SECTION ONE

AGRO-FOOD VALUE CHAIN

DR. Mohamed Wageih
Project Officer, Agrofood Value Chain

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Call 2023 Food Value Chain Topic

TOPIC 1.3.1-2023 (RIA)
Increasing agri-food supply chain (cereal) resilience in the MENA region.

DEADLINE FOR STAGE 1: 22/03/2023
World food prices hit a record high in 2022.

**Environment**
- Climate Changes
- Deforestation
- Drought
- Desertification
- Floods

**Geopolitical Conflicts**
- Russia-Ukraine War
- Food Export Conflicts
- Oil Pricing
- Political instability in the Region
- & COVID

**Socio-Economic**
- Population Growth
- Unemployment
- Poverty, Low Income
- Immigration
- Supply Chain Disturbance

**Challenges**

War, Pandemic & Climatic Stresses fuel a sharp rise in **GLOBAL HUNGER**.
Cereals are essential for a large part of the Mediterranean population. They are the basis for dishes such as pasta or couscous, indispensable in Mediterranean cuisine.

Cereals provide the most energy, carbohydrate, and essential source of protein, fiber, lipids, a wide range of minerals, and vitamins.

Due to Cereals’ nutritional richness, cultural aspects, and heritage, the Southern Mediterranean countries consume the highest wheat per capita, about 128 kg, twice the world average.

30-50% of their Cereals imports come from Russia and Ukraine, one of the world’s major food-exporting regions. The war in the area has disrupted agricultural production and trade. Not only have prices dramatically spiralled, but food scarcity is also a real risk: shelves of some bakeries are beginning to empty.

Climate change has long been challenging cereal farming in the Mediterranean area. With rising temperatures and decreasing rainfall, plantations are growing in more stressful environments, leading to a drastic drop in yields if their resilience is not increased.
Increase the Resilience and Reliability of the Med. Food Supply Chain

Scope

Vulnerability
Fragility

Better Understanding
Resilience

RECOMMENDATIONS & SOLUTIONS

- Assessments of vulnerabilities and market risks
- Strategies, action plans, best practices
- Design and development of Recovery Plans
- Sustainable Agroecological Practices
- Boosting agricultural production
- Local alternatives & better-adapted species
- Minimizing Food loss & valorize the by-products
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PRIMA
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA
Expected Impacts

Definition of the short and long-term drivers

- Defining the Vulnerabilities, dependencies, and critical infrastructures of the food systems, and supply chain

Improved preparedness to deal with risks that may threaten the cereals supply chain.

Availability of data and platforms

Streamline local food environments

Diversification of food sourcing also exploiting digital solutions

Risk assessment and Evidence-Based strategies, action plans

Develop innovative solutions

- Scientists
- Policymakers
- Small Farmers
- Small Farmers
- Companies
- SMEs
Key Performance Indicators

- # of identified drivers of change affecting the cereals supply chain
- # of strategies and action plans to ensure appropriate cereals supply during unforeseen crises
- # of solutions aiming to diversify food
- # of training workshops/public events on the markets conducted to streamline local food environments
- # of solutions aiming to improve the supply chain of cereals

+ Project-Specific KPIs
Links To SDGs

SDG 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

**TARGET 2.1** By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people;
**TARGET 2.4** By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production,

SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

**TARGET 12.2** By 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.
**TARGET 12.3** By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail & consumer levels, reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

SDG 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

**TARGET 17.6** Enhance North-South, South-South, and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology, and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing
**TARGET 17.7** Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies
Research Priorities 3: To integrate small producers into formal supply channels and improve supply chain management and reduce post-harvest losses while increasing the adoption of technological, organizational, and cultural innovations, as well as new strategies and business models, with the final goal of enhancing the Mediterranean food security.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- /4 SMART AND SUSTAINABLE FARMING
- /8 NEW FOOD BUSINESS MODELS
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