

## **Partner 1. Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)**

Area of expertise: The “Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas” (CSIC) is the more important research institute of Spain, with a staff close to 2000 investigators working in different regional centers and disciplines. **Five research groups from four different centers from CSIC are involved in IRRIVAL: (i) Centro de Edafología y Biología Aplicada del Segura (CEBAS-CSIC, Murcia), (ii) Instituto de Recursos Sostenibles (IRNASE-CSIC, Sevilla), (iii) Institute of Sustainable Agriculture (IAS-CSIC, Córdoba), (iv) (IATA-CSIC, Valencia).** CEBAS-CSIC, Murcia “Irrigation Department”: The results obtained have allowed them to elaborate successful RDI strategies in semiarid areas with limited water resources, enabling important savings of water without reducing yield or quality of the crops (almond, apricot and lemon trees). CEBAS-CSIC, Murcia “Food Science and Technology”: The research group on Quality, Safety and Bioactivity of Plant Foods deals with food chemistry, technology and biotechnology of fresh and processed fruit and vegetables. This group has long experience in phytonutrient analysis, particularly flavonoid and other phenolic metabolites, and antioxidant constituents and quality in fruits and vegetables. IRNASE-CSIC, Sevilla: Their main research lines are: Improvement of water use efficiency in the olive orchards managements. IAS-CSIC, Córdoba: The Group has a broad focus on agricultural water management and conservation issues, with emphasis on combining modelling and experimental approaches. IATA-CSIC, Valencia: The Group has a broad focus on food safety, with emphasis in the development of good agricultural practices and the establishment of HACCP systems. The Person in charge of CSIC partner will be J.J.Alarcón, which also will act as Project Coordinator. Dr. J.J. Alarcón is a senior research of CEBAS Irrigation Department from 1996. Previously, he reached the Ph.D. degree from Murcia University and he obtained a postdoctoral fellowship in the “Horticulture Research Institute” of Wellesbourne (England) during two years. He is expert in “Plant physiology under water stress” and “Irrigation water management”. In the last years he has participated in 25 Research Project supported by UE, National Plans and Private Firms; he has published 50 articles in SCI Journals and he has been invited in different International Congresses and Conferences related with “Water irrigation management in arid environments”.

List of personnel involved: Scientists: J.J.Alarcón, A. Torrecillas, M.J. Sánchez-Blanco, M.C. Ruiz-Sánchez, J.M. Abrisqueta, J.Vera, E. Nicolás, M. Pérez de Madrid, F. Pedrero, O. Mountzer, M.I. Gil, A. Allende, V. Selma, B. Buendía, F. López, P. Segura, E. Fereres, J.E. Fernández, A. Díaz, F. Moreno, A. Martínez-López.

Main responsibilities: CSIC is the project coordinator and the main responsible of the management activities. One of the most important task that CSIC will carry out will be the design, organization and management of the data-base with all the information available for the rest of partners. Four different institutes are involved from CSIC (CEBAS, IRNASE, IAS, IATA) with a total dedication of 141 person/months. The multidisciplinary team of the CSIC will allow to bring a significant participation in most of the WPs of IRRIVAL. CSIC will be lead contractor for WP2 (M.J.Sánchez-Blanco), studying the plant-based indicators of water status and resistance to environmental stresses of citrus, olive and peach plants. CSIC will be lead contractor for WP3 (M.I. Gil), being the responsible for quality studies in peach and citrus. CSIC will be the responsible of the food safety issues for all regions (WP10-A. Martínez-López), and also the lead contractor of the dissemination activities (WP13- E. Fereres). The

reports related with the “Crop physiological responses”, “Fruit quality studies”, and “Food safety issues”, including the development of good agricultural practices, and the dissemination activities (meetings, courses, etc.) will be the main deliverables for which CSIC is responsible.