



Improving competitiveness and sustainability of medicinal and aromatic plants through advance technologies and organic production

Production of medicinal and aromatic plants is an important sector that contributes to the economic and social development of Albania. This sector generates up to 8 times higher income per hectare than traditional crops, especially the organic production. The project will contribute to job retention and creation along the supply chain of medicinal and aromatic plants and encourage farmers to adopt organic production practices.

Objectives

- Capacitate farmers with adequate knowledge and skills trainings on best practices of production, drying, processing with a special focus on organic medicinal plants.
- Improve quality standards for medicinal and aromatic plants
- Reduce production cost and workload through the introduction of advance technologies
- Improve the tracability system and reduce its maintance cost through digitalization of the process



Main activities

- Develop training programmes for famers with special focus on organic production
- Support the equipment of farmers with specific agriculture machineries for cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants
- Facilitate provision of quality of organic agricultural inputs, such as seeds and seedlings
- Introduce a digital platform at farm level to caption and process data about soil, weather condition and pest management
- Introduce an electronic traceability system

Country/Region

Albania/Tepelene

Project partners

Private business:

Biobes shpk

Sonnentor

Research or public institution:

Albanian Institute for Biological Production

Agricultural University of Tirana

Duration

01.10.2022 – 31.12.2023

Total budget

199'940 CHF

SECO contribution

99'950 CHF

Consortium contribution

99'990 CHF





A public good for the organic sector of the country

- The set of the digitalized technology for monitoring soil, weather and pests/diseases will be an innovative technology applied in Albania and attract more farmers in the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants.
- The involvement of the Institute of Organic Production will enable a better partnership between the institute, the cluster and the farmer and will facilitate future knowledge transfer to other farmers and processors.
- The collaboration with the Agriculture University of Tirane will give the opportunity to students to do on-the-job training and internships at Biobes and production farms.
- Awareness-creation on organic production of farmers and consumers through the social and media campaign.
- The care to manage spontaneous flora in a sustainable way to allow natural regeneration preserves biodiversity.



Picture 1: Harvest of herbs



Picture 7: Processing the herbs



Picture 3: Herb field

Contact information

Biobes shpk

www.biobes.al

Sonnentor

www.sonnentor.com

Organic Trade for Development Program

www.organictrade4development.org