



## Boosting organic seed and plant breeding across Europe 2017 - 2021



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 727230 and by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) under contract number 17.00090. The information contained in this communication only reflects the author's view. Neither the Research Executive Agency nor SERI is responsible for any use that may be made of the information provided.



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LIVESEED in a nutshell



Aiming for 100% organic seed of adapted cultivars



Approach & impact

# LIVESEED in a nutshell

- Budget: 7.4 M EUR EU funding & 1.5 M EUR Swiss funding
- Duration: 4 years
- Coordinator: IFOAM EU
- Scientific coordinator: FiBL (Switzerland)
- Goal: **Boosting organic seed and plant breeding in order to improve the performance, sustainability and competitiveness of the organic sector**
- Approach:
  - Inter- and transdisciplinary
  - Policy – economy – science interface
  - Multi-actor & stakeholder involvement
  - Wide geographic representation



# Multi-actor consortium



**35 partners**  
**14 linked parties**  
**18 countries**

23 breeding & research institutes  
7 breeding companies  
8 seed companies  
11 organic associations

# Aim: 100% organic seed of adapted cultivars by 2037

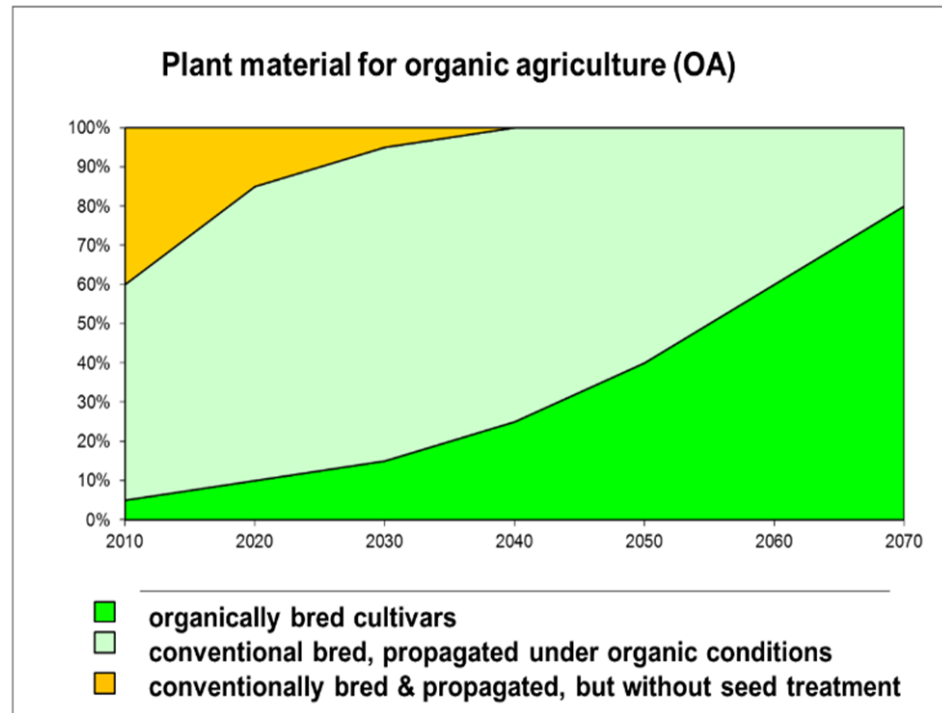


Figure 1 : Schematic time line to reach the goal of 100% organically propagated seed of suitable cultivars (light green) in short term and to foster cultivars specifically bred for organic farming systems (bright green) in the long term

# Main objectives



## Policy & regulation

Provide a level playing field for the use of organic seed and variety registration across Europe

## Research & development

Develop innovative approaches in organic plant breeding and improve quality of organic seeds

## Socio-economics

Increase access to organic seed and promote use of adapted cultivars

## Economy & market

Improve the competitiveness of the organic seed supply chain

## Communication & network

Enhance knowledge exchange & rise awareness on the benefits of organic seed and plant breeding



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# LIVESEED ambitions

- Co-development of knowledge by transdisciplinary multi-actor approach
- Holistic approaches for breeding and seed production
  - Plant – Plant interaction
  - Plant – Soil microbiome interaction
  - Plant – Seed microbiome interaction
- Enabling more sustainable food production systems
  - Mitigate risks of crop failure through breeding for diversity
  - Safeguard genetic resources for future generations



# Crop categories

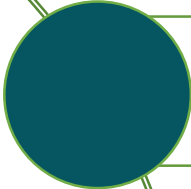
Research activities of LIVESEED will cover five main crop categories:

- Legumes (lupin)
  - Vegetables (carrot, tomato, broccoli)
  - Fruit trees (apple)
  - Cereals (winter wheat)
  - Fodder crops (grasses)
- considering different farming systems (mixed cropping, agroforestry) pedoclimatic zones across Europe





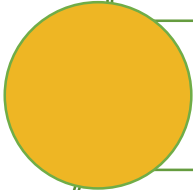
# What LIVESEED will do:



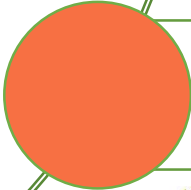
Foster harmonised implementation of the EU organic regulation on organic seed. Strengthen organic seed databases in the whole EU.



Widen the choice of organic cultivars meeting the demand of farmers, processors, retailers and consumers



Investigate socio-economic aspects related to production and use of organic seed



Improve availability and quality of organic seed. Develop guidelines for organic cultivar testing and registration



# Your involvement

Follow our activities on



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Our official homepage [www.liveseed.eu](http://www.liveseed.eu)  
will be available soon!

Participate in:

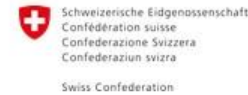
- Surveys
- Interviews
- Workshops
- Events



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