

GECO 2.2 – Certification of Carbon Removal and Reduction in Agriculture

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 – University of Zadar

The conference brings together policymakers, experts, investors and farmers to demonstrate how carbon certification works in practice – from the regulatory framework to tangible benefits on the ground.

AGENDA

10:30 – 11:00	Registration of participants
11:00 – 11:10	Opening Remarks by the Organizers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome by the host – Ivica Pintur, Director, AGRRRA Conference objectives
11:10 – 11:20	Opening Remarks - Zadar County
11:20 – 11:30	Introduction to the GECO 2.2 Project – Ivana Dević, Project Partner AGRRRA
11:30 – 11:45	“European Framework and Regulation (EU) 2024/3012 – Regulatory Basis for Certification” - Ministry of Environment and Green Transition Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU framework for carbon removal certification Quality criteria (quantification, additionality, permanence, sustainability) Role of accredited verifiers and competent authorities Integration with national climate and energy plans
11:45 – 12:00	“Agriculture as a Climate Solution and an Opportunity for Producers” Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon economy in agriculture Incentives and integration with the CAP Role of farmers in generating certified units Synergy with sustainable food production
12:00 – 12:15	European Committees



	<p>AGRI – Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development</p> <p>“Common Agricultural Policy and Multiannual Financial Framework”</p> <p>Marko Vešiglaj, Member of the European Parliament, Lead Rapporteur on the Position of Farmers in the European Parliament</p>
12:15 – 12:40	Coffee break
12:40 – 13:00	GECO 2.2 Tool Presentation - Vincenzo Verrastro, PhD, Project Partner CIHEAM Bari
13:00 – 13:45	<p>PANEL I</p> <p>"Certification in Practice: From Activity Plan to Issuance of Units"</p> <p>Moderator: Mislav Togonal</p> <p>Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marko Vešiglaj, Member of the European Parliament, Deputy in the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development • Tugomir Majdak, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries • Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tomislav Kos, Department of Ecology, Agronomy and Aquaculture, University of Zadar • Vincenzo Verrastro, PhD, Scientific Administrator, International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies – CIHEAM Bari <p>The panel focuses on the practical application of the certification system in agriculture, emphasizing benefits for farmers. The discussion will cover the process from implementing activities on the farm to the issuance of certified units, economic opportunities created by such systems, and challenges related to their implementation. Participants will also highlight the role of public policy, science, and international experience in developing reliable and accessible certification models, as well as administrative and technical implementation challenges.</p>
13:45 – 14:00	Coffee break
14:00 – 14:45	<p>PANEL II</p> <p>"Transparency, Traceability, and Integrity of the Carbon Market"</p> <p>Moderator: Tajana Radić</p> <p>Participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Environment and Green Transition, TBC • Dr. Igor Stankić, Senior Researcher, Department of Renewable Energy Sources and Environmental Protection, Hrvoje Požar Energy Institute • Sasja Beslik, ESG Investment Specialist, SDG Impact Japan



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristijan Dubravčić, ISO 50001, ISO 14001, ISO 9001 Lead Auditor and Consultant • Đulijano Nola, Co-Founder at GoHome, CrnoJaje, GammaChef, OsigurajMe & Bots&Pots <p>This panel addresses key issues in developing a reliable and transparent carbon market, including preventing double counting, establishing national and European registries, and the role of digital solutions in ensuring traceability. The discussion will also cover linking voluntary and regulatory markets, as well as investor and buyer expectations regarding the quality and credibility of carbon units, with a particular emphasis on standards and reputational risks.</p>
14:45 – 15:00	Conclusions and Closing Remarks
15:00	Lunch + Networking

