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Project “” (UniClaD)

Enhancing capacity of universities to initiate and to participate in clusters development on innovation and sustainability principles

EU program Erasmus +, project KA2 n° 609944-EPP-1-2019-1-LT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

WP 2: Task 2.2 Study tours CIHEAM Bari proposal

Dates 22-26 May 2023

Venue: Apulia-Italy

Background

UniClaD project planned to have a number of study tours in key EC countries whose final objective is to support consortium partners in the development of Agrofood clusters in Moldova, Ukraine and Azerbaijan. Specifically, each study tour will bring a group of expertise from these countries to know about consolidated experiences of agri-food clusters in EC contexts, learning about challenges for their set up and management. There will be a total of three visits to CIHEAM Bari and this proposal will focus on the first visit.

Period: May 22nd – 26th 2023

Target audience

Participants will be 12 people engaged on 4 specific Expertise Centre development in Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova. For each EC will be admitted 3 persons belonging to High Education Institutions and Enterprises (2 and 1, or 1,1, 1 including a person from a public institution such as a municipality).

Participants must have a good knowledge of English to ensure a smooth and effective communication and interaction among the group and the Italian stakeholders.

Objectives

The study tour has as the main objective to present to participants cluster typologies that work for promoting territorial food systems based on local products valorization, multi-stakeholder partnerships, alternative food value chains.



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Local stakeholder clusters will be chosen and proposed to the participants for their analysis. For instance, these might be the “Food District of Sud_Est Barese” and the “Biodistrict delle Lamie”, both around the metropolitan area of Bari. Participants will have the opportunity to meet key actors in their territories and know more about the cluster’s origins, scopes, partnerships, activities, innovation, and challenges.

Learning outcomes

The study tour will include seminars with experts, interviews and visits to key informants, workshops. At the end of the study tour participants will know about the basic conditions needed to set up successful clusters for sustainable farming and agri-food systems development. Specifically, they will understand:

- who are the **actors** that may take part to a cluster (motivations, roles and duties)
- what are the **roles, duties and activities** of the actors
- how to set up the clusters and typologies for their **governance and financing**
- how universities and research institutions may support clusters development.

A tentative agenda

The study tour will last 5 days, plus 2 days of travels.

Date	Agenda and activities	Persons in charge
3 weeks before the Study Tour	Pre-study tour online meeting of organizers and participants to learn about the specific interests of the concrete participants to adapt the program. <i>Local Apulian Agri-food stakeholders identification and exchange</i>	Noureddin Driouech Emanuela Montenegro CIHEAM Bari staff
Day 1 (21/05)	Travel time. Arrival. Contact time.	



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<p>Day 2 (22/05)</p>	<p>Morning Welcome speech/Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study Tour program and activities presentations - Visits to Bari CIHEAM Bari premises - Preparatory activity to the field visits and meetings - Presentation on digital agriculture for sustainable development: irrigated agriculture <p>Afternoon Presentations and discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apulian Region policies and cases on agri-districts development (University of Bari) - The study tour case: Distretto del cibo del SudEst barese 	<p>Maurizio Raeli CIHEAM Bari Director</p> <p>Noureddin Driouech (CIHEAM Bari)</p> <p>CIHEAM Bari staff</p> <p>Ahmed Ayoub (CIHEAM Bari)</p> <p>Vincenzo Fucilli, Dipartimento di Scienze agro-ambientali e territoriali (DISAAT) / Università degli Studi di Bari; / Representative persons of the case studies</p>
<p>Day 3 (23/05)</p>	<p>Full day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to farms specialised in the production of the Acquaviva Red Onion, Primitivo Wine and EVO oil within the territorial agri-food cluster - Tasting at the farm <i>Polvanera</i> - Meetings and interviews with producers, mayors, entrepreneurs and university researchers 	<p>Arcangelo Cirone Director of the Distretto del cibo del SudEst barese</p>
<p>Day 4 (24/05)</p>	<p>Full day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to farms specialised in the production of livestock (Milk and processed products) - Meetings and interviews - Workshop on Mozzarella cheese and tasting at the farm 	<p>Arcangelo Cirone Director of the Distretto del cibo del SudEst barese</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Visit to the art gallery <i>Paolo Finoglio</i> and the museum complex	
Day 5 (25/05)	<p>Morning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The importance of the startup mindset to survive in a world that continuously changes.- Sustainability assessment of agro-food products: The case of Apulia region (Italy) <p>Afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Visit to touristic sites and territorial food products tasting	<p>Donatello Macario CIHEAM Bari</p> <p>Francesco Bottalico, Hamid El Bilali CIHEAM Bari</p>
Day 6 (26/05)	<p>Morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Workshop for reporting on the study tour results <p>Afternoon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Certificate of attendance delivery <p>Evening: Final dinner</p>	<p>Vincenzo Fucilli, Dipartimento di Scienze agro-ambientali e territoriali (DISAAT) / Università degli Studi</p>
Day 7 (27/05)	Departure. Travel time	

Team for Agro-food cluster development

The study tour will be under the responsibility of CIHEAM Bari staff:

Noureddin Driouech, Project Manager
Emanuela Montenegro, Project Assistant



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Institutions and lecturers/stakeholders involved

Institution	Lecturer	
CIHEAM Bari	UniClaD team	
CIHEAM Bari /Innovation and Knowledge Unit	Mr. Donatello Macario	Innovation consultant at CIHEAM Bari
CIHEAM Bari / Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Unit	Dr. Francesco Bottalico	Consultant and researcher in training and cooperation activities relating to Mediterranean diet and sustainable food systems
	Dr. Hamid El Bilali	Researcher and consultant on sustainable agro-food systems and food security at CIHEAM Bari
CIHEAM Bari/Slow Food	Mr. Leonardo Manganeli	Trustee of Bari Slow Food Convivium
Bari University	Prof. Vincenzo Fucilli	Dipartimento di Scienze agro-ambientali e territoriali (DISAAT) / Università degli Studi
Distretto del Cibo del Sud Est Barese	Dr. Arcangelo Cirone	Director of the Distretto del cibo del SudEst barese
Public entities/research groups/Labs	Mr. Davide Carlucci	Mayor of Acquaviva delle Fonti
	Dr. Costantino Pirolo	University Researcher on the project Italian Variety Club
	Mr. Giuseppe Lovascio	Mayor of Conversano
	Ms. Katia Sportelli	Councillor for Cultural and Tourism Policies
Farmers	Mr. Vito Marino Abrusci	Producer of the Acquaviva Red Onion at the Farm "Iannone Anna" and president of the "La vera cipolla rossa di Acquaviva delle Fonti"
Private sector – entrepreneurs	Mr. Giovanni Scianatico	Farm "Lama San Giorgio"
	Mr. Francesco Vito Villari	Farm "Francesco Villari"
	Mr. Francesco De Carlo	Farm "De Carlo"



Methodological approach

The methodology employed for the present study tour is based on action learning - open ended learning based on observation, dialogue, reflection, participation, and visioning. Action learning is an experiential learning method in which participants learn by doing and then reflecting on what they have done.

CIHEAM Bari as WP Task Leader, and Study Tour template designer has solid experience in application of action learning methodology through various projects and activities, with focus on agri-food sector, territorial development and building of social capital, all being of interests for clusters organizations in agri-food sector.

The methodology foresees following activities: field visits, seminars, classroom work and post-study reporting period.

Learning consists of programmed instruction (introduction to the methodology by the coach), participative action (visits and interactions with actors), critical reflection and questioning which aims to enable participants to help each other to explore better the situations they face and information they gain during the field visits.

Main steps include direct interaction with key actors (research groups, incubators, private companies and cluster organizations) and its member entities. During the field visits each actor (stakeholder) and place visited are considered as different learning arenas. Participants' engagement is based on knowledge acquisition, peer and co-learning in groups, experimental learning and complex problem-solving.

During the activities in the classroom participants should reflect and on each part of their field activities in written and/or oral form to serve them as co-learning activity and repository for final reporting. Group work, interactions, dialogue and individual reflection and visioning will result among other with **key success factors list** to be transferred to their home organizations.

Assessment will be performed in the form of self-evaluation, individual report and group presentation.



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Study related activities setup

⇒ **Before the tour**

- Sharing roles and responsibilities within the hosting institution staff (An overall Coordinator will be selected for the Visit, who will be the only contact to facilitate the flow of the activity. Coordinator will be supported by others)
- Identification of theme and selection of participants
- Identification of the lecturers
- Identification of the organizations where the visits will take place and programming of the filed visits (As per the agenda, ideally a mixed of organizations will be expected e.g. research centres, spin-offs, technology parks, companies, universities. etc)
- Preparation of study materials and organization of traveling for visits
- Identification of communication channels with the participants
- Logistics: accommodation and traveling support for participants

⇒ **During the tour**

- Logistic around lectures and visits
- Support to participants
- Daily wrap-up meeting, with feedback from participants to adapt for the rest of the activities and improve for future tours.
- On the final day, presentation given by the participants about the achievement of learning outcomes

⇒ **After the tour**

- Feedback meeting at the hosting institution level
- Reporting
- Lessons learned and up-scaling for the next visit in other EU partners
- Follow-up of the participants experience in the form of short evaluation questionnaire