



Ambasciata d'Italia
Lussemburgo

ITALIAN FOOD IN SPACE

New technologies and traditional quality products for sustainability and nutritional well-being in outer space

Luxembourg, 24th Novembre 2021, at 4.30 pm CET

Auditorium of Banque de Luxembourg

The Embassy of Italy in Luxembourg together with the Italian- Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, organizes the conference "ITALIAN FOOD IN SPACE - New technologies and traditional quality products for sustainability and nutritional well-being in outer space", which aims at exploring the theme of food in Space and the contribution of the Italian version of the Mediterranean diet to the well-being of astronauts, with particular reference to the sustainability of crops grown in a future base on the Moon and Mars.

Italy and Luxembourg cooperate closely in the field of Space exploration and are the only two EU member countries part of the NASA "Artemis program" that, in a few years, will bring humans back to the Moon, establishing a permanent human colony on our satellite and, in perspective, paving the way for human landing on Mars. The Italian and Luxembourg Space Agencies are partners in this and many other projects, with special regard to the field of the utilization of Space resources, and on October 26, 2021 have signed a bilateral cooperation agreement.

Keynote speaker of the event is Valentina Sumini, Ph.D., Visiting Professor at Politecnico of Milan, Research Affiliate at MIT Media Lab and R&D specialist at COESIA S.p.A., who will explain what a hydroponic greenhouse is and its challenges in a highly critical environment such as the Moon and Mars (NASA Big Idea Challenge: <https://www.media.mit.edu/projects/marsboreal-greenhouse/overview/>).

Other participants include Dr. Simonetta Di Pippo Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), as well as Professor Antonino Salmeri (University of Luxembourg) and Special Guests Luca Parmitano, astronaut (European Space Agency), commander of the International Space Station (ISS).

During the workshop, the renowned Chef Ilario Mosconi, (from Michelin Star "Mosconi" restaurant in Luxembourg), will present an original recipe especially created with the Politecnico of Milan, based on some of the ingredients that could be grown in the Lunar or Martian hydroponic greenhouse.

The event is part of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs initiative "The Italian cuisine week" aimed at promoting the excellence of the Italian cuisine and products worldwide (and, in this case, beyond our Planet Earth).