

SPECIAL ISSUE

in collaboration with CIHEAM – International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies

Innovation and Sustainability of agri-food system in the Mediterranean area

Deadline for submission: 1 March 2021

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Special Issue Information

More than before, the region is facing unprecedented and interdependent environmental, economic and social challenges that affect food security, economic growth, production system and sustainability, and thus the livelihoods of all Mediterranean people.

The global health and economic emergency caused by Covid-19, the scarcity and irrational use of natural resources, climate change, urbanization phenomena and market globalization are among

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the main factors that have influenced the evolutionary processes of Mediterranean countries. These phenomena, albeit in a different way between the different countries, have provoked strong solicitation and changes in the agri-food production / processing patterns, as well as in the food consumption patterns and lifestyles in the Mediterranean region.

To ensure that the agri-food system be capable to respond to the new needs with the widest possible benefits, it is necessary that the operators of the sector introduce new forms of technological, organizational and social innovation and collaboration in their production, transformation and distribution activities.

The reference to a paradigm shift in the production system emerges from the recent proposal of the EU Green Deal addressing to mobilize research and innovation to foster a just and sustainable societal transition aiming at new forms of agri-food entrepreneurship and value chain, 'leaving nobody behind'.

The aim of the special issue is to develop knowledge and common innovative solutions for Agri-food systems in the Mediterranean area, to make them sustainable, and by an integrated management more climate resilient, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally and socially sustainable, and to contribute to solving food security and health problems.

The final objectives of this Special Issue are to provide a wide analysis of the status, potential, challenges, and recent developments of sustainable farm and food business model innovation in Mediterranean area and to open a discussion for new ideas to improving health and livelihoods Mediterranean citizens , encouraging economic growth, inducing more sustainable Mediterranean societies and stability.

Qualitative and quantitative studies addressing the above-mentioned issues of agri-food production will be considered for publication, including field experiments, case studies, theoretical, and literature review studies.

Manuscripts based on integrated and interdisciplinary approaches, conducting a comparative research and analysis across the Mediterranean countries, discussing the links between sustainability and innovation adoption in agri-food system at regional or national level, as well as between sustainability and business and policy are particularly welcome.

Manuscript Submission Information

Manuscripts should be submitted online by registering and logging in to this website <https://www.editorialmanager.com/nemed/default.aspx>, click to submit to manuscript and select "SPECIAL ISSUE" as the Type of submission.

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Manuscripts can be submitted until the deadline. Language of manuscript is English.

All papers will be peer-reviewed. Accepted papers will be selected and published together on the special issue website. Research articles, review articles as well as are invited. For planned papers, a title and short abstract (about 100 words) can be sent to the Editorial Office for announcement on this website.

Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere (except conference proceedings papers). All manuscripts are thoroughly refereed through a single-blind peer-review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submission of manuscripts is available on Author's guideline page (<https://newmedit.iamb.it/bup/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/NewMedit-Guidelines-for-Author-2020-1.pdf>).

Please visit the Author's guideline page before submitting a manuscript. Submitted papers should be well formatted and use good English. Some articles in French, exceptionally, can be taken on reserve.

Topics

- ✓ Methods, models, and approaches for the assessment of agri-food system sustainability
- ✓ Local food production systems and production clusters
- ✓ Innovation tools and good practices to preserve agro-biodiversity and Mediterranean ecosystems in the perspective of EU New Green Deal
- ✓ Sustainable agri-food entrepreneurship as a key dynamic element to economic growing
- ✓ Smart farming and smart food production
- ✓ Value chains analysis and coordination in Mediterranean agri-food systems
- ✓ Open innovation, digital innovation and industry 4.0
- ✓ COVID Impact and resilience assessment of Mediterranean countries
- ✓ Risk management in agri-food chain, farm economic behavior and policies
- ✓ Revitalization of Mediterranean Diet on Strategies Towards More Sustainable Food Systems in the Mediterranean Region
- ✓ Mediterranean cooperation in crisis situations and innovations in terms of cooperation mechanism

Published Papers

This special issue is now open for submission

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