

Workshop

Innovative technologies and integrated solutions to improve water and soil use efficiency under arid conditions

Date: January 11-12, 2016

Venue: International Center for Biosaline Agriculture, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Background

The International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) has coordinated three projects since 2014. They are:

- 1) Improving water and nutrient use efficiency for crop production in dry lands via soil amendments and remote sensing techniques;
- 2) Development of novel real-time irrigation management tool based on canopy spectral reflectance; and
- 3) Improving economics of using saline water in arid and semi-arid areas through integrated aqua-agriculture systems (IAAS).

The major outcomes of the three projects will be presented at the workshop, followed by a discussion forum in which various stakeholders from public and private sectors, policymakers and end-users will be actively involved.

Agenda

Monday, January 11, 2016

- 08:30-09:00 Registration
- 09:00-09:15 Welcome address by **Dr. Ismahane Elouafi**, Director General, ICBA
- 09:15-09:45 Research impacts by **Dr. Ghazi Abu Rumman**, Deputy Director / Director of Policy, Research and Development, MENA NWC
- 09:45-10:15 Group photo and coffee break

Outcomes of the FABRI Projects

- 10:15 -10:45 Improving water and nutrient use efficiency for crop production in dry lands via soil amendments and remote sensing techniques (YWSP 01-02 Program)
Dr. Henda Mahmoudi, ICBA and Dr. Ali El Battay, AGU, Bahrain
- 10:45-11:15 Development of novel real-time irrigation management tool based on canopy spectral reflectance (WIF Program)
Dr. Hirich Aziz, ICBA
- 11:15-11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30-12:00 Improving economics of using saline water in arid and semi-arid areas through integrated aqua-agriculture systems (IAAS) (YWSP 01-01 Program)
Dr. Dionyssia Lyra, ICBA
- 12:00-13:00 General discussion on projects outcomes
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

- 09:00-10:00 Visiting FABRI projects sites
- 10:00-10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30-12:00 Group discussion: review of the innovative technologies and integrated solutions presented on Day 1 and steps forward to consider their scaling-up and adoption by farmers in the region—SWOT approach
- 12:00-13:00 Concluding remarks
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch



MENA NWC

Middle East and North Africa
Network of Water Centers of Excellence



Organizer

- International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA), United Arab Emirates

Partners

- Middle East and North Africa Network of Water Centers of Excellence (MENA NWC), Jordan
- Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Bahrain
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka

Funding

- Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) and Further Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative (FABRI) through grants of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)