

Institut National de Recherche en Génie Rural, Eaux et Forêts



ALTOS On line Kick-Off, 25-26, May, 2021

Historique

- **1957** Creation of the forest research station in Tunis and set up a network of arboretum in different parts of the country.
- **1959** Foundation of the first Research Centre of Tunisia on water: the CREGR.
- **1962** Creation of the Centre for Research Center on saline irrigation water use for irrigation (CRUESI) with the support fund of the United Nations and UNESCO.
- **1965** Creation of the Institute of Reforestation in Tunis with the support of special fund of the United Nations
- **1966** Creation of the National Institute of Research Forestry by the Finance Act No. 66-79 of 29/12/66.
- **1970** : Fusion of CRUESI Project focused on salinity with CREGR to create the Research Center for Rural Engineering (CRGR) as a multidisciplinary research institution.
- **1996** Creation of the National Research Institute for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry (INGREF) by the Finance Act published in JORT December 29, 1995. This Institute has combined the National Institute of forestry (INRF) and the CRGR, it has financial autonomy under the umbrella of the Tunisian Institute for agricultural research and higher education (IRESA)



Human capacities



- **230** Permanent staff including 59 researchers
- **37** Master / PhD students
- **33** Contractuel staff
- **54** Seasonal staff

THE RESEARCH EXPERIMENTAL STATIONS

9 experimental stations

Cherfech (Governorate of Ariana)

Irrigation techniques appropriate for water scarcity (saline water).

Lafareg (Governorate of Béja)

Mechanized farming techniques in field crops

Oued Souhil, (Governorate of Nabeul)

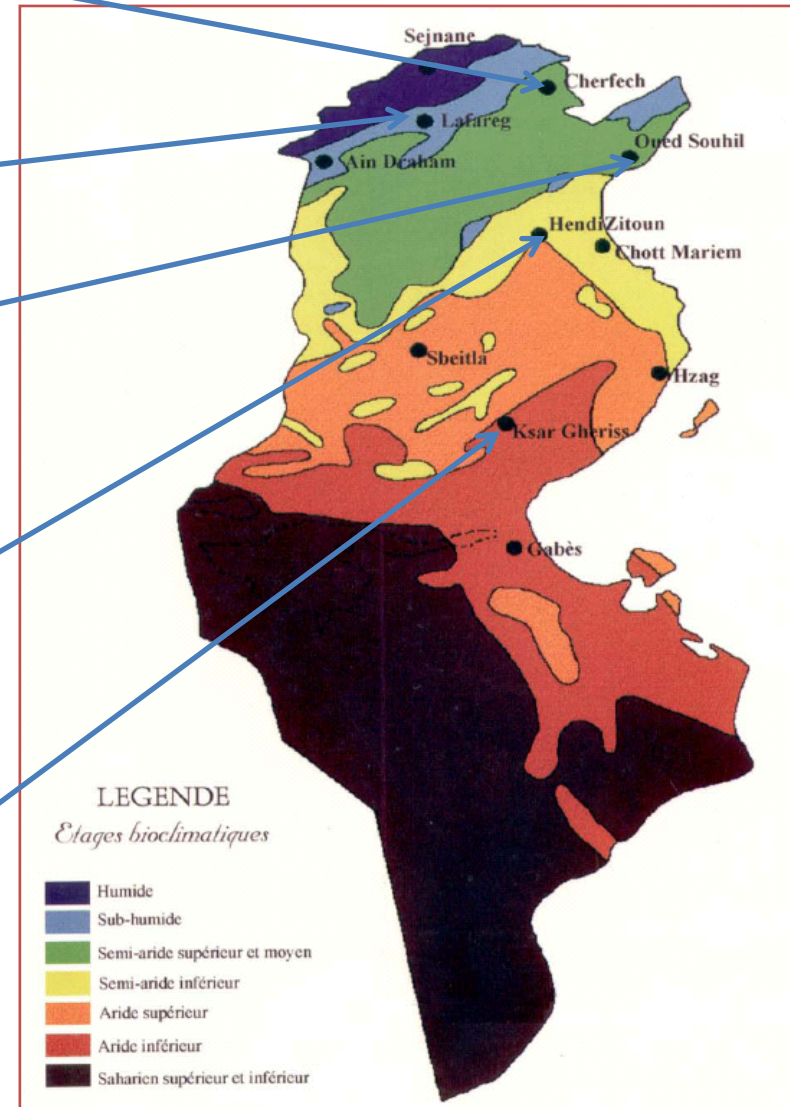
Reclaimed water use, use of sewage sludge for agricultural purposes, artificial aquifer recharge,.

Hendi Zitoun (Governorate of Kairouan)

Complementary irrigation of cereals and irrigation scheduling

Ksar Ghériss (Governorate of Sidi Bouzid)

Irrigation with saline water and studies on the arbustive crops cultivars.



Research Laboratories

4 Research Laboratories:

- Rural Engineering.
- Valorization of the non conventional water resources.
- Management and Valorization of Forest Resources.
- Ecology and sylvo-pastoral improvement.



APPROVAL AND EVALUATION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Funding is assured after evaluation of research programs and laboratories at:

- Institution level: the evaluation is done by the scientific committee

- IRESA level: 10 committees of programming and evaluation of research programs (CPERA)

- National Committee of Evaluation of Research Activities (CNEAR) under the authority of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MERS)



FUNDING SOURCES

Research programs involve many sources of funding :

- Ministry of Agriculture: equipments, infrastructure, human resources,...
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research: Operating budget for Laboratory
- Partnership: Development Organizations, Regional administration for Agriculture, Offices, professional Groups
- International Cooperation:
 - Bilateral Cooperation
 - Multilateral Cooperation: European Union
 - International organizations



PERSONNELS IMPLIQUÉS PROJET ALTOS

Rim Zitouna-Chebbi (PI-INRGREF) (F)

Associate professor (PhD) in water and soil sciences.

Her research focuses on soil-water-atmosphere continuum, deficit irrigation and impact of climatic change on agricultural productions in semi-arid regions. She has experiences in the fields of rainfed and irrigated agriculture of orchards and on annual crops. She is the co-manager of Mediterranean observatory of the rural environment and water OMERE.



PERSONNELS IMPLIQUÉS PROJET ALTOS

Insaf Mekki (F)

Associate professor (PhD) in water and soil sciences.

She studies water and land management on irrigated perimeters and rainfed agrosystems. She has worked in many projects on the assessment of spatiotemporal variability of water flows due to natural variability and human activities. She is involved in the analysis of societal and biophysical aspects within irrigated and rainfed agrosystems dynamics. She is the co-director of the NAILA International Joint Laboratory.



PERSONNELS IMPLIQUÉS PROJET ALTOS

Abdelaziz Zairi (M)

Professor (PhD) on water resources management.

He has been involved in several research fields oriented to modernize irrigation systems at farm and irrigated scheme levels under an environmental and economic perspective to induce a more efficient use of irrigation water.

He has a long experience in capacity building and knowledge dissemination. He chairs the user committee of the NAILA international joint laboratory.

