Rural Migration”.

Over the last few years, the number of forced migrations has grown in the Mediterranean region, also as a result of depletion of natural resources, environmental constraints and hard economic conditions in rural areas. In order to understand and tackle the root causes of migrations, these challenges need to be considered in terms of human development, agriculture, and adaptation to climate change.

To this end, the objectives of this multi-actor platform are to contribute to a better understanding of these phenomena, to identify solutions to improve the livelihood of indigenous and immigrant populations and to better understand the factors of economic growth in rural areas taking into account strategies to adapt to environmental constraints.

More details:

www.ciheam.org

www.ministerial2016.ciheam.org

CIHEAM

Created in 1962, the CIHEAM is a Mediterranean organization which works for improving sustainable agriculture and fisheries, for ensuring food and nutrition security and for developing rural and coastal territories. The organization gathers 13 Member States from both shores of the Mediterranean (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey) and works with several international and regional institutions. CIHEAM's actions rely on a bottom-up collaboration and are problem-solving oriented, connected to the peculiar needs of the countries. With its Member States, public and private partners and academics the CIHEAM strive to meet the 4 following challenges:



Struggling against “triple waste” (Knowledge-Natural Resources-Food)



Boosting Sustainable Agriculture and Food



Investing in new generations and fragile territories



Preventing risks and managing tensions

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