



CIHEAM
International Centre for Advanced
Mediterranean Agronomic Studies

Country Activities Report

December 2015

LEBANON

Member since 1994



Founded in **1962**, the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) is an **intergovernmental organisation** composed of **thirteen member states** (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey).

CIHEAM is at the service of its member states to promote **multilateral cooperation** in the Mediterranean in the fields of **agriculture, food, fishery and rural territories**, aiming to respond to the **needs** of the States and of the agro-food actors.

CIHEAM pursues this cooperation mission through **specialised training, networked research, scientific diplomacy and political partnership**. Thanks to its activities, CIHEAM therefore contributes to the elaboration of a global, structural and engaging vision for development in the Mediterranean. Providing concrete solutions, sharing experiences and promoting useful knowledge are among the main objectives of each one of its actions.

Around **170 permanent agents** and hundreds of consultants regularly work within the 5 headquarters of the Organisation: the **4 Mediterranean Agronomic Institutes (MAI)** based in **Bari (Italy), Chania (Greece), Montpellier (France), and Zaragoza (Spain)**; the **General Secretariat** is located in **Paris (France)**, and are at the same time active in the Mediterranean countries to develop activities and projects.

ciheam.org



KEY INFORMATION



Date of Adhesion

1994

Compulsory Contribution in 2015

47 982€

Name and Position of the Delegate

Mouïñ Hamze

Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS Lebanon)

Education and Training

CIHEAM MSc cycles (from 2003/2004-to 2014/2015)

280 Lebanese students including 265 scholarships

CIHEAM Specialized Training (from 2004/2005-to 2014/2015)

878 Lebanese participants including 499 scholarships

Main current research and technical projects

ACLIMAS, EcoPlantMed, ENPARD, CREAM, ERANET-MED, LACTIMED,

Main current networks

MOAN, MED-Spring, MED-Amin, FISHINMED, E.H.P.P.C.-Med, Cooperative Network on olive oil authentication, SAMEFOOD

Last political regional events with Lebanon

Participation in the 10th CIHEAM Ministerial Meeting, *Algiers, February 6th, 2014*

Participation in the Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Agriculture, *Palermo, November 28th, 2014*

Last publications

Haidar M., Sabra A., *Solanum Elaeagnifolium: A New Invasive Weed in Lebanon*, in Watch Letter 33, Invasive Species in Mediterranean, CIHEAM, Paris, June 2015.

Hwalla N., Bahn R.A., *Assessing and Advancing Food Security in Lebanon: Innovative Initiatives at the American University of Beirut*, in Watch Letter 32, Feeding Expo Milano with Mediterranean Perspectives, CIHEAM, Paris, April 2015.

To be recorded

- Lebanon is the last country to become Member of CIHEAM in 1994 but its relationships with CIHEAM started in the 1970's. Discussions about the status of associated country have been launched in 1973 following a decision of the CIHEAM Governing Board during its 24th Meeting, and were concluded by the ratification of a convention in 1980. Lebanon was the first Arab Mediterranean Country to acquire this status that offers the possibility to enhance cooperation in the field of education and research. Scholarships for Lebanese students were set up, as Lebanon started to pay a financial contribution to CIHEAM. A Representative of Lebanon was

also invited for each Governing Board (advisory capacity). During the 1980's, strong relationships developed between CIHEAM and the Faculty of Agronomy of the Lebanese University in Beirut.

- Mouïn Hamzé was President of the Governing Board of CIHEAM from 2003 to 2007, and president of the Advisory Board from 1999 to 2001.
- The 89th meeting of CIHEAM Governing Board was held in Beirut in June 1995.
- At the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of CIHEAM, the Lebanese Minister of Agriculture participated in the international conference organized on October 19th, 2012 by CIHEAM-MAI Montpellier. He delivered a speech on the main challenges for Lebanese agriculture and food security in the Mediterranean
- On January 2011, The President of the Republic of Lebanon, H.E. General Michel Sleiman, conferred the honour of Commander of the National Order of the Cedar to Cosimo Lacirignola, CIHEAM Secretary General.

CIHEAM Ministerial Meetings

CIHEAM organised the first meeting of its thirteen member countries' ministers of agriculture in 1999. The aim was to establish a dialogue between Mediterranean countries on agricultural and rural issues and enable them to agree on a common approach to them. These biennial ministerial meetings provide an opportunity for discussion of agricultural, food and rural issues in the Mediterranean area. The strategic dimension of these meetings is enhanced by the participation of the major international organisation active in the region.

Lebanon has been involved in all the Meetings of the Ministers of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries of the CIHEAM Member Countries. The 4th Meeting was held in Beirut on the 21th of September 2002, the year in which CIHEAM celebrated its 40th anniversary. The Ministers and the Heads of Delegation gave particular attention to the agricultural relations in the context of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and the multilateral agricultural negotiations

The ministers of agriculture of the 13 member states of CIHEAM, or their representatives, met in Algiers on the 6th of February 2014. Organised by Algeria, this meeting took place in the presence of many representatives of international organisations, including the General Director of FAO. The discussions focused on the sustainable food security in the Mediterranean Basin. Prof. Mouïñ Hamze, Secretary General of the National Council for Scientific Research was the head of the Lebanese Delegation for this 10th CIHEAM Ministerial Meeting in Algiers. This was the 10th multilateral meeting of this type organised in fifteen years, demonstrating hence the capacity of the CIHEAM member states to gather regularly around these strategic issues of agriculture, food, and rural territories.



Meeting of the Ministers of Agricultural of the 13 Member States of CIHEAM in Algiers, 2014

Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Agriculture (2014)

In the framework of the Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, on the 28 November 2014, the Italian Authorities have organised a Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Agriculture in Palermo (Sicily) and focused on Young Generations and Research in Agriculture. Ministers or Representatives of 27 countries from the European Union, the Balkans, North Africa and the Middle East as well FAO Director General and several international and regional organisations (European Commission, CIHEAM, UfM, ICARDA, CEJA, SWG-RDD) participated to the Conference. Lebanon participated in the Conference with the presence of M. Louis Lahoud.

Bilateral Meeting

On October 22, 2014, the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, M. Akram Chayaheb visited the CIHEAM Secretariat in Paris and had a meeting with the Secretary General and Staff to discuss some projects of cooperation and activities currently developed with Lebanon.

NOWARA

The program to establish the National Observatory for Women in Agriculture and Rural Areas (NOWARA) was initiated in 2007 in the framework of TerCom Project "Activation of mechanisms to sustain rural territories and communities in Lebanon", financed by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and implemented by CIHEAM-Bari in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture and the Lebanese CNRS. Mrs. Wafa Dikah Hamzé is the founder of this Observatory.



Donation of the Vessel to CNRS (CANA-CNRS)

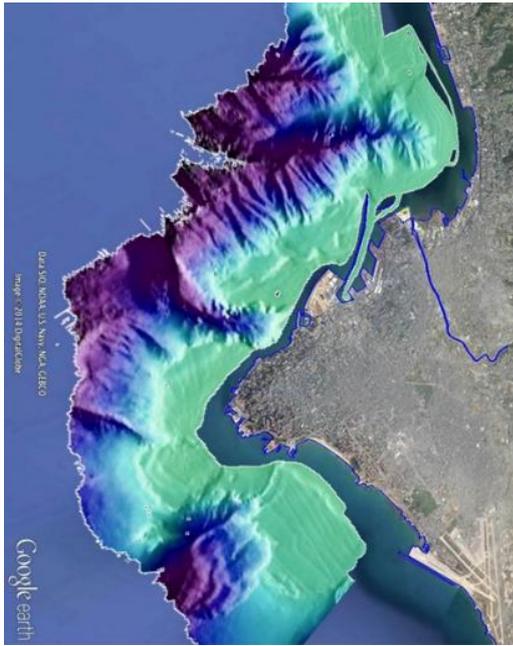
In April 2009, as part of the TerCom Project, the Lebanese National Scientific Research Council (CNRS) received a fully equipped scientific research ship for studying the seabed, marine geophysics and marine pollution. The symbolically named CANA, the first ship of its kind in the Arab countries of the Mediterranean Basin, was donated by the Italian Government via CIHEAM-Bari.



The National Council for Scientific Research-Lebanon (CNRS-L) organized a visit to remark the 5th Anniversary of the project "Establishing monitoring and Sustainable Development of the Lebanese Sea (CANA-CNRS Project)", an initiative funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Italian Development cooperation. The event took place at the Beirut Naval Base, in the presence of five Ministers (Environment, Industry, Public Works, Water and Energy & Agriculture). The main objective of the visit has been to reveal the activities and facilities of the CANA-CNRS Research Vessel (R/V). The ultimate aim of the CANA-CNRS project is, indeed, to generate an unprecedented set of data on the status of the marine and coastal resources and enable Lebanese decision makers to adopt consequent choices at the policy level.

The data collected provides a remarkable information base fundamental for marine geologists, oceanographers, biologists, as well as in marine engineering work and may serve in the modeling of marine geo-hazards, mainly tsunami wave heights on our shores. In this respect, the area of the greater Beirut was selected - in this first phase – as the sector of the highest economic interest but

also for the exceptional marine structure known with the name of Saint George Canyon. Scientists are urged to examine this narrow canyon, which opens out very close to the land, with the aim to connect it to the geology of the Beirut platform – itself a unique along the Levantine coast.



Data collected by the CANA-CNRS Project

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

With the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in Beirut on November 16th, 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon (MOA) and CIHEAM decided to reinforce their strategic cooperation in major fields of sustainable and inclusive agriculture

This new partnership for cooperation on agriculture and rural development takes place in a national context of mobilization on food security and quality, innovative and sustainable agriculture, conquest of new markets and reforms of Lebanese institutions in the fields of research and higher education. The signing ceremony held in the MOA in Beirut and was chaired by H.E. the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, Mr. Akram Chehayeb.

The MOA and the CIHEAM identified 4 priority areas for cooperation:

1. Institutional support (national policies assistances, agro-food systems);
2. Environment and Natural Resources (sustainable agriculture, adaptation to climate change, innovative irrigation techniques, aquaculture, sea fisheries production...)
3. Development of rural territories (inclusive development, young people and women empowerment, family farming, quality and "terroir" products, animal health...);
4. Economic Performance and Competitiveness (organic agriculture, improvement of value chains, multifunctionality in fishery and in the coastal areas, trade and international negotiation techniques...)

This strategic partnership is a step forward for CIHEAM because Lebanon has already achieved significant results in terms of agriculture, quality of food and sustainable water and land management. The accumulated experience and best practices in Lebanon will be profitable for other countries that have to build strategies to implement inclusive rural development and respond to needs of their population in an increasingly restrictive climate context and an uncertain global market".



H.E. the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, Mr. Akram Chehayeb and Dr. Cosimo Lacirignola, Secretary General of CIHEAM

"To benefit fully of CIHEAM programs and resources, the engagement of Lebanese establishments in this partnership is important. We have to work out an annual action plan with all the components of CIHEAM" Said H.E. the Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, Mr. Akram Chehayeb.

2015 Main Events

- Beyond the MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture, CIHEAM also signed a convention on November 16, 2015, with the Lebanese University/Faculty of Agriculture aiming to reinforce the relationships between the researchers, to stimulate cooperation in terms of international and national scientific programmes and to develop the student's mobility as well as the knowledge sharing. The Rector of the Lebanese University, Pr. Adnan El Sayed Hussein chaired the signing ceremony held in Beirut in presence of the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Pr. Samir Medawar, the Secretary General of CNRS-Lebanon and Delegate to the CIHEAM Board, Pr. Mouin Hamze, and many other colleagues involved in CIHEAM Activities in the Mediterranean and in Lebanon.
- The CIHEAM Secretary General went to Beirut from the 26 to the 29 May 2015. Besides the working sessions with the delegate Mouin Hamzé, this mission was also aimed at discussing the progress and future perspectives of the ERANETMed and MED-Spring initiatives since a three-day seminar was organised on these two research-innovation programs. Discussions were also held with the representatives of different Euro-Mediterranean institutions involved in these programs. On the 27 May, the Secretary General also participated to the seminar on risk management and this was also the occasion to meet the Lebanese Prime Minister, Mr. T. Salam. On the 28 May, a hearing with the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. A. Cheyaheb allowed to review the projects that are currently developed by the CIHEAM in Lebanon and to talk more specifically on the role of our Organisation in international aid provided to the Lebanese authorities with regards to food security problems resulting from the Syrian crisis. The Minister also stressed his expectations regarding the awareness campaign currently deployed in favour of the safety of food products in Lebanon.
- From 16 to 17 November 2015, CIHEAM participated in the 8th Annual Conference of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED), a not-for-profit regional non-governmental organization based in Beirut, grouping experts together with the civil society, business community and media, to promote prudent environmental policies and programmes across the Arab region. The Secretary General delivered a statement on the importance of the Mediterranean Diet as a sustainable food model and of the food and nutrition security challenges in the region. CIHEAM contributed to the 2015 Edition of AFED Report focused on sustainable consumption with several articles in the Food Session of the publication.

EDUCATION, CAPACITY BUILDING & TRAINING

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Focus on the relation with CIHEAM-Montpellier

The international Master « *Ingénierie du développement des territoires et environnement* » (IDTE) is co-accredited with the faculty of Agriculture of the Lebanese University since 2011. A new convention was signed in November 2013 with the Lebanese University and the Ministry of Agriculture. This convention envisages a dual M2 between Beirut and Montpellier with the intervention of teachers from MAI Montpellier in Beirut. That's how 8 Lebanese students spent 1 trimester in Montpellier at the beginning of 2014. At the end of the convention, these students will do their internship of M2 in Lebanon on issues that interest the Ministry of Agriculture.

19 October 2015: signature of the four-year renewal agreement of the international Master "Ingénierie de développement des territoires et environnement" (IDTE) between the MoA, the Faculty of Agronomy of the Lebanese University and CIHEAM-MAIM, in the presence of Minister of Agriculture of Lebanon, the dean of the faculty of agronomy and the director of the CIHEAM-MAIM. The Master is accredited by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research since July 2015.

CIHEAM-Montpellier strengthens its collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture for vocational training:

7 intensive training sessions on capacity building for managers and technical staff of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) were organized in Beirut between September and October 2015. They were conducted at the request and with the support of the MoA as a continuation of the partnership initiated since 2011 between CIHEAM-MAIM, the Faculty of Agronomy of the Lebanese University and the MoA.

In total 126 officers and managers of the Ministry of Agriculture have been trained.

Focus on the relation with CIHEAM-Bari

CIHEAM-Bari has been contributing to the development and improvement of the organic sector in Lebanon. The technical team appointed by the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture in 2012 to control the organic sector was trained through an important contribution of CIHEAM-Bari. In 2014, the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture asked the assistance of CIHEAM-Bari in the "intensive capacity building, including on the job coaching, for the organic technical team at the MoA on how to audit certification bodies", in the "review and finalization of the national organic strategy for organic

farming in Lebanon”, and in “setting up a system to track the import of organic products based on the Italian model”.

Focus on the relation with CIHEAM-Chania

In a period of 27 years CIHEAM-Chania has awarded 182 CIHEAM MSc degrees to Lebanese students, who have become very distinguished in their business and academic life.

Diploma Recognition

In November 2008, The Republic of Lebanon, through its Directorate General of Higher Education and Commission of Equivalencies, officially recognised CIHEAM’s MSc Degree as equivalent to the Master Degree awarded by Lebanese Universities.



FORMER STUDENTS FOCUS



Claude Challita is Coordinator at AVSI Foundation, a lecturer at the Lebanese University, and a consultant to FAO. He has a PhD from the Institut des Sciences et Industries du Vivant et de l'Environnement (Agro Paris Tech) (2006-2010). He studied in his work the valorization of the typical Lebanese agro-food products. His thesis was entitled: *Quelles valorisations des produits agro-alimentaires typiques libanais?* He was based during his PhD at CIHEAM-Montpellier.



Tala Awada is Interim Director and Professor at the School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She has a M.Sc. in Environment and Renewable Resources from CIHEAM-Chania (1995), and a PhD in Physiological Plant Ecology from the University of Saskatchewan (2000). She is interested in studying the responses of plants and ecosystems to environmental stresses and climate change. She has been working on determining the ecological impacts of woody species expansion into semi-arid grasslands and riparian areas in Nebraska, and has been collaborating with several researchers in Greece to determine the impacts of climate change on Mediterranean pine forests.



Elia Choueiri, is a former graduate from CIHEAM-Bari, where he obtained his MS in Plant Virology in 1992. He has a PhD in Plant Protection from Bari University in 1997. Since 1998, he is a researcher scientist in plant pathology/virology and head of Plant Protection Department at the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute in Lebanon (LARI). Throughout his career of 16 years at LARI, his work has focused on research and development projects that included the evaluation of the sanitary status of the major crops (potato, wheat, stone fruits, pome fruits, grapevine, citrus, etc) in Lebanon in reference to viral and phytoplasma diseases in collaboration with European Institutes and Universities. In addition, he served as a national coordinator and national expert for several projects dealing with plant diseases, certification aspects in collaboration with International Institutions principally with CIHEAM Bari. He wrote more than 100 publications in Referred Journals, International Conferences, chapters in Books, etc. As professional appointment, he is Professor of Plant virology, Phytopathology, certification and plant diseases diagnosis at the Faculties of Agriculture of the Lebanese University and Saint Joseph University (ESIAM).



Diane Klaimi is currently the Biodiversity and Ecosystems Programme Officer at the United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for West Asia based in Manama Bahrain, out posted from UNEP-DELCO. She holds a BSc in Agriculture, an MSc degree in Plant Protection (Phytopathology and

Entomology) from the American University of Beirut; and a Post-Graduate Specialization Degree in Land Use Planning and Rural Development from CIHEAM-Zaragoza. Klaimi has over 15 years experience in the fields of conservation management, sustainable agriculture, rural development, Organic Farming and urban marine ecosystem management; this vast exposure enhanced her knowledge in broader ecological setups and biodiversity. She worked with the public and private sectors as well as UN organizations in the Middle East region. Diane began her career as a researcher in Plant Protection at the Lebanese Agriculture Research Institute (LARI) affiliated with the Ministry of Agriculture in Lebanon; further acted as a forest officer, National Biosafety Focal Point for the CBD, National Focal Point for Montreal Protocol at the Ministry of Environment, and was affiliated with various UN organizations, UNU, FAO, IFAD, UNEP and MEAs. Diane later joined the corporate business sector and worked for a master marine developer as senior environmental manager aiming to reconcile development and conservation.



Salem Darwich is currently Research Professor at the Faculty of Agriculture in the Lebanese University. Agricultural engineer in Lebanon, his studies took place in two stages: the first, which covers two academic years 1995-1996 and 1996-1997, was dedicated cycle Master of Science of CIHEAM-Montpellier and the obtaining DEA (Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Montpellier). The second, covering the period 1998-2003, was devoted to the development of his doctoral thesis. The preparation of this thesis was conducted within the host laboratory CIHEAM-Montpellier, under the Mediterranean doctoral program managed by the Institute with seven Mediterranean universities on the theme "Globalization, Family and Agricultures Spaces rural ". His research topic was on the conversion of illicit crops and the role of rural development and family farming in Lebanon. Its curriculum research CIHEAM-Montpellier was supervised by Professor Pierre Campagne. Moreover, since 1997, he is actively involved and Lebanon as "Family Agricultures Compared" (RAFAC) Network, created by CIHEAM-Montpellier and currently has 36 researchers and academics from twelve Mediterranean countries working on issues of family agriculture and rural development. He has participated in several seminars on the above topics. Since 2005, he has worked in the project "emergence of rural areas in the Mediterranean Process" (FSP Maghreb-France-MSH), initiated by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the drafting of the book will be achieved by the end of 2010. He is also an expert with several international organizations: UNDP, European Union, World Labor Organization on issues related to local and rural agricultural development.

CIHEAM-Bari

Requalification of Employment and Diversification for Youth in the Mediterranean Fishery sector (Ready.Med.Fish)

The project aims at enhancing the professionalization of young fishery operators to boost the private entrepreneurship and at improving the normative framework of the Mediterranean fishery sector multi-functionality. The main constraints affecting the Mediterranean fishery sector are linked to catch reduction, the increase of operative costs and reduction of revenues. All these elements are contributing to the reduction of attractiveness of the sector for young people, leading to a migration towards other economic sectors. In this context the creation of a new set of professional profiles in the framework of fisheries multi-functionality will represent an opportunity to attract young operators, increase their income, support the development of coastal communities and guarantee the sustainability of the sector.

Nevertheless, the achievement of such objectives requires a specific effort to improve local governance and regional dialogue. For this reason, READY Med Fish will also focus its attention on the reform of the relevant legislation on fisheries and multi-functionality throughout the Mediterranean Sea basin.

Therefore, Ministries, Associations and International Organizations from Italy, Egypt, Lebanon and Tunisia, in a partnership led by Lega Pesca, will be working to develop and implement a program that will feature vocational training, legislative research and normative proposals.

www.readymedfish.eu/the-project

Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture



Technical Assistance services to the Ministry of Agriculture for the agriculture and rural development programme (ARDP Lebanon)

The ARDP aims to increase the overall performance of the agricultural sector in order to achieve sustainable food security and to improve the livelihood of rural and farming communities.

Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture



Support for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in the ENPI South Region (Clima South)

Support the transition of ENP South countries towards low carbon development and climate resilience, in a context of sustainable and democratic development, by enhancing regional cooperation, information sharing and capacity development on climate change mitigation and adaptation between the EU and its Mediterranean neighbors (EU-South) and among ENP partners (South-South).

www.climasouth.eu

*Lebanese Partner
Ministry of the Environment*

Enhancing Gender Mainstreaming in sustainable rural development and food security (GeMaiSa)

This project aims to build the necessary pre-conditions to enhance women participation and to promote their role within the cooperation programs in the main sectors related to food security and rural development. This goal is achieved through an interinstitutional public/private platform to protect and increase the role of women in the Mediterranean and Near East mostly in natural resources management and food security through institutional building. (2015-2016)

<http://www.iamb.it/news,452,452,1047,ge-mai-sa-enhancing-gender-mainstreaming-for-sustainable-rural-development-and-food-security-actions-bari-1-2-july-2015.htm>

*Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Social Affairs*

Middle East Research and Innovation Dialogue (MERID)

The MERID project seeks to boost existing collaboration frameworks between the EU and Middle East countries while creating new channels and forging new links, especially with countries that are newcomers to EU cooperation in Research and Innovation. MERID's ultimate goal is to employ Research and Innovation as channels for intercultural dialogue, understanding and reconciliation. (2015-2018)

<http://www.emuni.si/en/research-mobility/merid>

*Lebanese Partner
Conseil National de la Recherche Scientifique*

ACLIMAS

Adaptation to Climate Change of the Mediterranean Agricultural Systems (ACLIMAS)

Bring a durable improvement of the agricultural water management and a broader socio-economic development of target areas in the context of adaptation to climate change, increasing water scarcity, and desertification risks (2012-2014).

<http://www.aclimas.eu>

Lebanese Partners

***Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI)
Association of the Friends of Ibrahim Abdel Al (AFIAL)***



Olio Libano

Support the olive growers in increasing the quantity and improving the quality of olives and olive oil, and to reduce their production cost; to provide solutions to the environmental problems caused by the olive oil mills by-products; to empower youth and women and to strengthen the existing agricultural cooperatives; to assist in Marketing and Promotion of the olive oil industry products and by-products (2008-2011).

<http://www.oliolibano.net/>

Lebanese Partners

***Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)
Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI)***



Improving national assessment and monitoring capacities for integrated environmental and coastal ecosystem management (INCAM)

Increase Lebanon capacity in important environmental concerns based on a regional approach that assess the anthropological impacts on natural resources. Develop an action plan to strengthen institutional capacities of the Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS) and convert it into a national and regional research center of excellence (2010-2012).

http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?artid=29918

Lebanese Partner

Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)



Mediterranean Dialogue on Integrated Water Management (MELIA)

Structuring a dialogue among the key stakeholders concerned and affected by water use and management, such as scientists, professionals, decision makers, policy makers, water providers, media professionals, educators and citizens. The achievement of this dialog and the dissemination and exploitations of the recommendations obtained creates real added value at the European and Mediterranean scale (2006-2010).

<http://www.meliaproject.eu>

Lebanese Partners

Lebanese Agriculture Research Institute (LARI)

Litani River Authority



Mediterranean Innovation and Research Coordination Action (MIRA)

Develop and support the dialogue between EU-MPCs by bringing together policymakers and stakeholders from each MPC and EU Member States; create a dialogue and action platform to identify common interest in research areas, set up S&T priorities, support capacity building activities and enhance the interaction between different cooperation instruments of the EC; promote actions in order to monitor, develop and contribute to creating synergies among the various S&T cooperation programmes between MPCs/EU and foster the participation of the MPCs in the framework Programmes (2008-2011). This project was valorized by a 2013 Options Méditerranéennes publication.

<http://www.miraproject.eu/project-mira>

Lebanese Partners

Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)

Litani River Authority



Strengthening the European Research Area in the Mediterranean Countries (ERAMED)

Ensure continuity between FP6 and FP7 by further integrating the research potential of the Mediterranean Region (2006-2008).

<http://www.eramed.gr/opencms/opencms/eramed/index.jsp>

Lebanese Partner

Arab Open University



ECOLOGICAL use of native PLANTS for environmental restoration and sustainable development in the MEDITERRANEAN region (ECOPLANTMED)

Improve the management capacity of local actors in order to promote the conservation, enhancement and sustainable use of Mediterranean native plants for habitat restoration and for the development of new economic sectors (2014-2015).

<http://lnx.ondeweb.net/ccb2/index.php?artID=1435>

*Lebanese Partner
Saint Joseph University*



QESAMED

QESAMED (2014-2016)

This Tempus project aims to implement or enhance education in quality management and metrology by developing quality procedures on training and transfer processes.

Its objectives are to bring together universities and companies, to strengthen the capacities of higher education institutions by improving their training curriculum and to improve the networking of higher education and agricultural research institutes between the Southern Mediterranean partners and EU Member States.

http://www.iamm.fr/recherche_cooperation/projets/QESAMED

*Lebanese partners
Lebanese University (Beirut)
University of St Esprit of Kaslik (Jounieh)*

ENPARD South Support Project (2012-2017)

Launched in 2012 by the European Union, the European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development (ENPARD) is a policy initiative to strengthen the partnership between the European Union and EU Neighbourhood countries in the field of agriculture and rural policies, recognising the major contribution these areas can make to countries' development and stability. With ENPARD, the European Commission aims to support partner countries in defining and implementing their public policies to better address food insecurity, diversify rural economies and improve the global governance of the agricultural and rural sectors. Capitalizing on the EU's 50-year experience, the ENPARD initiative is a partnership offer based on a voluntary participation and a flexible and demand-driven approach, built on three operational principles: stakeholder participation, inclusive approach to development and responding to local specificities.

When ENPARD was launched, the European Commission contracted CIHEAM-IAMM to support the implementation of this initiative in the EU Southern Neighbourhood. The first phase ended in December 2014 with three main results: (i) the initiative is known and has demonstrated its relevance, (ii) target countries have shown a real interest in exchanging experiences with the EU and amongst themselves, (i) new ENPARD bilateral support programmes have been formulated, funded by the EU but also by other donors, built on the ENPARD principles.

The second phase (2015-2017) will involve Southern Neighbourhood countries wishing to join the initiative. Balkan countries and Turkey will also be involved in a more punctual manner.

Partners
South Neighbourhood countries

CIHEAM-Bari



Mediterranean Organic Agriculture Network (MOAN)

MOAN is an institutional Network created in 2006 (first, it was launched in 1999 by involving experts) that plans to gather the Ministries of Agriculture of 24 Euro-Mediterranean countries. MOAN is a tool for decision makers to exchange information and good practices related to organic agriculture, to share common strategies for its further development in the Mediterranean area and to valorise its potential and identity in the global debate.

<http://moan.iamb.it/>

*Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture*



Feeding Knowledge

Developed by CIHEAM-Bari and Politecnico di Milano, Feeding Knowledge is the Expo 2015 Program for cooperation on research and innovation on Food Security. It will contribute to building up the Legacy of Expo, whose claim is: "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". The main purposes are the creation of a Mediterranean network focused on research, innovation and transfer of knowledge for Food Security (i), the implementation of a collaborative online environment based on an International Technology Platform (ii), the identification of 12 national local points in order to strengthen National Extension Services in gathering needs related to the transfer of knowledge to stakeholders and farmers (iii), the identification and enhancement of the Best Sustainable Development Practices for Food Security in the frame of Expo Milano 2015 (iv) and the support for policy makers in the elaboration of programmes and policies (v).

www.feedingknowledge.net

*Lebanese Partner
Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)*



Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research & Innovation Gateway (MEDSPRING)

The Mediterranean Science, Policy, Research & Innovation Gateway is a coordination and support action (FP7). The project is focused on three societal challenges (Energy, High Quality Affordable Food, and Scarcity of resources) and aims at tackling policy objectives by creating a dialogue and coordination platform of governmental institutions, research organisations, associations and civil society (2013-2016).

<http://www.medspring.eu/>

*Lebanese Partner
Lebanese Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)*



Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation through Eranet Joint Activities and Beyond (ERANETMED)

The main aim of the project is to enhance Euro-Mediterranean co-ownership through innovation and competitive research in the societal challenges of the region. The project aims at reducing fragmentation of programming in the Mediterranean region by increasing coordination among national research programmes of European Member States, Associated Countries and Mediterranean Partner Countries. The ERANETMED will consider a broad area for research, addressing not only the most important societal challenges of the region but also actions to enhance innovation through applied research, capacity building, mobility and clustering. Its action will result in concrete co-operation between research programmes, such as networking, definition of strategic scientific activities, research structuring for long-lasting and stable cooperation beyond ERANET (2013-2017).

<http://www.ernetmed.eu/>

*Lebanese Partner
Lebanese Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)*



Mediterranean Network of sustainable small-scale fishing communities (FISHINMED)

Establishment of a Mediterranean network (Euro-Mediterranean observatory) gathering public and private institutions with a view to defining common strategies for the social and economic development of small fishing communities and set up of a local technical support system aimed at diversifying economic activities and increasing the income of the operators involved (2011-2014).

<http://www.fishinmed.eu/author/admin>

*Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture*



Enhancing Horticultural Perishable Products Circulation among the Mediterranean territories (E.H.P.P.C.-Med)

The project contributes to improving conditions and modalities of agricultural good circulation and enhancing dialogue among the Mediterranean territories. It is done by enhancing technical and administrative procedures and operation for Horticultural and Perishable Products (HPPs) circulation between Lebanon, Jordan and Italy through the adoption of harmonized and shared procedures and implementing an innovative ICT tool (Trade Facilitation e-platform).

<http://www.porto.livorno.it/it-it/homepage/progettistrategieinnovazione/progettiindustrialiediinnovazione/filiereindustriali/ehppcmed.aspx>

Lebanese Partners
Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut and Mount Lebanon
Ministry of Agriculture
Lebanese Customs Administration



Mainstreaming Gender Dimensions into Water Resources Development and Management in the Mediterranean Region (GEWAMED)

The project is a coordinated action and this means it emphasizes networking and co-ordination of ongoing research activities. A total of 18 institutions from 14 countries from the Mediterranean Region participate in the project (2006-2010)

<http://www.gewamed.net/index.php>

Lebanese Partner
René Moawad Foundation

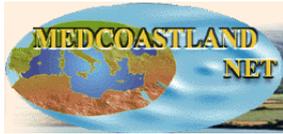


Network on Governance, Science and Technology for Sustainable Water Resource Management in the Mediterranean. The role of DSS tools

Contribute to the achievement of improved governance and planning in the field of sustainable water management (2004-2007).

<http://www.feem-web.it/nostrum>

Lebanese Partner
Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)



Mediterranean Co-ordinator of Land Conservation Management to Combat Land Degradation for the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Coastal Zones (2002-2007).

*Lebanese Partners
Lebanese National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)
Agricultural Cooperative Association of Jiye*



Developing cooperation in the Mediterranean fishery sector; labour market, producers' organizations, consumers' organizations and training (PESCAMED)

Development of the fisheries sector in the Mediterranean countries by reconciling ecological and socio-economic needs (2008-2010).

*Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture*

CIHEAM-Chania



Cooperative Network on olive oil authentication

Enhance the dissemination of the prospects of innovative technologies and fill the gap between research and service development. Cooperation in know-how transfer to all Mediterranean countries will promote its use and lead to acceptance by regional stakeholders and industry (2014-).

http://www.maich.gr/en/education/horticultural_genetics_and_biotechnology/networks

*Lebanese Partners
Lebanese University
American University of Science and Technology*



Promoting Mediterranean Dairy Products (LACTIMED)

Foster the production and distribution of typical and innovative dairy products in the Mediterranean by organising local value chains, supporting producers in their development projects and creating new markets for their products (2012-2015).

<http://www.lactimed.eu>

*Lebanese partners
Ministry of Agriculture*

Chambre de commerce, d'industrie et d'agriculture de Zahlé et la Bekaa



Mediterranean Agricultural Markets Information Network (MED-AMIN)

MED-Amin, launched in 2014, aims at fostering cooperation and experience sharing among the national information systems on agricultural markets. It is dedicated to grain (wheat, corn, barley, and rice), that are strategic for food security in the Mediterranean countries. This network, involving the 13 Member Countries of CIHEAM, operates in relation with the secretariat of the multilateral initiative AMIS (Agricultural Market Information System) located at FAO, and with the European Commission services. Italy has organized the 3rd meeting of the Network in Rome in October 2015.

*Lebanese partner
Ministry of Agriculture*

Small-scale agriculture and Family farming

A partnership between CIRAD and CIHEAM-Montpellier is performing a study on small-scale agriculture and family farming ordered by the FAO Regional office in Cairo. This study focuses on five countries in the Middle East / North Africa Region: Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon and Mauritania. The results of the study are expected in the fall of 2015 and will include policy recommendations in favor of consolidation of small-scale farming in the concerned countries. A regional workshop gathering all MENA countries is planned by FAO Regional office in December 2015 in Cairo to discuss the study's results and follow-up.



FAO/CIHEAM Network on sheep and goats

To study and improve the sheep and goat production systems in the Mediterranean Region. In 1996, the collaboration between the three entities (FAO-REU, FAO-RNE and CIHEAM) became official upon the signature of an agreement to create a joint Network. The 14th International Seminar of the FAO-CIHEAM Sub-Network on Sheep and Goat Nutrition was held in Tunisia, 15 – 18 May 2012

http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/en/pages/paginas/pag_investigacion3.htm

*Lebanese Partners
Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK)
Lebanese Agriculture Research Institute*



Drought management network for the Middle East, Mediterranean Region and Central Asia (NEMEDCA)

A drought management network whose main purpose is to promote cooperation in this field between countries in the Middle Eastern, Mediterranean and Central Asian regions (2001-2011).

http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/fr/pages/paginas/pag_investigacion4a.htm

*Lebanese Partner
American University of Beirut*



Network on Legumes and Cereals

Exchange of information and research results on quality, adaptation, cropping, and environmental issues of these crops of fundamental importance in the Mediterranean; breeding for quality criteria and adaptation to Mediterranean-climate conditions, grain legumes and cereals; study and improve the water and nitrate use efficiency of cereal crops in Mediterranean conditions; evaluate and adapt to the Mediterranean conditions technologies such as non tillage developed in other geographical areas (2001-2010).

http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/fr/pages/paginas/pag_investigacion2d.htm

*Lebanese Partner
Ministry of Agriculture*



SAfe MEditerranean FOOD Network

It is an initiative promoted since 2013 by the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza with the following general objectives: To strengthen scientific cooperation for food safety in the Mediterranean Basin (focusing especially on North-South and South-South cooperation), to promote a scientifically-based risk approach in food safety risk assessment and communication in the Mediterranean countries. The kick-off Seminar of SAMEFOOD was organized by CIHEAM-Zaragoza the 10 and 11 June 2014, entitled "Food Safety Challenges for Mediterranean Products".
<http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/samefood/>

Lebanese Partner
Saint-Joseph University, American University of Beirut



Coordinating Research in Support to Application of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries and Management Advice in the Mediterranean and Black Seas (CREAM)

Identify the gaps (in terms of data, knowledge, training, coordination) which hamper at present the full application of the Ecosystem Approach in the management of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries; training and capacity building to help harmonize data collection and methodologies used in fisheries assessment and management in the Mediterranean and Black Sea. Establish the guidelines for the applications of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea, both in EU member states and third countries (2011-2014).

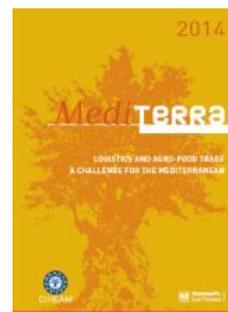
<http://www.cream-fp7.eu>

Lebanese Partner
American University of Beirut (AUB)

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Press Review

Frequent articles on Lebanon published in the CIHEAM Press Review System.

<http://www.scoop.it/t/ciheam-press-review>



This activity report is intended to synthetically present the main actions currently or recently conducted by CIHEAM with the Lebanese authorities and national partners for training , research and cooperation .

This report is prepared annually and published every January on the website of CIHEAM . It is produced and edited within the General Secretariat based on information provided by the CIHEAM Institutes and capitalizing the institutional current events between the Organization and the country.

The contents of this report commits only CIHEAM.

Requests and information: segirate@ciheam.org



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