



NEW EU-MED AGROFOOD SYSTEMS: THE ALL-ORGANIC CHALLENGE TO PROMOTE RESILIENT FOOD PRODUCTION THROUGH DIVERSIFICATION

***Just started the international project to promote diversified and robust organic productions systems
by a network of agroecology living labs***

The ALL-Organic research project, coordinated by CREA, the main Italian research institution on agriculture and food, wants to promote a functional network of experiences, models, and systems able to support the development of diversified organic food systems, with the aim of implementing robust and resilient organic crop productions, by involving food system actors from field to fork.

“The pandemic and the geo-political crisis we are experiencing, are threatening the EU specialised and intensive food systems. Our research project, promoting agricultural diversification of and relying on a web of Agroecology Living Laboratories (ALLs) where organic farming - locally-based - system redesigns initiatives implemented through trans-disciplinary and multi-actor activities, will contribute to enhance independence and autonomy of food production” says Stefano Canali, Research manager at CREA and Coordinator of ALL-Organic.

Seven partners - CREA (Italy), IUNG-PIB (Poland), ARAD (Romania), EULS (Estonia), ENSA (Algeria), INRAA (Algeria), FIRAB (Italy) - from 5 CORE Organic Countries of Europe and North Africa will join their efforts to test the hypotheses that the implementation of co-designed, locally developed and adapted **spatially, temporally and genetically diversified organic cropping and farming systems**, is an effective strategy to exploit (bio)diversity functions. This strategy is deemed instrumental to reduce the impact of pests and diseases, mitigating the dependency from off-farm plant protection product, to efficiently use on-farm resources and by-products, reducing wastes and nutrient losses, and to mitigate the impact of climate change, guaranteeing the stability of yields.

The original approach of this project is centred on **agroecosystem living labs, based on the involvement of multiple actors (such as farmers, value-chain operators, consumers, local administrations) to co-create, explore and evaluate the innovations together, in a real-life condition.**

Through the **active involvement of farmers, researchers and other interested partners in the co-design, implementation and evaluation of new and existing agricultural practices and technologies**, the living lab community will identify and address barriers to adoption of practices and technologies more effectively, processing a greater range of data and information. This approach makes easier capturing data and information on multiple dynamics at play in **real agricultural contexts**, validating practices and technologies during the performance of research and development, and ultimately accelerating their adoption.

Project partners

CREA - Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (Italy)
 ARAD - Asociația Română pentru Agricultură Durabilă (Romania)
 ENSA - École Nationale Supérieure Agronomique (Algeria)
 INRAA - National Institute of Agronomic Research of Algeria (Algeria)
 EULS - Estonian University of Life Sciences (Estonia)
 FIRAB - Italian Foundation for Research in Organic and Biodynamic Agriculture (Italy)
 IUNG-PIB - Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation (Poland)

Additional information is available on the [ALL-Organic project website](#)

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