



SIXTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME



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EuroMedCitrusNet:

**“Safe and High Quality Supply Chains and Networks for the Citrus Industry
between Mediterranean Partner Countries and Europe”**

Preliminary Project Proposals

Project No. 43146

**Horticultural Research Institute,
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Background

- Initial ideas for projects to address the needs of the citrus sector highlighted in the results of the Needs Assessment Survey
- To bring together organizations with complementary needs to collaborate to improve quality and safety in the citrus sector



Preliminary Project Proposals

Following results of Needs Assessment survey, Consortium partners proposed following projects:

- 1- Integrated Pest Management and Organic production
- 2- Variety breeding in semiarid conditions



Preliminary Project Proposals

- 3- Technology transfer, training and Networking
- 4- Supply Chain Management and Marketing



1- IPM Project Proposal

Objective

- To improve knowledge on **citrus pest and disease control** in the Mediterranean area, optimize research efforts and find more promptly effective applied solutions mainly focusing on integrated and organic management

Activities

- To create a database of actual and potential citrus pests and diseases and a permanent network of citrus protection experts
- To create a joint Euro-Mediterranean pole of excellence for studies and research on citrus pests and diseases

Partners

- South European and Mediterranean institutions involved in plant protection



2 - Citrus Variety Breeding for Semi-arid Conditions

Background/Objectives

- Most Citrus grown in the Mediterranean Area are in Semi arid conditions
- Specific problems of semi arid areas :
water scarcity, extreme temperatures,
difficult fruit set, small sizes



2 - Citrus Variety Breeding for Semi-arid Conditions

Background/Objectives

- Most commercial varieties originate from subtropical humid areas: less adaptation to dry zones
- Citrus production in semiarid zones destined to fresh consumption
- Need for specific research addressing the conditions of semiarid zones with emphasis on high internal quality



Citrus Variety Breeding for Semi-arid Conditions

Activities

- Breeding for both Mandarins and Oranges
- Use Biotechnological tools and conventionnal breeding
- Minimum of 5 years for initial results
- Use available tolerant varieties as parents



2 - Citrus varieties breeding for Semi arid conditions

Partners

- Partners from both private and public sector for long term viability of the project
- Fruit production companies and nurseries from: Morocco, Spain, Tunisia , Egypt
- Public research teams from: France, Morocco, Egypt, Spain



3- Training and technology transfer

Background

- Many questionnaire respondents indicate that there is a lack of knowledge about techniques and technologies used at various points of the citrus supply chain.
- Many also complain about the lack of information (or its quality) available to the grower, the technician, the packer and the marketer.

Objective

- To create opportunities for university as well as industry specialists to join and put together programs for training and upgrading human resources involved at various points of the supply chain;
- In addition, to create opportunities the creation of technical documents for transfer of knowledge.



3- Training and technology transfer

Activities

- Shortcourses in specific topics and at various main training institutions around the Mediterranean Basin;
- Training sessions on preparation of extension material and on the use of information on technology transfer

Partners

- Higher education institutions with programs in Citriculture;
- Research institutions and laboratories working on citrus;
- Growers , packers ... using advanced technologies;
- Legislation and policy makers.



3 - Networking

Background

- High priority of R&D for improving citrus quality and safety and the need to improve the link between researchers and industry to facilitate dissemination and technology transfer

Objective

- EuroMedCitrusNet - a sustainable network for the Mediterranean citrus sector linking researchers and industry to bring about advances that will improve citrus safety and quality



3 - Networking

Activities

- Researcher/ industry networking /dissemination of research activities: events/training sessions around topics of need, improvement of EuroMedCitrusNet website and database
- Strategic forum to determine a collaborative research agenda
- Opportunities for technology transfer through a set of priority projects

Possible Partners

- All citrus sector organizations (industry and researchers) identified in questionnaire that indicated an interest



4 - Supply Chain Proposal

Implementing Quality and Safety Systems in the Citrus Sector

Objectives

- To determine the constraints to implementing quality and safety systems in the citrus sector.
- To examine the feasibility of implementing such quality and safety systems.
- To identify the quality systems better adapted to the Citrus context.
- To determine the impacts of implementing quality and safety systems.
- To determine the impacts of implementing quality systems on the sustainability of citrus farms.



4 - Supply Chain Proposal

Implementing Quality and Safety Systems in the Citrus Sector

Determinants of the adoption of quality and safety systems

➤ Economic factors

Costs, profitability, incentives, demand, competition, etc.

➤ Environmental factors

Rains, frost, pests and diseases, quality irrigation water, etc.

➤ Factors related to the farm

Localization, type of soil, plantation age, labor factors, citrus variety, etc.

➤ Factors related to operators

Farmers, intermediaries, exporters, officials, etc.



4 - Supply Chain Proposal

Implementing Quality and Safety Systems in the Citrus Sector

Impacts of implementing quality and safety systems

- Economic impacts (Incomes of the farmers, Quality of the product, Price, Demand of the product, Exports)
- Social impacts (Creation of employment, Food Safety, Consumer health, Situation of the workmen)
- Environmental impacts (Soil resources, Water resources, Biodiversity)



4 - Supply Chain Proposal

Implementing Quality and Safety Systems in the Citrus Sector

Impacts on sustainability of citrus farms

- Impact on Agro-ecological sustainability
 - Biodiversity, soil management, water resource management, etc.
- Impact on socio-territorial sustainability
 - Contribution to food balance, standard of living of the farmers and the workmen, human health, etc.
- Impact on economic sustainability
 - Profitability, efficiency, competitiveness, economic viability, transmissibility



4 - Supply Chain Proposal

Defining effective marketing strategies

Objective

- To define effective marketing strategies

Activities

- A study of the Mediterranean area markets including the particular features of the various citrus production in the different countries

Partners

Agro-food technology, economics and policy research centers, producers organizations