



Development of Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture

Newsletter 7

The DeSIRA initiative (<https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/desira>) contributes to climate-relevant, productive and sustainable transformation of agriculture and food systems in low and middle-income countries largely based on agroecological approaches.

**Supporting adaptive management of DeSIRA projects and developing
a global monitoring of the Desira Initiative
to improve impacts towards the SDGs**

Friday 3rd of December 2021
With EUD and project teams

The objectives of the webinar is aiming at presenting and discussing:

- The state of play of the implementation of the DeSIRA initiative and its future ;
- The support available from DeSIRA-Lift to help adaptive management of DeSIRA projects through support to their monitoring, evaluation and learning systems
- The development of a global monitoring system for the DeSIRA initiative, with the participation of the DeSIRA projects making use of their MEL.

The DeSIRA-LIFT project (Leveraging the DeSIRA initiative for agri-food systems transformation) started in June 2021. One of the specific objectives of this programme is to support DeSIRA project implementers to enhance their impacts on climate-oriented innovation systems in line with sustainable food system transitions. To achieve this objective, DeSIRA-LIFT will support DeSIRA projects by helping them to develop monitoring, evaluation and learning systems and by providing tools and training to enhance the contribution of DeSIRA projects to innovations towards SDGs. The support of DeSIRA-LIFT is a mix of pre-defined and on-demand activities. During this webinar we will discuss how DeSIRA-LIFT plans to achieve its specific objectives and how it can interact with and support DeSIRA projects.

The DeSIRA initiative includes about 80 projects (around € 345 million). It is also important to monitor this initiative at the global level to adapt its management, to communicate with partners, and for accountability purposes. ASRAF (which is an INTPA facility) is currently designing an overarching logical framework matrix (LFM) for the DeSIRA initiative as a whole, with a view to testing it with a limited number of projects, before rolling it out to monitor the results achieved by the projects started in 2019. The first stages of this work will be presented at the workshop. How ASRAFs interacts with DeSIRA-LIFT and how it should interact with DeSIRA projects making use of their MEL in order to inform the indicators for the overarching LFM and to determine the main achievements of the DeSIRA initiative will also be presented.

We ask **all members of the DeSIRA community to fully support and contribute to the DeSIRA-LIFT activities and to ASRAF's work.** It is a strategic issue aimed at improving the quality and impact of the whole DeSIRA initiative, going beyond the individual project level, to build a strong partnership between African and European research organisations and to pave the way for the next generation of DeSIRA projects.

SAVE THE DATE

We will hold two webinars to facilitate participation depending on the location of the participants:

Friday 3rd of December, from 10:00-12:00 (CET time) and

Friday 3rd of December, from 15:00-17:00 (CET time)

Participants :

- All EU Delegations involved in DeSIRA projects
- All team leaders of DeSIRA projects and their Monitoring and Evaluation experts.
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Translation : French/English

To register : <https://forms.gle/MkQCa6qFUK3Sf9GV9>

Agenda and practical information will be sent at a later date.

Technical support : DeSIRA LIFT

<p>Please send news on the main events and communication products (flyers, videos, etc.) regarding your DeSIRA projects to post on the DeSIRA website and facilitate exchanges among the DeSIRA community. The DeSIRA website is hosted by Capacity4dev:</p>

<p><u>https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/desira</u></p>
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