



ITALIAN AGENCY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE
DAGRI



PIN

POLO
UNIVERSITARIO
CITTÀ DI PRATO

SERVIZIO ORIENTAMENTO
E ACCOGLIMENTO
PER UNIVERSISTI
DI PRATO

MASTER DEGREE

AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE

2019

FIRST EDITION





MASTER DEGREE AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE

The course is a part of a larger research project financed by the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation, aimed at developing a high-level training center at the Laboratory for Landscape and Cultural Heritage (CULTLAB) based at School of Agriculture of the University of Florence. One of the goals of the project is the identification of potential GIAHS sites in the Priority Countries of the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation, in Africa, Asia and South America.

The laboratory has been in charge of developing the National Register of Historical Rural Landscape based at the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies and has also been involved in the definition of landscape strategies for the National Strategic Plan for Rural Development.

The course is part of the activities defined by a Memorandum of Understanding between FAO and the Italian Government for the promotion of the GIAHS program, based on the experience of Italy in the establishment of the National Register of Historical Rural Landscapes and Traditional Agricultural Practices, but also on rural landscape conservation and food quality.



OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

Following the new multidisciplinary approaches that considers agricultural heritage systems and landscapes as an opportunity for the future of rural areas, it is necessary to train managers capable of identifying, managing and valorizing these agricultural systems. The specific objective of the master is to train students on how to effectively manage and identify agricultural heritage systems and landscapes including them in a sustainable development model of the rural territory, harmonizing economic, social and environmental processes. The course will offer a very specific training on rural landscapes, creating an expert capable of informing decision making processes and research strategies, in the framework of the governance of the rural territory.



MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

The teachings of the master will focus on the five main criteria of the FAO agricultural heritage system program, expressing the totality of the functionalities, goods and services provided by the agricultural heritage system. The teachings will be based on a multidisciplinary approach, so to analyze all the components, natural and social, of agricultural heritage systems.



AGRO- BIODIVERSITY

Agricultural biodiversity, is defined by FAO as the variety of animals, plants and microorganisms that are used directly or indirectly for food and agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry and fisheries. It comprises the diversity of genetic resources (varieties, breeds) and species used for food, fodder, fibre, fuel and pharmaceuticals. Agricultural heritage systems should be endowed with globally significant biodiversity and genetic resources for food and agriculture.

FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD SECURITY

Agricultural heritage systems contribute to food and/or livelihood security of local communities. This includes a wide variety of agricultural types such as self-sufficient and semisubsistence agriculture, which contributes to rural economy.



LOCAL AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

Agricultural heritage systems should maintain local and invaluable traditional knowledge and practices, ingenious adaptive technology and management systems of natural resources.

CULTURES, VALUE SYSTEMS AND SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS

Cultural identity and sense of place are embedded in and belong to specific agricultural sites. Social organizations, value systems and cultural practices associated with resource management and food production may ensure conservation of and promote equity in the use and access to natural resources.



GUEST LECTURES

Guest lectures will be hosted during the master that will be held by relevant scientists in the scientific disciplines related to agricultural heritage systems.

LABORATORIES AND FIELD WORK

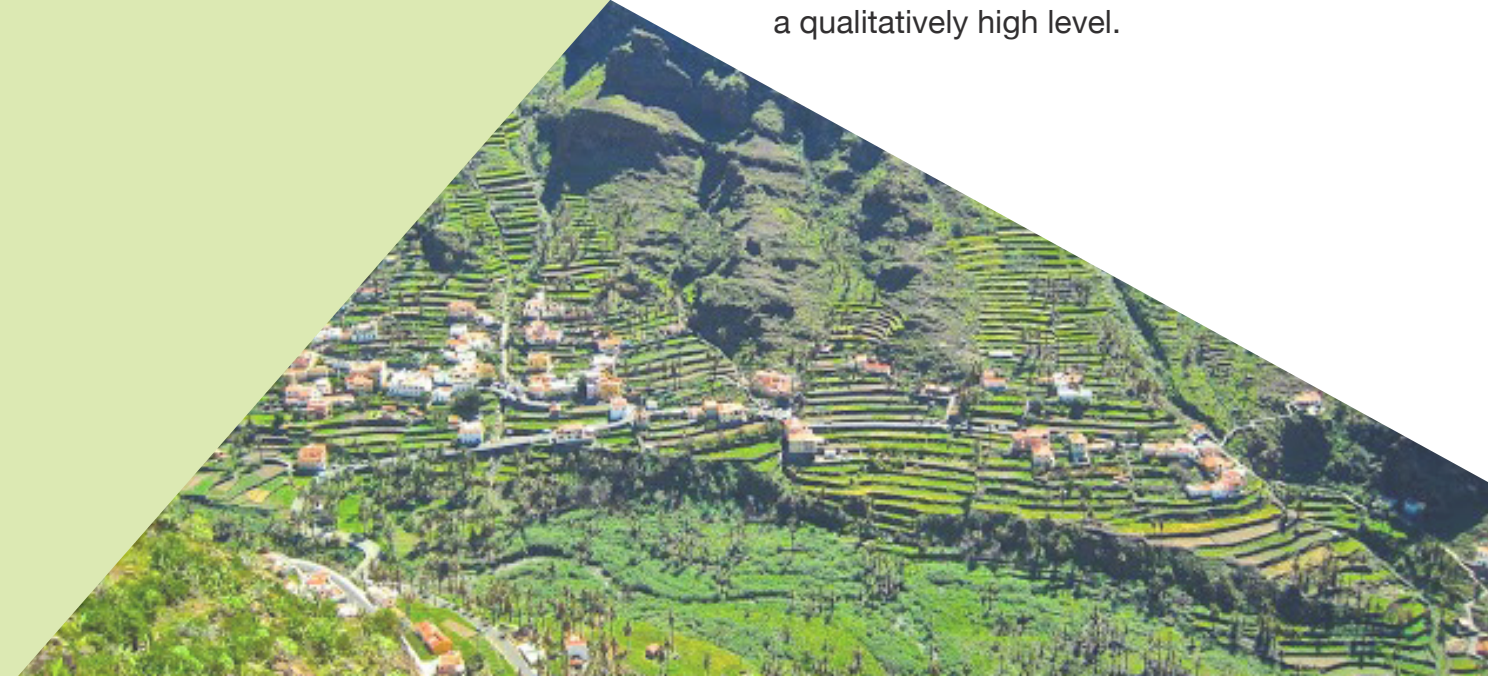
Field work activities will be carried out in selected sites of the Italian National Register of Historical Rural Landscapes representing interesting examples for the main topics of the lectures.

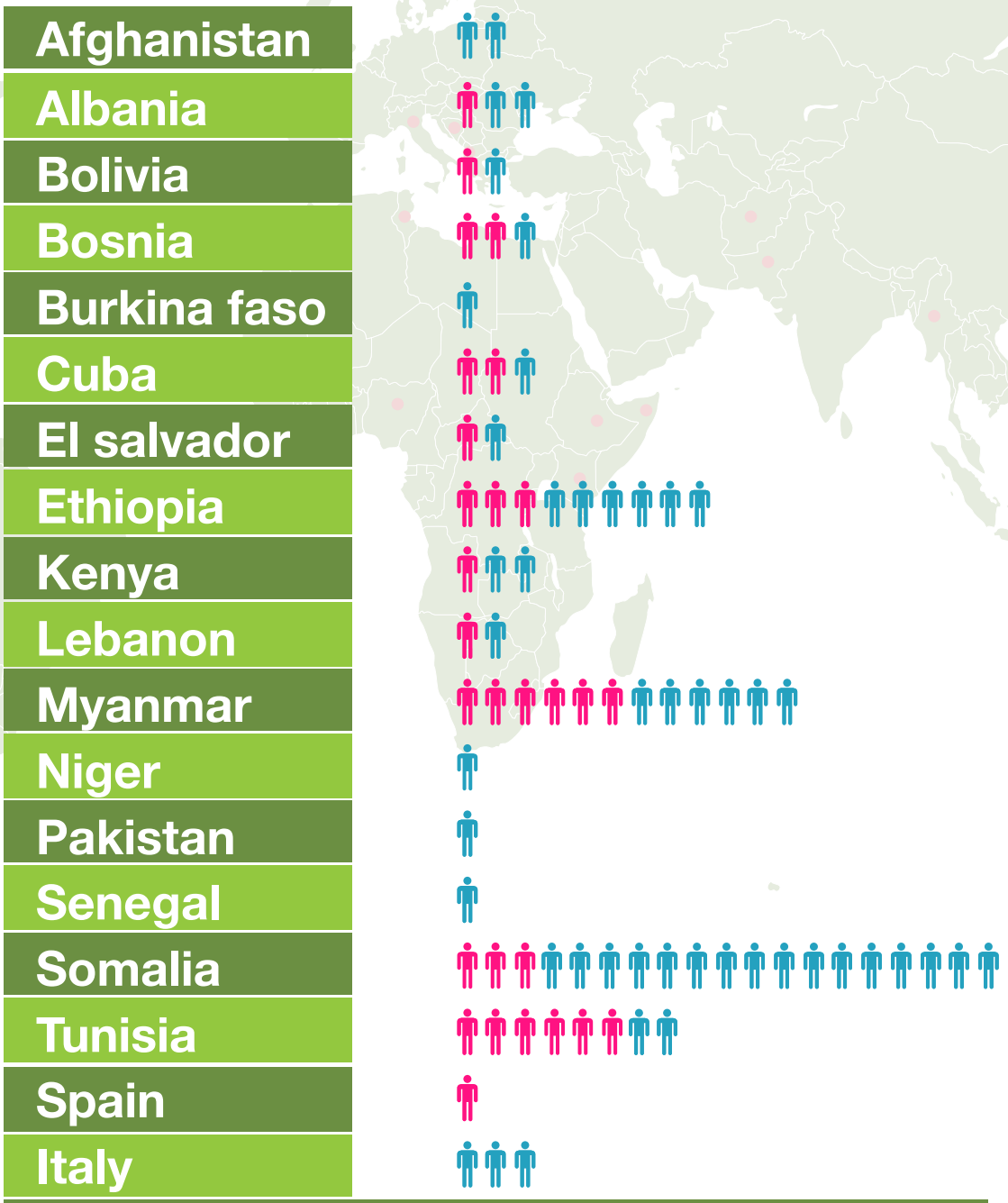
STAGES

Students from the Priority Countries of the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development will spend 15 days in one country of the program for a training stage.

VENUE

The headquarter of the master is at the Laboratory for Landscape and Cultural Heritage, Department for Agricultural, Food and Forestry Systems, School of Agriculture, University of Florence, Via San Bonaventura 13, 50145, Firenze. The lessons of the Master Course will be held at PIN headquarters, in Prato. PIN (www.pin.unifi.it/en) is a consortium company with a majority non-profit participation of the University of Florence, with advanced knowledge and operational skills to organize services for teaching and research at a qualitatively high level.





APPLICATIONS



SELECTED STUDENTS

THE NUMBERS OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THE MASTER

24 STUDENTS FROM 15 COUNTRIES

17 STUDENTS FROM 11 PRIORITY COUNTRIES

4 STUDENTS FROM EUROPE

15 ARE FEMALE STUDENTS (60%)



FIELD VISITS

Master's students have the opportunity to put into practice from the very beginning the teachings, through visits to symbolic places. In the first edition of the course, five field visits have been organized in Italy, including the two Italian sites registered in the GIAHS programme so far (Olive groves of Assisi-Spoleto and Vineyards of Soave).



FINAL STAGE

In the first edition of the Master, students spent 15 days in Tunisia. They carried out fieldworks in the mountain oasis of Tamarza, Mides and Chebika, to learn how to prepare a GIAHS proposal.

Activities:

Interviews to inhabitants, land use surveys, landscape structure evaluation and mapping, seminars.

Output:

Landuse maps with boundaries of all the oasis, Description of the irrigation system
Description of the agro-pastoral structure,
Report on the inhabitants perception and
List of vulnerabilities.





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DIRECTOR OF THE MASTER

Prof. Mauro Agnoletti

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Prof. Mauro Agnoletti

Prof. Marco Fioravanti

Prof. David Fanfani

Prof. Tiziano Tempesta

FINANCING ORGANIZATIONS

The master is funded by the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation. FAO and Regione Toscana have also financed the first edition of the Master Course.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

World Bank, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

MASTER COURSE WEBSITE: WWW.AGRICULTURALHERITAGE.COM