



Third Brokerage event to foster innovation in the Agroforestry field on Multifunctional Olive Systems (Activity 4.1.1)



ACTIVITY COORDINATED BY THE LEBANESE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (LARI)

The third B2B event on Multifunctional Olive Systems (LL1) was organized by the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI) with the support of the Regional Forest Agency for Land and Environment of Sardinia (FoReSTAS) at Hilton Beirut Habtoor Grand on February 16th, 2023.

The objectives of this B2B event were:

- Connecting innovators with stakeholders in the olive sector to work on solutions for their problems;
- Matching demands/requests for innovations;
- Releasing and disseminating of a catalogue of available innovations;
- Introducing innovations in the olive, olive oil and agroforestry sectors to producers, cooperatives, agricultural enterprises, company representatives, millers, and other interested stakeholders;



- Laying the foundations for future innovation projects by providing an opportunity for businesses, associations, research institutions, policy makers and other professionals in agriculture and food production to meet;
- Allowing the establishment of new contacts and the sharing of information on innovative ideas, machinery, techniques and services.

At the beginning of the event, Dr. Milad El Riachy, the national coordinator of the LIVINGAGRO project, delivered the welcoming speech on behalf of the PDG of LARI Dr. Michel Afram. In his turn, Dr. Peter Moubarak, the national project manager, presented the achievements of the project during the last three years. Then Dr. Antonio Casula, the Director General of FoReSTAS, welcomed the participants to the event; while Dr. Maurizio Mallocci, the project coordinator, presented an overview about FoReSTAS' ongoing efforts for cross-border cooperation with Mediterranean partner countries through several European funded projects. Then, the project manager Dr. Sara Maltoni, underlined the fruitful cooperation among the countries and focused on the importance of agroforestry; and, invited all attendees to join the LIVINGAGRO ICT platform (<https://livingagrolab.eu/>) and register to be part of the cross border living labs.

After this introductory session, 8 innovations were presented by experts and speakers from Lebanon, Italy and Greece focusing on: (1) automated monitoring and control system against the olive fly and the Mediterranean fruit fly (FruitFlyNet-ii project); (2) using innovative legume-based mixtures as cover crop in olive multifunctional systems; (3) livestock grazing in olive groves; (4) assessment of green manure and cover crop effects on soil characteristics and olive orchard productivity in South Lebanon; (5) exploiting the potential of local olive genetic resources to face the future climatic challenges and develop new olive growing strategies based on agro-forestry approaches; (6) time Domain - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (TD-NMR) as a useful tool for the determination of oil content in olive paste; (7) the olive predictor; and, (8) promoting and marketing agroforestry systems through the PEFC agroforestry certification scheme.

Then, the attendees had the opportunity to participate in open discussions with the experts and the representatives of the LIVINGAGRO consortium.

During the afternoon session, one to one meetings were organized to give the participants the opportunity to discuss with the innovators the impact of the presented innovations on the olive and olive oil sector, the challenges of the sector, the problems that they are facing in their groves and the possible appropriate solutions.

All the participants to this third B2B event on Multifunctional Olive Systems, exceeding 100 attendees, expressed their gratitude and were impressed by the presented innovations and by the fruitful scientific interactions and communication between the economic stakeholder's and the presenting experts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Dr. Milad EL RIACHY

Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI)

Head of Olive and Olive Oil Department (Tal Amara, Bekaa, Lebanon)

Email: mriachy@lari.gov.lb



PHOTOS



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