

ADA - Adaptation in Agriculture

LIFE19 CCA/IT/001257

Start date 01/09/2020 - End date 31/12/2023

TOTAL BUDGET € 1.975.000

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural practices have always adapted to variations according to climate conditions. The increasing frequency of extreme weather events, the magnitude of climate change and the difficulties to access future climate scenarios are challenging farmers' adaptive capacity, increasing the need to implement adaptation strategies at farm and value chain levels. Farmers, mainly of small and medium-size enterprises, are highly exposed to climate change and need to know which adaptation measures to implement locally as climate change directly impacts yields, putting at risk their revenue and thus their business capacity to survive, interrupting or reducing the whole value chains' revenue. Besides direct impacts of extreme weather events, climate change affects the maintenance of productions' quality requisites along the value chain. Finally, the scale of climate change poses a risk to affordability and insurability of climate related risks.

PARTNERSHIP

The UnipolSai Assicurazioni S.p.A is the project's Lead Partner (LP) being in charge of the coordination. In addition, 7 other Italian Partners are involved in the project:

ARPAE Agenzia per la Prevenzione, l'Ambiente e l'Energia dell'Emilia-Romagna

CIA Confederazione Agricoltori Italiani

CREA PB Consiglio per la Ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria - Centro Politiche e Bioeconomia

Circolo Festambiente

Legacoop Agroalimentare Nord Italia

Leithà S.r.l

Regione Emilia-Romagna

PROJECT MAIN OBJECTIVES

LIFE ADA is implementing a public-private partnership (PPP) between insurers, public administration (regions), scientific institutes and producer organisations (POs) to increase farmers' adaptive capacity by:

1. transferring knowledge on climatic scenarios together with risk management and adaptive measures to enhance farmers' capacity to tackle current and future climate risks
2. building proper tools to support their decision-making process in shaping efficient adaptation plans at farm and supply chain level
3. framing a coherent policy strategy at regional level to support farmers' adaptive planning
4. fostering an innovative approach of insurers to build capacity on risk reduction to maintain insurability of farmers in the long-term despite the increase of catastrophic and systemic risks.

ADA LIFE's main targets are individual farmers and POs in three value chains: dairy (Parmigiano Reggiano cheese), wine, fruit and vegetables, with some focus on quality chains and Geographical Indications Products given their specific vulnerability and value for the local economy and environment. ADA builds

upon a PPP approach aiming at sharing and scaling up knowledge between the various players, setting adaptation plans for the value chains at a wider territorial scale, creating adaptation decision-making tools and implementing concrete adaptation actions in three value chains.

To reach wider impacts on climate change adaptation ADA will be a practical project focused on the concrete use of its tools and the measurement of its impacts to increase communities' resilience.

PROJECT STRUCTURE AND WPs DESCRIPTION

The project's objectives will be achieved implementing the following key actions:

3 preparatory actions: A1 - ELABORATION OF CLIMATE SCENARIOS and A2 – ADA LIBRARY OF ADAPTIVE INTERVENTIONS AT FARM AND SUPPLY CHAIN LEVEL will provide the necessary background analysis and data to feed the ADA tool in ACTION A3, a tool designed for POs and individual farmers to support their decision-making process to define and implement effective and concrete adaptation action plans (AAPs) and supply chains' adaptation action plans (SCAAPs).

4 implementation actions: C1 - ADA'S LEARNING COMMUNITY to engage final users (POs and farmers) and transfer them the necessary background knowledge to build their AAPs and SCAAPs; C2 - ADA TOOL TEST with a first group of pilot POs and farmers in the Emilia-Romagna Region to provide them support to draft their AAPs and SCAAPs and finalise the ADA tool; C3 - DEVELOPMENT OF SECTORAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY FOR THE SUPPLY CHAINS AT REGIONAL LEVEL by defining public guidelines and intervention tools for the 3 identified value chains; C4 - IMPACT ANALYSIS OF ADAPTATION ACTIONS to assess the costs and benefits of adaptation measures for farmers and identify all the tools (including incentives) aiming at supporting farmers in their adaptation process.

3 monitoring of the impact of the project actions: Action D1 will set a consolidated database to monitor the project's impacts, in particular with regards to the AAPs implementation that will be tested at farm-level during Action D2. Action D3 will evaluate the shared value created by the project in a multi-stakeholder perspective.

5 communication and dissemination of results actions will be implemented to ensure a strong dissemination of the project's activities and results (E1, E2 and E4) and to guarantee the replication of the project by developing an ADA community (E3) in three additional regions (Lazio, Tuscany and Veneto) and by writing final guidelines and a white paper for ADA's replicability (E5).

A structured project management process will guarantee the project's successful implementation according to the budget and timeline forecast (F1). Furthermore, ADA aims at networking with other LIFE and non-LIFE projects (F2). Finally, F.3 - AFTER-LIFE PLAN will ensure the long-term sustainability of the project.

MAIN OUTPUTS

ADA's main expected result is farmers' increased capacity to implement efficient adaptation strategies to strengthen their ability to manage risks, prevent damage and ensure the maintenance of the value produced along the value chain. ADA will focus on 3 value chains that represent (together) at national level 40% of the revenue for the whole agricultural sector, almost 20% of farmers, 20% of utilised agricultural area (UAA) and 40% of the workforce of the specialized firms.

To ensure a wide outreach ADA will:

- build a tool to enable individual farmers and POs to plan adaptive interventions, realising 250 AAPs and 6 SCAAPs, reaching 6000 individual farmers to use the ADA tool in 4 Regions and 15000 farmers at national level (respectively 10% and 6% of farmers of the 3 selected value chains). The involvement of 3 value chains will increase the impact, considering the size of the POs (Granterre, Apofruit, Apo Conerpo and Federdoc) that expressed interest in participating in the project;

- realise 1 regional strategy for the 3 selected supply chains (integrated in RER's unified strategy for climate change mitigation and adaptation) and 2 regional financial schemes;
- draw guidelines to facilitate ADA's replicability to other supply chains;
- draw guidelines for other Regions to replicate the PPP model and favour a better adaptation strategy and legislative design;
- involve European networks and relevant stakeholders with 4 workshops and a side event;
- impact climate resilience and adaptive capacity in at least 4 Regions and in various economic sectors (eg. insurance, agriculture and agro-industry) by setting AAPs and SCAAPs;
- transfer the capacity to draw strategies and define integrated plans for climate change adaptation starting from specific vulnerabilities in the agricultural and agro-industrial sectors (territorial vulnerability, need to define adaptation strategies, risk prevention, modification of production processes and crops).