

SAIRISI PROJECT

ADDENDUM



SAIRISI, the Sustainable Italian Rice Project was a SAI Platform project from 2016 to 2020. It offered a unique pre-competitive collaboration of the rice value chain involving buyers, millers, farmers, government, academia and other stakeholders in addressing the sustainability of rice.

The addendum was published on the completion of the SAIRISI project in 2020. This is an addendum to the SAIRISI case-study published in 2018 while the project was still in operation.

SAIRISI Timeline

2016

Identification of “SAIRISI Partners” and Project Concept

Understanding the **supply chain landscape**, engaging **strategic partners** and building a **programme with priority theme**.

Two Masterclasses on **Soil and Water**, followed by a field visit.



2017

Expanding on the Project Priorities

Three Masterclasses on **Health & Safety, Chemical Storage and Biodiversity**.

Cool Farm Tool integration training for project members.

Field Day on **Precision Ag** and another with LIPU on **Biodiversity**.

Experimental outreach and piloting **WhatsApp Group** as a tool to connect and engage farmers and agronomists, with resources from ENR.

Best Practices Documents

Best Practices documents, precursors to Sustainable Rice Growing in Italy.



2018

Empowering Local Leadership

Multiple **Local Examples of Sustainable Champions** highlighted further local demonstration of sustainable agriculture.

Two Masterclasses & two Field Visits.

Case Study written exemplifying the SAIRISI approach for collaboration.

Best Practices of Sustainable Rice Growing in Italy created, **linking SAIRISI to FSA.**

2019

Building Local Capacity

Two **Local FSA Experts** trained and available for all Italian agricultural supply chain companies to engage and further facilitate FSA implementation.

SRP benchmarked to the FSA to further global significance of the project and SAI Platform's harmonisation tools.

Masterclass on **Conservation Agriculture, Biodiversity and Precision Agriculture.**

Six **FSA Training** sessions delivered in 2019-2020.

Producer Survey to understand engagement/outreach.



2020

Mission Accomplished: Ensuring SAIRISI Legacy

Transfer ongoing support for **local experts** and **FSA Community of Practice.**

Culmination of all **communications** and **lessons-learned resources** on SAI Platform website.

Project Outcomes

Accomplishments: Outreach & Farmer Engagement

1

Educating and Training Farmers

Eight Masterclasses engaging **500+** farmers on:



Water management



Pest management



Nutrient management



Precision agriculture



Biodiversity



Conservation agriculture



GHG measurement



Soil management



Economic sustainability

2

On-Farm Demonstration



Demonstrated value of industry collaboration on sustainability.



Showcased & promoted "Flagship Farmers", who continue to lead the community by example.

3

FSA Uptake in Italy



Local capacity built to now include two trained FSA implementers for future engagement.



Six FSA trainings have been conducted in the Northern Italy with rice growers and supply chain members.



FSA is now taught at Milan and Turin Universities as a mechanism for demonstrating and communicating sustainability.



Accomplishments: Documents & Communications



Industry-developed, FSA-aligned “**Best Practices of Sustainable Rice Growing in Italy**” document linking relevant practices identified through gap assessment to relevant FSA interactions.



Demonstration Case Studies and **SAI Platform Case Study** of how pre-competitive collaboration and SAI Platform were able to foster engagement, trust and change in this sector and geography.



SRP benchmarked against FSA to help communicate Italian rice sustainability (final stages of process for public release).

We would like to thank the efforts of our collaborating companies and partners in the successful implementation and completion of SAIRISI

*Participating companies **Ebro, Euricom, Kellogg's, Migros, Parboriz, SP S.p.A.** for leading out to engage in sustainability and investing in this project.*

*Our valuable partner **Ente Nazionale Risi** and in particular **Dr. Marco Romani** for significant support, guidance and ongoing expertise.*

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***Francesca Follis & Franco Tesio** for contributions and ongoing support as local FSA Experts and agricultural consultants.*

***Paolo Savarese, Quality Manager at Mundi Riso** for leading out, on behalf of the industry during 2018-2019 SAIRISI seasons.*