

Agriculture in a Changing Climate: The Case of Algeria

Online Workshop, 29th of June

Organizers: Ecole Nationale Polytechnique (Algeria) and Barcelona GSE (Spain)

Context: The Algerian government is looking to transition from an economy that is heavily dependent on the production and export of gas and oil to a more diversified economy. A key sector for this transition is agriculture. However, the country faces dramatic challenges with the climate crisis which need to be addressed if growth of the agricultural sector is to become sustainable.

This workshop will bring together representatives from the business sector, academics and government officials to develop solutions to the challenges posed by the goal of developing the Algerian agricultural sector amidst the climate crisis.

Target of the workshop: government officials, private association representatives, academics, international organizations and NGOs. The goal of the workshop will be to connect different actors and stakeholders, discuss the existing challenges and to find partners for the development of solutions. Short presentations will be followed by time to discuss.

Structure: The structure of the workshop will follow a problem/solution set-up. In the first part of the workshop we will discuss different aspects of the climate challenge for the strategy of the Algerian government to expand the agricultural sector and attract foreign direct investment. In the second section we will propose various angles for the solution. We will discuss how data could provide early warning for policy-makers, how case studies and examples from other countries could help in the Algerian case and what solutions already exist locally.

Preliminary Program

Start at 8.30 am Algerian time (9.30 am Spanish time (CET))

8.30am - 10.45 am: presentations on the problem

Dr Wassim Benhassine (ENP) Importance of the diversification of the Algerian economy

Bruno Conte-Leite (UAB) Economic effects of climate change - macro and micro evidence

Dr Sabrina Taibi, (University of Blida) Pluviometric evolution and its implication on Algerian Agriculture

Ali Larbes, Director, representative of the National Agency for Water Resources Integrated Management (AGIRE)

15 minute presentations followed by questions and general discussion

10.45 - 11.00: break

11.00 - 13.15: presentations on the path to a solution

Hannes Mueller (BGSE) Proposal for a sustainability index for policy early warning

Djamal-Eddine Bouabdallah (Polagral and CCIAE) How to Attract Foreign Investors in Agriculture

Javier Meyer (AQUA4D) on their experiences (including socioeconomic benefits)

Nassim Ilmane (AITECH) on their solution for smart irrigation

15 minute presentations followed by questions and general discussion

13.15 (14.15 CET): workshop ends