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| **Science with and for Society – Project Partner Search Form** |

**CALL: Science with and for Society 2020**

[x]  I offer my expertise to participate as a Partner in a Project

[ ]  I am planning to coordinate a project and I am looking for Project Partners

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| **Topics** |
| **Strategic orientation 1. Accelerating and catalysing processes of institutional change** |
| [ ] SwafS-01-2018-2019-2020: Open schooling and collaboration on science education[ ] SwafS-08-2019: Research innovation needs & skills training in PhD programmes[ ] SwafS-23-2020: Grounding RRI in society with a focus on citizen science[ ] SwafS-24-2020: Science education outside the classroom |
| **Strategic orientation 2. Stepping up support to Gender Equality in Research & Innovation policy** |
| [ ] SwafS-09-2018-2019-2020: Supporting research organisations to implement gender equality plans[ ] SwafS-25-2020: Gender-based violence including sexual harassment in research organisations and universities[ ] SwafS-26-2020: Innovators of the future: bridging the gender gap |
| **Strategic orientation 3. Building the territorial dimension of SwafS partnerships** |
| [x] SwafS-14-2018-2019-2020: Supporting the development of territorial Responsible Research and Innovation |
| **Strategic orientation 4. Exploring and supporting citizen science** |
| [ ] SwafS-27-2020: Hands-on citizen science and frugal innovation[ ] SwafS-28-2020: The ethics of organoids[ ] SwafS-29-2020: The ethics of technologies with high socio-economic impact[ ] SwafS-30-2020: Responsible Open Science: an ethics and integrity perspective |
| **Strategic orientation 5. Building the knowledge base for SwafS** |
| [ ] SwafS-19-2018-2019-2020: Taking stock and re-examining the role of science communication[ ] SwafS-31-2020: Bottom-up approach to build SwafS knowledge base |

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| 1. **PROJECT INFORMATION**
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| **Field of expertise related to the topic:** At the Regional Research Centre on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture, a particular interest is given to implementing sustainable agriculture components among farmers. Long experience was acquired in this thematic through several national projects. From personal experience, as a vegetable breeder, I was always aware about the importance of developing technical skills among farmers community to make them able to produce their own seeds. Indeed, currently Tunisia is importing more than 80% of its vegetable seeds needed to grow vegetables in the country. Moreover, taken into account challenges due to the climate changes, local genetic ressources should be considered as a principal component to adress these challenges. Indeed, they represent a valuable genetic reservoir with interesting adaptation traits.Personally, I have a long experience studying local genetic resources features of several vegetable species. The work was always carried out with the contribution of different partners: farmers (participatory approach, on farm demonstration), nurserymen, academicians (seed production and breeding work), students, the technical services of the Ministry of Agriculture (CRDA, Commissariat Régional de Développement Agricole), the agriculture chambers, the agricultural extension training agency (AVFA, "Agence de Vulgarisation et de Formation Agricole"), seed industry partners (e.g. Agria Seeds), GDA ("Groupement de développement agricole"), and associations ("Association Tunisienne de Permaculture"). |
| **Potential contribution to the project:**Improve farmers knowledge and technical skills especially in vegetable seed production and seed storage techniques |
| **Role in the project:** [x]  Research [x]  Dissemination [ ]  Other[x]  Training [ ]  Technology Development |
| Project idea: Valorization of vegetable local genetic resources |
| Project description: Several vegetable genetic resources have been collected through the country. A germplasm collection is maintaned at the Regional Research Centre on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture. Several vegetable cultivars have been characterized and evaluated for different traits. Hence, best performing cultivars can be made available for vegetable growers with a technical support to improve their skills especially in seed production and seed storage. Consequently, vegetable farmers will acquire the capacity to produce and maintain their own seeds and then contribute to a beter situation of autonomy. Moreover, this project is aiming to perform further studies of the local germplasm that could be used in future breeding programs.  |
| Already experience as a Coordinator: [x]  yes [ ]  no As a Partner: [ ]  yes [ ]  noIf “yes”, which project:  A project ongoing whih started in January 2020, entitled "Enhancement of Tomato production in Africa for maximum sustainable yield" |
| Other partners in consortium already identified (with countries):       |

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| 1. **TARGET COORDINATOR / PARTNER SOUGHT**
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| **Organisation details:** |  |
| [ ] Higher education / university | [ ] Industry / SME |
| [x] Research institution | [ ] Other |
| [ ] NGO | Please specify:       |
| [ ] Education |  |
| **We are looking for following Expertise / Competencies:**       |

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| 1. **CONTACT DETAILS**
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| Contact Person: Name: Mounira ELBAZ[x]  Ms [ ]  Mr  |
| Organisation: The Regional Research Centre on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture |
| Address: BP57 Chott Meriem Sousse |
| Postal code: 4042 |
| City: Sousse |
| Country: Tunisia |
| Phone: +216 56169019 |
| Email: mounira\_elbaz@yahoo.com |
| Organisation web address:       |
| Short profile of the Organisation: Specific missions of the Regional Research Centre on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture are:1- Collection, conservation and improvement of local plant resources for horticulture, 2- Development of conventional and organic horticulture production techniques 3- Development of processing and conservation methods of horticulture products4- Development of socio-economic studies related to conventional and organic horticulture 5- Dissemination of research results Research activities are targeting the improvement of plant material adaptation (climate variation…), plant productivity (protected cultivation, open field, polyculture…) and product quality (fresh, processing…), the enhancement of farmer acceptance of diversified horticultural products, the development of improved technical cultivation packages (plant environment management, irrigation/Fertilization, protection structures (greenhouses…), farmer scale applicability and efficiency of crop protection including plant protection, environment protection, biocontrol (organic) and local resources (plants, micro-organisms, insects …etc). |

**Date:**24-01-2020

**The offer is valid until:**

I agree that my information is forwarded within the SwafS NCP network

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

**PLEASE FILL THE FORM AND RETURN IT TO YOUR HORIZON 2020 NATIONAL CONTACT POINT FOR SCIENCE WITH AND FOR SOCIETY.**