



Press release

OLIVE4CLIMATE handbook available for download in public library
Olive growing as an effective tool for mitigating climate change

Cologne, 28.05.2018: OLIVE4CLIMATE will publish its Handbook beginning of June on their project website! The Handbook proposes an analyze of the principal phases that define a modern olive cultivation and the view to sustainable management of the crop and contains guidelines on best practices directly applicable.

For the main phases of olive growing, starting from the olive grove plant up to the collection and treatment of co-products, an approach is proposed that allows a reduction of environmental impact for this sector. In particular, sustainable management provides an approach that allows to limit CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere and promote the accumulation of carbon in the plant biomass and soil. These actions make the olive tree and therefore the olive growing an effective tool for mitigating climate change.

The adoption by the olive grower of these virtuous behaviors in the management of the olive grove can be rewarded with the accounting of carbon credits potentially sold to companies interested in this type of financial approach. The implementation of such actions to reduce emissions and carbon storage can in fact be translated into credits (calculated as tons of CO₂) that can be marketed in the voluntary market for ecosystem services. The voluntary carbon credit market provides for the sale of credits produced by applying good practices to individuals, usually from the industrial world, who wish to reduce their environmental impact. The manual contains also guidelines for collecting the information necessary to account for some of the good practices proposed by the OLIVE4CLIMATE project.

With OLIVE4CLIMATE the European Union confirms its active commitment in defining how to achieve a more environmentally friendly olive oil production, through the definition and diffusion of new "green" approaches. The olive oil sector plays a key role in the European Union which includes with Spain, Greece, Italy and Portugal the four largest producers of olive oil in the world. The importance of the economical aspect of the olive growing sector goes hand in hand with the burden of the environment. Therefor the European Commission has financed several LIFE projects in the last 20 years, focusing on the analysis and management of the environmental consequences of olive growing, in particular on the reduction of the environmental impact of olive oil production.

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