

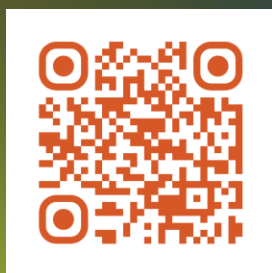
STAPLES

Stable food Access and Prices and Lower Exposure to shocks



This project is part of the PRIMA programme supported by the European Union. Under grant agreement n°2333.

Name, Organization



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General overview

- **Acronym:** STAPLES
- **Title:** STable food Access and Prices and Lower Exposure to Shocks
- **Total budget:** € 2,692,925
- **Duration:** 01 May 2024 – 30 April 2027 (36 months)
- **Coordinator:** Politenico di Milano
- **Countries' focus:** Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Libano, Morocco, Tunisia
- **Fieldwork:** Egypt, Morocco and Spain
- **Products' focus:** barley, maize, rice, wheat

Consortium

10 partners from 4 countries:
Italy, Egypt, Morocco, Spain

- 3 Universities
- 3 Research centres
- 2 Multi country business networks/confederation
- 2 Private actors



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ascame

Association des Chambres de Commerce et d'Industrie de la Méditerranée
Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry
جمعية غرف التجارة والصناعة والبحر الأبيض المتوسط



Challenges

- MENA countries **heavily rely on cereal imports** to meet their population's dietary needs.
- Imports dependency makes MENA food systems **vulnerable to global market fluctuations and economic shocks**, increasing the risks of instability in food availability, accessibility, and affordability.

Why is MENA Region Highly Dependent on Cereals Imports?



Dietary habits: central role of grains in daily consumption habits



Environmental factors: scarcity of water and of arable land



Growing population: regional rate are above the global average

**Low production
vs
High demand**

Objectives



UNDERSTAND

Gain insight into local systems' **vulnerability to trade dynamics and global value chain shocks** that threaten local cereal supply chain and food security.



DEVELOP

Develop **innovative solutions and evidence-based recommendations** → strategies, action plans and best practices that governments and economic actors of the MENA food systems along the cereal value chain can use to enhance the resilience of the food systems and ensure food security.



DESIGN

Design **IT tools** for a comprehensive **monitoring, analysis and management of cereal production and trade** in MENA countries → improve preparedness of governments and economic actors along the cereal value chain and in the food system to anticipate and cope with external stressors and shocks.

Target groups and specific needs



MENA smallholders farmers and farmers cooperatives

Access to knowledge, technology to reduce post-harvest losses, increase productivity, and improve market conditions.



MENA other private actors along domestic cereals value chain

Improving market operations, supply chain efficiency and market decisions through information management tools.



MENA public agencies and decision makers

Designing evidence-based policies to strengthen food security, trade, and smallholder support systems, fostering a resilient cereal supply chain.



EU Producers in the food GVC

Enhancing trade opportunities and cooperation in the Mediterranean area.



General public, civil society and NGOs

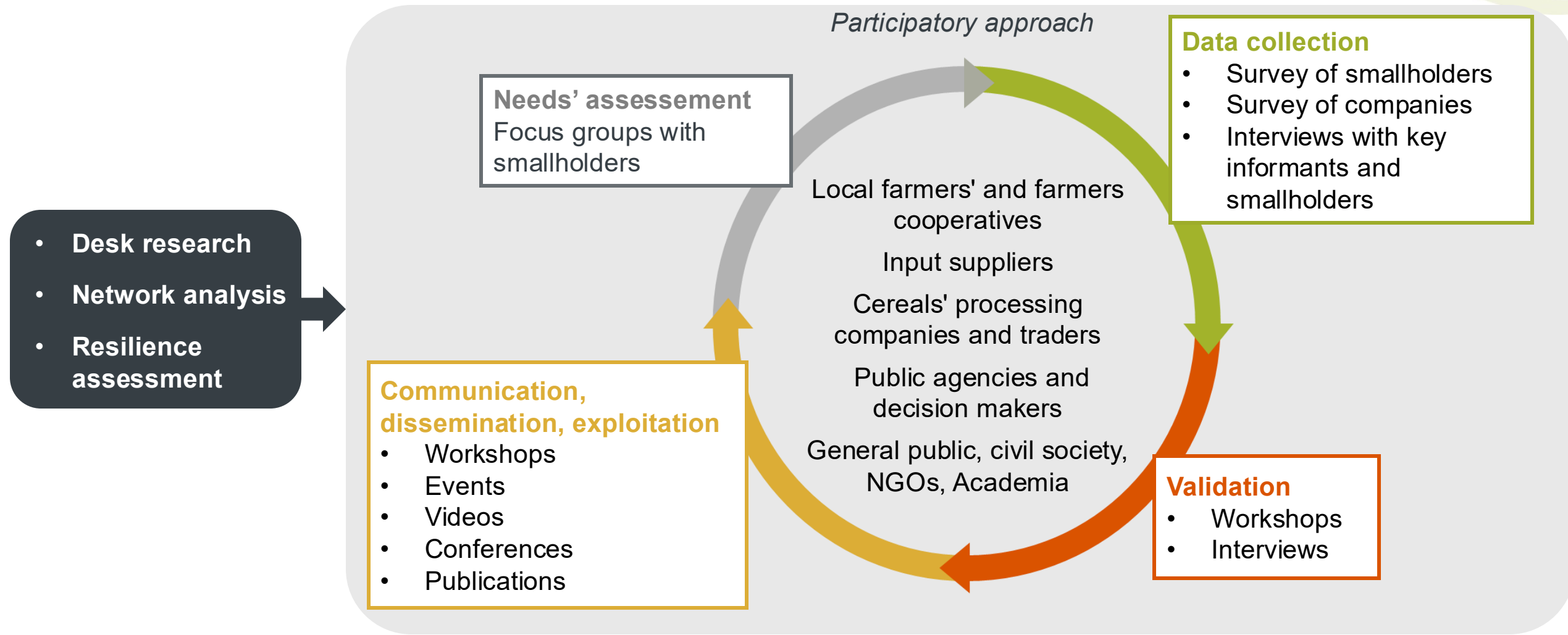
Raising awareness on the impact of sustainable agriculture, water-intensive value chains, and informed consumer choices on food security and the environment.



Academia

Advancing research and education on global food supply chain, food security, sustainability, and agricultural innovation through STAPLES findings and methodologies.

Approach



Expected results/outputs



Indicators toolkit for resilience assessment



Resilience-enhancing trade policies



Recommendations for public procurement and private storage



Design of a new multipurpose agricultural machinery for marginal land



Strategy for the promotion and rediscovery of traditional drought-resistant cereals



Virtual water analysis of competing crops



Dashboard and
decision support
system for
stakeholders of the
cereals value chain

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