

RESIN TUNISIA FOREST

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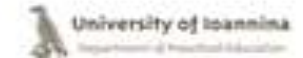
Innovative businesses and entrepreneurship for non-wood forest products: opportunities for the rural economy

28 February 2020

Coordinator



Partners



Overview

- Background
- Team
- Gaps addressed
- Solution proposed
- State of the art
- Timeline
- Next steps
- Conclusion



Background

- 220,000 habitants are living within the forest area in North West of Tunisia, Aleppo Pine counts for 47% of the whole area (138,097 ha)
- In 2012 :
 - 43% of local population revenues comes from forest (311 €/habitant)
 - Tunisian Forest provides 5 to 7 millions of working days representing 0,3% of GDP
- The economic total value of Aleppo Pine forests is estimated to be worth 55€/ha (2016 price)



- **Mokhtar BARAKET**, PhD: 10 years Assistant Professor on Climate change, Aleppo Pine Forest specialist.
- **Mohamed Tahar ELAIEB**, PhD: 15 years in Wood Technology Researcher.



Background

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Gaps
Addressed

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Gaps addressed

- Improvement in working conditions of the resin tappers
- Main products extracted from AP forests in Tunisia are: wood, AP seeds (Zgougou), essential oils, honey, forage, grazing, tannins



What about Resin extraction ??

- Low employment in Tunisian rural areas
- Lack of knowledge and appreciation of the importance of resin tapping
- The knowledge of resin extraction is very limited or even non-existent
- Outdated published studies



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**Gaps
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Solution proposed

We offer a training and networking resin platform :

- Method training services to people living in rural areas in order to give them income sources towards sustainable resin extraction and giving value to the natural Tunisian forests
- Facilitate the creation of an attractive community of resin distillers
- Promote networking opportunities between farmer and the industry → workshops / Open days/ Field visits/...

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State of the art

- Lack of companies dealing with resin extraction in Tunisia
- No major scientific research on the topic
- No existing resin-tapping or distillation community.
- Our idea is new and innovative for the Tunisian forest sector: it creates employment and new job opportunities in rural and marginal areas
- Reduction of land abandonment → active management of rural areas

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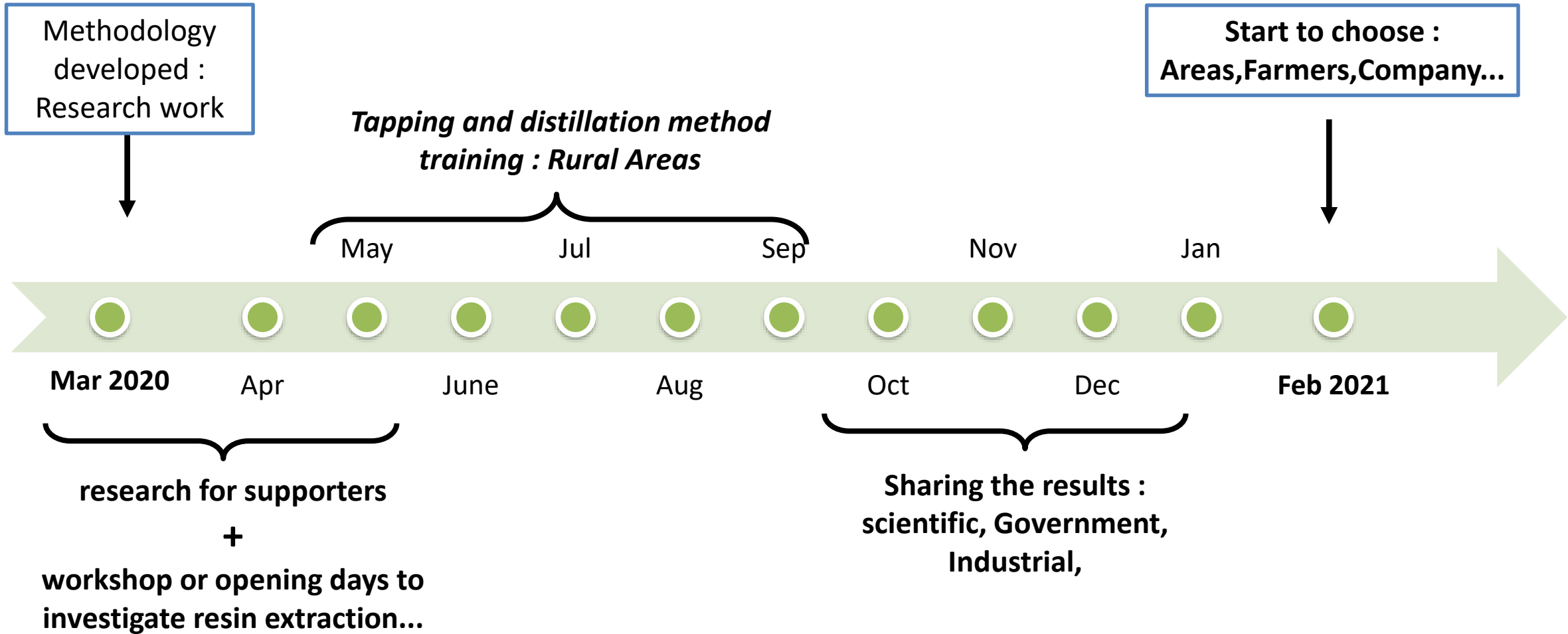
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Timeline



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Next steps

- Presentation of the project to rural communities during spring and summer time
- Organise some technical demonstration on the topic by some experts
- Organise open days with farmers, companies, government (DGF, CRDA, INRGREF)
- Create a new research group on the topic at INRGREF
- Involve student who are working in the topic to present their results

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Our project improve the resin sector in several ways:

- Social aspects → New employment opportunities/ Increase the number of working days in rural and marginal areas
- Economic aspects → Decrease the import of resin from abroad
- Environmental aspects → manage currently abandoned forests

**And remember ...
Together we Tapp!!**



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Thanks for your attention

RESIN TUNISIA FOREST (RETUFO)

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