

OUR HISTORY

The origin of the CREA *Research Centre for Agricultural Policies and Bioeconomy* dates back to the merging of INEA (National Institute of Agricultural Economics) with CRA (Council for Research and Experimentation in Agriculture) in 2015. INEA was founded by Arrigo Serpieri in 1928 and it was aimed at carrying out surveys and studies of agricultural and forestry economy, following the changes of the Italian agro-industrial system.



As from 2015, after the merging into Council of Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), the *Centre* has contributed to the multi-disciplinarity of CREA bringing in its experience in the social and economic research and in the analysis and monitoring of the impacts of territorial and environmental policies on the Italian agri-food system.



The *Centre* is located all around Italy, with its network of regional offices. Please consult the website for details:
www.crea.gov.it/en/web/politiche-e-bioeconomia/locations

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**CREA | RESEARCH CENTRE
FOR AGRICULTURAL
POLICIES AND
BIOECONOMY**



RESEARCH ACTIVITY

The *Centre* carries out conjunctural and structural analyses on the national agri-food system and on the impact of policy instruments. A large part of the activities has been focused on rural territories, bioeconomy and circular economy, entrepreneurial models in agriculture, labour and gender issues, structural development of farms.

The *Centre* represents the liaison body between Italy and the EU for the Italian **Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN)**; it is the implementing body of the **National Rural Network Programme (NRNP)** which accompanies the European rural development policies; it contributes to the **Operational Plan for Agriculture (POA)** with technical-scientific support activities for the programming of irrigation investments and the integration with environmental policies. Since 1947, the **Italian Agriculture Yearbook** analyses the main dynamics of the production sectors (including fisheries and forestry) and their evolutionary lines.

CREA-Policies and Bioeconomy is the flagship **Statistical Office of CREA**, that is included in the National Statistical System (SISTAN) and it currently participates in the National Statistical Programme (NSP).

AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The *Centre* carries out research projects on the evolution of both pillars of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and on their effects on the Italian agri-food sector and rural areas. With its research the *Centre* supports the Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (MiPAAF) in the analysis and monitoring of the CAP, contributing to the achievement of a shared position with the Italian Regions and the autonomous Provinces, for the development of an intelligent, resilient, sustainable and competitive national agricultural sector, ensuring, at the same time, a fair income to farmers.

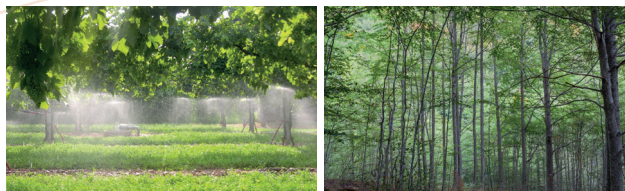
RURAL AREAS AND TERRITORIAL STUDIES

An in-depth knowledge of the rural territories and the related policies is part of the consolidated background of the *Centre*, thanks to a network of projects, analyses, technical support and human capital provided by the Central headquarter and the regional branches of the *Centre*. Particular attention is

given to innovative themes, opening up the range of studies to new topics, new methodologies and new actors.

EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The *Centre* contributes to sustainable development paths, combining in its research development the four pillars of sustainability: institutional, economic, social and environmental. A special focus is given to an efficient management of natural resources. It carries out research projects and technical support activities for the implementation of European and National Programmes related to the use of water resources in agriculture and irrigation infrastructure funding. In this context, it is responsible for the management of the webgis platform **SIGRIAN** (National Information System for Water Management in Agriculture) and of **DANIA** (National Database of Investment for irrigation and environment).



The *Centre* hosts an **Observatory on Forests and Afforestation Policies**; moreover, it carries out studies on soil degradation and erosion, climate change and desertification.

COMPETITIVENESS OF THE AGRI-FOOD SYSTEM

The *Centre* follows the dynamics of the competitiveness of the national agri-food production. The studies focusing on the trends of the Italian agri-food system are strategic in terms of monitoring changes in the quality of products and productive processes; the strategies of quality competition vs. price competition for the *made in Italy* products, with particular attention to the international markets and the non-tariff barriers to trade.



KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION

The *Centre* contributes to the analysis of the needs of innovation for homogeneous categories of actors playing in the agri-food system and rural areas. This is also aimed at providing support for institutions in the large-scale programming of public interventions. Similar interest is devoted to monitoring and assessing production, economic and social results deriving from the adoption of innovations at both the micro and macro scale.



AGRICULTURE AND SOCIETY

The body of studies on social and cultural changes related to the agricultural world is focused on both food production and services and socio-environmental public goods. Both projects and publications focus on the relationship between city and countryside, the direct selling and short chains, ethical and social value issues in food production, agricultural and rural networks, social inclusion.

INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES

The results of the research activities feed policy analysis, national and international institutional meetings, institutional debate. The *Centre* collects and elaborates scientific and informative publications on the Italian agriculture and agri-food system (structures, productions, markets, trade, policies). This activity produces also seminars related to the diffusion and dissemination about the “state of health” of the Italian agri-food system, in order to facilitate the meeting between the demand and the supply of innovations, as well as the creation of new partnerships in the research and experimentation field.