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STAPLES
Stable food Access and Prices and Lower Exposure to shocks

PRIMA
PARTNERSHIP FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

# *STAPLES Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Food Security and Cereal Value Chains*

**Monday, 9 November 2026** | 09:30–17:00 | Cairo, Egypt

## AGENDA

■ Plenary sessions ■ Parallel sessions ■ Breaks & networking

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| **09:00** – 09:30 | **Registration & Welcome Coffee** |
| **09:30** – 10:00 | **Opening Session**<br>• Mr. Ahmed El Wakil, Chairman, Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce "FEDCOC", and Vice-President, Union of Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry "ASCAME"<br>• H.E. Agostino Palese, Ambassador of the Italian Republic to Egypt<br>• H.E. Alaa Farouk, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation<br>• H.E. Dr. Sherif Farouk, Minister of Supply and Internal Trade<br>• H.E. Dr. Hani Swailem: Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation (tbc)<br>**Moderated by** *Dr. Alaa Ezz, Secretary General, Confederation of Egyptian European Business Associations (CEEBA)* |
| **10:00** – 10:45 | **Plenary Session 1 – Project Overview**<br>• Brief overview of the STAPLES project<br>• Key challenges and solutions: production, trade, storage, food security and water use<br>**Led by** *Dr. Marta Marson, Politecnico di Milano* |
| **10:45** – 11:15 | **Plenary Session 2 – Field Experiences**<br>• Field activities carried out by the Chambers of Commerce and key local partners in Egypt<br>• Main insights gathered from these activities<br>**Led by** *ASCAME* |
| **11:15** – 11:45 | **Coffee Break** |
| **11:45** – 13:00 | **Parallel Sessions 1**<br>*Three sessions running in parallel* |
| **PS1.A** | **Securing Supply: Public Procurement, Strategic Reserves and Storage for Resilience**<br>• Validate findings and recommendations on public procurement, strategic food reserves and storage management<br>• Assess the feasibility and relevance of measures to improve storage access and stock management – especially for smallholders, cooperatives and public agencies<br>• Discuss how procurement, trade and storage policies can support resilience planning<br>**Led by** *Politecnico di Milano* |

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| **PS1.B** | **Reviving Traditional Rainfed Cereals: Culture, Livelihoods and Local Food Futures**<br>• Validate findings on traditional rainfed cereals, their value chains and historical resilience strategies<br>• Assess the relevance of identified varieties and value chains with local stakeholders<br>• Explore feasible promotion and valorisation strategies<br>• Identify community-driven pathways linking cultural heritage, biodiversity, gastronomy and local development<br>**Led by:** *University of Gastronomic Sciences* |
| **PS1.C** | **Water, Trade and Competing Uses: Rethinking Cereal Production under Scarcity**<br>• Validate the virtual water analysis and its policy relevance for balancing food security and water scarcity<br>• Assess assumptions on competing crops and sectors<br>• Review national scenarios and trade-offs<br>• Discuss the usefulness of the recommendations for agricultural, trade and water-resource planning<br>**Led by:** *Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association* |
| **13:00** – 14:15 | **Networking Lunch** |
| **14:15** – 15:30 | **Parallel Sessions 2**<br>*Three sessions running in parallel* |
| **PS2.D** | **Mapping Risks in Cereal Value Chains**<br>• Present and validate findings on cereal and agricultural-input trade networks, with a focus on fertilisers<br>• Examine the exposure of Egypt and Morocco to external market shocks<br>• Multi-scenario analysis of potential future stressors<br>• Round-table discussion on regional relevance and policy implications<br>**Led by** *Collegio Carlo Alberto and Economic Research Forum* |
| **PS2.E** | **Robustness and Practical Relevance of Resilience Indicators**<br>• Validate and disseminate findings of the empirical analysis on Moroccan and Egyptian firms<br>• Present preliminary results on firms' exposure to shocks and resilience strategies<br>• Moderated focus group: participants test the findings<br>• against their own experience<br>• Identify any overlooked shocks or responses<br>**Led by** *Politecnico di Milano* |
| **PS2.F** | **From Evidence to Action: Testing the Dashboard and Decision Support System**<br>• Present and test the STAPLES Dashboard and Decision Support System for cereal supply and food-security decisions in MENA countries<br>• Explore the available data, scenario-based tools and prototype modules<br>• Provide feedback to refine and further develop both components<br>**Led by** *Politecnico di Milano* |
| **15:30** – 16:30 | **Plenary Session 3 – Policy Roundtable**<br>• Moderated dialogue between policymakers, private-sector representatives and researchers<br>• Key challenges, opportunities and policy priorities<br>• Focus: strengthening cereal value chains, food security and resilience in the region<br>**Moderated by** *Dr. Alaa Ezz, CEEBA* |
| **16:30** – 17:00 | **Plenary Session 4 – From Research to Art**<br>• Presentation of the artworks developed live by two artists throughout the event<br>• The artists explain how they interpreted the key themes, discussions and ideas of the day<br>**Led by** *Dr. Maria Ruiz de Cossio, EMEA* |

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| **17:00** – 17:30 | **Closing Plenary**<br>• Main findings and messages from all sessions<br>• Takeways and concluding remarks<br>**Lead by** *Dr. Marta Marson, POLIMI and Dr. Alaa Ezz, CEEBA* |
| **17:30** – 18:00 | **Networking Coffee**<br>• Informal exchange among participants<br>• Identify shared interests |

**PROJECT PARTNERS**

**IN COLLABORATION WITH**

الاتحاد العام للغرف التجارية المصرية
Federation of Egyptian Chamber of Commerce
FEDCOC

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