



Watch Letter

Number 35

Milk and Dairy products in the Mediterranean

To be published in December 2015

Call for Proposals

June 2015

About CIHEAM

Founded in 1962, the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) is an intergovernmental organisation composed of thirteen member states (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey).

The CIHEAM is at the service of its member states to promote multilateral cooperation in the Mediterranean in the fields of agriculture, food, fishery, and rural territories, aiming to respond to the needs of the States. The CIHEAM works for the Mediterranean and therefore with Mediterranean populations. Providing concrete solutions, sharing experiences and avoiding the waste of knowledge are among the main objectives of each one of its actions. The CIHEAM pursues this cooperation mission through specialised training, networked research, scientific diplomacy and political partnership. Thanks to its activities, the CIHEAM therefore contributes to the elaboration of a global, structural and engaging vision for development in the Mediterranean.

170 permanent agents and hundreds of consultants regularly work within the 5 headquarters of the Organisation: the 4 Mediterranean agronomic institutes (MAI) based in Bari (Italy), Chania (Greece), Montpellier (France), and Zaragoza (Spain); the General Secretariat is located in Paris (France).

The Watch Letter

This Quarterly Letter has been published since 2007 and is devoted to major topics in Mediterranean Agriculture, Food and Environment. While enabling the CIHEAM to gain a widespread recognition, it circulates analyses aimed at a heterogeneous public (policymakers, researchers, journalists, etc.) on emerging agricultural and food issues. The objective of the Watch Letter is to provide brief analyses which will fuel both the discussion on the Mediterranean and the broader global debate on food and agriculture.

The General Secretariat of Paris is responsible for the direction and the management of this bilingual publication (English and French), also available in Arabic. Constant efforts are made to ensure a wide variety of contributor profiles in both geographic and professional terms. In the 33 issues published so far, we have published 236 articles involving 399 authors.

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Watch Letter 35 - Background

The Watch Letter of the CIHEAM continues its thematic development and will devote its 35th issue to issues related to the milk and dairy products sector in the Mediterranean. Considered as flagship products of the national productions in several countries of the region, milk and its derivatives also illustrate how important changes are expressed in terms of professions and the management of farming businesses of the sector, public policy support and trade. Like other products in the Mediterranean, milk is at the crossroads of production, logistics, and socio economic and environmental challenges. The quality of dairy products is a daily requirement. The organisation of the sector echoes the dynamics of territorial development, effective integration into value chains and integration with processing industries, not to mention the need to preserve typical local products that contribute to the agricultural and food richness of the Mediterranean Basin.

If regional differences exist, they should be highlighted to achieve a better understanding of the national specificities of the milk sector in the Mediterranean. With both an overview of the difficulties but also of positive and innovative practices, this observation of local realities will be at the heart of this Watch Letter. A regional overview of milk and its derivatives will be provided to suggest a Mediterranean geography of these products that are vital for the food security of the populations. Moreover, beyond the analyses of the situation of the countries and the region, certain issues will be addressed:

- Is the dairy sector increasingly weakened by an economic context marked by high volatility in prices and the prices of raw materials?
- What are the trends in terms of milk and dairy products consumption?
- What are the key geographical indicators in the Mediterranean in terms of milk products? How do they change over time?
- In what ways are the issues related to animal health crucial for a better milk sector?
- How can the milk sector combine economic performance and sustainable development?
- Which are the major economic actors (local and regional) of the milk sector in Mediterranean countries?
- Would it be feasible to consider local initiatives (or national and even regional) that favour the development and integration of the milk sector?
- What relations could be established between the milk sector and tourism in the Mediterranean?
- Could the change in the milk policy of the European Union have impacts on the competitiveness of dairy products in the Mediterranean region?
- Is the milk sector particularly vulnerable to economic and socio economic tensions that may exist in the region?
- How could the problems related to the milk sector be linked with issues related to pastoralism in the Mediterranean and space management?

- How are the challenges of infrastructure and energy related to the issue of milk in the Mediterranean?

This *Watch letter* will open its columns to researchers and journalists, producers and stakeholders of the sector, political and economic leaders as well as institutions working on these issues and challenges in the region. As always, the main aims of this publication of the CIHEAM include: bringing skills together, providing a diversity of viewpoints, highlighting initiatives and projects in favour of development and observing the Mediterranean Basin (northern, southern and eastern shore) in all its diversity. The dissemination and recognition of this Letter have progressed since its creation in 2007.

Watch Letter 35 - Problématique générale

Poursuivant son développement thématique, la Watch Letter du CIHEAM consacrera son 35ème numéro aux enjeux de la filière laitières et des produits laitiers en Méditerranée. Produits phares des productions nationales de nombreux pays de cette région, pour faire face à une demande accrue des consommateurs, le lait et ses dérivés illustre aussi à quel point des évolutions importantes s'expriment en matière des métiers et de la gestion des exploitations du secteur, de soutien des politiques publiques et des échanges commerciaux. Le lait, comme d'autres produits en Méditerranée, se situe au carrefour de défis productifs, logistiques, socioéconomiques et environnementaux. La qualité des produits laitiers est une exigence du quotidien. L'organisation de la filière fait écho aux dynamiques de développement des territoires, d'insertion efficace dans les chaînes de valeur et d'intégration avec les industries de la transformation, sans oublier ce besoin de préservation envers les produits typiques locaux qui font la richesse agricole et alimentaire du Bassin méditerranéen.

Si des différences régionales existent, elles doivent donc être mises en exergue pour comprendre les spécificités nationales de la filière lait en Méditerranée. Cette observation des réalités locales, avec à la fois une présentation des difficultés mais aussi des initiatives positives et des pratiques innovantes, sera au coeur de cette Watch Letter. Il sera aussi proposé un tour d'horizon régional sur le lait et ses dérivés, pour suggérer une géographie méditerranéenne autour de ces productions vitales à la sécurité alimentaire des populations. Aussi, par delà des analyses sur la situation des pays et dans la région, certaines questions seront abordées dans ce numéro:

- Le secteur laitier est-il de plus en plus fragilisé par un contexte économique marqué par une forte volatilité des prix et du cours des matières premières ?
- Quelles tendances sont à l'œuvre en termes de consommation de lait et de produits laitiers ?

- Quelles sont les indications géographiques phares en Méditerranée avec les produits laitiers ? Comment évoluent-elles dans le temps ?
- En quoi les enjeux liés à la santé animale sont-ils déterminants pour une meilleure filière laitière ?
- Comment la filière laitière peut-elle conjuguer performance économique et développement durable ?
- Quels sont les grands acteurs économiques (locaux et régionaux) de la filière lait dans les pays méditerranéens ?
- Est-il envisageable de proposer des initiatives locales (ou nationales voire régionales) favorables au développement et à l'intégration des filières laitières ?
- Quels rapports peuvent se nouer entre le secteur laitier et l'activité touristique en Méditerranée ?
- Le changement de politique laitière de l'Union européenne pourrait-il avoir des impacts sur la compétitivité des produits laitiers dans la région méditerranéenne ?
- Le secteur laitier est-il particulièrement vulnérable aux tensions économiques et sociopolitiques pouvant exister dans la région ?
- Comment relier les problématiques de la filière laitière avec les enjeux du pastoralisme en Méditerranée et de la gestion des espaces ?
- En quoi les défis des infrastructures et de l'énergie entrent-ils pleinement dans la problématique laitière en Méditerranée ?

Cette *Watch letter* ouvrira ses colonnes aux chercheurs et aux journalistes, aux producteurs et acteurs de la filière, sans oublier les responsables politiques et économiques ainsi que les institutions travaillant sur ces questions et ces enjeux dans la région. Rassembler des compétences, proposer une diversité de point de vue, mettre en exergue des initiatives et des projets favorables au développement et observer le bassin méditerranéen (rives Nord, Sud et Est) dans toute sa diversité sont comme toujours les objectifs de cette publication du CIHEAM dont la diffusion et la reconnaissance progressent depuis sa création en 2007.

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Timetable

June 2015

Announcement and call for proposals

15-30 October 2015

Reception of the articles and edition

Mid-December 2015

Publication of the Watch Letter 35

Technical Details for the articles

Languages

English or French

Length

2000-2500 Words (or 12,500 - 15,000 Characters)

Signature

Indicate your position-title and/or the institution you want to appear in the article

Title and Bibliography

Each article should have a clear title and a brief bibliography/webography (not more than 4-5 references)

Delivery

The paper must be sent via electronic mail at abis@ciheam.org.

A recent and good picture of the author(s) must be send (PNG or JPEG format)

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6. Forest Fires
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2014

28. Land Issues
29. Corporate Social Responsibility
30. Food Waste and losses
31. The Mediterranean Sea: Fisheries and beyond

2015

32. Feeding Expo Milano with Mediterranean perspectives
33. Invasive species in the Mediterranean: challenges and risks (*will be released June 2015*)
34. Agenda post 2015 and Mediterranean Futures (*will be released September 2015*)

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The Mediterranean Sea: Fisheries and Beyond

