



Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes

CIHEAM BARI

press release

5 May, 2023

**Inauguration of the new scientific hub of
CIHEAM Bari's Office in Tricase
13 May, 4.30 pm - Tricase Porto**

A new hub for scientific cooperation, biodiversity, marine and coastal habitat protection will be inaugurated on 13 May, 4.30 pm, at CIHEAM Bari's office in Tricase. Hon. Raffaele Fitto, Minister for European Affairs, Southern Italy, Cohesion Policy, and the National Recovery and Resilience Plan is expected to attend the ceremony. The new facility is a further operational tool of CIHEAM's Italian office in Tricase, which, since 2007, has actively promoted exchange and sharing of experiences to enhance Mediterranean coastal communities and create new sustainable development chains.

Over the years, CIHEAM Bari has fostered cooperation, research, and training initiatives in Salento in the field of the Blue Economy, mainly for the sustainable growth of coastal areas and communities. In 2015, it established a branch office in Tricase Porto funded as part of the European Territorial Cooperation Interreg Greece-Italy Programme "Muse Project".

The increasingly intense collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, with the FAO and its General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), along with the growing scientific joint work with Universities, Research Centres, Institutions and Non-Profit Organisations from different Mediterranean and international contexts, have made CIHEAM Bari's office in Tricase a site for the coordination and facilitation of an international knowledge system aimed at the Blue Transformation of coastal communities.

The inauguration ceremony of the new hub will take place at CIHEAM Bari's office in Tricase (Tricase Porto, Lungomare Cristoforo Colombo), 4.30 p.m., with the participation of CIHEAM Bari's director Maurizio Raeli, Tricase mayor Antonio De Donno, Puglia Region president Michele Emiliano, Italian Minister Raffaele Fitto and Italian MP Claudio Michele Stefanazzi. Rosanna Quagliariello from CIHEAM Bari will moderate the meeting.

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The ceremony will also be attended by 14 ministerial officials from 10 Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan African countries (Albania, Egypt, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Senegal, Tunisia, and Uganda), who are attending in Tricase the 4th edition of the Advanced Course on *Sustainable Development of Coastal Communities*, a capacity building initiative promoted by the Italian Cooperation and organised by CIHEAM Bari in collaboration with FAO and GFCM.

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