At the service of the Mediterranean
Established in 1962, the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) is an intergovernmental organization composed of 13 Member States (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Tunisia, Turkey, and Spain).

The Centre brings together 4 Mediterranean Agricultural Institutes: CIHEAM Bari (Italy), CIHEAM Chania (Greece), CIHEAM Montpellier (France), CIHEAM Zaragoza (Spain), and a General Secretariat, headquarter of the organization, based in Paris (France).

The CIHEAM has a long history of multilateral and regional cooperation and offers education and training, research, technical assistance, and capacity building. It works with public administrations, universities and research centers, cooperation and development organizations, local authorities, civil society actors and companies to meet the needs of Mediterranean populations and territories.

It is a unique space for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and development in the Mediterranean.
OUR HISTORY IN A FEW DATES

1958
OECD recommends the creation of an International Post-Graduate Training Centre for Mediterranean Agriculture

1962
Creation of the CIHEAM Institutes of Bari and Montpellier

1969
Creation of the CIHEAM Institute of Zaragoza

22 MAY 1962
Creation of the CIHEAM

1963-65
France, Greece, Italy and Spain ratify the founding treaty

1985
CIHEAM widens to the south with the accession of Tunisia

1986-89
Ratification of Egypt, Algeria and Malta. Creation of the CIHEAM Institute of Chania

1990
Ratification of Morocco

1992-94
Ratification of Albania and Lebanon

2022
Ratification of Morocco

1967
Ratification of Portugal, Turkey and Yugoslavia
Originally centered on the training of senior executives from Mediterranean countries, the CIHEAM quickly became a pioneer in the mobility of students and young researchers. A unique space that combines science and diplomacy, the CIHEAM has made the circulation of knowledge and skills a force at the service of the region's agri-food systems. This ambition was made possible thanks to the French Louis Malassis, who set up innovative teaching by installing, more than 40 years ago, the international system of Masters in the Institutes.

From the vision of two pioneers ...

The Spanish agronomist and diplomat, Ramón Esteruelas, for his part, saw in the Mediterranean not only a common civilization but also an area of cooperation with great potential. This vision was reinforced by the Italian Carlo Scarascia Mugnozza, former Commissioner for Agriculture of the European Union, who worked on an enlargement to the neighbors of the southern and eastern shores to respond to the Mediterranean challenges and bring out collective ambitions.

... to the construction of a unique space

This vision, carried by avant-garde figures and consolidated by the commitment of many others, has made it possible, since the 1960s, to provide a basis for Mediterranean political dialogue and to make the food issue a priority in co-development.
THE CIHEAM IN FIGURES

- Ongoing projects in 2022: 400
- People trained over the last 20 years: 35,000
- Cooperation agreements signed by the General Secretariat: +100
- Present in countries: +100
OUR AREAS OF ACTION

The CIHEAM Action Plan for the Mediterranean CAPMED aims to contribute to the 2030 Agenda and has the following objectives:

- Fighting against the waste of food, know-how, knowledge, and natural resources
- Strengthening food and nutritional security, sustainability of Mediterranean agriculture, and food systems
- Sustaining inclusive development and investments for the most fragile populations and regions
- Preventing and managing risks for better resilience
WHERE DO OUR MISSIONS TAKE PLACE?

In the 13 member states and nearly 100 other countries from Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe
WHAT ARE OUR TOOLS?

Training of Human Capital

The CIHEAM Institutes welcome students and professionals from all over the world. Several Master Programs and Short Specialized Courses are designed by our academic staff and thanks to inter-academic cooperation.

Research

With 2,200 m² of accredited laboratories and over 600 partners, the CIHEAM contributes to strengthening the links between research and cooperation, between the production of knowledge and the needs of the territories.
Technical assistance and community building

Our international experts offer technical support for the development of projects in the most fragile territories. By doing so, the CIHEAM enhances processes of capacity-building in farming and fishing communities.

Knowledge production and sharing

The CIHEAM contributes to the debate of ideas by producing knowledge and scientific and technical analyses. It aims to share the keys to understanding the Mediterranean and agri-food issues. All publications are available free of charge online.
Political dialogue, partnerships and scientific diplomacy

In 60 years, CIHEAM has succeeded in creating and maintaining a climate of trust and regional dialogue in order to construct solutions to the region's food and agricultural challenges. This ability to bring together decision-makers and create conditions conducive to development is demonstrated by the regular holding of meetings with the ministers of its member states and in the presence of partners such as the Council of Europe or the OECD. Moreover, several strategic partnerships have been developed: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Union for the Mediterranean, International Olive Oil Council, European Forest Institute, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development...
HOW DOES THE CIHEAM WORK?

The Governing Board
CIHEAM's governing body, it gathers twice a year the 13 member states to adopt the budget and strategic orientations

The Advisory Board
It brings together Mediterranean personalities from research and higher education to support the CIHEAM in its activities

The Institutes
They teach and carry out cooperation and research activities on the ground

These bodies are assisted by the General Secretariat, based in Paris.
FOCUS ON THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

- It develops CIHEAM's external relations and institutional partnerships.
- It manages the coordination of training, research, and cooperation activities amongst the Institutes.
- It carries out publication and communication activities.
- It promotes and coordinates activities on priority themes.
OUR THEMATIC PRIORITIES (2015-25)

1. Strengthening the role and place of young people in Mediterranean food and agricultural systems

2. Integrating the gender dimension and women's empowerment issues in all CIHEAM activities
3. Supporting more sustainable food systems

4. Contributing to a more sustainable management of coastal areas and fisheries
FOCUS ON OUR INSTITUTES
CIHEAM Bari is active in more than 20 Countries in the Mediterranean, Africa and Asia in the fields of sustainable agriculture, fisheries and food systems and of territorial, coastal and rural community development.
Areas of expertise

- Sustainable Management of Natural Resources
- Development of Sustainable Food Systems (Mediterranean diet) and Resilient Agrobiological Ecosystems
- Climate Change, Food Security and Precision Agriculture
- Blue Economy and Coastal Areas Management
- Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystems
- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
OUR STUDENTS TALK ABOUT CIHEAM

"This unconventional and unique Master at CIHEAM Bari broadened my vision on entrepreneurship by adapting Agile, Change Management, Design Thinking, and Business Model concepts, with multiple challenges. This experience in CIHEAM Bari is helping to better shape my career and give back to my community."

Malek Ghanem - Student, MSc in Open Innovation and Youth Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean Agrifood Sector

"CIHEAM has allowed me to build my career and to reach positions of responsibility in the water sector."

Roula Khadra - Former student, Senior Researcher, and International Officer at CIHEAM Bari & Member of Arab Water Council Board of Governors (AWC)
HUMAN CAPITAL

250
FACULTY MEMBERS

PROJECTS in 2022

35
IN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

PARTNERSHIPS

600
with
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES, PRIVATE & PUBLIC SECTOR, EU PROJECTS, RESEARCH CENTERS, NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

PhD SCHOLARSHIPS

350
IN WORLD RENOWNED UNIVERSITIES
Areas of expertise

- Business Economics and Management
- Food Quality and Chemistry of Natural Products
- Geoinformation in Environmental Management
- Horticultural Genetics and Biotechnology
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Mediterranean Plant Conservation
- International Conference Center "Albert Simantov"
Farah Gasmi (Tunisia) - Student in MSc in Geoinformation and Environmental Management

"I'm very grateful to CIHEAM Chania for giving me the opportunity to approach a new stage in my life with confidence and dynamism."

Giorgos Manthoulis (Greece) - Former student Analyst - European Central Bank

"CIHEAM Chania gave me the unique opportunity to work with renowned professors from all over the world who have excelled in their fields. The courses equipped me with skills that were extremely useful in my next career steps. Moreover, the multicultural environment of CIHEAM Chania allowed me to collaborate with a wide variety of students and to leave the Institute with a large network of friends throughout the Mediterranean."
HUMAN CAPITAL

1,000

PEOPLE TRAINED PER YEAR

PARTNERSHIPS

140

THROUGH RESEARCH PROJECTS AND COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

PROJECTS in 2022

20

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION with

70

COUNTRIES
Areas of expertise

- Resilience of Mediterranean agro-ecosystems
- Integration of local agri-food sectors into value chains
- Governance for attractive rural and coastal areas
"As a foreign student, the French intensive lessons are the best thing I encountered when I arrived. There was a multicultural community: Greek, Spanish, from Burkina Faso, etc. When I graduated, I worked at the Albanian Ministry, in the Directorate of Rural Development, and then for the European University of Tirana. The network created during my studies in Montpellier allowed me to find jobs in the sector for which I had worked so hard."

Elena Kokhti (Albania) - Former student, Associated Professor at Agricultural University of Tirana

Khalid Belarbi (Morocco) - Former student, Director of IRC-Supagro Montpellier (Institut des Régions Chaudes)

"The support provided by the teachers and the tailored training is the trademark of the CIHEAM Montpellier. This Institute counted in my career as it allowed me to build my network, take a step back from my engineering education, to work in a different way. I spent marvelous years, in a great atmosphere: cooking really brought the students together, as did parties, field trips, and internships."
HUMAN CAPITAL

400

PEOPLE TRAINED PER YEAR

RESEARCH

+30

PROJECTS IN THE PAST TEN YEARS

PARTNERSHIPS

60

with

UNIVERSITIES, RESEARCH CENTERS, COMPANIES, NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

600

EXPERTS GATHERED AT THE AULA DEI CAMPUS
Areas of expertise

- Plant Production, Health and Breeding
- Animal Production and Welfare
- Environment and Natural Resources
- Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Marketing and Agro-Food Systems
"The Master was a great opportunity for me to develop, on both educational and human levels. The program tackles all aspects and challenges related to animal nutrition and provides all the necessary foundations to start a promising career as an animal nutritionist through lectures and practicals given by world-renowned scientists. Today I feel ready to start my career and be part of the actors in the field of sustainable animal nutrition. Not to forget the rich multicultural setting that enabled me to make new friends and colleagues from different backgrounds and cultures. A highly recommended program for those passionate about animal production."

Marc Saad (Lebanon) - MSc Student in Animal Nutrition

"My studies gave me strong skills in the plant breeding related fields. The Master gave me the opportunity to learn and master a new language, to explore a new country and to meet new people and learn about their culture and traditions. I enjoyed studying in a friendly and professional environment that taught me perseverance, punctuality and how I can aspire to be among the best. It broadened my mind and opened new opportunities for my career."

Khaoula Bedis (Tunisia) - Former student, Manager of the plant tissue culture laboratory at Agromillora Méditerranée in Tunisia
Thanks to the precious collaboration of our partners, we build the food systems of tomorrow!