

Sustainable Urban Agriculture, Agrofood Chain, Foods Systems

Education, Jobs & Skills

Tourism & Culture, Diversification-Slow food & Supplies

Climate Change & Energy Transition

### General Socio-economic Profile

Region Lazio implements its Smart Specialisation Strategy – RIS3 and actively responds to emerging opportunities and market developments within the latest social-economic development framework for the 2021-2027 period. Starting with identifying the most competitive areas in the region, Lazio strives to promote development and employment, prioritise the action plan and develop unique regional competitiveness. At the same time, it aims to enhance regional strengths in research, technological development and innovation.

The main innovation drivers for Region Lazio include agri-food, circular economy, life science, automotive, sustainable mobility, aerospace, blue economy, digital/creative industries, security, technologies and cultural heritage protection.

# Region Lazio



5,879,000



17,242 km<sup>2</sup>



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### Good Practices

Best practices in tourism: The region strives to create a win-win cooperation model that enables its partners and stakeholders to share, discuss and exchange best practices with the IURC partner regions. Its smart specialisation strategy includes the following three objectives:

- supporting regional industries in moving up towards value added segments and markets through technological innovation
- turning Region Lazio into a highly globalised region of innovation
- guiding regional businesses to enter international markets of strategic interest.

Strategic aims, concrete projects, and acquired expertise are the core values and resources that Region Lazio is willing to share with Chinese partner regions. Strategy discussion, vision exchange and action coordination will foster mutual learning and understanding, which help overcome cross-border challenges.

With regards to the tourism sector and in line with the RIS3, Region Lazio is willing to share its experience of system design and sustainable strategies for cultural services.

### Preferred Areas of Cooperation

Region Lazio wishes to contribute to “A Smarter Europe”, “Tourism & Culture” and “A Greener Europe” with sustainable agriculture and agri-food, following the triple helix approach.

It will share its best practices in safe and sustainable agriculture as well as accessible tourism development. The region aims at supporting and enhancing the conservation of natural and scenic values, whilst retaining the attractiveness of tourist destinations. Protecting and promoting local produce in the context of tourism development equals to organising producer visits, tasting events, and wine & dine experiences, so as to allow international visitors to understand the natural connection between a product and its place of origin. At the same time, food and wine tourism would allow the region to showcase its agri-food practices to an international audience.

Quality agri-products are important to Region Lazio. It is committed to conveying a clear local identity to the international market. In order to achieve this, active involvement of local communities is a prerequisite. Local communities are the guardian of values that represent the regional food culture and identity, and attract tourists. This attractiveness results from the interaction of multiple factors within the region, and will provide a valuable reference for Chinese counterparts. Therefore, the establishment of a comprehensive cooperation plan, including a regional strategy and associated food and wine resources, will be the cornerstone of a fruitful collaboration under the IURC programme.

## Lazio Region Study Visit 21<sup>st</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

### Lazio– Zhengzhou MoU of Cooperation

#### Scope and Intended Action of the MoU

Lazio and Zhengzhou agreed on the contents of the MoU.

#### MoU Signing Parties

Both parties agreed that the administrative body of Lazio region and Zhengzhou DRC will sign the MoU at this stage.

#### Timeline of MoU Signing

The MoU Signing Ceremony is planned for 16th – 20th Jan.2023. IURC-China will coordinate the virtual MoU signing and countersigning.



Lazio Regional Government Office



Zhengzhou – Lazio Online working Session



Meeting Stakeholders from Lazio Region



Greeting from Agricoltura Capodarco Social Farm and Zhongyuan Organic Agriculture Institute



Agricoltura Capodarco

#### Join Actions in 2023

- Regular working sessions
- Seminars on peri-urban agriculture, Sustainable Agri-food Supply, Urban Community farming
- Demonstration Field for Carbon Sequestration and Emission Reduction
- Lazio – Zhengzhou Delegations’ Study Visit
- Exchange of SMEs/Start-ups
- Short-term Exchange Programme for Young Talents/Volunteers
- Cooperation in Tourism

#### Stakeholders

- President’s Cabinet of Lazio Region and Lazio Innova
- Istituto Zooprofilattico of Lazio – Tuscany (IZSLT)
- Agro Camera (Agency of the Chamber of Commerce of Rome for development and promotion of agri-food system and commodities)
- Agricoltura Capodarco Cooperativa Sociale
- Sapienza-University of Rome



- Zhengzhou Development and Reform Commission (Sino-Europe Regional Economic Cooperation Center of Zhengzhou)
- Henan Zhongyuan Organic Agriculture Institute
- Universities and research institutions

## Experimental Zooprophyllactic Institute of Lazio and Tuscany

### Introduction

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e Toscana (IZSLT) is a national public health control institution working in the fields of:

- Animal health
- Hygiene of livestock production & animal welfare
- Food safety

The services include diagnosis, laboratory activities and counselling on animal diseases & zoonotic diseases, and controls over the safety of foods, food production chains and animal feed.

The Institute is subject to the supervision of the Ministry of Health. It operates as a technical and scientific instrument within the National Public Health Service for the Lazio and Tuscany Regions as well as for the Italian State Government.



Nationwide network of 10 regional Veterinary Public Health Institutes



Publication by FAO in 2022. The Chinese version published in 2023



Laboratories and research centres



IZSLT owns international recognized Reference Centres and Labs

### Main Activities

- Research projects funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Horizon Europe etc.
- Epidemiological surveillance analysis
- Professional training at EU, national, regional and local level
- Technical and scientific international cooperation
- IT data management
- Assistance, training and information to farmers and food producers
- Health and safety services
- Acknowledged FAO Reference Centre for Animal Health and Food Security - Discipline Apiculture, health and biosecurity

### Cooperation Areas with Chinese Partner

- Animal health and epidemiological surveillance
- Food safety and veterinary public health
- Livestock production chains, health risks evaluation
- Animal welfare & animal feed
- Beekeeping practices for sustainable agriculture and biodiversity
- Training of veterinary and health professionals
- Consultancy and sanitary information to companies in the food industry
- Microbiological test for milk productions



## The Cooperative Agriculture Capodarco

### Agri-food System in the Lazio Region

The agri-food productions in the Lazio region are embedded deeply in the natural and cultural values of the region. The agricultural landscape is immersed in a network of pre-existing historical sites, monuments, villas, and farmhouses. The agri-food system interacts with urban issues, agricultural issues and environmental issues, particularly encouraging the local network of food production, trading and consumption.

The general master plan gives a fundamental role to the ecosystem network of protected green areas, historic villas, gardens, tree-lined streets, blue infrastructures and agricultural areas, which integrate environmental, agricultural and recreational functions. Agricultural parks play an important role in connecting cities with agriculture, citizens and farmers, and public and private spaces.

In the past years, the Lazio region has been encouraging land and rural development of multi-functional farms and organic farms. Among 70,000 farms in the region, about 450 are multifunctional farms, and more than 30 of them are organic farms, 23% of agricultural land is cultivated organically.



"Agricoltura Capodarco" was founded in 1978 as a project for social agriculture to serve the community



### Agricoltura Capodarco

Agricoltura Capodarco is an organic multifunctional farm in Castelli Romani Regional Park on the outskirts of Rome. The operation integrates organic farming with local food supply, agri-tourism, social inclusion and community building. It cultivates approximately 27 hectares: 18 hectares for olive trees, 5 for vineyards, 2 for vegetables and 2 for greenhouse. The operations include:

- Production of organic vegetables, honey, eggs, wine and olive oil.
- Cooperative sale and distribution of organic products
- Restaurant, catering and organizing events
- Practicing social agriculture, training workers of socially disadvantaged people, providing local schools and social organisations with education and training programmes, and promoting environmentally friendly agriculture through bio-agricultural training courses.



## The Cooperative Agriculture Capodarco

### Cooperation Areas with Zhengzhou

- Workshops and training programmes in implementing organic farming, organic agricultural production processing techniques, and environment-friendly agriculture.
- Knowledge exchange on management of innovative social and health services for the local community, and its economic impact
- Exchange of young talents learning and volunteering in organic farm.
- Knowledge exchange in carbon footprint reduction, ecological footprint evaluation and related socio-economic impact in farming practice
- Cooperative marketing and distribution of organic agricultural products
- Joint events on promoting urban community farming, organic agriculture, and local food supply chain



Restaurant renovated from a former stable



Restaurant and multifunctional hall



Beekeeping for honey harvest and educational programs



The farm involves farmers, NGOs, families, disadvantaged people, universities, authorities, schools, etc.



Food with love



Wine production



Experienced staff on the farm since 1980s



Art crafts for kids



Beekeeping workshop



Environmental education board

## GreenSapiens Lab – Sapienza University of Rome

### Introduction

GreenSapiens Lab is a research and development center led by Professor Antonio Zorro at the Department of Chemical, Materials and Environmental Engineering of Sapienza University of Rome. The lab deals with green chemistry, sustainable development and the Circular Economy, with issues such as the production of “green” nanomaterials from bio-resources or the recovery of value-added products from agro-industrial biowaste, through innovative extraction processes with low environmental impact.

The GreenSapiens Lab bridges the gap between laboratory research and commercial manufacturing by providing open-access scale-up processing facilities.

The work is funded by Sapienza, the Italian Ministry of University, EU-funded Projects and private companies.



Professor Antonio Zorro explains how biochemical engineering can influence daily life: starting from the antioxidant substances recovered from the agro-industrial waste of the production of different foods

*“When we buy tomato sauce, we do not find any peels. From waste tomato peels, we can extract lycopene, a very strong natural antioxidant.”*



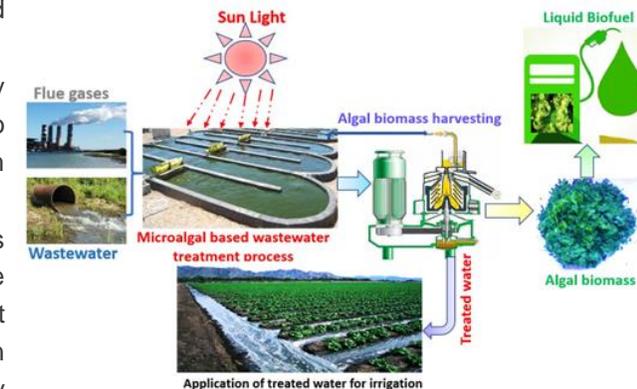
### Main Activities

- Chemical and biochemical engineering research, such as the development of innovative and environmentally friendly technologies for the recovery of value-added products from agro-industrial wastes, the degradation of organic compounds by advanced oxidation processes and the green synthesis of metal nanoparticles.
- Development of new products for the cosmetic, nutraceutical, food and packaging sectors with enhanced antioxidant and antibacterial properties.
- International collaborations with universities and industry.
- Application-oriented research driven by industry and run for companies ranging from Food to Feed, from Cosmetic to Nutraceutical, from Special Green Chemicals to Petrochemistry.
- Multidisciplinary Design Optimisation, process modelling and simulation, tools for effective decision-making and public engagement through integrating knowledge and decision support frameworks in the biotechnology industry.

### Cooperation areas with Chinese Partner

Design, organize, and coordinate cross-sectoral consortia and implement collaborative programmes between business, research institutes and organizations in the field of green chemistry and sustainable processing:

- Research & development
- Testing & analysis
- Education, training & qualifying
- Joint venture, enterprise funded partnership, consulting



An integrated approach to wastewater treatment and biomass fuel production