The Novagrimed project and the « agroenergy chain » action

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Novagrimed – Agricultural Innovations in Mediterranean Areas

- Transnational co-operation: Mediterranean area
- ERDF financing (2007-2013)
- Budget: 1 856 719,47 euros (73% = ERDF)
- From April, 1st 2009 to March, 31st, 2012
Main objectives of the project

General objective:
Help Regions to implement new policies supporting Med agriculture through collective and innovative actions contributing to the sustainability and competitiveness of the sector

Specific objectives:
Through the regional co-operation, elaborate an argumentation concerning:

- The relevance and legitimacy of the Region in agricultural policies (elaboration of a Med agricultural strategy)
- The identification and recognition of Med agriculture specificities within the framework of the CAP reform
Novagrimed project - partnership

Fruit vegetable and horticultural European Regions Assembly

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Montpellier

Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region

Sardinia Region

Puglia Region

Mare Adriatico

Mer Mediterranee

Mer Egee

Thessaly Region

Mar Egeo

Mare Adriatico

Mare Mediterranee

Partenaires

Liens européens

Capitales
Novagrimed project – structuration of work

- « Agroenergy Chain » Action
- « Water Management » Action
- « Organic Agriculture » Action
- « Agricultural Practices » Action
- « Adaptation of Products » Action
- « Rural Integrated Development » Action
- « Mediterranean Label » Action
- « Governance Action » Action
- « Governance Capitalisation » Action

Component
« A Med Agriculture producing a quality environment »

Component
« Specification and valuation of Mediterranean agriculture »

Component
« The Region, actor of Med agriculture competitiveness »
Novagrimed

The « agro-energy chain » action

A main question:

How to organize agro-energy activities at local / regional scales in order to avoid specific problems? (competition with food crops, intensification)

The concept of **Sustainable Mediterranean Agro-energy District (SMAD)**

- A tool for the structuration of agro-energy in a sustainable and competitive way
- Important opportunities for the development of rural areas
- Local / regional production, processing and consumption of energy
- The territorial anchorage of SMAD: a concept « made to measure » and not « ready to wear »
What is a « Sustainable Mediterranean Agro-energy District »?

**S** Sustainable
- principles of functioning
- decentralized nature of the activity (SME’s)
- limitation of « pitfalls »
- collective organization (governance)

**M** Mediterranean
- territorial anchorage of the concept
- non « standard » model, but adaptation to local / regional context
- post-fordits approaches (active role of territory)

**A** Agroenergy:
- specific form of district
- paradigm of « green growth »
- specific co-ordination of local agroenergy chains

**D** District:
- specific form of territorialized development
- geographic area bringing a large range of specialized SMEs (industrial atmosphere)
- skills accumulation (training, R&D)
- local governance
The components of the agroenergy district

- Farms, professional organizations
- Firms
- Training institutions
- Associations, civil society
- AGROENERGY DISTRICT
- R&D institutions
- Local & regional public authorities
The concept of « public goods »

- Services provided by agriculture to society
- Non exclusive, non competing
- Opportunities for rural development
- Environmentnal or social public goods
- Not governed by the market: public support

Agro-energy sector as a provider of public goods
Novagrimed proposals for UE policymakers

The institutional recognition of the « Sustainable Agroenergy District » concept through a territorial certification.

- Definition of criteria (proximity, governance, R&D strategy...)
- “Labelisation of territories”
- Public support (technical, financial, administrative)
- Contribution to the organization of agroenergy sector at local scale
Possible criteria for the implementation of a sustainable agroenergy district

**Proximity:** local activity, avoid strategies of importation / export

**Governance:** coherence, efficiency, involvement of civil society

**Sustainability:**
- link with EU Directive 2009/128 bound to renewable energy
- cohesion rural / urban area, energy "well being", distribution of added value, employment, rural areas competitiveness
- limitation of size power, surfaces, income, SME's)

**Public policies:** financial, technical & administrative support, long term

**Territorial anchorage:** preservation of added value on territories, adaptation to Med specificities
Conclusion: the contribution of Novagrimed to a possible new co-operation project in the agro-energy sector (territorial & organisational aspects)

- Preservation of natural resources: waste, climate change, greenhouse gases;
- Social equity: distribution of added value, cohesion and quality of life in rural areas;
- Economic development: farmers’ incomes, jobs, integration of agriculture/industry, organisation of the agro-energy sector, competitiveness of rural areas.