



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Technical meeting to strengthen national capacities for surveillance and management of cactus and cochineal in the Mediterranean & FAO - ICARDA Cactus Net General Meeting 2023

12 - 14 December 2023
Marrakech, Morocco



First Day – Tuesday, 12 December 2023

Time	Duration	Topic	Presenter
8:00 – 9:00	60 min	Registration	
Session I: Opening Session			
Moderated by Ms. Makiko Taguchi			
9:00 - 9:30	30 min	» Welcome Remarks by representative of the ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries - Morocco » Welcome Remarks by FAO » Welcome Remarks by the University of Mohamed VI Polytechnic (UM6P)	
9:30 - 9:50	20 min	A Brief on the Workshop & Agenda Introducing Speakers and Participants	Mr. Thaer Yaseen
9:50 - 10:00	10 min	Group Photo	Participants
Session II: Cactus and Cochineal in the Mediterranean			
Moderated by Mr. Mounir Louhaichi			
10:00 - 10:15	15 min	Overview of the Status of Cochineal in the Region and Objectives of the TCP	Mr. Thaer Yaseen
10:15 - 10:30	15 min	An Overview of Cactus Pear in Morocco: Before & After the Cochineal Outbreak	Mr. Abderrahmane Ait Hamou
10:30 - 11:00	30 min	Coffee Break	
11:00 - 11:15	15 min	Cochineal Management: Genetic Resistance & Biological Control	Mr. Mustapha Elboughssini
11:15 - 11:30	15 min	IPM Strategies for <i>Dactylopius opuntiae</i> : Current Status in Morocco	Mr. Rachid Bouharroud
11:30 - 11:45	15 min	The Status of the Opuntia Cochineal Scale in the NENA region	Ms. Zinette Moussa
11:45 - 12:00	15 min	The Status of Cactus Cochineal in Syria	Mr. Mazen Bofaur
12:00 - 13:30	90 min	Lunch Break	
13:30 - 13:45	15 min	Cactus Cochineal in Tunisia	Mr. Imed Jaouadi
13:45 - 14:00	15 min	The Status of Cactus Cochineal in Jordan	Mr. Mansour ElShqeir
14:00 - 14:15	15 min	Cactus <i>Opuntia stricta</i> : An Invasive Pest in KSA (Status & Biological Control strategies)	Mr. Abdulaziz Ibrahim Alzamil
14:15 - 14:45	30 min	Q&A	All participants
14:45 - 15:15	30 min	Coffee/Tea Break	
Session III: Group Discussion			
Moderated by Mr. Thaer Yaseen			
15:15 - 16:00	45 min	Group discussion	Ms. Makiko Taguchi
16:00 - 16:15	15 min	Reporting from the groups	Ms. Yosra Ahmed
16:15 - 16:45	30 min	Way Forward	Mr. Abderrahmane Ait Hamou
16:45 - 17:00	15 min	Closing the Meeting	Mr. Thaer Yaseen
20:00	-	Dinner	All participants

Second Day – Wednesday, 13 December 2023

Time	Duration	Topic	Presenter
Session III: Plant Production and Protection in Organic Farming			
Moderated by Ms. Makiko Taguchi			
9:00 - 9:30	30 min	Organic farming in the Mediterranean area	Mr. Lahcen Kenny
9:30 - 10:00	30 min	Organic Agriculture in Morocco and Development Prospects	Ms. Nawal Farkacha
10:00 - 10:15	15 min	Q&A	Participants
10:15 - 11:00	45 min	Brainstorming with the countries on organic farming in NENA » Challenges, gaps, & needs » Regulations » Market & trades » Recommendations	Mr. Thaer Yaseen Ms. Yosra Ahmed
Session IV: Technical Visits- Morocco			
Coordinated by Mr. Abderrahmane Ait Hamou			
11:15 - 13:15	120 min	Departure from Marrakech to Sidi Miftah	Packed lunch on the bus
13:15 -15:30	120 min	Visit Cactus Pear Orchards in Sidi Miftah	Participants
15:30 - 16:15	45 min	Departure from Sidi Miftah to Ben Guerir	Participants
16:00 - 18:00	120 min	Visit Mohammed VI Polytechnic University	Participants
18:00	60 min	Return to Marrakech	Participants

Third-Day – Wednesday, 14 December 2023

Note: The meeting is *ONLY* for CactusNet Steering Committee members)

Time	Duration	Topic	Presenter
CactusNet General Meeting			
Moderated by Ms. Makiko Taguchi			
9:00		Review of the agenda and adoption of the last Steering Committee minutes	CactusNet General Coordinator
		Reporting from the coordinators	
		Regional Coordinators » Mediterranean/Middle East: Abderrahmane Ait Hamou » Sub-Saharan Africa: Herman Fouche » North America: Jesus Fuentes » South America: Judith Ochoa » Asia Pacific: Takanori Horibe	
10:30	30 min	Coffee / tea break	

Time	Duration	Topic	Presenter
CactusNet General Meeting			
Moderated by Ms. Makiko Taguchi			
11:00	90 min	Thematic Coordinators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Genetic resources and conservation: Alessandra Gentile » Fruit production: Giorgia Liguori » Nopalitos/beles production: Yemane Kahsay » Post-harvest and agro-industries: Maryna de Wit » Medicinal and cosmetic uses: Lazhar Zourgi » Biotic interactions: Liberato Portillo » Youth: Regina Garza » Discussion 	
12:30	90 min	Lunch break	
14:00		Work planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Webinars » Newsletter » Events and next SC meeting » Discussion for the next Congress » Ideas for new projects & resource mobilization 	
17:00		Closing	

