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## INTRODUCTION

Based on the European projects and their results, they are considered successful when they are of sustainable value. Regarding sustainability, it is necessary to provide a strategy. The further use of the project outcomes is ultimately dependent on successful project outcomes and dissemination activities. The major target of the sustainability strategy is to discuss and develop ways in which the project outputs can be led to further sustainable use.

This document also discusses the exploitation strategy of PRO-PDPC project outputs. The exploitation strategy, combined with sustainability and dissemination strategies, guarantees the sustainability of the project and its results after the end of the funding period and will provide recommendations and guidelines for the continuous use of the project's results after the end of the project.

### **Sustainability of project outputs**

Sustainability is the strength of the project's ability to continue its entity and management at the end of the project. The project outputs should be used and exploited continuously, not only during the project's period but also after its end.

A project can be considered sustainable if its outcomes are still working after EU funding stops. A project can be considered sustainable if relevant outcomes are pursued and results are preserved or developed after EU funding stops.

The outcomes of sustainability may be difficult to expect and represent. It is not easy to achieve planning in order to produce the required sustainability of the project and to include a return on development at the European level by heightening the benefits.

Sustainability can be successful if it is planned in a strategic way. It's important to analyze deeply the motivation of stakeholders as well as the communication channels. Even if sustainable exploitation takes place after the end of the project, it is necessary to plan sustainability activities. The basis for successful progression is a well-prepared and implemented sustainability strategy. Moreover, the determination of stakeholders was carried out in the first period of the project. It is of pivotal importance to involve stakeholders as soon as possible in the project process. On the one hand, they can be more easily satisfied with the project outcomes when they have the chance to follow the development from an early stage, but on the contrary, the project consortium can also support the project by including suggestions or recommendations from the stakeholders in the development



process.

### **Sustainability of outputs**

The successful exploitation of each project in terms of sustainable use and the permanent further development of outputs, especially after the funding ends, is highly dependent upon a number of crucial key factors and criteria, which should be presented as the basis for the sustainability strategy. The following key factors are relevant:

- Adaptability of outputs to the specific circumstances of the countries and organizations involved.
- Early identification of stakeholders and potential users.
- Output quality.
- A clear definition of advantages for users.

### **Background and objectives of the PRO-PDPC project**

To establish a new joint professional diploma program in plant clinic and phytosanitary technologies for the first time in Egypt at six agriculture higher education institutions to strengthen the skills of students, graduates, and employees in the agriculture sector to match crop protection labor market needs.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. To create and update curricula in the field of phytosanitary sciences and to improve teaching methods, materials, laboratories and library facilities at Egyptian partner institutions.
2. To train staff in acquiring skills needed to promote their international experiences through joint collaboration.
3. Capacity building of new plant clinics and training centers with modern infrastructure.
4. To bring the diploma program into line with the Bologna requirements by 2021 in partner institutions.
5. To strengthen the links between the university and labor market and to sustain graduate employability with accredited certificates approved by partner institutions.
6. To disseminate and exploit the developed Plant Clinic and Phytosanitary program.
7. To build a national community of strategic stakeholders for the Plant Clinic and



Phytosanitary area.

The objectives of this proposal are in line with the needs of HE institutions in Egypt to join such a professional diploma program.

The proposal follows policy recommendations for mainstreaming within the partner country (Egypt), and it will initiate a professional education diploma program in the field of plant protection.

It is typically assumed that the project will achieve the intended results if sufficient resources and capacities are in place.

### **Sustainability in the PRO-PDPC project**

The sustainability strategy shows a long-term perspective for the project outputs, how they are going to be exploited, and how they will create a long-term impact for the graduated student and labor market.

The sustainability strategy analyses the different possibilities to maintain and update results and gives a clear view of the necessary activities to ensure that the main project outputs are used from a long-term perspective and that long-term impact targets and indicators are met.

In summary exploitation and sustainability aim to achieve the following objectives:

- To promote and raise awareness for the importance of plant clinics for agriculture fields in the surrounding area.
- To provide information on the quality, relevance, and effectiveness of PRO-PDPC for graduate students
- To successfully cooperate and network between plant clinic at different partners
- To persuade certain end users and draw investors in labor-intensive private agriculture or government sectors to adopt and/or implement the plant clinic.
- To ensure the sustainability of the project and its results after the end of the funding period.

The sustainability strategy of the PRO-PDPC project was developed with the support of all project



partners. Templates to identify National or European Networks that might have potential to multiply, disseminate or exploit the results of the project and European or International projects or initiatives that have the potential to relate, liaise or exploit the outcomes of the PRO-PDPC project of each partner were distributed and were used as the basis for the development of this sustainability strategy. International projects or initiatives and questionnaires to stakeholders from each country where they provide with their opinion on the PRO-PDPC.

### **Who will benefit from the project's outputs in future?**

- University graduates from similar colleges
- Graduate students
- Owners of farms and agricultural companies in the surrounding areas
- Small farmers

### **Who will do it?**

The whole project partnership is responsible for their national sustainability plans including the involvement of stakeholders or beneficiaries. The partner organizations have at their disposal excellent networks and contacts and have rich experiences in the field of post graduate studies and environmental services.

### **When will it be done?**

The sustainability strategy ensures the sustainability of the project and its outputs after the end of the funding period and will provide recommendations and guidelines for the continuous use of the project's outputs also after the end of the project. It is crucially important to say, that the activities for fostering exploitation of results started as early as possible.

### **How will it be done?**

- Specific outputs from the project are made available for use in exploitation operations when it is completed.
- The most significant of these is the establishment of a program for the professional diploma of Plant clinic that has been approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and which annually admits graduate students in accordance with the laws in force in Egyptian universities.



- This program guarantees the reception of new students annually, and through tuition fees, it will ensure the continuity of the work of the diploma, as the tuition fees will cover the wages of those in charge of teaching and the continuation of the diploma.
- Continuous evaluation and taking the opinion of stakeholders and the labor market in the diploma graduate by inviting them to graduation ceremonies and taking their views through opinion polls for both graduates and labor market owners.
- All of this will help in correcting mistakes, correcting the course firsthand, and ensuring continuity of work with the diploma, which is one of the project outputs.
- The plant clinic laboratory will play a role in serving the surrounding community by diagnosing and analyzing plant samples with the help of specialized academics and experts.
- Continuous dissemination of the plant clinic for stakeholders and institutions in all EG universities.
- Continuous contact with the National Agencies.
- Development and establishment of training the trainer workshops for plant diagnosis and Plant clinic concept.
- Continuous dissemination amongst national, regional and local networks by all partners.
- Participation in national events with the aim to promote the Plant clinic program also after the end of the funding period.
- Presentation of Plant clinic project and Plant clinic program at national conferences/seminars/project fairs/events etc.
- Using Online Strategy: Facebook, twitter, website.