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CIHEAM
ZARAGOZA



Safe
Habitus

DRAFT PROGRAMME

International Symposium

The farmers of tomorrow: Skills, jobs and renewal pathways in times of uncertainty

Zaragoza • 30 Sept - 1 Oct 2026

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Last update: 2 September 2026

Day 1 | Wednesday 30 September 2026

9:00 - 9:15	Registration
9:15 - 9:30	Warm-up exercise
9:30 - 10:15	Opening Session: “The future of farming: Who will farm? And under what conditions?” • Raúl Compés López, Director of CIHEAM Zaragoza • Cecilia García Gasalla, Director of Cooperation with Africa and Asia, AECID • Director of PRIMA Foundation, tbc • Isabel Bombal Díaz, Director-General for Rural Development, Innovation and Agri-Food Training, Government of Spain • Video message from Álvaro Lario, President of the International Fund of Agricultural Development (IFAD)
10:15 - 10:45	Setting the scene: “Insights from FAO on the status of youth and women in Mediterranean agrifood systems”, Marwan Benali, Social Policy Officer, Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division (ESP), FAO
10:45 - 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 - 12:45	Round Table I — Economic and Productive Dimension: “The economics of farming: profitability, land and access to resources” Moderated by: Vicente Pinilla, Professor of Applied Economics, University of Zaragoza • Elena Schubert, European Commission, DG AGRI • Faten Adada, Agriculture and Rural Development Expert, FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa • Tomás García Azcarate, Associate Researcher at the The Research Centre for the Management of Agricultural and Environmental Risks (CEIGRAM - UPM) Mario Béjar Fuentes, Senior Project Manager, European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA)
12:45 - 13:00	Networking
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch break
14:00 - 15:30	Round Table II — Labour Market and Vocational Training Dimension: “Work in agriculture: labour dynamics, skills and working conditions” Moderated by: Trisha Mandal, Partnership and Communications Manager (YPARD) • Elisenda Estruch Puertas, Rural Economy Specialist for Sectoral Policies Department, ILO (online) • Jesús Antón, Head of Unit at Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (tbc) • Fatmir Guri, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Albania • Sarah Bouzar, Research and Policy Synthesis Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Algeria (tbc) • Carlos Ruíz Ramírez, Project Manager and researcher, Oxfam Intermón



15:30 - 16:30

Case Studies I

- Antoine Messéan, Terre de Liens
- Roberto Serrano, Escuela de Pastores La Estiva
- tbc

16:30 - 16:45

Coffee Break

16:45 - 17:30

Poster session: "Stories from the Field: The People Shaping the Future of Agriculture"

- Ana Marcén Murillo, Spain
- Bledar Meta, Albania
- Cécile Pérez-Raynaud, France
- Imen Mefteh, Tunisia
- Sergio Alejandro Urioste Daza, Spain
- Engin Samet Dede, Turkey
- Natasa Bokan, Croatia
- Salem Ghanam, Egypt

Day 2 | Thursday 1 October 2026

9:00 - 9:15

Key takeaways from Day 1

9:15 - 10:45

Round Table III — Social and Cultural Dimension: "Why choose farming? Rural living conditions and the choice of stay"

Moderated by: **David Meredith**, Senior Research Officer, Head of the AgriFood Social, Behavioural and Spatial Science Department at Teagasc. Coordinator of the SafeHabitat Project.

- **Javier Esparcia**, Professor of Geography and Dr in Sociology at Universidad de Valencia and co-founder of the Inter-university Institute for Local Development
- **Mohamed Taher Sraïri**, Senior lecturer at Hassan II Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine
- **Teresa López López**, President of FADEMUR
- **Majda Černič Istenič**, Principal Research Associate at Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZR SAZU)
- **Mónica Quintela**, Gender and Youth Officer, World Rural Forum

10:45 - 11:05

Coffee Break

11:05 - 12:30

Round Table IV — Organisational and Technological Dimension: "Farming differently: technology, cooperatives and new business models"

Moderated by: **Lorena Tudela Marco**, Co-founder of Agencia Agroa

- **Joan Mir Piqueras**, Chief Executive Officer of Anecoop
- **Chadi Abdallah**, General Secretary at the National Council for Scientific Research, Lebanon (CNRS-L)
- **Ana Mamić**, Steering Committee Member, Youth in LEADER (ELARD)
- **Lamia Ghaouti**, Director of INRA Morocco



12:30 - 14:00

Round Table V — Political and Institutional Dimension: “Enabling the next farmers: policies, partnerships and investment for agricultural renewal”

Moderated by: **Marwan Benali**, Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division (ESP), FAO

- **Stoyan Tchoukanov**, President of the NAT Section at the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
- **Carolina Gutierrez Ansotegui**, Deputy Director General for Rural Revitalization, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Spain (tbc)
- **Eduardo Baamonde Noche**, President of Cajamar
- **Gloria Abouzeid**, Director General of Cooperatives, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon

14:00 - 15:00

Lunch Break

15:00 - 16:00

Case Studies II

- **Alessia Mazzù**, Cooperativa Coraggio
- **Marcos Garcés**, sociologist and young farmer
- **Mokhtar Bouazza**, Gardens of Babylon

16:00 - 16:15

Coffee Break

16:15 - 17:00

Rapporteurs session — Looking ahead: Shaping the future of farming for the next generation

17:00 - 17:30

Closing session

- **Alun Jones**, Head of Projects, CIHEAM Zaragoza
- **Luisa María García García**, Deputy Director for Cooperation with the Arab World and Asia, AECID
- **Tobías Jung Altrogge**, Secretary-General, FIAP (tbc)
- **Ángel Ubieto**, General Directorate of Rural Development, Government of Aragon
- **Petra Kezman**, Deputy Secretary General for Human Development at the Union for the Mediterranean (tbc)