

SUSTAINMED- Sustainable agri-food systems and rural development in the Mediterranean Partner Countries

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The overall objective of the SUSTAINMED project is to examine and assess the impacts of EU and national agricultural, rural, environmental and trade policies in the Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs). Specific impacts include socio-economic structural changes, income distribution, resource management, trade liberalization, poverty alleviation, employment and migrations trends, as well as commercial relations with major trade partners (in particular the EU) and competitiveness in international markets.

The project will integrate a wide range of complementary methods and analytical tools including quantitative modelling, structured surveying, indicator building and qualitative data analysis, in order to provide (i) orders of magnitude of the impact in MPCs related to changes in important policy parameters, and (ii) qualitative insights into processes which will be important for the future welfare of MPCs but which cannot be fully captured by quantitative indicators. The project results will enable the EU Commission and relevant stakeholders to formulate realistic policies and action plans aimed at supporting sustainable agri-food systems, rural development programmes and capacity building in the Mediterranean region.

The project outcomes will also contribute to improve collaboration and economic and commercial relations between the EU and target MPCs, in line with the stated goals of the Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean. Furthermore, the project will provide relevant research to support the promotion of sustainable development to fulfilling the EU's commitment towards the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in the region. The project consortium brings together during three years recognized researchers from six EU Member countries, one Associate country and five Mediterranean Partner countries, with a strong scientific background and experience in Mediterranean policy, market and institutional analysis.

Coordinator

**CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DES HAUTES ETUDES AGRONOMIQUES
MEDITERRANEENNES INSTITUT AGRONOMIQUE MEDITERRANEEN DE
MONTPELLIER (France)**

Other participants

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MEDITERRANEAN AGRONOMIC INSTITUTE OF CHANIA (Greece)

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRARIAN REFORM (Syria)

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Project cost 2.64 million euro

Project Funding 2 million euro

Subprogramme Area Policy and institutional aspects of sustainable agriculture, forestry and rural development in the Mediterranean partner countries

Contract type Small/medium-scale focused research project for specific cooperation actions dedicated to international cooperation partner countries