

THE ITALIAN COOPERATION AT THE 5th MEDITERRANEAN WATER FORUM 2024

Tunis, Hotel Laico, 5-7 February 2024

Side Event (05/02/2024, 14.00-15.30)

Title: *New technologies, research and sustainable innovation in the water sector in Tunisia and Italy*

Language: French

Duration: 1h30

Moderator: Samir Meddeb, Environment and Sustainable Development Consultant

Participants : AICS, CREA, CRRAO, INGC, CIHEAM, Comune di Milano, MM Spa, Fondazione AVSI, Gabès Municipality

Context: Among the various actors of the international community, Italian cooperation plays a leading role in the water sector in Tunisia. Thanks to a vast network of public and private partners, we have been able to support Tunisia in the development of several interventions which introduce new techniques for the efficient use of water resources in contexts more and more subject to water stress, including the reuse of wastewater for agricultural purposes. The event will notably focus on the latest technological advances and research results for efficient and water-saving irrigation systems, smart monitoring and wastewater treatment. AICS wants to capitalize on the expertise developed in the sector and at the same time promote a green and sustainable approach to development cooperation that adapts to the current context and responds to the priorities of partner countries as well as the challenges posed by the climate crisis and the overexploitation of natural resources.

Format of the event: Through a series of interventions the discussion will fuel collective reflection on the areas of intervention, from research to application, aimed at meeting the needs of the population in the face of the difficulties caused by climate change and the deterioration of the water situation. The event also includes a moment of discussion/debate to answer questions from the public.

Interventions:

Welcome speech: *Andrea SENATORI*, Director of the Italian Cooperation Agency (**AICS**), Tunis Office. (5 minutes)

Raffaella PERGAMO, **CREA**: Water in the Italian agri-food system. (10 minutes)

• TUNISIE, LIBYE, ALGERIE et MAROC – TUNIS

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Sihem MAACHIA, CRRAO: Effective techniques for rational water management in the oasis system. (10 minutes)

Anis BOUSELMI, INGC: Development of a decision support tool for cereal irrigation management (IREY). (10 minutes)

Stefano CARBONARA, CIHEAM Bari: Strengthening food security through technological improvement and unconventional water recovery. (10 minutes)

Emanuele GOBBI FRATTINI, Fondazione AVSI-MM Spa and *Mohamed Cherif TAHAR, Municipality of Gabès* : Milan and Gabès, a partnership to enhance the management capacities of water operators in Gabès to contribute to SDG 6. (10 minutes)

Discussion, questions and answers

ACRONYMS

AICS – Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo. Website:
<https://www.aics.gov.it/> <https://tunisi.aics.gov.it/>

CREA – Consiglio per la Ricerca in Agricoltura e l'analisi dell'Economia Agraria.
<https://www.crea.gov.it/en/home>

CRRAO - Centre Régional de Recherches en Agriculture Oasienne.
<http://craodegache.agrinet.tn/index.php/fr/>

INGC – Institut National de Grandes Cultures
<http://www.ingc.com.tn/index.php/ar/>

CIHEAM Bari – Centre Internationale des Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéens de Bari
<https://www.iamb.it/>

Fondazione AVSI – <https://www.avsi.org/>

MM Spa – <https://www.mmspa.eu/>

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