



FAO-CIHEAM meeting at UNESCO

Press release

22 March 2019, Paris, France



Mr. José Graziano da Silva, Director-General of the FAO met today with Mr. Plácido Plaza Secretary General of the CIHEAM (International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies) at UNESCO in parallel to the symposium that took place on “Taste at the service of consumer health and sustainable territorial development”. They exchanged about their ongoing and future common projects and explored ways to strengthen their strategic partnership for the Mediterranean region.

The collaboration between CIHEAM and FAO started in 1977. Since then the importance of their partnership has been recurrently reaffirmed and their cooperation continues to grow and diversify.

Among their current common objectives, it is worth mentioning the support of **healthy and sustainable food systems for all** - a conference in Palermo will be dedicated to this topic (15-17 May 2019), the support to a **quality higher education adapted to the needs of territories** (Mediterranean Forum of Young Researchers and PhD Students, Bari, 18-20 September 2018) or the **sustainable management** of precious resources such as water, soil and marine resources, particularly with regard to the climate challenges in the Mediterranean. Several meetings have been scheduled in Rome in the coming weeks to advance on these topics.

CIHEAM

Established in 1962, the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) is a Mediterranean intergovernmental organisation composed of 13 Member States (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey). As a key player in multilateral cooperation in the fields of agriculture, food, fisheries and rural territories, its missions revolve around four main objectives:



Protection of the planet by combating waste in all its forms including waste of knowledge and know-how;



Food and nutrition security by boosting sustainable agriculture and food;



Inclusive development by investing in new generations and fragile territories;



Prevention of crises and resilience of territories.

The CIHEAM Action Plan for the Mediterranean 2025 (**CAPMED 2025**) that falls within the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development of the United Nations is based on these four lines. The CIHEAM carries out its missions through the tools of specialised training, network research, cooperation, technical assistance but also political dialogue and partnerships.

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