



Revamping organic farming and its products in the context of climate change mitigation strategies

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The *Organiko* project and Italy's *Strategic Plan for the Development of the Organic Farming system*

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Project title: Revamping organic farming and its products in the context of climate change mitigation strategies.

Duration: 01/09/2015 – 31/08/2019

The **specific objectives** of the project are:

- Develop a strategic national plan of mitigating climate change in agriculture through the advancement of organic farming and their products within the Cypriot economy.
- Demonstrate the comparative performance of organic production using a series of climate mitigation indicators in the field.
- Demonstrate comparative advantages of selected organic products in decreasing the body burden of organophosphate pesticides in children.
- Tailor organic farming protocols (apples and barley) of major importance for Cyprus agriculture to the local farm(er) characteristics.
- Organize the efficient transfer of the results via networking with the scientific community, stakeholders and general public in both Cyprus and Italy.
- Evaluate the current situation in Cyprus (before and during project implementation) regarding technical stakeholders' bottlenecks and consumer perceptions).

The National Strategic Plan for the Development of the Organic Farming system

ACTION 1 - ORGANIC IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS – Development of a coordination among the different Italian Regions to bring into alignment the application rules of the Rural Development support measures for organic farming. A particular attention is given at promoting a specific agro-ecological approach.

ACTION 2 - SUPPLY CHAIN POLICY - Encouraging the aggregation of producers and stable relations with the other players of the sector, including processors, distributors and traders, through the implementation of specific association forms.

ACTION 3 - ORGANIC “MADE IN ITALY” AND INSTITUTIONAL COMMUNICATION - Introduction of a logo for the Italian organic products and promotion of international information campaigns also through the web.

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ACTION 4 - ORGANIC AND GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT - Encouraging the use of organic products in hospital catering and in school canteens, applying organic agriculture methods also in the management of public green areas.

ACTION 5 - SIMPLIFICATION OF THE ORGANIC LEGISLATION - A simplification of the rules governing the sector, involving regional administrations, also following the EU legislation updating.

ACTION 6 - EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND TRANSPARENCY - Organization of organic farming training courses at university level and of training courses for high school teachers. Strengthening of SINAB (the National Information System on Organic Farming) services to improve the availability of information on the sector.

ACTION 7 – “PAPER LESS” ORGANIC - COMPUTERISATION – Development of SIB - the Italian Organic Computerised System to facilitate the connection with other databases useful for the sector, with the aim of simplifying the operators’ procedures .

ACTION 8 - REVIEW OF CONTROL RULES – The aim is to Improve the effectiveness of the Italian control and certification system, as a guarantee for organic operators and consumers.

ACTION 9 - CONTROL ON IMPORTS – Improvement of control activities on products imported from third countries also through a deeper involvement of Customs and with the use of advanced IT tools so to facilitate the rapid exchange of information at all levels.

ACTION 10 - PLAN FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN ORGANIC FARMING – Drawing up of a national plan for research and innovation in organic farming, establishing a permanent coordination committee for research in organic and biodynamic farming, involving the institutions supervised by Mipaaf, the Regions and representatives of the organic sector.

**Thank you for your
attention !**

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