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The implementation of the DIVERCROP project in Algeria

Salah Bouchemal

University of Oum El Bouagchi, Algeria

The DIVERCROP project is concerned with the Mediterranean land use and the joint effects of spatial dynamics on food and biodiversity. It seeks to evaluate, on the one hand, the expected effects of the main ongoing changes on the environment and, on the other hand, to analyze and model at several scales of the Mediterranean basin the spatial interactions between the current dynamics of agricultural practices and natural environments, with the objective next of feeding cities. It will also have another interest, that of creating a comprehensive and homogeneous database on the western part of the Mediterranean Basin (Southern Europe and Maghreb). Then, it will aim at characterizing the main landscape formations and to specify their determinants to better answer to the food needs of the cities. The DIVERCROP project will also have the socio-economic impact of allowing the development of a method which would take into account the spatial trends at the scale of the Mediterranean Basin, to allow a regulation of land uses at different scales, and to discuss some contrasting socio-economic scenarios, and to integrate new knowledge about land-use dynamics into environmental planning and agricultural policies. As for its environmental impacts, the DIVERCROP project will be an opportunity to highlight the consequences of the spatial trends at work on the environment, in the Mediterranean Basin and on agriculture, in order to allow the protection of the most threatened spaces. Regarding our topic, in the framework of the 3rd World Congress on Food Security, we would like to announce the implementation of the DIVERCROP project in Algeria, through some Eastern sectors, places that are sufficiently representative of the North-South ecological degradation and with regard to the diversity of situations, yet situations that have two points in common: farming activities taking different forms and rural areas that have become spaces of urban and rural interference.

Biography

Salah Bouchemal was Head of RNAMS Laboratory and currently leads the research team ADDYME and that of the DIVERCROP for Algeria. His major concern is life in the countryside and their upheavals and thorough investigations into the peasantry. It was followed by several publications on these aspects, as well as his involvement in group work particularly in the context ANR kind of international projects as such ANR DAUME 2011-2015, by focusing on the peri-urban agriculture in Africa, to share their responses to the socio-economic vulnerabilities and their integration into markets. On aspects related to human relations to his environment, he led several national projects, CNEPRU type, like the one that focused on the development of the Algerian steppe, and the asset management of the environment.

s_bouchemal@yahoo.fr

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