



Newsletter #3

In this newsletter, you can find out about the latest activities carried out by the MEDAE network and several highlights from meetings and exchanges between actors committed to the agroecological transition in the Mediterranean. You will also have access to information on upcoming events organized by the network, with a busy June ahead, as you will discover !

Back to the webinar

How can agroecology be a lever for strengthening women's empowerment in North Africa ?

On April 22, the MEDAE network organized its 7th webinar, bringing together 70 participants who were able to attend presentations and exchange ideas with five agroecology professionals from the agricultural and research sectors.

The webinar highlighted the crucial importance of women in North African family farming, particularly through their role in knowledge sharing (especially between generations) and their capacity for innovation in the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural products. Several barriers to the socio-economic empowerment of these women were identified in relation to social norms and public policies, and areas for improvement were identified to enable North African women to contribute fully to the agroecological transition of their territories.

The webinar recording, presentations and summary of the discussion are available via the links below or at this address : <https://www.medae-agroecology.eu/fr/our-activities/#news-and-events>



Watch the webinar

Read the summary

View presentations

Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco : back to the cross-visits

Between January and April 2025, three cross-visits organized as part of the NATAE project were held in Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco. Thanks to the hospitality and organization of the host structures - INAT (National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia), El Argoub association, and ENAM (National School of Agriculture of Meknes) - participants were able to discover several farms practicing agroecology or conservation agriculture in different agroecosystems in North Africa : cereal plains, oasis systems, and mountains.

The visits were organized around specific issues that allowed participants to focus on the integration of legumes into cereal systems, soil fertility, water management in the face of drought, the processing and valorization of agricultural products, and the adaptation of local knowledge and know-how.



Interested in finding out more about what these cross-visits ? Articles are available via the links below or at this address : <https://www.medae-agroecology.eu/our-activities/>

Back to the Regional Conference "Agroecology : Science and Policy"

Organized by the Sahara and Sahel Observatory (OSS) and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier (IAMM), the conference was held from January 21 to 31, 2025, in Tunis. Political actors, researchers, farmers, and civil society representatives were able to exchange ideas and identify common strategies to accelerate the agroecological transition in North Africa by strengthening links between public policy and scientific research.

The results of several studies conducted as part of the NATAE project were presented and several successful agroecological initiatives in the region were highlighted.

The presentations of the speakers are available via the links below.

[Presentations day 1](#)[Presentations day 2](#)[Presentations day 3](#)

Back to the MEDAE welcome meeting

On February 27, we held our first welcome meeting. A key moment in the creation of this community of exchange, **which now brings together 28 organizations committed to agroecological transition in the Mediterranean** ! The meeting provided an opportunity for everyone to present their organization and their expectations of the network, as well as to submit their ideas for the development of the 2025 action plan.

New NATAE publication

[Position paper on oases and droughts](#)

CARI and El Argoub association, which is responsible for implementing NATAE activities in the Laghouat living laboratory (Algeria), have developed a position paper highlighting the benefits of agroecology in ensuring sustainable incomes for producers in oasis systems facing the impacts of drought.

Entitled “Promoting agroecology as an appropriate response to the challenges of drought in oasis systems,” this advocacy document highlights the results of several studies that have demonstrated the impacts of agroecological practices on water resource management and soil quality. Recommendations are also made to promote the development of agroecology as a response to the challenges posed by climate change.

This publication will be available soon on the NATAE website, so stay tuned!

Upcoming events

MEDAE national seminars

June promises to be a month rich in exchanges and knowledge sharing with the organization of two MEDAE national seminars in Algeria and Morocco.

The first will be held in Rabat (Morocco) on June 17, World Day to Combat Desertification, and will be organized by RIAM (Réseau des Initiatives Agroécologiques au Maroc), which has planned three round tables bringing together various actors involved in the agroecological transition of their territories.

The second will be hosted by CREAD (Center for Applied Economic Research for Development) on June 29 in Algiers (Algeria). This seminar will allow participants to discuss a multi-stakeholder approach to promote agroecological transition in North Africa. This seminar is available online. You can follow and participate in the discussions by logging on to this address: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86395861561?pwd=jkyswPUHQzMenwz82K4ki4ogGfMBNe.1#success>

[View the program](#)

11th edition of the Parmenides Conference “Food in the Mediterranean”

From June 17 to 19, 2025, CIHEAM Montpellier will host the 11th Parmenides International Conference on the theme “**Food in the Mediterranean: Legacies, Challenges, and Future Trajectories.**” Organized by CIHEAM and the Interacademic Group for Development (GID), this multi-stakeholder event will aim to highlight the major agricultural and food transitions in the Mediterranean in order to respond to the challenges of climate change, food and nutrition security, and sustainable development.

Several thematic sessions will be organized to address various topics, including agroecology and food security, irrigation and the future of Mediterranean agriculture, food sovereignty, agricultural prices, public policy, and health security.

Registration (in person or online) for this event is mandatory and can be completed via the link below.

[Register](#)[Program](#)

Join the MEDAE network and take part in its activities !

MEDAE is a network of diverse and complementary organizations (universities, research centers, development agencies, farmers, consumers, political organizations, etc.) that believe that the principles of agroecology can provide a relevant and multidimensional response to sustainable food systems in the Mediterranean.

Are you an organization involved in the agroecological transition in the Mediterranean ?

[Join us !](#)



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