

UNOBIO IN TUNISIA

THE NEW UNION OF THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE CHAIN

In October 2019 the new [UNObio Union](#) (National Union of Organic Operators) was created in Tunisia to bring together farmers, processors and distributors of the organic agricultural chain.

The organic sector is gaining considerable momentum in Tunisia. During the 1990s the Government issued a first Law to regulate organic farming and since 1996 the [Centre Technique de l'Agriculture Biologique CTAB](#) continued to perform its role in supporting the development of the organic agricultural sector through research and training initiatives. On the basis of data from the [Ministry of Agriculture of Tunisia \(2019\)](#), the country currently exports 60 organic products in 36 countries. In terms of agricultural production, the sector covers 378,000 hectares of certified organic areas, mainly for olive and date trees production (18,600 hectares in 2002). In 2019 the number of operators increased up to 7970 (481 in 2002), including 7491 organic farmers, 330 organic processors and 149 exporters of organic products.

Within the framework of this expanding organic market, UNObio, made up of organic operators, in addition to defending the interests of its associates, aims to work for the development of the sector in Tunisia as follows:

- contributing to better structuring the organic market, particularly in terms of supply and sales circuits;
- promoting synergy between the different operators of the sector: farmers, processors, distributors and exporters;
- ensuring better promotion of organic products from Tunisia;
- guaranteeing the respect of the quality and ethical standards to be performed by all organic farming operators, to give the best possible image of the organic sector in Tunisia.

In more general terms, the new UNObio union aims at a more sustainable development: by offering quality products from ecological and sustainable agriculture; by limiting the impact of food consumption on natural resources (soil, water, biodiversity); by contributing to the environment since organic agriculture guarantees the capture of CO₂ while conventional agriculture is responsible for a large amount of greenhouse gas emissions

In this framework of sustainable development, working closely with the various public and private institutional partners, UNObio's purposes are also to reach a positive impact of organic agriculture for small farmers, who represent 80% of all farmers in the country. Its strategies envisage expanding the variety of products grown using organic methods, diversifying production beyond the olive trees and dates, today mostly processed for export. At the same time UNObio's strategy envisages to promote the expansion of the organic market in the country, so that everyone can benefit of quality food and small farmers can take advantage of these new opportunities, improving their income.

UNObio
UNION NATIONALE DES
OPÉRATEURS DE LA FILIÈRE BIO TUNISIE



In January 2020 the new UNObio union established a collaboration agreement with the [Institut National Agronomique de Tunisie INAT](#), a prestigious agronomic university in the country, to work together on the development of the organic production chain, implementing research initiatives, for example for the development of low-cost, healthy, organic fertilizers and training initiatives on new technologies for organic farming.

To know more

[UNObio in Facebook](#)

[Article in radiomedtunisie.com](#)

[Article in leconomistemaghrebin.com](#)

[Article in lapresse.tn](#)

[Article in proalimentarius.com](#)

[Article in magrebemergent.info/tunisie](#)

[Article in news.gnet.tn](#)

[Article in fluxafrica.com](#)

[Article in reporterre.net](#)

[Article in letemps.com](#)

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[Ministry of Agriculture of Tunisia presentation -2019](#)

[Centre Technique de l'Agriculture Biologique CTAB website](#)

[INAT website](#)

