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# MedSNAIL

## Sustainable Networks for Agro-food Leading in the Mediterranean

MedSNAIL is a project funded by the UE, through the ENI CBC MED Program. Its main aim is fostering socially and environmentally sustainable development of agro-food SMEs by valorising traditional Euro-Mediterranean products according to a “slow” approach and short-chain principles. For this aim, it will attempt to provide consultancy, support and

training to local actors, and will promote clustering of traditional products and producers in the cooperation area.

[Read more](#)

NEWSLETTER #1 – February 2020

## PARTNERSHIP

MedSNAIL brings together 7 Partners from 7 countries:

- Andalusian Federation of Towns and Provinces (LEAD PARTNER) (ES)
- Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity (IT)
- American University of Beirut (LB)
- The Rural Women's Development Society Economic, social and political Empowerment for rural women's (RWDS)(PS)
- University of Sfax (TN)
- Gozo Regional Committee (MT)
- Women for Cultural Development (Namaa) (JO)



Fondazione Slow Food  
per la Biodiversità  
ONLUS



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## WHY SHOULD YOU FOLLOW MedSNAIL?

You should follow MedSNAIL if you are interested in agrofood and you want to know more about the project principles and topics (local food communities, sustainable rural

development, fair agro-food production) and on the advantages of the slow approach to define new pathways for a sustainable and durable development, beyond major economic trends. We will keep you informed about the on-going work.

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## Kick off meeting in Seville (Spain)



The kick-off meeting of the ENI CBC MED MedSNAIL: “Sustainable Networks for Agro-food Innovation Leading in the Mediterranean” project, led by FAMP, was held on 22 & 23 October 2019 at FAMP premises in Seville. During two days, the partners worked to kick-off this project in selected areas of Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Malta, Italy and Andalusia.

This meeting counted on the presence and participation of Mrs. Joumana Sweis, from the ENI CBC MED Valencia Office, who explained the main issues of interest for the project management. A press conference was also organised to present the project to the media.

MedSNAIL project aims to preserve traditional heritage and identity of local communities by valorising the traditional agro-food products rooted in their cultural contexts, trying to build a community of local leaders (both at a political and civil society level) brought together in an Alliance, which will include a database with an “agro-diversity census” of all those products and producers working on a slow-food approach and according to a set of sustainability criteria, such as short-chain principles.

To start with, the project’s workplan includes an agrobiodiversity study, on the basis of desk and field work research, which will take place in the selected areas of the project, and will have as result the MedSNAIL Geodatabase and Open Line Platform. The Platform will give free access to a map of smallholders farm producers, products, rural

communities, agro-business, other food chain actors and rural tourism actors, to be used all along the project's life and beyond the project's conclusion.

For both FAMP and the rest of the partners, working with local communities is very important, as it is a way to build capacities and empower local leaders to become protagonist in the process, as a way to ensure high economic and social sustainability, through the valorisation of their own agriculture and gastronomical heritage.

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## Mapping methodology



MedSNAIL project partners have already been virtually trained on the mapping methodology to be used in the project for the identification of traditional agro-food products likely to be catalogued in an agro-biodiversity census inspired by the slow-food approach. This census will be the result of a field research on the status of agro-biodiversity in target regions with a special focus on traditional agro-food products, which will end up in an agro-food alliance among the partner regions. This mapping methodology will help partners to identify local food wise products according to slow food philosophy.

This document intends to develop the methodology to be adopted for the mapping of products (raw materials, animal breeds, processed products, traditional techniques, recipes) present in the area of intervention, and is available at the website of the project.

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## WHAT ARE WE DOING IN THIS PHASE?

At the moment, all partners are developing their own desk reviews in their territories,

which involve:

- Analyses of the target contexts: Description of the agricultural area and the social, political context.
  - Identification of the main crops, main breeds mostly diffused in the area, in order to understand the impact of global food production.
  - First approximation to identification of stakeholders and selection of communities, producers, products likely to be target beneficiaries of MedSNAIL project.
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### **UPCOMING PROJECT EVENTS**

Workshop on sustainable rural development initiatives and models:

- In June 2020, the project's partners will have their first intensive workshop. During 3 days, slow food models will be presented together with some methodological guidelines to identify local stakeholders and public leaders.
  - Place: Beirut (Lebanon).
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AND SOCIAL ACCOUNTS!**

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***This project is funded by the European Union under the ENI CBC MED Programme***

MedSNAIL (Sustainable Networks for Agro-food leading in the Mediterranean) is a project attempting to foster the valorisation and development of small-scale traditional agro-food value chains, combining enhancement of market potentialities and socio-environmental sustainability. MedSNAIL project is running from September 2018 and will have a duration of 36 months. It has a **total budget** of Euro **2.028.807,74 €**, and an **ENI Contribution of Euro 1.825.926,97 € (90%)**

**Lead Partner:** FAMP - Federación Andaluza de Municipios y Provincias, Andalusian Federation of Municipalities and Provinces

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*This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union under the ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of FAMP and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union or the Programme management structures.*



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