

## Biography of Prof. Hichem Ben Salem



**Pr. Hichem Ben Salem** is currently the Director General of the Institution of Agricultural Research and High Education (IRESA) of Tunisia. Before this position, he was the Director of the Research Program “Diversification and Sustainable Intensification of Production Systems” at the International Center of Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA, 2014-2015), Director General of the National Institute of Agricultural Research of Tunisia (INRAT, 2011-2013) and head of the laboratory of animal and forage production (2005-2013) at INRAT. Pr Ben Salem earned a PhD in Animal Nutrition from the University of Dijon in France and Master of Sciences (MSc) on Animal Nutrition from the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (Spain). He is the coordinator of the FAO-CIHEAM Network on Sheep and Goat Nutrition since 2000 and regional coordinator for the Mediterranean area of the FAO-ICARDA Cactus Network.

Along his career as scientist, Pr. Hichem Ben Salem is in charge of a research program focusing on the potential use of alternative feed resources (fodder shrubs, cactus, crop residues, agro industrial byproducts, secondary compounds-containing forages, etc.) in sheep and goat feeding. He also investigated livestock response to different stressors (anti-nutritive factors in the diet, drinking water restriction or salinity, etc.) in terms of digestion, production performances and meat and milk quality. He coordinated a set of national and international projects funded by different donors (e.g. FAO, IFAD, IAEA, IDRC, etc.). Pr. Ben Salem authored and coauthored around 100 papers published mainly in international peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. He was also an invited editor of several special issues of Elsevier’s journals (Animal Feed Science and Technology and Small Ruminant Research). The H-index of Pr Ben Salem is currently 22 (Scopus database).