

Quinoa: A climate-smart Crop Option in the Mediterranean Area

A Public Lecture in the framework of COSIMENA



Realization	Digital Event; MS-Teams
Date	Tuesday, October 18th, 2022 from 5.00 p.m. till 7 p.m. (Cairo Local Time)
Guests	Researchers and Scientists working in the field of agriculture, food, ecology, environment, health, and medicine from Germany, Egypt, the MENA region and Sudan
Duration	2 h
General Moderation and Contact Person	Nermine Abdelaty
Organizer	DAAD Regional Office Cairo German Academic Exchange Service 11 El Saleh Ayoub St. Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt URL: www.daad.eg

Concept Note

Quinoa4Med (Q4M) is a project conducted by the University of Hohenheim that brings together scientific partners from five Mediterranean countries to advance climate-resilient quinoa germplasm and upscale quinoa cultivation and valorization in an integrated approach. The experts at the University of Hohenheim selected and integrated the best-adapted multi-purpose quinoa lines in multiple farming environments and valorization chains. Together with societal and company partners, they strive to invigorate local value chains/ nets and a stable market for quinoa producers.

The introduction of novel quinoa breeding lines will diversify current cropping systems, stabilize overall harvests, recover soils, and improve year-round crop production for food and the income security of smallholders. Q4M's work program has at its core four Living Labs at distinct demo sites. It takes up priorities of SDG, EU policies and National Strategy or Action Plans of Maghreb countries.

Q4M will set the grounds, pave the way and connect partners to follow up on adapting small farming systems to climate change and improve their livelihoods.

The event is organized within the framework of the DAAD Regional Office Cairo project "Clusters of Scientific Innovation in the Middle East and North Africa" (COSIMENA), which aims to strengthen and initiate scientific cooperation and to make networks of researchers and universities between Germany and the MENA region visible. As a result, existing cooperation is made visible and potential synergies are initiated.

Bio of The Speakers



Jun.-Prof. Schmöckel lived and studied in Germany, Australia, the UK and Saudi Arabia. This made her realize how much agriculture is constrained by abiotic stresses such as salinity, drought and heat. This has awoken in her a desire to understand how some plants are able to grow in marginal environments and to find ways to make less tolerant plants grow better and maintain yield despite the presence of abiotic stresses.

During PhD and postdoctoral work, she focused on salinity stress and salinity tolerance. She has been involved in many projects, from the characterization of transport proteins, mechanisms of signaling, genetics and genomics to fieldwork. As a Junior Professor, she now integrates this diverse experience to lead a group in the field of plant physiology and yield stability with a focus on stresses that are becoming more relevant for Germany because of climate change, such as water deficit and heat.



Laila Eleraky is an experienced project manager and holds responsible for the PRIMA Quinoa4Med project. She has a nutritional background and is currently finishing her PhD in nutritional sciences. She brings to this project academic knowledge, extended project management experience in Mozambique, Tanzania and the Maghreb, as well as intercultural competencies and language skills (AR, FR, EN, DE).

Programme: To join [click here](#)

Tuesday, October 18th, 2022, from 5.00 p.m. till 7 p.m. (Cairo Local Time)

5.00 p.m.- 5.10 p.m.	Greeting Words
	Fatma Soliman Deputy Director of the DAAD Regional Office Cairo
	Lorena Mohr Head of Science and Protocol, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Egypt
5.10 p.m. – 6.10 p.m.	Presentation: “Quina4Med” Project
	Jun. Prof. Sandra Schmöckel University of Hohenheim
	Laila Eleraky University of Hohenheim
6.10 p.m. – 6.40 pm.	Q & A session
6.40 p.m.- 6.45 p.m.	Wrap-up & end of the event