LIFE AgrOassis Project (Oct. 2022 – Dec. 2026)
Project: 101074744 – LIFE21-CCA-CY-LIFE

LIFE-AGROASSIS FINAL CONFERENCE

Combating desertification through regenerative approaches

Online conference

3–4 November 2026

PROGRAMME

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3488138696521440?p=7xCU6Fs93docuJSuRl

Meeting ID: 348 813 869 652 144 0

Passcode: 6p9Ry2F3

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Programme at a glance

All times are local time (Cyprus, EET). Sessions run online on both days.

Time	Tuesday 3 November 2026	Wednesday 4 November 2026
9:00	**Welcoming note**	
9:15	Keynote **Prof. Tal Svoray**	Keynote **Prof. Claudio Zucca**
10:00	Keynote **Prof. Avi Perevolotsky**	Dr. Panagiotis Dalias
10:30	Kostas Karanicolas	Dr. Elli Tzirkalli
11:00	**Coffee break**	
11:30	Dr. Emmanouil Kabourakis	Dr. Krzysztof Klimaszewski
12:00	Assoc. Prof. José Muñoz-Rojas	Dr. Vassilis Litskas
12:30	Dr. Michalakis Christoforou	Dr. Sofia Matsi
13:00	**Lunch break**	
14:15	Keynote **Prof. Dimitris Tsaltas**	Keynote **Dr. Christos Kavalaris**
15:00	Prof. George Nanos	Dr. Dimitrios Sarris
15:30	Asst. Prof. Marinos Stylianou	Assoc. Prof. Giovanna Seddaiu
16:00	**Closing remarks**	
16:30	**END OF DAY**	

Day 1 | Tuesday 3 November 2026

Thematic Session A: Agriculture in areas prone to desertification – drivers of change
Thematic Session B: Building climate change resilience in EU agricultural policy

Time	Programme
9:00 – 9:15	**Welcoming note**
9:15 – 10:00	**Prof. Tal Svoray** KEYNOTE SPEAKER *Department of Environmental, Geoinformatics and Urban Planning Sciences, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel* **Water Erosion in Dry Agricultural Catchments**
10:00 – 10:30	**Prof. Avi Perevolotsky** KEYNOTE SPEAKER *Department of Environmental Studies, Tel Aviv University, Israel* **Desertification: plants, animals and people, a cross continental perspective**
10:30 – 11:00	**Kostas Karanicolas** *Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus* **Factors influencing plant survival in the Deep Root Training System for combating desertification**
11:00 – 11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30 – 12:00	**Dr. Emmanouil Kabourakis** *Department of Agriculture, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Heraklion, Crete, Greece* **The LIFE IGIC project – Green Infrastructure in olive orchards for sustainable production and biodiversity**
12:00 – 12:30	**Assoc. Prof. José Muñoz-Rojas** *Department of Landscape, Environment and Planning, University of Évora, Portugal* **Agriculture in areas prone to desertification – drivers of change**
12:30 – 13:00	**Dr. Michalakis Christoforou** *Department of Agricultural Sciences, Biotechnology and Food Science, Cyprus University of Technology, Limassol, Cyprus* **Cultivating Healthy Soils: Practices and applications from the GOOD, ROTATES, NEMESIS and CARBONICA projects**
13:00 – 14:15	**Lunch break**
14:15 – 15:00	**Prof. Dimitris Tsaltas** KEYNOTE SPEAKER *Department of Agricultural Sciences, Biotechnology and Food Science, Cyprus University of Technology, Limassol, Cyprus* **Building climate change resilience in EU agricultural policy**
15:00 – 15:30	**Prof. George Nanos** *Laboratory of Pomology, School of Agricultural Sciences, University of Thessaly, Volos, Greece* **Environmental Footprint assessment of apple production in Zagora region, Greece**
15:30 – 16:00	**Asst. Prof. Marinos Stylianou** *Laboratory of Chemical Engineering and Engineering Sustainability, Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, Open University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus* **Production of biochar for mitigating odorous compounds from cattle manure**
16:00 – 16:30	**Closing remarks**
END OF DAY 1	

Day 2 | Wednesday 4 November 2026

Thematic Session C: Impacts on soil and biota
Thematic Session D: Regenerative solutions

Time	Programme
9:00 – 9:15	**Welcoming note**
9:15 – 10:00	**Prof. Claudio Zucca** KEYNOTE SPEAKER *Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Sassari, Italy* **Impact of the regenerative practices on the soils**
10:00 – 10:30	**Dr. Panagiotis Dalias** *Agricultural Research Institute, Nicosia, Cyprus* **Guidelines on the use of compost as fertilizer**
10:30 – 11:00	**Dr. Elli Tzirkalli** *Terrestrial Ecosystem Management Lab, Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, Open University of Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus* **The contribution of hedgerows to biodiversity conservation in agricultural areas threatened by desertification: the LIFE AgrOassis project**
11:00 – 11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30 – 12:00	**Dr. Krzysztof Klimaszewski** *Faculty of Bioeconomy and Food Systems, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Warsaw, Poland* **The influence of agricultural practices on amphibians in Central Europe**
12:00 – 12:30	**Dr. Vassilis Litskas** *Sustainability Metrics Ltd, Nicosia, Cyprus* **From Waste to Carbon Sink: Circular Soil Management for Climate-Smart Mediterranean Vineyards**
12:30 – 13:00	**Dr. Sofia Matsi** *Cyprus Environmental Foundation, Nicosia, Cyprus* **Novel Intercropping Systems as Nature-Based Solutions on Carob Agroecosystems in Cyprus**
13:00 – 14:15	**Lunch break**
14:15 – 15:00	**Dr. Christos Kavalaris** KEYNOTE SPEAKER *Department of Agriculture Crop Production and Rural Environment, University of Thessaly, Greece* **The Conservation Core of Regenerative Agriculture**
15:00 – 15:30	**Dr. Dimitrios Sarris** *KES Research Centre, Nicosia, Cyprus* **Resilient hedgerow installation along agricultural fields prone to desertification. A success story?**
15:30 – 16:00	**Assoc. Prof. Giovanna Seddaiu** *Desertification Research Centre, Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Sassari, Italy* **From co-design to field evidence: regenerative soil and grazing management in the MONALISA Mediterranean case studies**
16:00 – 16:30	**Closing remarks**
END OF DAY 2	