



Improving the Environmental Sustainability of Irrigated Agricultural Production in Lebanon and Jordan

ENSIAP

Priority 2 Promotion of environmental sustainability at the basin level

Measure 2.1 Prevention and reduction of risk factors for the environment and enhancement of natural common heritage

www.enpicbcmed.eu



Programme
funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

Project in brief

Both in Lebanon and Jordan the increase in the domestic and industrial water demands has led to a significant reduction of water available for irrigation purposes. This is a key issue for such countries in which agriculture accounts for 80% of the water use although it is not the sole problem: the aquifers are overexploited, the use of environmental-friendly irrigation methods is still limited and the water and soils are being polluted through inappropriate production methods with regard to fertilization and plant protection practices.

Considering the need to strengthen policies at national and regional level, the **ENSIAP** project will implement a series of activities as a contribution to the reduction of the negative environmental impact of irrigated agriculture on natural resources and climate change. In particular, the project will use an approach on three levels: at on-farm level, through introduction of innovative and resource conserving agricultural practices including the use of renewable energy sources (RES) supported by training activities; at institutional level, through capacity building in best agricultural practices and support to institutional networking on a regional basis with special focus on use of RES in irrigated agriculture; at civil society level, through public awareness raising activities on water and environmental issues, including the appropriate use of RES.

Beneficiary

Institute for University Cooperation - ICU (Italy, Lazio)

Partnership

1. National Centre for Agricultural Research and Extension - NCARE (Jordan, Al-Balqa)
2. Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving - CRES (Greece, Attiki)
3. Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture - MoA (Lebanon)

Specific objective

Contribution to reduction of the negative environmental impact of irrigated agriculture on water resources and climate change in Lebanon and Jordan, through increased water-use efficiency, introduction of environmental-friendly production methods and diffusion of the use of RES

Target groups

- 960 farmers in Jordan and Lebanon
- 96 staff of the involved institutions

Expected results

- Reduced environmental impact of irrigated agriculture on the ground and surface water resources and reduced pollution levels for agricultural fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides in groundwater and soils in the target areas
- Enhanced environmental sustainability of irrigated agriculture through the introduction of water-use efficient irrigation systems, Best Agricultural Practices and the use of renewable energy sources
- Institutional capacities reinforced with regard to the use of an integrated approach in irrigated agriculture (water, fertilization, pest management) and an approach utilizing RES within the Lebanese and Jordanian partner institutions
- Improved technical know-how of farmers with regard to integrated agricultural resources management and production methods including the use of renewable energies through training
- Strengthened regional and international cooperation between Jordan, Lebanon and Mediterranean countries on water, use of RES in agriculture, and environmental issues related to agriculture
- Enhanced public awareness with regard to water and environmental issues and the use of renewable energies in Lebanon and Jordan

Final beneficiaries

- Rural population of the target areas
- Staff of the involved ministries

Duration

36 months

Budget

- Total budget: € 1.997.743
- Programme contribution: € 1.797.743 (90%)
- Project co-financing: € 200.000 (10%)

Contact Person

Mr. Andrea Vigevani, Secretary General,
Istituto per la Cooperazione Universitaria - Onlus (ICU)
andrea.vigevani@icu.it / +39 06.93.93.83.67