Are you a CIHEAM student or graduate under 40?

Have you developed an innovative and disruptive project?

Does your project contribute to more sustainable, inclusive and equitable agri-food systems in the Mediterranean?

If so, apply for the CIHEAM YOUTH INNOVATION AWARD!
CALL FOR PARTICIPATION (2022)

Why does the CIHEAM reward Youth Innovation?

Ensuring food and nutritional security in a context of climate change, scarcity of resources and socio-economic crises is one of the major challenges for Mediterranean societies. Although it is often connected to production, innovation in agri-food systems can also cover societal issues that are at least as important. Changes in consumption patterns, social practices like multi-stakeholder dialogue and co-construction of projects, digitization of knowledge sharing are also indeed conducive to innovative practices and solutions to overcome challenges in Mediterranean Agri-food systems.

If the CIHEAM has rewarded (and will continue to do so) the quality of the scientific works of its young researchers, it is time to recognize and award today the innovative, disruptive and audacious nature of a project designed and led by a CIHEAM student or a former student, and contributing to more sustainable, inclusive and equitable Mediterranean food systems.

In 2022, the CIHEAM celebrates its 60th anniversary with the aim of projecting the organization into the Mediterranean of tomorrow, responding to new emerging challenges and mobilizing young people. This special year is the ideal time to inaugurate this award for innovations carried out by young people and give it greater visibility.

The CIHEAM Strategic Agenda (CAPMED 2025)

In line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs), the Member States of the CIHEAM have adopted the CIHEAM Action Plan for the Mediterranean (CAPMED 2025) that identifies the missions of the Organisation revolving around the 4 domains represented below in this figure

![Diagram of the CIHEAM Strategic Agenda (CAPMED 2025)]

Each of the 4 pillars is a component of Sustainable Food Systems. This framework constitutes the grid for selecting initiatives for the CIHEAM Youth Innovation Award.
Criteria

The CIHEAM Youth Innovation Award will recompense an initiative contributing to more sustainable, equitable and inclusive food systems, falling within the CAPMED themes, including innovations in the production and in food security, innovations in the implementation of sustainable practices or innovations contributing to the empowerment of local communities. Equal opportunity and the promotion of diversity are core values of CIHEAM. As such, it encourages, both young women and men to participate.

Criteria to apply

- Be a CIHEAM student or graduate
- Be under 40 years
- To be eligible, projects need to be already implemented in a relevant environment and have demonstrated results, at least on a pilot basis
- Application file must be completed in all its parts

Selection Criteria

The Award will recompense a professional, associative or R&D project implemented in the Mediterranean region covering the following criteria:

1. Innovative and disruptive project with regard to the existing context and falling within the CAPMED themes (VETO CRITERIA)
2. Quantitative and qualitative impact of the innovation
3. Sustainability of the project
4. Potentiality of the project (scale-up, replication…)
5. Overall coherence of the project

The Award

The CIHEAM’s Youth Innovation Award will be both material and promotional. The winner will be awarded 5 000 € and receive a CIHEAM Medal and Diploma. The winning project will also be promoted in the different platforms of communications of the CIHEAM and in the events and meetings organized by the CIHEAM.

IMPORTANT: The reward paid is intended to support the current project (with a posteriori control)

Agenda

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<td>29 JULY 2022</td>
<td>OPENING OF THE CALL</td>
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<td>15 SEPTEMBER 2022</td>
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<td>4-7 DECEMBER 2022</td>
<td>WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT DURING THE MEDFORUM 2022 (CIHEAM CHANIA)</td>
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For any queries, please contact secretariat@ciheam.org

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