

# EU CAP Network Workshop 'Circular water management'

Seville, Spain  
12 - 13 March 2024



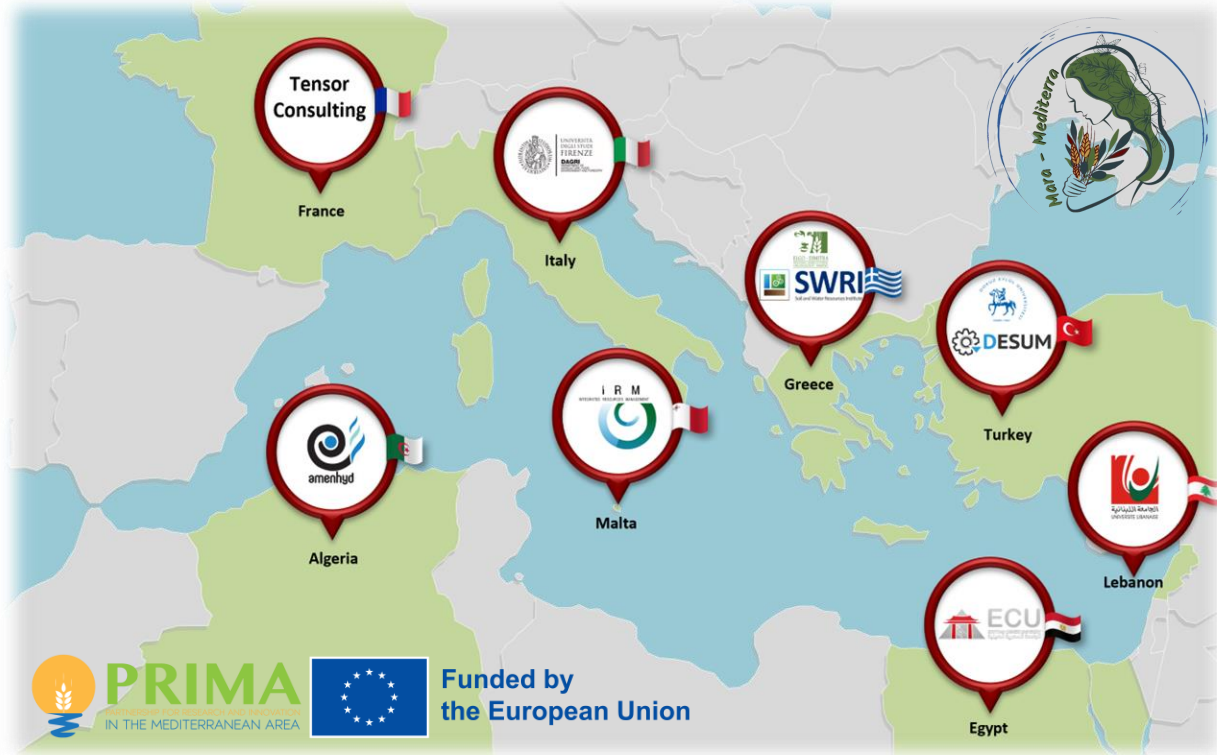
Funded by  
the European Union

# Inspirational examples: Prima Mara-Mediterra Safeguarding the livelihood of rural communities and the environment in the Mediterranean through Nature-based Solutions

Eleanna Pana



# Safeguarding the livelihood of rural communities and the environment in the Mediterranean through Nature-based Solutions – Mara-Mediterra



**PRIMA**  
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

**Funded by the European Union**

**Partnership**

	<b>SWRI</b> Hellenic Agricultural Organization "DIMITRA" – Soil and Water Resources Institute (SWRI)	
	University of Firenze – Department of Agriculture, Food, Environment and Forestry (UNIFI)	
	Integrated Resources Management Company Ltd. (IRMCo)	
	Dokuz Eylul University, Industrial Application and Research Center (DEU DESUM)	
	AMengagement ENVironement HYDraulique (AMENHYD)	
	Egyptian Chinese University, Research & Innovation Center (ECU)	
	Lebanese University - Faculty of Engineering (FoE) & Azm Center for Research in Biotechnology and its Applications (UL)	
	Tensor Consulting (TENSOR)	





## Problems/challenges

The **goal** of Mara-Mediterra is to establish an open innovation ecosystem of tools, services, and documented practices for the **mainstreaming of NbSs**, in order to effectively address key environmental and societal challenges of rural Mediterranean areas.



### Five (5) Med Living Labs



**Algeria**

(Djelfa Sahara)



**Egypt**

(Nile Delta)



**Greece**

(Aegean Islands)



**Lebanon**

(Akkar Mountains)



**Turkey**

(Lake Marmara)

### Challenges to be addressed

Sahara expansion

Water and soil  
salinization and  
pollution

Rural landscape  
erosion and  
desertification

Wildfires and forest  
degradation

Wetland  
ecosystems  
degradation





## Activities



### Agroecological Practices

- ↪ Green manure, Cover crops
- ↪ Conservation tillage
- ↪ Land settings (terracing)
- ↪ Smart irrigation
- ↪ Land application of compost



### Eco-engineering Solutions

- ↪ Micro-ecosystem based afforestation
- ↪ Hydraulic barrier of reclaimed wastewater to halt seawater intrusion
- ↪ Wetland-Aquaponics
- ↪ Minimum ecological flow for wetland restoration



### Decision Making, Policy and Governance

- ↪ Policy and green investment advocacy
- ↪ Participatory plans for action
- ↪ Sustainability and Land Degradation Neutrality assessment framework





# Results achieved

## R & I achievements

- > Wetland-Aquaponics and circular economy in Egypt
- > Agroecological practices addressing land degradation in Lesvos, Greece
- > Micro-ecosystem based afforestation using reclaimed wastewater, sludge and renewable energy for smart irrigation in Algeria



## Social achievements

- > 125 actors (farmers, scientists, advisors, policy makers) participate in the co-creation and co-assessment of solutions, within the framework of the Living Labs
- > More than 470 persons have been involved in project activities (roundtables, surveys, etc.)



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## Project website and contact persons



[www.mara-mediterra.com](http://www.mara-mediterra.com)



MaraMediterra



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 Thank you

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All information on the workshop is available on the event webpage:

<https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/events/eu-cap-network-workshop-circular-water-management>

