



NATAE
North African Transition
to AgroEcology



Call for Applications, NATAE Research School 2025 December 18–20, 2025, Errachidia, Morocco

Context

Faced with climate, social, and environmental crises, agronomic and environmental research is called upon to support the agroecological transition. The NATAE project (Network for Agroecology Transition in the Mediterranean) is part of this dynamic, bringing together researchers, local stakeholders, and institutions within Mediterranean Living Labs. In this context, the NATAE 2025 Research School offers a space for training and scientific debate aimed at young researchers engaged in issues of sustainability, resilience, and governance of agricultural and food systems.

Objectives

The School aims to:

- ✓ Strengthen the analytical and methodological capacities of young researchers on agroecological transitions;
- ✓ Foster interdisciplinary dialogue between agronomy, socio-economics, ecology, social sciences, and political sciences;
- ✓ Promote research grounded in territorial realities and open to dialogue with local stakeholders;
- ✓ Build a Mediterranean community of young scientists engaged in the agroecological transition.

Location and Dates

The School will take place from December 18 to 20, 2025, in Errachidia (Morocco) — an oasis territory that stands as a symbol of sustainability dynamics and farmer-led innovation.

Eligible Profiles

- ✓ PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers in fields related to agroecology, agronomy, economics, ecology, geography, anthropology, political science, and related disciplines;
- ✓ Young professionals or practitioners involved in action-research projects or agroecological transition initiatives.

Particular attention will be given to ensuring disciplinary, geographical, and gender balance.

Selection Criteria

- ✓ Relevance of the applicant's background to the themes of the School;
- ✓ Motivation and interest in interdisciplinarity;
- ✓ Commitment to a research approach grounded in territorial realities.

Application Package

Applicants are invited to submit:

1. A CV (maximum 2 pages);
2. A motivation letter (1 page) explaining their interest in the School;
3. (Optional) A brief presentation of their research project (1 page).

Submission Guidelines

- ✓ Applications must be sent by email to the following addresses:
rachid.harbouze@yahoo.fr ; m.nassreddine@gmail.com ; youssef.trifa@gmail.com;
- ✓ Email subject: "Application – NATAE Research School 2025 – Last Name First Name"
- ✓ Deadline: November 09, 2025 (11:59 p.m.)
- ✓ Results announcement: November 17, 2025.



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Practical Information

Selected participants will have their stay in Errachidia covered. Logistical details (transport, accommodation, and on-site arrangements) will be provided at a later stage.

Provisional Program

Day	Session	Activities	Description	Facilitators
Day 1	Morning	Opening session & introduction to the NATAE project	Presentation of project objectives and keynote lectures by senior experts	Project coordinators (Pr. Mélanie Requier, Pr. Rachid Harbouze) + senior researchers in agroecology, rural economics, and agricultural policy
	Afternoon	Module 1: Ecosystem services assessment for agroecological transition Module 2: Technological innovations for agroecological transition	Interactive training sessions on evaluation methods and innovations for agroecological transition.	Pr. Nassreddine Maatla / Pr. Imane Bounadi M. Abdeljalil El Hasnaoui
Day 2	Morning	Module 3: Governance and agroecological transition Module 4: From research to action	Methodological discussions on governance, collective action, and research-action approaches	Pr. Younes Bekkar Pr. Mustapha El Janati
	Afternoon	Field visit	Meeting with a local actor implementing agroecological practices	Pr. Mustapha El Janati
Day 3	Morning	Module 5: Public policy framework analysis	Discussion on the role of national policies and strategies in supporting agroecological transitions	Pr. Taha Lahrech
	Afternoon	Roundtable	Presentation and discussion of doctoral research works	Pedagogical facilitators