LAU Lebanese American University | Office for Sustainability

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Project Name	NUSTALGIC
Donor Name	PRIMA (EU-funded)
Manager	Office for Sustainability
Start Date	June 2025
End Date	July 2028

Project Overview

The NUSTALGIC project aims to enhance climate resilience in Mediterranean dryland farming systems by integrating innovative water harvesting technologies with the cultivation of neglected and underutilized crop species (NUS). It brings together multiple stakeholders to co-design, test, and scale sustainable agricultural practices that improve water efficiency, soil health, and farmers' livelihoods across participating countries.

LAU Role

LAU plays a key role in implementing and coordinating project activities in Lebanon, particularly leading field assessments, stakeholder engagement, and the deployment of water harvesting technologies. LAU also contributes to data collection, analysis, and demonstration site development, ensuring that project interventions are adapted to local conditions and effectively support farmers' resilience.

Challenges

- Water scarcity and climate variability
- Limited awareness and technical knowledge
- Fragmented agricultural systems
- Weak implementation of policies and infrastructure gaps

Lessons Learned

- Value of Context-Specific, Farmer-Led Solutions
- Importance of Early Stakeholder Engagement

Milestones

Milestone	Time Needed
Multi-actor assessment of Water Harvesting Technologies	6 Months
Deployment of Water Harvesting Technologies	17 Months
Periodic evaluation of the applied Water Harvesting Technologies	26 Months
Completion of cost/benefit analysis of technologies	34 Months

Consortium

Name	Contribution
CBQF-UCP	Leader
ICARDA	Partner
GWP-MED	Partner
MIRRA	Partner
OXFAM	Partner
CSIC	Partner
INRGREF	Partner
INRA Tunisia	Partner
AUB	Partner
LARI	Partner

Budget

Project Budget	4,409,997 EURO
LAU Budget	225,000 EURO