Safe and High Quality Food Production using Poor Quality Waters and Improved Irrigation Systems and Management

From 2005-10-01 to 2009-09-30

Project details

| Total cost:  | EUR 7 107 306 |
| Topic(s):   | FOOD-2004-T5.4.6.9 - Rational use of water for quality and safe crop products |
| EU contribution: | EUR 4 740 000 |
| Call for proposal: | FP6-2004-FOOD-3-B |
| Coordinated in: | Denmark |
| Funding scheme: | STREP - Specific Targeted Research Project |

Objective

The present proposal addresses two fundamental problems that over the past decade increasingly have become concerns of the general public: the one problem being the jeopardizing of safety and quality of our food products, while the other being the increasing competition for clean fresh water.

The proposed project has a multi-disciplinary approach, which integrate the European as well as the global dimension of the EU-policy on food quality and safety. The main driving force behind the project idea is new research results that demonstrate irrigation pattern can increase the water use efficiency as well as the quality of vegetable crops. Furthermore, have recent innovations in the water treatment and irrigation industry shown potential for the use of low quality water resources, such as rivers and other surface water, for irrigation of vegetable crops without jeopardizing food safety or quality.

The proposal includes three components:

1) The technological development of water saving irrigation systems and management for use of low quality water resources. Technological advances will be made in the field of cost effective tertiary water treatment technology for on-farm use. Irrigation equipment for sub-surface irrigation systems will be tested in the field and developed to facilitate a new water saving strategy, PRD-irrigation, which improves water use efficiency and the quality of the produce.

2) Impact of the technology on product quality and safety, production system and the environment as well as a risk assessment from farm to fork.

3) A component concerning the feasibility and application of the system.

The financial and economic aspects will be investigated and institutional and consumer barriers will be identified. Decision Support System will be developed for the on-farm management of water resources. A range of dissemination activities addressing national and EU authorities, commercial stakeholders from the food sector, and farmers' organizations is included.

Related information

Result In Brief

Poor quality waters for better irrigation

Report Summaries

Final Report Summary - SAFIR (Safe and High Quality Food Production using Poor Quality Waters and Improved Irrigation Systems and Management)
Coordinator
UNIVERSITY OF AARHUS
Nordre Ringgade 1
AARHUS C
Denmark
See on map

Administrative contact: Finn Lars PLAUBORG, (Senior Scientist)
Tel.: +45-8999-1809
Fax: +45-8999-1619
E-mail

Participants
BUREAU DE RECHERCHES GEOLOGIQUES ET MINIERES
39-43, Quai André Citroën - Tour Mirabeau
PARIS
France
See on map

Administrative contact: Wolfram KLOPPMANN
Tel.: +33-238643915
E-mail

CHINA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
No.2, West Road of YuanMingYuan, Haidian District
BEIJING
China
See on map

Administrative contact: Guitong Li
Tel.: +86-1062732963
Fax: +86-1062733596
E-mail

CHINESE ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
South Street Zhong Guan Cun 12
BEIJING
China

Administrative contact: Xuebin Qi
Tel.: +86-3733322194
Fax: +86-3733322308
E-mail
Administrative contact: Adriano BATTILANI
Tel.: +39-0514298892
Fax: +39-051390422
E-mail

Administrative contact: Merete STYCZEN
Tel.: +45-45169239
Fax: +45-45169292
E-mail

Administrative contact: Adriano JOSS
Tel.: +41-44-8235408
Fax: +41-44-8235389
E-mail

Administrative contact: Radmila STIKIC
Tel.: +381-11615315/145
Fax: +381-11193659
E-mail
FOOD AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS INSTITUTE
Rolighedsvej 25
FREDERIKSBERG
Denmark
See on map

Administrative contact: Søren Marcus PEDERSEN
Tel.: +45-35286882
Fax: +45-35286802
E-mail

GRUNDFOS BIOBOOSTER A/S
Poul Due Jensensvej 7
BJERRINGBRO
Denmark
See on map

Administrative contact: Soeren Noehr BAK
Tel.: +45-87517500
Fax: +45-87500283
E-mail

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE
Keppel Street
LONDON
United Kingdom
See on map

Administrative contact: Tony FLETCHER, (Senior lecturer)
Tel.: +44-2079272429
Fax: +44-2075804524
E-mail

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
Egialias 19 &Chalepa
MAROUSI - ATHENS
Greece

Administrative contact: Kostas CHARTZOULAKIS
Tel.: +30-2821083442
Fax: +30-2821093963
E-mail
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL, NERC  
Polaris House, North Star Avenue  
SWINDON, WILTSHIRE  
United Kingdom

**Administrative contact:** Ragab RAGAB  
Tel.: +44-1491692303  
Fax: +44-1491692424

NETAFIM (A.C.S.) LTD.  
161 Arlozorov st.  
TEL-AVIV  
Israel

**See on map**

**Administrative contact:** Avi SCHWEITZER  
Tel.: +972-8-6473634  
Fax: +972-8-6473600

POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES THE FRANCISZEK GORSKI INSTITUTE OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGY  
Niezapominajek 21  
CRACOW  
Poland

**See on map**

**Administrative contact:** Franciszek JANOWIAK  
Tel.: +48-124253301  
Fax: +48-124253320

STAZIONE SPERIMENTALE INDUSTRIA CONSERVE ALIMENTARI  
Viale F.Tanara 31/a  
PARMA  
Italy

**See on map**

**Administrative contact:** Luca SANDEI  
Tel.: +39-0521795257  
Fax: +39-0521771829
Administrative contact: Christian Richardt JENSEN
Tel.: +45-35283392
Fax: +45-35283384
E-mail

Subjects
Agriculture - Food

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