



**PRIMA
WOMAN
GREENING
FOOD SYSTEMS
AWARD**
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



Women researchers can design ambitious scientific programs, lead multidisciplinary teams, and create solutions that are both environmentally and socially transformative.

Dr. Kaoutar Aboukhalid,

Winner, PRIMA Award 2025:

Women Greening Food Systems in the Mediterranean





During my early field missions as a young researcher, I witnessed firsthand the rapid decline of wild oregano populations, plants that have been used for generations in Moroccan traditional medicine, cuisine, and rural livelihoods.



Photos: Dr. Kaoutar Aboukhalid,



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“ What struck me most was how quickly natural habitats were changing: overharvesting, grazing pressure, uncontrolled commercialization, and climate-driven degradation were reducing both the abundance and the genetic diversity of these species.



Photos: Dr. Kaoutar Aboukhalid,

“ This alarming situation motivated me to design the first national, structured program to collect, study, conserve, and restore these species.

MOROREGEN emerged from the conviction that if we act early and scientifically, we can save these plants before their loss becomes irreversible.