



*9th Conference of the Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics (AIEEA)
11-12 June 2020*

Updated as a consequence of coronavirus emergency

Mediterranean agriculture facing climate change: Challenges and policies

Call for Papers

Changes in climate conditions - reflected by increasing average temperatures, frequency and intensity of extreme weather events - consistently point to increasing risks to societies all over the world in uneven and multiple ways. Environmental, socio-economic, and agri-food systems are expected to be severely affected by climate change in the next decades. According to the Joint Research Center estimates for Europe, climate change is responsible for around 80-90% of projected changes in water availability and soil loss due to desertification processes and erosion. Climate change is also affecting agricultural land and crop suitability in many world areas: between 2011 and 2050, the global average yield across all crops is projected to decline by 1.1%, with variation across regions and significant impacts on Mediterranean productions (i.e. olive and grapevine). FAO reports that climate changes could lead to significant falls of food production and gross domestic product in the worst affected regions. Further bilateral trade flows and the net trade positions of countries and regions will be affected, with complex and varied positions across the European Union (EU). World Bank and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) estimated that around 140 million people may be displaced by 2050 as a result of desertification, while asylum applications to EU countries are expected to increase.

The harmful effects of global climate change on agriculture are unequally distributed across regions and countries, both in relation to the physical and environmental conditions, and depending on the sensitivity, exposure and adaptive capacity of local natural and social systems. The Mediterranean area is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to the impacts of global warming, according to international reports and projection scenarios. The European Environmental Agency (2019) states that in the coming decades, the entire Mediterranean region is expected to experience severe climate events with diversified consequences on agriculture, depending on the adaptation capacities of different areas.

The debate on impacts and consequences of climate change on Mediterranean agricultural and food systems is particularly sensitive and controversial, considering historical, socio-economic and political diversities. The Mediterranean region turns out to be a crucial crossroads of the people movements induced by climate change. Relocation and movement of people will cause an increased pressure on certain areas in terms of production (quantity, process and quality) and consumption, while entire geographic regions, due to land abandonment and reduced level of land protection, will suffer further erosion and desertification. Such migrations put increasing pressure on the geopolitical role of the region as well as its internal relations and domestic politics. Mediterranean countries, due to their geographical location, play a central role in the EU international relations. Current EU policy dialogue with the Mediterranean countries has been framed within the European Neighborhood Policy to strengthen relations with southern and eastern neighbors. Programs within Euro-Mediterranean Partnerships often promote initiatives for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Current and future policies for agricultural and sustainable development of Mediterranean



countries need to prioritize climate risks considering agriculture multiple objectives – providing adequate food for growing populations, protecting the environment and ensuring resilience to future climatic change– in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Against the above scenarios, the 2018 evaluation report of the EU Adaptation Strategy invites enhancing the knowledge base and encourages new research and development, as well as innovation, in the field of climate change adaptation and mitigation policies.

The 9th AIEEA Annual Conference aims to contribute to this debate, by addressing economic and policy analysis of impacts, mitigation and adaptation options for agricultural systems facing climate change. AIEEA welcomes the submission of contributions on the topics above. However, the submission of contributions on other agricultural and applied economics topics is also encouraged.

Submissions

Contribution proposals should be submitted in English through ConfTool, available from the conference page on the AIEEA website (www.aieea.org). There are three types of contributions: contributed papers, organized sessions, and posters.

Contributed papers

Participants intending to present a contributed paper are requested to submit an extended abstract (minimum 1,500 words; maximum 2,000 words) before **February 21**, 2020. Abstracts should include:

- a. Introduction to the topic and objectives of the paper
- b. Description of data and research methodology
- c. Discussion of the expected theoretical and/or empirical results
- d. Main conclusions and emphasis on the paper's potential for generating discussion during the conference
- e. A list of few essential references.

All submitted abstracts will be subject to a blind peer review process. Authors will be notified of paper acceptance by **April 30**, 2020.

The final version of accepted contributions (either in the form of full paper or revised long abstract) should be submitted by **May 25**, 2020.

Upon Authors' authorization, the final version of the abstract/paper will be made available on the conference website and on *AgEcon Search*.

A selection of accepted papers will be considered for publication in a special issue of *Bio-based and Applied Economics* and in a regular issue of *New Medit* after going through the journals' standard review process.

Organized sessions

Participants are invited to propose organized sessions primarily, but not exclusively, on topics relevant to the conference themes. Proposals (max 2,000 words) should include the name of the organizer, the session title, the name of contributors, and the title and abstract of each paper. It is suggested that proposed sessions include no more than four papers. Proposals should be submitted by **February 21**, 2020. Organized session proposals will be subject to a peer review process. Authors will be notified of acceptance by **April 30**, 2020.

Posters

AIEAA welcomes the submission of posters. Accepted posters will be presented and discussed in dedicated sessions. Participants should submit an abstract (max 500 words) by **February 21, 2020**. Poster proposals will be subject to a blind peer review process. Authors will be notified of poster acceptance by **April 30, 2020**.

Presenting author's registration

Authors presenting papers, posters, or organized sessions must register for the conference before **May 25, 2020** (failing that, the paper/session/poster will be withdrawn from the conference program).

Ornella Maietta Best paper award

The best paper award 2020 entitled to Ornella Maietta will be selected among papers accepted for presentation at the AIEAA 2020 conference. The requirements for consideration for the best paper award are that: a) the first author and presenter is below 40 years; b) the full paper (not just the long abstract) is uploaded by 15th May 2020. More information will be given on the conference website.

Fee for free

The AIEAA is providing to applicants coming from extra-EU Mediterranean regions a FREE FEE registration to the 9th AIEAA Conference. The list of extra-EU Mediterranean regions includes: Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey.

The contributions will be evaluated by Program Committee on the bases of scientific relevance. Younger presenting author and those with no-permanent job position will be favoured.

Program Committee

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Registration fees

Regular fee: 100€ (50€ if already AIEAA member in 2020)

Reduced fee (Ph.D. students, Postdoc): 40€ (20€ if already AIEAA member in 2020)

Registration fees include the conference lunches, the coffee breaks and the social dinner.

Registration Procedure

Online registration will be possible on the conference website (www.aieaa.org/aieaaconference2020).

Information and contacts

For more updated information and contacts, please refer to the conference website at www.aieaa.org or email aieaa2020.disaat@uniba.it