



Interreg



Co-funded by the European Union

NEXT MED

WISEMED

MEDiterranean joint Water management and conservation Sustainable solutions

About WISEMED

WISEMED is a strategic initiative implemented under the Interreg NEXT MED Programme, designed to address the growing water crisis in the Mediterranean basin. Agriculture accounts for about 70% of freshwater use in the region, where water resources are among the most limited globally.

The project addresses the critical misalignment between "improved" irrigation technologies and actual water conservation.

Project duration

36 months

October 2025 - October 2028

Main Objective

To increase the adoption of integrated sustainable water management measures in irrigated agriculture at Mediterranean basin level



Accessibility

Scaling up proven and tested irrigation solutions.



Resource Efficiency

Optimizing water use and enhancing the reuse of Non-Conventional Water (NCW).



Policy Integration

Strengthening the link between bottom-up field-level feedback and top-down policy-making processes.

Our Approach

WISEMED is built on a Mutual Exchange framework that promotes collaboration and shared learning:

- Peer-to-Peer Collaboration: Experienced partners offer hands-on support to peers through structured field activities.
- Participatory Governance: Actively involving product and service providers, microfinance actors, and institutions.
- Circular Economy: Piloting the safe reuse of Non-Conventional Water (NCW) to close the water loop in agriculture.





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Partnership

Project Partners

- ICU – Istituto per la Cooperazione Universitaria (Italy)
- National Agricultural Research Center (NARC), Jordan
- Institut National de Recherches en Génie Rural, Eaux et Forêts (INRGRF), Tunisia
- Spanish National Research Council (CEBAS-CSIC), Spain
- Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), Italy
- Lebanese University (LU), Lebanon
- Centre des Recherches et des Technologies des Eaux (CERTE), Tunisia

Associated Partners

- Agricultural Engineering Research Institute (AEnRI), Egypt
- Soil and Water Resources Institute (SWRI), Greece
- Dokuz Eylül University (DEU), Türkiye
- UN-ESCWA, Lebanon
- Union of Al Buhaira Municipalities, Lebanon
- Commissariat Régional au Développement Agricole de Nabeul (CRDA Nabeul), Tunisia

Benefit & Impact

- 👨‍🌾 **Farmers:** 1,288 farmers directly supported, managing a total of 5,145 hectares.
- 🔧 **Stakeholders & Technicians:** 1,200 water management stakeholders and 600 technicians trained.
- 🏡 **Local Communities:** Enhanced living conditions for 616,772 people in target areas.
- 🌍 **Regional Impact:** 20 additional peer organizations from 7 Mediterranean countries engaged for replication.
- 🌿 **Environmental Benefits:** Reduced runoff pollution and restored soil fertility through smarter water management practices.

Geographic coverage:
Italy | Jordan | Tunisia | Spain | Lebanon



Budget

Total budget	€ 2.8 million
EU contribution	€ 2.5 million
EU co-financing	89%

Project outputs

- 5 Transnational Joint Water Management Action Plans co-created with local stakeholders to identify sustainable irrigation solutions tailored to each target area.
- 6 Pilot Actions testing water-saving and non-conventional water solutions
- Capacity Building Programmes, including transnational exchange visits, Training-of-Trainers and cascade trainings for farmers
- Transnational recommendations and 5 Institutional Roadmaps co-developed with national stakeholders and based on project results for policy improvements.
- 5 Public-Private Alliances to ensure solutions continue beyond the project.



More info about the
WISEMED Project:

