Irriman presents its project for planning water resources, in the Politécnica de Madrid

The Irriman life+ project in collaboration with the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) organised the day of "New tools for the management and planning of water resources" on February 16, which was held in the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería Agronómica, Alimentaria y de Biosistemas of the UPM.

In the day, the project's coordinator, Alejandro Pérez-Pastor, presented the results that are being obtained by the Irriman project, which promotes a smart irrigation system capable of saving up to 30 percent of energy and up to 30 percent of water without affecting the crop quality standards demanded by foreign markets. The final objective is that this system, which is developing an algorithm, can be applied at a wide scale in extensions of agrarian crops with water deficits.

The day concluded with the round table 'Water, energy and Sustainability in Agriculture. Role of the professionals in the sector', moderated by Leonor Rodríguez. Profesora de Hidráulica, Hidrología y Riegos at the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid; and included the participation of:

- Carlos Gilarranz. Colegio Oficial de Ingenieros Técnicos Agrícolas de Centro.
- Pablo Carnicero. Director de marketing y comunicación at Regaber Automatización y control del agua del riego.
- Consejo General de Colegios Oficiales de Ingenieros Agrónomos.
- Andrés del Campo. Presidente de la Federación Nacional de Comunidades de Regantes (FENACORE).
- Juan José Alarcón. Director del Centro de Edafología y Biología Aplicada del Segura (CEBAS-CSIC).

During the day which took place in the function hall of the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingeniería Agronómica, Alimentaria y de Biosistemas of the UPM other Life:+ projects were also presented, concretely:

The Irrilife project seeks to develop a system for the dissemination and dosing of phytosanitary products (pesticides, phytoregulators and other substances) in a localised irrigation network in use with the aim of assessing the beneficial environmental repercussions that such a practice wold suppose and compare them with the current pesticide application techniques. It is expected that the repercussion of the pesticides in the surrounding environment and the people diminishes considerably, avoiding the negative impact that all these substances contain. Likewise, it is expected that the results of the project allow to move forward in the implementation of the REACH regulations.

The final objective of the Rewind project is to demonstrate that, in the agricultural sector and in rural industry, the use of renewable energy is technically, environmentally and economically viable, taking the wine growing sector as the demonstration. Additionally, to promote its use as an option.

The objectives of the Regadiox Life+ project are to design an innovative model for agrarian management in irrigation systems focused on the following action lines to promote climate change adaptation and mitigation:

a) fixing the organic carbon in the soil CO2 balance.

b) reduction in GHG emissions and balance of emissions.

c) Implement with a demonstrative character, reference experiences of the previous model to contrast the proposed methodology and to demonstrate its impact.

d) Implement pilot experiences at large scale to test the impact of the model in professional agriculture.

e) Evaluate the impact of the actions, learnings and the results of the project's actions from an environmental and socioeconomic point of view.

Specialisation course in deficit irrigation in the CIFEA in Torre Pacheco

The course 'Specialisation in deficit irrigation. Implementation of an efficient irrigation management for a sustainable agriculture' took place from 6 to 10 February 2017 in the installations of the Centro Integrado de Formación y Experiencias Agrarias (CIFEA) in Torre Pacheco (Murcia).

The course, which was attended by professionals from the agrarian sector of the Region of Murcia, was organised by the Irriman Life+ project and the CIFEA of Torre Pacheco. The objective of the course is to put into practise, demonstrate and disseminate a sustainable irrigation strategy based on deficit irrigation to promote its widespread acceptance and use in crops in Mediterranean agroecosystems.

Irriman Life+ is developing an algorithm which allows growers to simply put into practice an irrigation system that saves water and at the same time improves the quality of the plant and the crops that are produced. Ultimately, what is sought is to answer the three key questions for a grower: how, when and how much to irrigate.