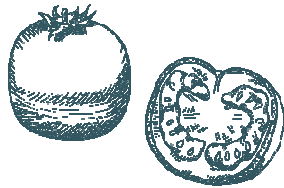


Increasing production and use of organic seed

Smart practices in regulation and policy across Europe



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LIVESEED in a
nutshell



Why organic seed
and breeding?



Smart practices in
regulation and policy



Working together



49 partners
18 countries

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



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Aim: 100% organic seed of adapted cultivars

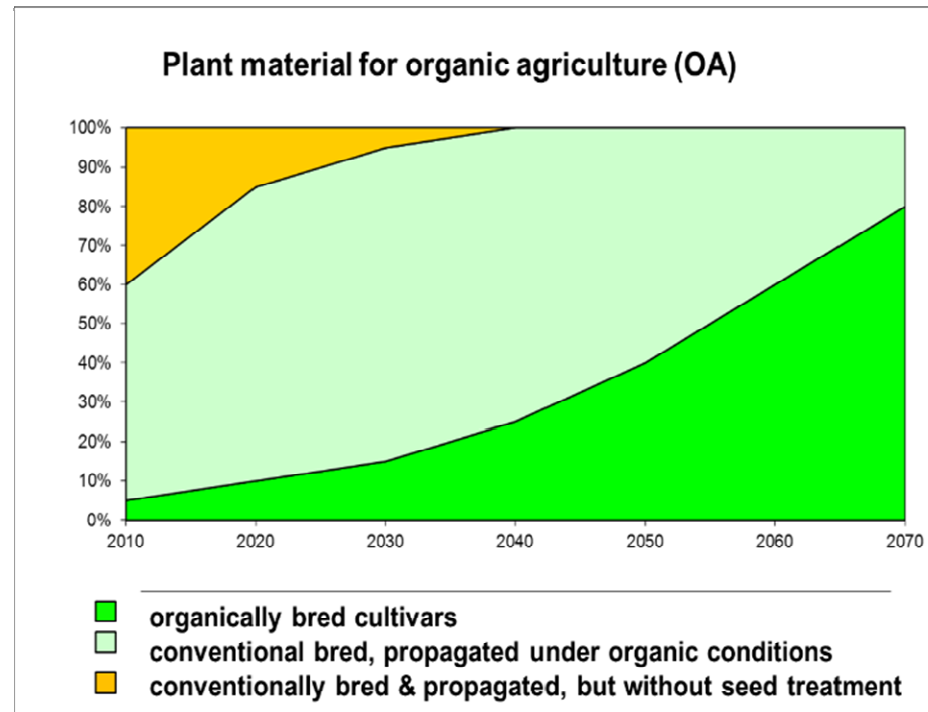


Figure 1 : Schematic time line to reach the goal of 100% organically propagated seed of suitable cultivars (light green) in short term and to foster cultivars specifically bred for organic farming systems (bright green) in the long term

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 accesability of organic seed and adoption of new cultivars

Economy & market

Improve the competitiveness of the organic seed supply chain

Communication & network

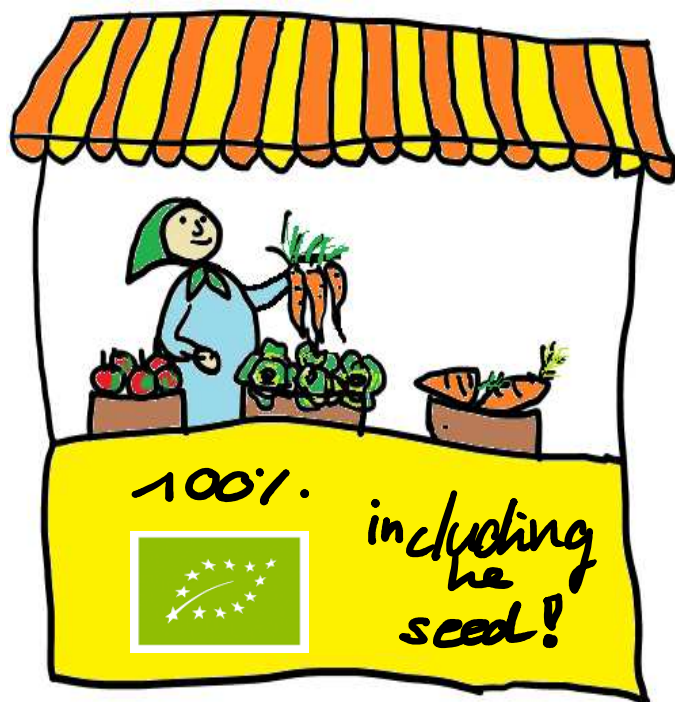
Enhance knowledge exchange & rise awareness on the benefits of organic plant breeding and seed



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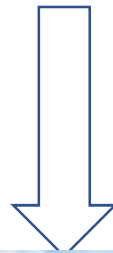
WP 1 policy and regulation

National visits to 12 member states



- Learn about national policies and derogation practices
- Identify bottlenecks and opportunities
- Collect and share smart practices
- Identify and get connected to important stakeholders
- Explain the router database
- Prepare regional workshops

Why organic seed and breeding?



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Why organic seed and breeding?



Seed production
4 months



Spinach
seed



Spinach
production 6-8
weeks

Why organic seed and breeding ?

- organic farmers need cultivars adapted to organic farming conditions
 - adapted to local conditions
 - adapted to low input
 - with good weed suppression
 - broad disease resistance
 - tolerant to (a)biotic stress
 - for organic market



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Smart practices in policy and regulation

- Improve the functioning of the database
- Expert group(s) on seeds
- Support the production and/or use of organic seed
- Strict derogation rules
 - Equivalent varieties
 - Non derogation list (cat 1)
 - Order on time

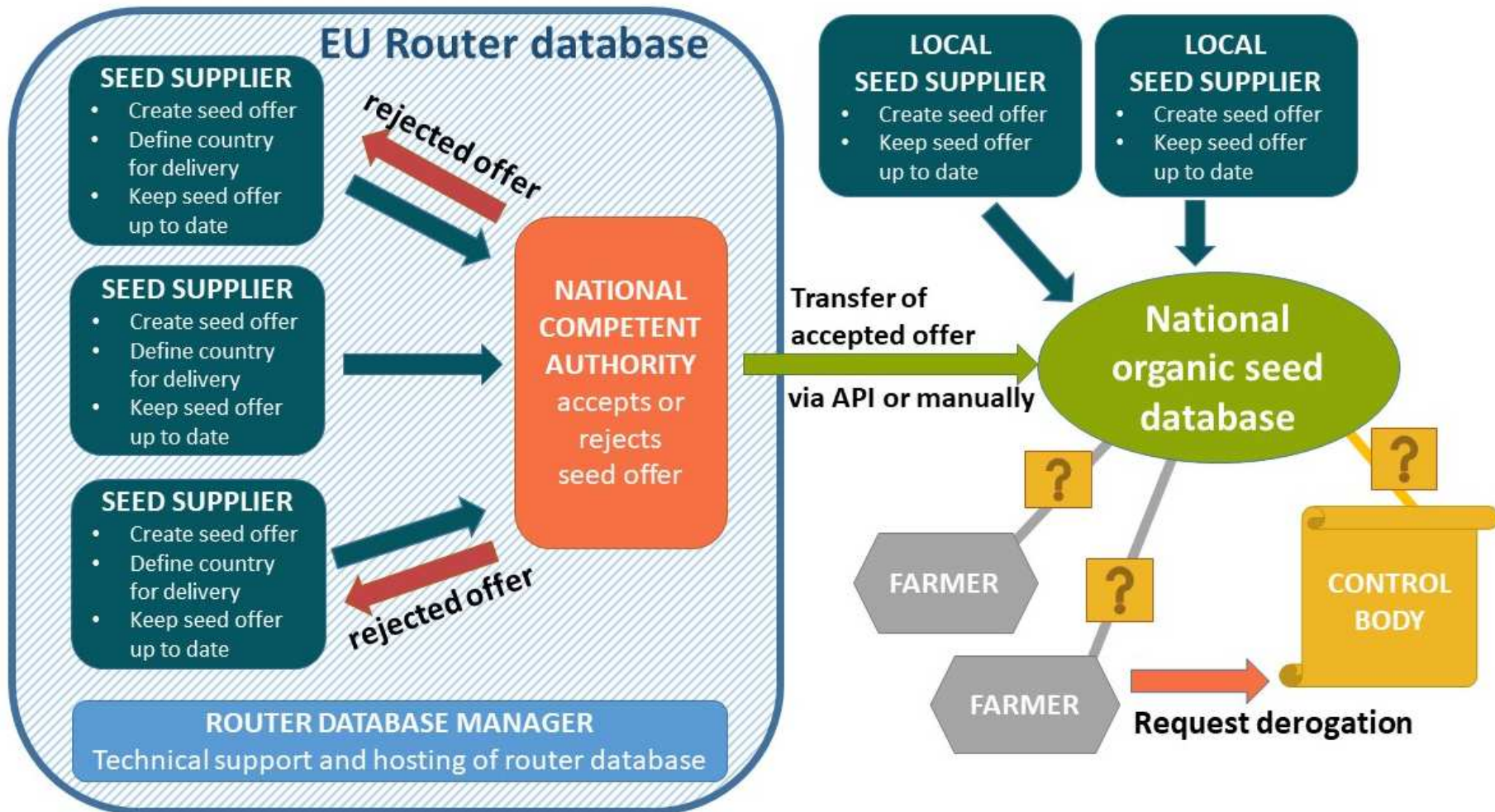


European router database

- Improve transparency of available organic seeds EU-wide
- Boost the use of organic seeds
- Create a level playing field on organic seed trade
- Increase competitiveness of the organic seed sector
- Harmonize the use of databases in the EU



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Blue arrows indicate seed offer uploads performed by seed supplier; red arrows indicate offer rejected by the competent authority; green arrow indicated offer accepted by the competent authority with a data output into national organic seed database (via Automated Programming Entry API or manually). Farmer and control body check the availability of organic seed in national databases. If no appropriate seed is available, farmer can request a derogation for the use of no-organic seed.

Smart practices expert groups

- Give advice to the government
- Clear mandate
- Different groups for different crop types
 - > arable crops , vegetables , vegetative material
- With relevant stakeholders:
farmers, seed companies,
certifiers, researchers



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smart practices

support production and use of organic seed

- Estonia: 20% higher EU subsidies for use of organic seeds (per ha)
- Latvia: mandatory training for organic farmers
- Lithuania: extra payment for organic seedproducers



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smart practices

Equivalent varieties

- List of recommended or suitable varieties
 - suitable for the climate/regional conditions
 - tested under organic conditions
 - with specific traits
- Farmer asks for a derogation for variety X
- Organic seed is available from a similar and recommended variety Y
- No derogation; the farmer must use variety Y



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Smart practices

The National Annex or category 1

A National list of (sub) crops for which “no derogation” is possible

- Clear criteria to decide if a (sub)crop can be placed on this list:
 - ✓ Are the main varieties available
 - ✓ Is the assortment sufficient for different soil types, regions, seasons and markets
 - ✓ Are there at least two seedproducers



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For example

The Dutch database

Category 1 National Annex (no derogation possible)	Category 2 (derogation is possible)	Category 3 (general derogation is granted)
<u>Cereals:</u> Spelt wheat Winter wheat Summer wheat Spring barley Winter triticale	<u>Cereals:</u> Buckwheat Oat Winter rye	<u>Cereals:</u> Durum wheat Summer rye Summer triticale Winter barley Sorghum



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Smart practices

Order on time

- Apples:

Farmers must order in advance

-> trees produced on demand

- Potatoes:

Farmers have to order their
seed potatoes before February 1

-> after that date no derogation





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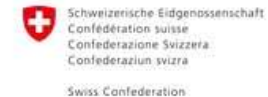
- Surveys
- Interviews
- Workshops
- Events



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LIVESEED



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