



EU LIFE Platform Meeting
**Climate Change Adaptation in Agriculture and Forestry
in the Mediterranean Region**

Madrid, 13-14 March 2018

CONCEPT NOTE

A. INTRODUCTION: LIFE CLIMATE ACTION & PLATFORM MEETINGS.....	2
B. OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE OF THE PLATFORM MEETING	2
C. FOLLOW UP ON THE PLATFORM MEETING.....	4
ANNEX I - INFORMATION ON THE HOST PROJECT: LIFE AGRIADAPT	5



A. INTRODUCTION: LIFE CLIMATE ACTION & PLATFORM MEETINGS

LIFE Climate Action is a sub-programme of the LIFE Programme for Environment and Climate Action, with a budget of €864 million (25% of the total LIFE Programme) for the period 2014-2020. LIFE Climate Action is the only EU programme dedicated to developing innovative responses to the challenges of climate change across the EU. It supports the implementation of the strategic priorities of EU climate policy within the Union and is therefore also an important element of the overall mainstreaming of climate action within the EU-budget. The sub-programme for Climate Action has three priority areas:

- (a) Climate Change Mitigation;
- (b) Climate Change Adaptation;
- (c) Climate Governance and Information

The LIFE Programme has supported climate action even before the latter's elevation to a distinct sub-programme from 2014 onwards.

LIFE platform meetings aim to promote the exchange of knowledge and good practices, and to facilitate networking and synergies among LIFE projects active in the same broad policy area. Such meetings also engage other relevant stakeholders from the European institutions, national and local authorities, civil society and the private sector.

B. OBJECTIVE AND STRUCTURE OF THE PLATFORM MEETING

This particular platform meeting will focus on concrete measures to increase resilience in agriculture and forest management in the Mediterranean region, identified as one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to the impacts of global warming. The structure of the platform meeting is described immediately below.

Day 1: Tuesday, 13 March 2018

Session 1. Climate change impacts on Mediterranean agriculture and forestry, and related adaptation policies

This session will hear presentations on the special climatic conditions prevailing in the Mediterranean region of the EU, the current and foreseen impacts of climate change on local agriculture and forestry, and the policy framework put in place by the European Union to address these impacts and ensure the food and water security of the population and decent incomes for farmers and foresters. In addition to speakers from the European Commission and the European Environment Agency this session will also hear from closed and ongoing LIFE and other projects that deal with adaptation policy related issues in the region.

Session 2. Climate services, knowledge sharing and stakeholder engagement

For implementation of climate adaptation measures it is necessary to have precise data for the area concerned, as well as the changing weather conditions and climatic trends. Satellites and



other high-tech instruments, as well as modelling tools, are now at the disposal of farmers and foresters, who may though be unaware of their existence. This session will hear presentations on readily available climate services, as well as knowledge sharing tools for information sharing and good practice transfer. Also methods will be discussed for positively engaging all relevant stakeholders, a precondition for success of any effort in practice. Speakers vary from scientists and scientific organisations to project managers and communicators.

Session 3A [held in parallel with session 3B]. Climate change adaptation in Mediterranean agriculture – a view from the field

Following the joint discussion on policies and tools available for adaptation in both agriculture and forestry in the Mediterranean region, this session will zero in on agriculture, bringing together LIFE projects that have been successfully completed and other that are ongoing, to share experiences and good practices with representatives of farmers' associations and related industries.

Session 3B [held in parallel with session 3A]. Climate change adaptation in Mediterranean forestry – a view from the field

Following the joint discussion on policies and tools available for adaptation in both agriculture and forestry in the Mediterranean region, this session will zero in on forestry, bringing together LIFE projects that have been successfully completed and other that are ongoing, to share experiences and good practices with representatives of foresters' associations and related industries.

Session 4. Thematic Working Groups

Up to four Working Groups will be organised. The topics will be defined based on the participants' preferences indicated upon registration. The Working Groups will give the opportunity to participating LIFE and Horizon 2020 projects that did not have a speaking slot in the previous sessions to present their work and discuss issues of mutual interest with other relevant projects and interested participants.

Day 2: Wednesday, 14 March 2018

Project site visit

Participants to choose from two possible visits, one to an agriculture-related LIFE project and the other to a forestry-related LIFE project. Details will be communicated to registered participants in due course.



C. FOLLOW UP ON THE PLATFORM MEETING

The Platform Meeting, and in particular the panel discussions and working group sessions, are expected to bring valuable results regarding knowledge sharing, establishing contacts and learning about new practices and approaches. However, the time available during a meeting is always too tight as to address all persons and subjects one wish to communicate with and about.

Therefore, the organising team wants to elaborate and distribute more broadly all important results gained during the platform meeting. In particular, it is planned:

- to summarise the content of the contributions of each key note speaker
- to elaborate and summarise the findings and recommendations of the working groups
- to prepare a platform meeting report containing the above points and to make it available for download on the EU LIFE website
- to present the meeting report and conclusions to policy-makers at EU, national and regional levels, as well as to all relevant stakeholders
- to report about the platform meeting on the EU LIFE website and NEEMO social media pages
- to disseminate the meeting report and conclusions as widely as possible, including through presentations at relevant conferences and other events



ANNEX I - INFORMATION ON THE HOST PROJECT: LIFE AGRIADAPT

LIFE AgriAdapt “Sustainable adaptation of typical EU farming systems to climate change”

LIFE “AgriAdapt” project is an international initiative supported by the LIFE financial instrument of the European Commission and Fundación Biodiversidad of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishing, Food and Environment of Spain. It is developed by leading entities in the promotion of sustainable farming: Bodensee Stiftung (Germany), the Estonian University of Life Sciences (Estonia), Fundación Global Nature (Spain) and Solagro (France).

Its objective is to demonstrate how sustainable adaptation measures can help livestock, arable and permanent crop farms become more climate resilient. The promotion of other positive environmental benefits of these measures is also a relevant aspect of the initiative.

To assess vulnerability to climate change of the different agrarian systems the project partners have developed a “Common Decision Tool” in two steps:

1. A first step of assessment of crops vulnerability to climate change at Agro Climate Zone Scale. This analysis provides a framework for the second step of analysis at the farm level. The assessment crosses climatic data with crop yields at a regional scale, and allows identifying in a recent past period the strongly impacted years, main climate events, AgroClimatic indicators, etc.

2. A second step of assessment at farm scale: Once the farm is characterized, the common decision tool allows realizing an assessment of vulnerability of the farm’s crops and reduction of Near Future Farm vulnerability. 120 Pilot farms will be assessed in the project.

Partners are developing actions in close collaboration with farmers, experts, administrations, agricultural schools and private entities in order to obtain transferrable results.



Con el apoyo de:

