Report on the Final Stakeholder Event

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Authors	Agnes Bruszik, Lili Barta (IFOAM EU)

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Document Version

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Executive Summary

LIVESEED organised a final stakeholder event on 24th November 2020, with the main aim to share the project's results with stakeholders and policymakers, and to receive feedback from them to feed the project's recommendations. The event was connected to the annual Organic Innovation Days of The European Technology Platform for Organic Food and Farming (TP Organics), to broaden the audience. The event was also co-organised with a European Workshop on Organic Seed Production and Use (25th November 2020), which focused on results, best practices and solutions applicable at the national level for policymakers and different stakeholders.

Due to the pandemic, the event then was turned into an online event, using the SpotMe Conferencing Tool which provided a unique opportunity to network with EU stakeholders and decision-makers, as well as to discuss and exchange with the LIVESEED project partners.

The LIVESEED final conference brought together more than 250 stakeholders and policymakers from 36 countries.

Monika Messmer, Scientific Coordinator of LIVESEED, highlighted the project's outcomes, innovations and results impacting European and national policymaking. During four workshops, attendees shared ideas, asked questions about the outcomes and progress made since the start of the project. The workshops were structured along the following topics:

- Organic varieties in the organic regulations
- New models of cultivar testing for organic farming
- Innovative breeding approaches for organic farming
- Strengthening organic seed markets and business models

The program ended with the reaction of Patrizia Pitton (Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development, DG AGRI) and Thomas Weber (Directorate General for Health and Food Safety) to LIVESEED's policy recommendations and a panel debate with these representatives from the European Commission. They highlighted LIVESEED's role in informing policymaking about the willingness of seed suppliers to invest in organic and the increase of seed demand. They acknowledged LIVESEED's contribution to the secondary legislation of the new EU organic regulation, in particular LIVESEED's recommendations concerning derogations (Article 12, Regulation (EU) 2018/848) and the reporting requirements of Member States in this regard. They also welcomed LIVESEED's suggestion for a positive list of crop species to be determined by Member States.

Monika Messmer concluded that organic plant breeding requires more financing. Actors in the value chain should take responsibility and invest in organic breeding. While private foundations can provide support, public funding is needed as well. Public institutions should engage in organic breeding.

The events were recorded and were made publicly available. LIVESEED's main outcomes and results were presented also in forms of a booklet and infographics to the audience. The event's evaluation by the tool provider and by IFOAM EU were overall positive, and showed that participants interacted with the content presented, and enjoyed the presentations, especially the opportunities to interact with the Commission representatives.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background of events

LIVESEED is a 4-year Horizon 2020 funded project (2017-2021) that helps to establish a level playing field in the organic seed market across Europe, improve the competitiveness of the organic seed and breeding sector, and encourage greater use of organic seeds by farmers. The LIVESEED project is coordinated by IFOAM EU and FiBL Switzerland and consists of 37 partners and 13 third linked parties from 18 EU countries.

LIVESEED organised a final stakeholder event on 24th November 2020, with the main aim to share the project's results with stakeholders and policymakers, and to receive feedback from them to feed the project's recommendations. The event was connected to the annual Organic Innovation Days of The European Technology Platform for Organic Food and Farming (TP Organics), to broaden the audience. The event was also co-organised with a European Workshop on Organic Seed Production and Use (25th November 2020), which focused on results, best practices and solutions applicable at the national level for policymakers and different stakeholders.

Originally planned in-person, two venues were booked in Brussels in the spring of 2020 (one for the LIVESEED final event and OID, and one for the European Workshop). Due to the pandemic, the event then was turned into an online event, and IFOAM EU explored several online conferencing tools during the summer of 2020. After evaluation, the SpotMe Conferencing Tool was selected which provided a unique opportunity to network with EU stakeholders and decision-makers, as well as to discuss and exchange with the LIVESEED project partners.

1.2. Invitations

The events were widely advertised on the LIVESEED website, IFOAM Organics Europe's website, the TP Organics website, on social media, and through further targeted email invitations (approx. 2,500 invitations). The following specific groups were invited:

- All LIVESEED project partners
- LIVESEED Advisory Board Members
- LIVESEED stakeholder platform members
- Project partners of Sister Horizon Projects ECOBREED and BRESOV
- EU policymakers at the European Commission and European Parliament
- Representatives of CPVO and examination offices
- Euroseed's members and seed companies involved in LIVESEED's surveys on organic seed production.
- National seed database managers
- IFOAM EU members
- IFOAM EU - IGOF – Interest Group of Organic Farmers
- IFOAM EU - IGOP – Interest Group of Organic Processors and Traders
- IFOAM EU - IGOR – Interest Group of Organic Retailers
- TP Organics members
- Members of the European Consortium for Organic plant breeding (ECO-PB)
- Members of the Organic Seed Alliance
- Participants of 10 LIVESEED national workshops from across Europe
- Participants of LIVESEED's North Western European workshop (June 2020) on seed production and use

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- Participants of the LIVESEED-INVITE projects' policy stakeholder workshop held in February 2020 on organic varieties and variety registration.
- Participants of the LIVESEED's workshop system-based breeding during BioFach 2019
- Participants of the FiBL-Europe workshop on involving the organic value chain into breeding.

Altogether, 424 people registered, 356 were activated with correct email addresses and removing duplications, and 325 participants in total accessed the live streams. On the day of the LIVESEED final stakeholder event, 254 participants were present (see more in Chapter 1.5 and Annex II).

1.3. SpotMe Tool

Out of the several online conferencing tools explored, the SpotMe tool was selected because it could support concurrent live streams, on-demand video & session replays, breakout-groups embedded with Zoom, moreover, services for registration management, design and content management, speaker orientation, live day support, live stream design and production, and a comfortable back-end moderation and a speaker lounge.

At the same time, the platform provided opportunities to share key documents in a Library, called Resources, as well as a personal chat function for participants to network, a back-end moderated Q&A interface for questions addressed to speakers, and a platform for participants for discussing key issues on a board outside the main programs. The tool also had a feed post section where relevant messages could be communicated to all viewers.

Preparations for using the SpotMe tool included:

- collection of bios, photos, and email addresses of all speakers
- compilation of all information related to sessions (session descriptions, moderators, speakers, note-takers, rapporteurs)
- collection of all presentations in advance
- writing of a minute-by-minute script for each event
- preparation of slideshows for the breaks
- preparation of banners
- collecting and uploading relevant documents to share
- preparation of feed posts.

SpotMe managed registrations, activation of accounts, invitations to join the programs, platform design guidance, technical troubleshooting, rehearsals and training for speakers, livestreaming, and back-end access and training, recording. They also arranged the integration of zoom for the parallel workshops. The tool was opened a week before the event to allow participants to engage and get used to the platform and its features.

User-experience and statistics from SpotMe

With every new online tool, technical issues may arise, and the user experience is influenced by individuals' interest, experience, digital skills, and also the interactivity between the service provider and the participants. Overall, the user experience was positive (see a survey launched by IFOAM EU after the event, with a sample size of 325, response rate of 8%, in Annex IV). Some participants experienced issues with not receiving the links or because they did not register to the session to receive the link. These were sorted out on the days relatively quickly, but for some participants, it caused a delay in joining. Also, workshop No 2 experienced a technical failure which resulted in a delay for the participants, and the recordings of this session were also lost. Apart from these technical issues, some features were less well designed as was expected, based on feedback from participants:

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"The platform was not very user-friendly to browse participants, the chat was apparently not very easy to find as most of my initiated chats stayed unanswered."
"Due to the layout of the platform (screen in the screen, with presentation and webcam side by side) presentations filled with text were almost impossible to read. I was using a projector and was still struggling to read the slides."
"I consider very helpful to have the agenda just there and the other materials and explanations about how to proceed."

Detailed feedback was provided to the SpotMe tool team for further improvement of their tool. Statistics received from SpotMe (Figure 01-03) on the user-experience (covering all three events), shows that participants interacted well with the content that was provided and easily accessible, but the less with each other:

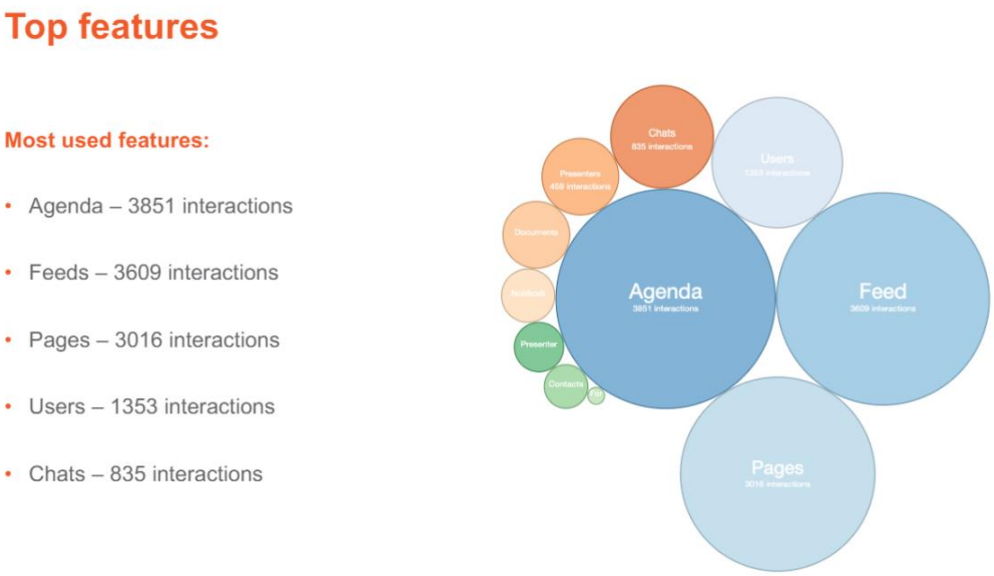

Figure 01: User experience statistics from SpotMe – OID 2020 – Top Features

Most viewed pages – top 5

Partner	Number of views
Discuss with LIVESEED	502
Resources	472
Discuss with TP Organics	99
LIVESEED European Workshop	93
Organic Innovation Days - Opportunities for organics in Horizon Europe	66

Figure 02: User experience statistics from SpotMe – OID 2020 – Most viewed pages

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Live Stream

Live stream	# of participants who watched	Average time spent on the stream	Questions asked
LIVESEED final conference	254	3 hours 06 minutes	99
Parallel session I Organic Innovation Days	119	2 hour 05 minutes	71
Parallel session II LIVESEED European Workshop	121	4 hour 57 minutes	91
TP Organics Stakeholder Forum	34	1 hour 04 minutes	42

Figure 03: User experience statistics from SpotMe – OID 2020 – LIVE Stream viewers

Considering all feedback and statistics, the organising team's conclusions were that while we probably expected more actions from the participants to interact with the tool's features (discussion boards and feed), other services and elements were still very valuable, including registration management, archiving, green-room speaker management, technical troubleshooting, providing rehearsals and training, and flexibility to our needs in terms of design and set-up.

1.4. Dissemination Materials

Since the program was selective and packed for the first day, and the audiences were wide, we decided to prepare further materials supporting the communication and dissemination of results that were not covered in the main program, as well as easy to grasp summaries of each work package in form of infographics (Annex III). Our feed post tweets also focused on covering subtasks not involved in the main program and targeted interaction with the audience in forms of questions and calls for actions (Annex V). However, response to these posts were very low. A booklet describing most of the public LIVESEED deliverables[1] was produced and disseminated during the event (Annex VII).
Furthermore, a communication and social media plan was developed and executed related to the event.

1.5. Participant statistics

The LIVESEED Final Stakeholder Event was attended by 254 stakeholders from 36 countries (see the map with number of participants per countries below (Figure 04, next page), and, additionally, attendees from outside Europe also represented Australia, Brazil, China, Morocco, Nigeria and Turkey.

Audience composition

During the registration, we collected information on the sectors participants represented. Figure 05, next page) below presents the percentage of different target groups attending the Final Stakeholder event on the 24th of November 2020.

[1] https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/LIVESEED-%E2%80%93-Boosting-Organic-Seed-and-Plant-Breeding-Across-Europe.pdf

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Figure 04. Number of attendees per country at LIVESEED Final Stakeholder Event, 24 Nov 2020

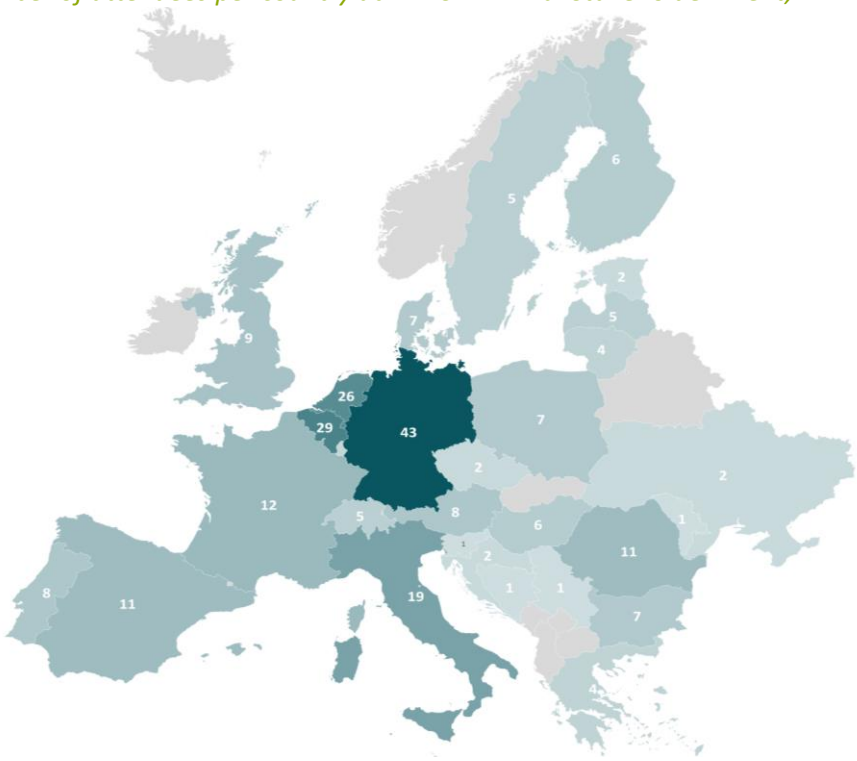
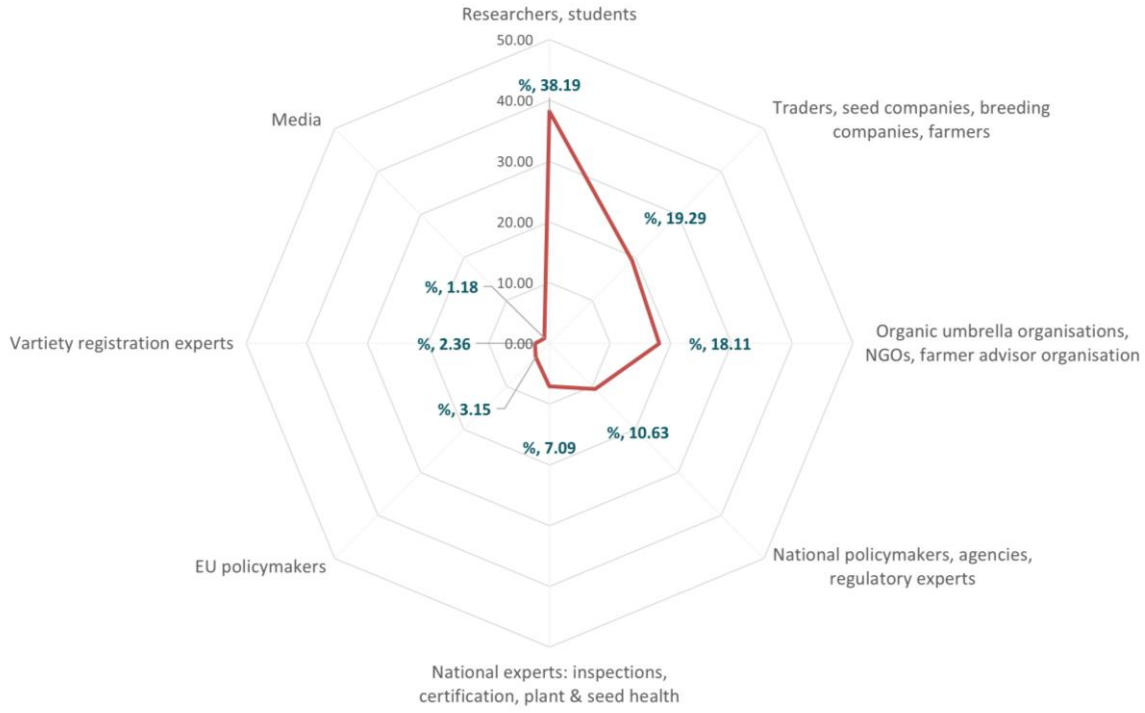


Figure 05. Percentages of different target groups attending the LIVESEED Final Stakeholder Event on 24 Nov 2020



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2. LIVESEED-OID Events: Presentations and Discussions

2.1. LIVESEED's Final Stakeholder Event

2.1.1. Presentation of LIVESEED's Main Outcomes

On 24 November, the LIVESEED final conference brought together more than 250 stakeholders and policymakers. Monika Messmer, Scientific Coordinator of LIVESEED, highlighted the project's outcomes, innovations and results impacting European and national policymaking, concerning the following topics:

- Harmonized and stricter implementation of derogation rules for non-organic seed
- Improved interactive national databases and an EU wide router database linked to national databases.
- Improved data collection and monitoring on production and use of organic seed.
- Improving the percentage of organic seed usage to 100%
- Wider choice of cultivars adapted to organic production, and novel types of cultivars like organic heterogeneous materials, organic bred varieties and populations, farmers' selection.
- Improving the quality and health of seed at similar price.
- Strategies to improve seed health.
- Proposals for adjusted protocols for organic variety testing (DUS and VCU) and new models for post-registration on-farm cultivar testing
- Concepts, strategies, and tools for the development of cultivars with improved resilience, breeding for diverse and mixed cropping systems, for the holobiont, and for disease tolerance.
- Market stimulation through different policy interventions applied at different scales (seed use, seed production and new breeding) along the value chain.
- Potential policy interventions to stimulate organic seed use among farmers.

Q&A: Discussions focused on the following topics:

- Which strategies have you individuated for increasing seed vigour and then resistance against diseases?

One strategy is to start with the production, making sure you have a good fertile soil and avoidance of contamination with pest and diseases or with other crops. LIVESEED's experimenting with carrot seed that has been grown under organic and under conventional conditions to see how this affects the microbiome on the seed that we harvest, as it is assumed that the seed microbiome can give a certain protection to the different pathogens.

- Testing cultivars under organic conditions; how would you define organic conditions? Is the effect of the environment/location not bigger?

Our studies shown in wheat and maize that you are more efficient if you are breeding under organic conditions and do the selection. It is important to test cultivars under organic condition to be close to what the farmer will expect on his field and our strategy is that a decentralized on-farm testing system with very different conditions and combine the data of all this to get a very robust measurement and make a recommendation if they are suitable for low input agriculture.

- OHM: How policy and legal structures can promote or hinder the development of heterogeneous seed or material?

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The Organic Heterogeneous Material is promoted with the new EU Organic Regulation, that this can be commercialized without official release, and that is very positive. What might hinder it is the seed certification and the inspection, it is foreseen that this has to be done by official authorities and if this could be done as self-testing that would help the process.

- Can the OHM be applied to horticultural seeds and can OHM be used in conventional farms?

According to the present delegated act on OHM, it will be allowed for all types of crops vegetables, legumes or cereals as this approach is to have higher diversity to be more resilient is valid for the different crop species. At the moment OHM has to be developed under organic conditions and of course the seed has to be produced also under organic condition as the main part is that the OHM adapts to organic situation. If they are commercialized, it becomes available for conventional farmers to buy it, but he could not produce this heterogeneous material under conventional field and cannot commercialize it.

- There will be no DUS and VCU testing for OHM, what is the opinion of UPOV and seed testing activities in the Member States of this new approach?

Probably there are quite mixed feelings about the OHM, as there is the fear of developing materials that has low quality, call it OHM and put it on the market on a low price which would undermine the European seed market. One way how to prevent this is that the development of OHM under organic conditions has to be at least 3 years for annual crops and 5 years for perennial crops. When the new EU organic regulation comes into force, we will know more on how this will be working. In Italy, for example, where OHMs are working quite well in marginal conditions, they have higher yield, but we don't see that how it will affect the businesses and conventional seed companies. It probably will stay as a niche, as organic farmers also need for the larger value chains homogenous produce which you cannot get with the OHM.

- There are large differences in the use of organic seeds in the different European regions, what are the key factors to explain these differences?

One key factor is that in Central and Northern Europe there is a higher percentage of companies and breeders engaged in organic seed production, whereas in Eastern European countries there is very little organic seed production, and lot of import, which makes it more expensive. Until now the field of organic seed was not big enough to make business case for seed companies and in some countries the derogations are too relaxed which does not motivate the farmers to use organic seed. A much stricter implementation and a roadmap on how to reduce the derogations is needed.

- How to harmonise the databases across Europe?

The new EU Router Database will really help build transparency and help the seed companies reduce the bureaucratic work of entering the offer, do it only once and click on the country where they think their cultivar fit. The data then can directly enter the national seed databases which need to improve with respect to the quality, interactivity. It can also be less bureaucratic for farmers to ask for the obligation, but also for the national authorities to monitor the number of derogations. Then this can harmonize data collection from the EU MS, which helps collect the information on organic seed use.

- The role of land races in organic plant breeding and the genomic selection?

We actually see both approaches, land races, especially participatory breeding is a way where the farmers can do selection at a low cost, they can be very efficient in local adaptation and therefore contribute to genetic diversity and agrobiodiversity. This participatory breeding works quite well in short value chains. When it comes to genomic selection, it has been applied now in conventional

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breeding quite efficiently and in organic it is also promising but still it's expensive. To be able to use this in organic it is important that the calibrations and assessing all the phenotypic data in the first place has to be done also under organic conditions.

To follow the full presentation, consult the presentation[2] (Annex VI) and the recording[3].

2.1.2. Workshops

The presentation was followed by four interactive workshops.

Workshop 1: Organic varieties (OV) in the organic regulations

The objective of the workshop was to present and discuss the new definition of organic varieties in the organic regulation and the possibilities to work with adapted registration procedures for organic varieties during the upcoming temporary experiment.

Tove Pedersen (SEGES, DK) presented how plant reproductive material is defined in the new organic regulation distinguishing between organic varieties suitable for organic production and OHM, compared to the currently existing definitions of organic varieties (e.g., IFOAM norms, ECO-PB definitions, or by private labels). Then she presented the current challenges related to the registration of OVs and discussed the upcoming temporary experiment on OVs. LIVESEED's recommendations for this 7-year experiment was presented for feedback, especially on the definition and characterization of OVs (e.g. that variety types with lower genetic diversity should be included in bred lines, that trait frequencies could be used to separate OHM from OVs). LIVESEED proposes that at least 3-5 years under organic conditions should be needed to call a variety organic and during the breeding process only techniques in line with organic principles should be allowed, together with a full disclosure of the breeding techniques used. Concerning DUS and VCU test of OVs, adapted protocols for DUS are needed, which will be a key task of the experiment to develop, and in case variety protection would be required, then maybe a traditional DUS might be necessary. Regarding VCU, adapted protocols under organic conditions are necessary and possibly the VCU could be voluntarily in some cases. It would be useful to have a preregistration test, to test the market relevance of cultivars. It might result in adjusted fees for registration of OVs, with a special mention in the EU Common Catalogue of the different types of registration. It will be important to allow farmers to have the freedom of choice from the database.

Discussions centred around the following topics:

- Whether it is expected that the demand of organic varieties will increase along the European target for phasing out pesticides and adopting agroecological farming practices in conventional farming in the future?
- Could dynamic mixtures which behave as an open pollinated population enter the OHM definition?
- Whether allowing a very weak definition of DUS could still guarantee during the year and in the value chain that the seeds are identical in performance and quality to the original seed?
- How is OHM ruled or not ruled by phytopathology certification?

[2] https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Highlights_and_policy_recommendations_of_LIVESEED.pdf

[3] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGDALlbWEe8&list=PLHVRsOcegNlvLB-EsBMN2K4W26MHK-7K9&index=2

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- Whether varieties out of breeding for organic programs also be OVs suitable for organic production, as it is mentioned in the new legislation?

Poll to collect feedback on recommendations:

Poll Question	Answers from audience
The minimum number of years under organic programs to be an OV	*I would imagine it would take at least seven seasons for an annual variety to be stable enough to be considered an organic variety. *Not less than 5 years. *5 years *Have 3 years for annuals and 5 years for perennials and biannual as for OHM. Just to do not make the regulations too complicated. *For annual crops: 5 years, for biannual: 8 years. * Minimum years should be 8. * 7-10 years for cereals * 5 years for annual crops * First a Minimum of years is necessary, maybe 5 years is better than 3 years of selection under organic conditions. Second, an additional possibility would be to make the disclosure of the whole breeding process mandatory - in addition to the 5 years.
Which specific breeding techniques should be excluded or included in the breeding of OVs	*IFOAM organic breeding standards. *No exclusions in order to find solutions for potato blight for organic potato. *According to the IFAOM definition from 2017 *Every technique meaning that the plants have to pass by lab (cutting the link soil-plant) should be excluded from organic breeding.
If and how should it be possible to have variety protection and plant breeders' rights on OVs with adopted DUS?	*It does not seem possible to protect a variety with a reduced degree of homogeneity and stability, as you don't have sufficient precisions about what you want to protect. *Yes, it could be important also for OV owners. *Variety protection is important in order to have return on investment/to cover all the costs of stuff for breeding - without protection the input into organic breeding would be limited to the public and to sponsoring - which may be unstable, politically dependent - and in the end less effective *No, as the variety is allowed to "drift" from the original variety description, it might be another variety. *I would be happy if it is possible *Less strict DUS for OA, and/or only on « useful » criteria *No *It depends on the possibility of clear distinction over time. This has to be evaluated within the temporary experiment. I would not exclude it; but it

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	might be difficult. *Yes *It will be possible, open a debate among breeders.
If VCU should be optional for OVs?	*Yes, Farmers and users' needs to have variety description *VCU is obsolete criterium *VCU is of paramount importance for OVs as it should constitute the basis for choosing such a material, but it has to be adapted. *VCU is of utmost importance only for regulators carrying them. Which farmer chooses the variety to cultivate according VCU assessment? Made where? According to which parameters? *No. Adapted VCU are important for the framers to know what they are buying. *In order to have a development in organic varieties, organic VCU should be mandatory. *Some kind of VCU is needed, it might be different from the traditional one, perhaps also on-farm option. *VCU should be adapted to OVs *VCU not be for vegetables. Cereals: possibilities for organic VCU in all MS. *Organic VCU should be mandatory - at least for a category that is allowed to enter a bigger market (exemptions for niche crops and niche markets are good to enhance diversity). For increasing the stability and security of performance, organic VCU testing is important - also to give the Farmers in the respective region an independent judgement on the performance. Without VCU, some powerful market player might "overtake" the system to their market success which in the end would disclose or marginalize smaller or less powerful breeding companies. *Yes, it should be optional. A farmer can find a local market without VCU and or find a specific use to a variety. Example: bakers can make bread with wheat varieties not indicated to make bread with in VCU tests. *Optional or compatible with a new adapted definition for OVs

To follow the full presentation and the discussions, see the presentation[4] (and Annex VI) and the recording[5].

[4]https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/workshop1_Organic_varieties_in_the_organic_regulation.pdf
[5] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qqVlYrDtkKU&list=PLHVRsOcegNlvIOzzw5vfVYW_0KcOfFhnJ&index=26&t=7s

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Workshop 2: New models of cultivar testing for organic farming

LIVESEED designed new models of cultivar testing for organic agriculture. These new models for pre/post-registration cultivar testing are intending to be frugal, multi-actor, decentralized, able to produce high-quality data and on-farm. This workshop presented the project's outcomes on this issue and opened an interactive discussion with participants.

Testing is essential to give the real purpose to organic varieties. The problem is that there are no proper testing facilities, there is no proper testing platform for varieties of organic farming. The testing facilities are based on the conventional system so those testing, so the conclusions drawn on which variety is the best is not always useful for organic growing. So how do we solve this?

Thinking about an innovative approach with farmers participation to keep it cheap but also to include organic farming conditions to have the right kind of results under the right kind of growing conditions, and then the farmers can make good decisions on those results. When you implement on farm initiatives, the on-station protocols are applied, so it is still heavy workload and still researchers or breeders are involved. LIVESEED developed a new approach based on heavy farmers participation with a central system of data collection, using social media tools to collect and share the data. What is essential in those systems is the facilitator, is important to take care of the quality of the data and the building of capacity for farmers that joined the system. Key is to keep it simple, doing the observation simple and to simplify some observations that we used to do as researchers to make rank orders instead of more quantitative data. There are enough statistical tools available to compensate for it (e.g., incomplete blog designs).

Discussions with the participants of the workshop focussed on these questions:

- What are the most critical challenges? (Facilitator, data collection process)
- Who should own the collected data? (Open-source solutions, like SeedLinked)

A poll was launched to assess:

- If it was recognized that the current testing facilities were insufficient for OVs? (Result: Partially)
- If the presented participatory approaches are useful to solve the problem? (Result: Yes or perhaps)
- For which crops these methods are suitable? (Result: For arable and vegetable farming they were thought to be the most suitable and the least suitable for forage crops and fruit crops)
- How useful a digital platform of exchange of variety results would be? (Result: 100% yes)

The full presentation is available on the LIVESEED website[6] and in Annex VI.

Workshop 3: Innovative breeding approaches for organic farming

Awareness of the interrelatedness of policy with actual breeding practices is very important. A policy can stimulate the development of new sustainable diversity-based breeding practices involving the whole value chain. The new EU organic regulation is an important first step. Can the new EU Farm to Fork Strategy enable further steps? As a perspective, systems-based breeding was used, a first concept of a toolbox allowing breeding for diversity was presented (with bean as example), and lessons learned on building breeding networks was be presented (case study of tomato).

[6]https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/workshop2_New_models_of_cultivar_testing_for_organic_farming.pdf

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The system-based breeding concept for organic agriculture[7] considers that plant breeding is not only a scientific activity with a technological application for plant breeding but plant breeding and seed system that is to be positioned within the economic, scientific and cultural environment for an ecological and social resilience. Several examples were provided to illustrate the change of attitude from breeding issues to the market, and interactions within the value chain encouraging the change of attitude integrating the values promoted by IFOAM (not only ecological adaptation to organic breeding but also integrity social consideration). There is a gap in communication and education between all the actors and mainly regarding the consumers and society they are not really aware the challenge of organic plant breeding.

Breeding for diversity is an alternative to the dominant cropping system based on genetic homogeneity and stability. In LIVESEED, breeding designs were optimized to breed genetically diverse cultivars that integrate several kinds of traits, from ecosystem adaptation, phenology, phenotype of the plant to production and product qualities. This approach also considers the microbiome and epigenetics. Working on several levels to adapt trial design and statistical tools to be more efficient for this plant breeding approach.

Several examples in LIVESEED showed that participatory small scale plant breeding is very relevant as an alternative to create varieties different from the dominant uniform system (diversifying varietal availability for specific adaptation to organic farming, and their power to strengthen local links between farmers and consumers).

All the three presentations presented ways to increase the number of available varieties adapted to organic, and that organic plant breeding is mitigating genetic erosion considering that we are recovering heirloom to adapt them to the organic conditions, while creating new open pollinated varieties with a large diversity, and diversity and local adaptations are increasing the health and resilience of our ecosystem and the environment. All actors of the value chain can contribute one way or another to organic plant breeding.

Discussions centred around:

- How are the collective and local organisations limiting the risks connected to seed health issues?
- What are the costs of participatory plant breeding, does it offer cheaper conditions for plant breeding?
- Does local breeding imply a larger assortment of varieties? Does this not make seed production very complex and challenging and also choice of varieties to be used?
- When instructing farmers on selection, how to ensure there is room for additional traits that farmers might value, next to the ones the breeders have come up with?
- How to involve farmers in the breeding so that it reduces the cost of organic seed?

To follow the full presentations and the discussions, see the presentation[8] (Annex VI) and the recording[9].

[7] Developed by Edith Lammerts van Bueren: Lammerts van Bueren et al. Towards resilience through systems-based plant breeding. A review.
[8] https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/workshop3_Innovative_breeding_approaches_for_organic_farming.pdf
[9] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzJQ2zwyiGs&t=8s

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Workshop 4: Strengthening organic seed markets and business models

The objective of the workshop was to provide an overview of the current situation of the organic seed market in Europe, and to identify the opportunities for strengthening it. The analysis carried out within LIVESEED on the current supply and demand for organic seed, on best practices and incentives in place, modelling results of possible policy/private interventions served as a basis for the discussion during the session with participants about recommendations for the sector.

LIVESEED's overview of supply and demand on organic seeds in Europe found large differences between regions of Europe and between crop groups on organic seed use. An important point is the lack of high-quality data on EU level for organic seed production and use, which is needed to meet the goal of the European Commission to phase out derogations by 2036. The study also looked at if seed production will meet the demand and studied EU organic crop lands and national derogation reports (the quality of which could also be improved and harmonised).

A short presentation followed on incentives for farmers to use organic seeds which are highly needed because there are some disadvantages for farmers to use organic seeds such as higher price of the organic seed, the limited choice of varieties. The advantages of organic seed are not always seen, farmers are not always aware of the differences between organic seed and untreated seed, and just regulation is not always the solution, so incentives for the affordable market is definitely needed and economic incentives could be getting a discount for farmers using organic seed or premium price for the final product they sell or offering the right cultivars suitable for organic farming that they can buy organic seed from. Such pilots investigated in LIVESEED were presented.

A modelling study on which interventions are promising to increase organic seed use and production in the organic carrot market in Germany was shared. Only 9% of carrots seeds use in Germany are organically multiplied seeds and 90% is still conventional. With simulates the effects of different hypothetical interventions in the upcoming 8 years. Findings suggests that farmers are willing to pay more for organic seeds on average 55% in Germany, but the main problem is the uncertainty around the supply. In 3 scenarios incl. a faster, a slower and a sufficient scenario, seed is produced for all organic markets in Germany. If all derogations are phased out too rapidly there may be shortage of seed for organic carrot production for the German market and it will also increase cost for the German farmers, a subsidy could help with that. It really shows the importance of solving issue at the production side and necessary for phasing out derogations in the future and keeping the cost under control, and this is very different for different crops in different regions.

Discussions focused on:

- What does the research suggest: to be in favour of control and command measures (e.g., derogation) or voluntary measures (e.g., subsidies)?
- In terms of better derogation reporting, would that cause more administrative work for farmers, and could that be an obstacle?
- Why seed suppliers are not collaborative in providing data?
- How do you deal with the certifier authorities that allow the use of conventional non treated seeds even when organic seed is available on the market at a comparable price?
- How to improve the legal structure to support for cooperatives of collectives who breed and move seed only amongst themselves, supporting breeding for diverse integrated whole system approaches?
- What is the level of concern among farmers about the quality of organic seed?

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- If it was a good idea to include incentives in the new CAP to create better structures to improve the availability of organic seed with good prices, good adaptations and good quality?
- Ideas that growers that don't use organic seed pay a lump sum which in turn is used to enhance organic breeding in that way there is no negative cost difference if you use organic seed and if penalty to those farmers who have no availability to organic seed would be fair or not.

To follow the full presentations and the discussions, see the presentation[10] (Annex VI) and the recording[11].

2.1.3 Reflections from the European Commission

In a panel discussion, representatives of the European Commission gave feedback on the policy recommendations and policy results formulated in the LIVESEED project.

Patrizia Pitton, DG Agri, Policy Officer Organic Farming – Internal Policy and Regulation:

Organic farming has been recognized as an important measure to contribute to more sustainable agriculture and to the protection of the biodiversity. With the Green Deal, the Farm to Fork and the biodiversity strategies, as well as through CAP measures, the Commission expressed comprehensive commitment to tackle the climate and environmental issues and towards a more sustainable food production system.

The starting point of reaching 25% agriculture land as organic varies greatly in Member States, on average in Europe we have 8% of organic land, but we go from the 24.7 % of Austria to the 2.4% of Ireland. To support such development, similarly to the successful agri-environmental schemes in the past that boosted organic, the new proposed CAP will also be other potential tools for Member States to promote agriculture in their territories.

The Commission is also working on a new organic action plan for 2021-2026, expected in the first semester of 2021. The plan will address both the supply and the demand aspects of organic, address that the expansion is in full compliance with organic principles and standards, and this way also respond to citizens' expectations. The ambitious targets of course imply an increase in demand also for organic seed, and **the LIVESEED survey on seed suppliers reported an increase in organic seed demand and a willingness to invest in organic from 56% of seed suppliers** involved in the survey, which helps to support the progress in this sector.

The **new organic regulation** introduces specific objectives for the organic breeding sector. A brief update on the secondary legislation necessary for its implementation: due to COVID situation, the full application **will come into force on the 01st January 2022**, allowing stakeholders to prepare for the implementation taking into account the secondary legislation on production rules on control, on trade which will be completed by the first quarter of 2021. the aim is that the stakeholders will have more time for the proper **implementation tools** and among these tools we need **the national seed databases and systems** in place to be able to exchange and inform on the availability of the Plant reproductive material. The temporary experiment is planned to be ready in six months from the enter in application of the regulation.

[10] https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/workshop4_Strengthening_organic_seed_markets_and_business_models.pdf
[11] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9D7S1vEq-4&t=16s

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In the secondary legislation, four proposals are particularly addressing the sector of **plant reproductive material** and aim to create a more clear, coherent, harmonised legislative frame to facilitate the progress in this area:

- The first is a **delegated act on derogation** (Article 12, Regulation (EU) 2018/848), **amending on the use of in-conversion and non-organic plant reproductive materials to for all type of plant reproductive material, not just seeds**, currently under examination of the Parliament and the Council (will be applicable from January 2022). **The main provisions which are there included and presenting the work done in these years by LIVESEED has been taken into account in drafting this proposal**. The principle remains that organic material must be used as priority by the farmers, so the farmers have to consult the database, or the system put in place by the Member States to verify availability in terms of organic and in conversion material. In this act there **will be no need to get derogation for the use of in-conversion material** which can be labelled (in the past it was not the case), after 12 months of respect of the condition of production under the organic standards. An **obligation for the Member States** was introduced **to identify** the **positive list of species**, varieties sufficiently available on the market in Europe in terms of organic or in conversion material, and it **was also a recommendation from LIVESSEED**.
- The second act is the implementing act regulation that is already being adopted and published where we have introduced more details with respect to the **information that the Member State will have to make public** and report to the Commission **on the availability of material** and in terms of derogation issues and **these** two **acts are really addressing the recommendations from LIVESEED.** We believe that is fundamental to continue to work in the aspect to increase transparency and harmonisation among Member States.
- The third act addresses a demand for **possibility to label the mixture of fodder plants seeds** and this is done in complete compliance with the rules of the fodder plant directive. The act would allow the seed producers to label mixtures when there are indeed still need to be made up with some components not organic.

The next steps are the completion of the organic action plan, the completion of the secondary legislation, to follow up the current implementation, and to work on guidance and transparency to be able to monitor the progress towards the 100% organic plant reproductive material availability. The Commission works on an **internal platform to collect the information from the Member States and for this we work with the LIVESEED** because we need the most efficient way to transfer this information and work done with the new **router database** to explore further.

Thomas Weber, DG Sante, Policy Officer in the Plant Health Unit, Working on Seep Chapters of the New Organic Regulation:
The three very important developments in the area of seeds and varieties currently are:

- the **OHM:** a bit broader scope on which species and what type of material is covered, then the OHM temporary experiment with a broadened scope (apart from the CCPs involved mostly).
- the **temporary experiment on OVs**: in **terms of timing**, we would envisage **a starting date either 01st of January 2022 or it could be 1st of December 2021**, so at least the full season of 2022 can be used. There has been great interest from Member States and stakeholders to participate in the working groups with a working focus on protocols in particular the DUS and VCU. The most urgent thing is to work on these protocols and then when the experiment starts hopefully the varieties are already on the starting line and can enter the variety testing system. Concerning the issue of plant variety rights, it is fairly clear that if a variety is registered using adjusted protocol and not a protocol either UPOV or CPVO there will be no possibility of granting a plant variety right to such a variety.

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- **A study on the options to update the seed marketing legislation** is upcoming for presentation to Council in April 2021. This study addresses some crucial questions emerged from the failed attempt to revise the seed marketing legislation in 2013 and will now take these experiences and the new policy priorities (Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy, participatory breeding, diversification of demands from final consumers, etc.). The study which establishes the options would be then followed a full impact assessment where considerable public consultation process is involved, and which would then is followed by a proposal to be adopted by the Parliament and Council.

Discussions: Thomas Weber (TW), Patrizia Pitton (PP), Monika Messmer (MM) panellists

- Is the Commission foreseeing an extension of the temporary experiment on the marketing of cereal populations' seeds currently expiring in February 2021?

TW: There is indeed a gap: currently the heterogeneous material can only be marketed under this experiment which finishes by end of February 2021 and unfortunately it is not possible to prolong that experiment, it has run the full seven years which is the maximum duration of temporary experiments so we are aware of this problem, and hopefully it will be possible to find some sort of arrangement to bridge this gap.

- The vast number of delegated and implementing acts is very confusing. Is there an overview about all acts that have already been adopted and those still to come? In particular the one regarding in-conversion material?

PP: It will indeed be necessary to have an overview in the future but currently it is easy to find the delegated act on Webgate, the delegated act amending will be included in the consolidated version of the basic act itself so in the future will be easier.

- The new definitions of organic varieties says that this variety should be defined by a high degree of genetic diversity or phenotypic diversity, but some varieties used in organic farming are more uniform, so how can these varieties fit within the new definition?

PP: We have material that is conventional that can be used in the production of in conversion and organic plant reproductive material, they start from conventional, from quite pure variety but then what the legislation require for this type of material is to pass through the conversion period and certain particular requirements in terms of mother plant, in terms of parent plant in the case of cuttings, rootstock and so on, where indeed the material conventional as a minimum to be 3 years under the organic production rules and this is in the annex of the basic regulation because there are provisions laid down in a way that means that only at the third year the seed can be put on the market as organic. This has to be further clarified as there is still some confusion on this issue. If a farmer needs a variety because it is really not available on the market, the farmer can still use a conventional one. The organic varieties currently are under development, but we will have the future to think about this different material that are already on the market, but I think already the basic act allows to have also in terms of labelling a better definition in this sense.

MM: It is quite important that the selection and the whole purpose why we do organic breeding that is adapted to organic agriculture, so the number of years to do so is longer (5-8 years) because the 3 years of conversion would not be sufficient as this is more related to the seed.

- Within the current draft of OHM the definition of a timeline for development is taken out. This is not helpful to ensure the seed market against fraud: Only one year of production is not enough?

TW: For OHM, from the propagating material to be qualified as organic, the normal rules of one year apply so the previous generation has to be cultivated organic. If we had included specific requirements on how many years to the material need to be cultivated under organic conditions in the initial draft,

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the Commission would have gone beyond what we were allowed to do by the empowerment in this organic regulation. We would have made additional requirements which we legally are not allowed to do in in this act, so this is mostly a legal not a technical issue, the empowerment in the organic regulation does not allow us to include such a specific requirement.

- But then it results that different requirements for OHM and organic varieties suitable for organic production and so can't this be misleading?

TW: If you have organic seeds which comply with a standard requirement of just a mother plant of the seed (i.e., one or two generations grown under organic conditions), then yes, the term of OV is new and it really includes the entire breeding process in that definition.

PP: Plant reproductive material is in the scope of organic legislation. The breeders, the producers of the seed need to be certified, therefore they are already subject to all the principle and to all the requirements linked to traceability of the product, so we are sure of the possible verification of where the material comes from, but also, we have to ensure that the user (the farmers) are fully informed.

- Would there be any possibility for common financing at the EU level to take part in the temporary experiment for OVs?

TW: Implementation of these temporary experiments are at the member states level, and so far in the preparation phase the interest of the Member States is quite impressive. The competent authorities will have to think about how to finance their participation in this project. For the breeders that is a different question, we will need to see if Member States can support breeders or what fees to charge for these experiments.
PP: Possible measures could be those under the rural development program supporting a percentage of contribution of Member States when they put in place systems, so technical assistance for developing some input that are necessary to achieve the objective of the common policy.

- What financing strategies can you propose to support organic plant breeding?

MM: We have been looking at financing issue as we have seen that with the approach that we want to have many different cultivars and many different crops it will be not possible we have royalties we can cover the cost of the breeding so that's why we were looking for different financing strategies.
Existing strategies include a kind of a fee for cultivar development mainly paid by the farmers, individual projects where some retailers offer some product derived from organic cultivars where they ask a special specific issue on it. The three pillars to finance organic plant breeding could be to engage also the value chain and make them responsible if they want to have integrity of their products and keeping certain breeding techniques out of the organic sector, that they need to invest in organic breeding. For neglected crops, investment by the European Commission could be realistic because the present breeding system has neglected the smaller crops because it doesn't make the return of investment. It is important that we broaden the number of crops and also introduce maybe new crops in the scope of climate change and the third pillar probably is on private foundations that provide money for organic plant breeding but in our knowledge it is mainly in German speaking part, there are not so many foundations yet in other countries and the problem that in Eastern and Southern European countries then the number of initiatives: it is much smaller than working on organic breeding and therefore we also think it is important to have some support from the Commission that these countries can also can participate in this temporary experiment to get exposed and see what is the potential of organic breeding and also to invest more in organic seed that they develop local seed systems instead of importing the organic seeds from outside.

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2.2 Organic Innovation Days

The Organic Innovation Days is an annual public event and the only EU event on research & innovation (R&I) for organic. IFOAM EU used the occasion to organise the event together with the LIVESEED events to extend the audience of the Final Congress. Although this OID programme was not funded by LIVESEED, for the matter of being complete, we include a short report in the deliverable.

On the 25th November, opportunities for organics in Horizon Europe was discussed (which is supposed to start next year), and how the new research programme can support the transformation towards sustainable food and farming systems by leveraging the potential of organic and agroecology. R&I is crucial for the development of the organic sector and the design of more sustainable food systems.

Emile Frison, member of IPES-Food and the Mission Board for Soil health and food, delivered an inspiring keynote speech about innovation for diversified agroecological systems, pointing out that agroecology is not just a single tool but a different toolbox altogether, combining a set of practices and co-created innovations compatible with the 10 elements outlined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and adapted to the local conditions.

Susana Gaona Sáez, Research Programme Officer at the European Commission's DG AGRI, showed that organic and agroecology play a key role in many different European R&I policies, including the Farm to Fork strategy with its goal of having at least 25% of EU agricultural land under organic farming by 2030. She also said organic farming contributes to other Farm to Fork objectives, including reducing the dependency on pesticides, nutrient losses, the use of fertilisers and antimicrobial sales. Horizon Europe will be a key enabler of the European Green Deal, but instruments beyond R&I are needed to support the uptake of organic in a more holistic approach.

A policy debate on "Horizon Europe & the Mission for Soil health and food" brought together Nathalie Sauze-Vandevyver, Director for Quality, Research & Innovation at DG AGRI; Dr. Hans-Jörg Lutzeyer, Scientific Officer, DG Research & Innovation; organic farmer and Mission Board member Alfred Grand; and Mute Schimpf, Food Campaigner at Friends of the Earth Europe. The speakers agreed that soil, the basis of food production, is the most important resource we have. Urgent action is needed to preserve and restore it through sustainable land and soil management. The Mission for Soil health and food aims to make 75% of all soils in the EU healthy by 2030. It will develop and support the uptake of solutions such as the enhanced use of agroecological principles and organic agricultural practices that have shown evidence of notable effects on soil health. Living labs, spaces for co-innovation through participatory, transdisciplinary and systemic research, and lighthouse farms, places for the demonstration of solutions, training and communication, such as Alfred Grand's farm, will bring together all stakeholders, including researchers, practitioners, citizens and public authorities, to showcase good examples from agroecology and the organic sector. Demonstration is key to convince other farmers to take up soil-friendly management practices. All speakers agreed that we can and will achieve the Farm to Fork target of 25% organic farmland by putting all our instruments and efforts in it. It would equally indicate the mission's success.

2.3 European Workshop on Organic Seed Production and Use

Almost 100 participants attended the LIVESEED European workshop, where they learned about the project's progress at national level and key success factors in implementing national policy recommendations. The workshop also provided an opportunity for the audience to get inspired by smart practices from all over Europe on seed expert groups, organic field trials and national seed databases. Another highlight was the launch of the European Router Database that will connect the

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national seed databases and make it easier for seed producers to place offers on multiple national databases. The workshop ended with a panel discussion on the need to establish national roadmaps for key crops to increase availability and use of organic seed. Representatives of the European Commission, several national authorities, seed companies and researchers joined the discussion.

A detailed report will be produced on this event[12] (Deliverable D1.6) by February 2020, made available on the LIVESEED website and on a dedicated playlist of the IFOAM Organics Europe's YouTube channel[13].

[12] https://www.liveseed.eu/results__trashed/wp1/european-workshop-on-organic-seed-production-and-use/
[13] https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHVRsOcegNlvLB-EsBMN2K4W26MHK-7K9

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Annex I. Agenda of the events

Organic Innovation Days 2020

Day I: 24 November 2020 –

LIVESEED final conference for stakeholders and policymakers

Time	
09:30-10.00	Time for connecting and getting familiar with the online tool
10.00-10.05	**Welcome** Bram Moeskops, Senior Scientific Coordinator, TP Organics
10.05-10.35	**Highlights and policy recommendations of LIVESEED: improving transparency and competitiveness of the organic seed and breeding sector** Monika Messmer, Group Leader Plant Breeding, FiBL-CH
10.35-10.50	**Questions & answers**
10.50-11.10	**Break**
11.10-12.10	**Workshop in break out groups: reflect on policy and stakeholder recommendations** • Organic varieties in the organic regulation (Tove Mariegaard Pedersen, L&F SEGES) • New models of cultivar testing for organic farming (Frederic Rey, ITAB) • Innovative breeding approaches for organic farming (Edith Lammerts van Bueren, Pedro Mendes Moreira-IPC, Adrian Rodriguez Burruezo-UPV) • Strengthening organic seed markets and business models (Francesco Solfanelli-UNIVPM, Maaike Raaijmakers-BIONEXT, Eva Winter-FiBL-CH)
12.10-12.30	**Break**
12.30-13.00	**Outcomes of the workshop**
13.00-13.40	**Reaction from the European Commission** • Patrizia Pitton, Organics Unit, DG AGRI • Thomas Weber, Plant Health Unit, DG SANTE
13.40-14.00	**Questions & Answers**
14.00-14.10	**Wrap-up** Bram Moeskops, Senior Scientific Coordinator, TP Organics

Day II: 25 November 2020

Parallel session I: Organic Innovation Days - Opportunities for organics in Horizon Europe

Time	
09:30-10.00	Time for connecting and getting familiar with the online tool
10.00-10.05	**Welcome** Bram Moeskops, Senior Scientific Coordinator, TP Organics
10.05-10.30	**Key-note speech** Emile Frison, IPES-Food, Mission Board for Soil Health and Food
10.30-11.00	**Orientations of Horizon Europe** Susana Gaona Sáez, Research Programme Officer, DG AGRI
11.00-11.20	**Break**
11.20-12.20	**Policy debate: Horizon Europe & Missions** • Nathalie Sauze-Vandevyver, Director for Quality, Research & Innovation, DG AGRI • Dr. Hans-Jörg Lutzeyer, Scientific Officer, DG Research & Innovation • Alfred Grand, VERMIGRAND, organic farmer, Mission Board for Soil Health and Food • Mute Schimpf, Friends of the Earth Europe, TP Organics Steering Committee • Moderator: Eduardo Cuoco, Head of Secretariat, TP Organics
12.20-14.00	**Lunch break**
14.00-15.30	**Stakeholder Forum (for TP Organics members only)**

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Day II: 25 November 2020

Parallel session II: LIVESEED European Workshop – Implementation of the organic seed regulation and national progress made in the context of LIVESEED

Time	
09:30-10.00	Time for connecting and getting familiar with the online tool
10.00-10.10	**Welcome** Eric Gall, Deputy Director, IFOAM Organics Europe
10.10-11.15	**Key success factors in implementing national policy recommendations** • Martin Sommer, Policy Coordinator, IFOAM Organics Europe • Maaike Raaijmakers, Project leader knowledge & innovation, Bionext
11.15-11.30	**Break**
11.30-13.00	**Smart Practices** Case-studies on seed expert groups, organic field trials and national seed databases • Seed Expert Groups and how they function (Ilze Skrabule & Ilze Diamante, AREI) • Organic field trials & variety testing (Dr. Jaroslaw Stalenga, IUNG) • National seed database (Matteo Pettiti, Rete Semi Rurali) • Communication (Aina Calafat Rogers, SEAE)
13.00-14.00	**Lunch break**
14.00-15.00	**Launch of the European Router Database** Xenia Gatzert, Research Associate, FiBL Germany
15.00-15.15	**LIVESEED film - strategies to produce organic vegetable seeds**
15.15-16.45	**Panel Debate – Steps to increase production & use of organic seed** Discussion on achievements & best steps forward • Patrizia Pitton, Policy Officer, EU Commission DG Agriculture and Rural Development • Thomas Weber, Policy Officer, EU Commission DG Health and Food Safety • Stefan Dreesmann, Head of Unit, Lower Saxony Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection • Dr. Pier Giacomo Bianchi, Research Manager, CREA-DC • César Gonzalez, Manager Public Affairs, Euroseeds • Joanna Bojczewska, Consultant for Organic Farming & Agroecology • Judit Feher, Researcher, ÖMKi • Dr. Melanie Molnar, Community Manager Organic, Vitalis-Organic Seeds • Dr. Monika Messmer, Group Leader Plant Breeding, FiBL-CH • Moderator: Eric Gall, Deputy Director, IFOAM Organics Europe

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Annex II. List of participants

First name	Last name	Company	Country
Abco	de Buck	Louis Bolk Instituut	Netherlands
Adrian	Rodriguez-Burruezo	Universitat Politècnica de València	Spain
Agnes	Bruszik	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Ahmet	KITIR	BİOFET GÜBRE VE TARIM TEKNOLOJİLERİ SAN. TİC. A.Ş.	Turkey
Aina	Calafat Rogers	SEAE- Sociedad Española de Agricultura Ecológica	Spain
Aira	Sevón	LUT University	Finland
Alexander	Mayer	Nunhems Germany GmbH	Germany
Alexandra	Fuss	BLE	Germany
Alexandra	Ribarits	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety	Austria
Ambrogio	Costanzo	Organic Research Centre	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Amelie	Detterbeck	Euroseeds	Germany
An	Jamart	BioForum vzw	Belgium
Ana	Mandic	University of Mostar	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ana Maria	Barata	INIAV	Portugal
André	Pereira	IPC-ESAC	Portugal
Andrea	Penazzi	Freelance	Italy
Andrea	Vugrinovic	Lokvina d.o.o.	Croatia
Angela	Morell Perez	ECOVALIA	Spain
Anna	Pettersson	The Swedish Board of Agriculture	Sweden
Antje	Kölling	demeter e.v.	Germany
Arieke	de Vries	Enza Zaden	Netherlands
Arjan	Sonneveld	Plantise BV	Netherlands
Asta	Donielaite	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Ayodeji	Famogbiele	Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta	Nigeria
Babett	Janszky	BÖLW	Germany
Barbara Maria	Rudolf	Saat:gut e.V.	Germany
Bettina	Jorek	KWS	Germany
Bettina	Gerike	Living Seeds Sementes Vivas S.A.	Portugal
Boril	Nikolov	Opora Zaden Bulgaria	Bulgaria
Borja	Torres	XTREM BIOTECH, SL	Spain
Bram	Moeskops	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Bram	Weijland	Bejo Zaden	Netherlands
Brankica	Babec	Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Novi Sad, Serbia	Serbia
Carmen	Baumann	Ministère d'Éducation nationale	Luxembourg
Carole	Dirwimmer	GEVES	France
Carolin	Möller	Nasaa Certified organic	Australia

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Carolina	Wegner	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Research Centre for Agriculture and Fisheries	Germany
Catalin	Lazar	NARDI-Fundulea	Romania
Catherine	Langat	Euroseeds	Belgium
Cecile	Collonnier	CPVO	France
Cécile	Thonar	Gembloux Agro Bio Tech / BRIOAA	Belgium
Cesar	Gonzalez de Miguel	Euroseeds	Belgium
Christina	Schraml	AGES - Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety	Austria
christina	vakali	aegilops	Greece
Christoph	Reithofer	Bio Forschung Austria	Austria
Christopher	Atkinson	Soil Association	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
CHRISTOS	PETSOULAS	ELGO-DEMETER	Greece
Clara	Behr	Biodynamic Federation - Demeter International	Belgium
Costin	Lianu	Inter-Bio Romania	Romania
Dan Ioan	Avasiloaiei	Vegetable Research and Development Station Bacau	Romania
DARIUS	ŠAKICKAS	AUGA Group	Lithuania
Dorothee	Pfirrmann	Kultursaat e.V.	Germany
Dr. Melanie	Stadlmeier	Saatzucht Donau GmbH & CoKG	Austria
Edith	Lammerts van Bueren	Wageningen University	Netherlands
Eduardo	Cuoco	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Edwin	Nuijten	De Beersche Hoeve	Netherlands
Ela	Malai	Donau Soja Organization	Moldova, Republic of
Elena	Stoeva	Advertise Ltd	Bulgaria
Emel	Ozturk	UNIVPM	Italy
Emma	Flipon	ITAB	France
Enrico	Gabrielli	freelance	Italy
Eric	Gall	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Erkki	Vihonen	ProAgria E-P	Finland
Estelle	Serpolay	Ubios	France
Eva	Winter	FiBL	Germany
Evelyne	Alcazar Marin	ECOVALIA	Spain
Ferdinando	Branca	University of Catania	Italy
Floor	van Malland	Louis Bolk Institute	Netherlands
Francesco	Solfanelli	Researcher	Italy
Frank	Adams	Lycée Technique Agricole Ettelbruck Luxembourg	Luxembourg
Franziska	Löschenberger	Saatzucht Donau	Austria
Frederic	REY	Itab	France
Freya	Schaefer	None	Germany
Gabriela	Serban	NARDI Fundulea	Romania
Gebhard	Rossmanith	Bingenheimer Saatgut AG	Germany

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Giovana	Macan	Unipd	Brazil
Giovanni	Causarano	No	Italy
Giulia	Georg	WFTO Europe	Belgium
giuseppe	de santis	Rete Semi Rurali	Italy
Gosia	Blokker	Naktuinbouw	Netherlands
Grzegorz	Ziemiecki	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Poland
Guusje	Bonnema	Wageningen University	Netherlands
Gwendolyn	Manek	Bioland Beratung GmbH	Germany
Hafsa	EL HORRI	CIHEAM BARI	Morocco
Hans	Koch	BayWa AG	Germany
Hans-Albrecht	Mueller	AgroProgres	Germany
Harald	Letizi	Biosporos firm	Greece
Hazel	Brown	AFBI	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
heleen	bos	Rijk Zwaan vegetable seed	Netherlands
Hélia	Cardoso	University of Évora	Portugal
Hendrik	Wolter	Oldenburg University	Germany
Ilaria	Barbonetti	IFOAM Organics Europe	Italy
Ilmar	Tamm	Estonian Crop Research Institute	Estonia
Ilze	Skrabule	Institute of Agricultural Resources and Economics	Latvia
Ilze	Dimante	AREI	Latvia
Inese	Nicmane	State Plant Protection Service	Latvia
Inga	Jokubaitienė	V. Jokubaičio eco ūkis	Lithuania
Ioan	Radu	Research-Development Institute for Plant Protection Bucharest	Romania
Ion	TONCEA	INCDA (NARDI) Fundulea	Romania
Isaure	Lohest	GSK	Belgium
Ivana	Trkulja	International Centre for Research in Organic Food Systems (ICROFS)	Denmark
Ivana	Cavoski	CIHEAM Bari	Italy
Jakob	Sehested	ICROFS, Aarhus University	Denmark
Jarosław	Stalenga	IUNG-PIB	Poland
Jason	Horner	Leen Organics	Ireland
Jenny	Matthiesen	KWS Saat SE & Co. KGaA	Germany
Joanna	Groszyk	PIORiN	Poland
JOAQUÍN	RESANO EGEA	NO	Spain
Johann	Vollmann	University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU)	Austria
Judit	Fehér	ÖMKi	Hungary
Jürgen	Held	German Plant Breeders Association	Germany
Kaija	Hakala	Natural Resources Institute Finland	Finland
Kaja	Gutzen	FiBL DE	Belgium
Karin	Ulmer	ACT Alliance EU	Germany

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Karin	Ullvén	Centre for Organic Food & Farming (Epok)/Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Belgium
Karin	Heinze	BiO Reporter Inernational	Germany
Karin	Ellermann-Kuegler	Association of Chambers of Agriculture	Sweden
Katalin	Szépkuthy	ÖMKI	Hungary
Katharina	Meyer	FiBL - Research Institute of Organic Agriculture	Germany
Kjell	Sjödahl Svensson	Swedish Board of agriculture	Sweden
KLEBERNILSON	LIMA	Green Sequence® - Agroecological and Organic Farms	Portugal
Korinna	Varga	Hungarian Research Institute of Organic Agriculture	Hungary
Kostas	Koutis	AEGILOPS	Greece
Kristina	Kazlauskaite	farmer organic	Lithuania
Laura	Casella	SA.PI.SE. Coop. Agr.	Italy
Laurence	Modrego	independent	Belgium
Laurentiu	Gavra	European Parliament	Romania
Lena	Tinghuus	The Danish Agricutural Agency	Denmark
Lénia	Rodrigues	University of Évora	Portugal
Lieve	De Cock	ILVO	Belgium
Līga	Lepse	Institute of Horticulture, LatHort	Latvia
Lili	Barta	IFOAM Organics Europe	Hungary
Liliana	Vasilescu	NARDI Fundulea	Romania
Linda	Legzdina	AREI	Latvia
Lisa	Bosch	KWS SAAT SE & CO KGaA	Germany
Lisa-Maria	Krasa	University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna	Austria
Livia	Hendriks	Plantum	Netherlands
Lizzie Melby	Jespersen	LMJ Eco-consult	Denmark
Lorenz	Hartl	Bavarian Research Center for Agriculture	Germany
Luca	Colombo	FIRAB	Italy
Lucia	Holmer	Bavarian Reasearch Centre for Agriculture	Germany
Ludovic	Pâris	Limagrain	France
Luis	Brenlla	SodePaz	Spain
Maaike	raaijmakers	Bionext	Netherlands
Magdalena	Aigner	ARCHE NOAH	Austria
Mahbubjon	Rahmatov	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
malene	andersen	Danish Ministry for environment and food	Denmark
Marcel	van Diemen	Vitalis Biologische Zaden B.V.	Netherlands
Marek	Thielemann	Ackermedien	Germany
Maren	Ricken-Heischel	Natur-Saaten GmbH	Germany
Maria	Gernert	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium

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MARIA	DI BELLA	UNICT UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA	Italy
Maria José	Amaral	EC/REA	Belgium
Marian	van Leeuwen	Naktuinbouw	Netherlands
Marian	Blom	Bionext	Netherlands
Marianna	Fenzi	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne	Switzerland
Mariateresa	Lazzaro	FiBL	Belgium
Marie	Ammann	EIT Food	Germany
Marie Hélène	Bernicot	GEVES	France
Marija	Zrnić	Green Network of Activist Groups / ZMAG	Croatia
Marleen	Maassen	Bayer	Netherlands
Martin	Sommer	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Martin	Bossard	Bio Suisse	Switzerland
Martyna	Kuster	DG Agri	Poland
Matei	Tudor	Nasul Rosu	Romania
Mathilde	Tournebize	Organic Cotton Accelerator	Netherlands
Matteo	Petitti	Rete Semi Rurali	Italy
Mauro	Gamboni	CNR-National Research Council of Italy _ Department of Biology, Agriculture and Food Sciences	Italy
Maximilian	Mayer	Secobra Saatzucht GmbH	Germany
Meiliang	Zhou	Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences	China
Melanie	Molnar	Vitalis organic seeds/Enza Zaden	Germany
Michael	Kügler	VLK+EUFRAS(European Forum of Rural Advisory Services)	Germany
Miguel	de Porras	FiBL Europe	Spain
Mirko	Rakoskki	GFPi (German Ferderation for Plant Innovation)	Germany
Mitja	Seyffert	BÖLW e.V.	Germany
Molly	Mathews	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Monika	Messmer	FiBL Research Institute of Organic Agriculture	Switzerland
Monique	Faber-Decker	Ministry of agriculture	Luxembourg
MP (Paola)	Andreoni	-	Netherlands
Niels	Heining	Bionext	Netherlands
Nuria	Alonso Suárez		Belgium
Oleksandr	Kaliberda	German-Ukrainian Cooperation in Organic Agriculture (COA)	Ukraine
Ortman	Tove	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Sweden
Patrick	Mulvany	Kamayoq	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
patrizia	pitton	EU Commission	Belgium

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Pedro	Peon	CSIC - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas	Bulgaria
Pedro	Mendes-Moreira	IPC	Portugal
Petar	Kazakov	Center of Plant System Biology and Biotechnology/CPSBB	Belgium
Peter	Keijzer	Louis Bolk Institute	Netherlands
Péter	Mikó	Centre for Agricultural Research (ATK)	Hungary
Petra	Faitsch	No.	Germany
Petya	Pencheva	FOA Bioselena	Bulgaria
Phil	Sumption	Bio Communications	Germany
Pia	Müller-Cyran	IFOAM Organics Europe	Belgium
Piotr	Burczyk	FLORA SEEDS	Poland
Radmila	Safarikova	Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture	Czechia
Roberto	Ruiz de Arcaute	SEAE and NEIKER	Spain
Rocío	Hernández	Organic horticulture farmer	Spain
Ronald	Driessen	Rijk Zwaan	Netherlands
Ronald	Visser	TRC BV	Netherlands
Rumyana	Todorova	Bulgarian Herb Association	Bulgaria
Ruslan	Bilyk	Ecological Society of Podillya	Ukraine
Sampsa	Heinonen	Finnish Food Authority	Finland
sara	guerrini	novamont	Italy
Sari	Autio	Natural Resources Institute Finland / Finnish Organic Research Institute	Finland
Saskia	Derksen	Green Organics	Netherlands
Satu	Paananen	ProAgria Länsi-Suomi	Finland
Schmitt	Maxime	SOL association	France
Silvia	Gemini	European Commission	Belgium
Simon	Stalder	Terralog ag	Italy
Simon	Goodall	Goodall maps	Switzerland
Simone	Taddei	FederBio Servizi srl	Italy
Stefan	Streng	Saatzucht Streng-Engelen GmbH & Co. KG	Germany
Stefan	Doeblin	Sementes Vivas SA	Switzerland
Stefan	Haffke	EU Commission DG SANTE	Belgium
Stefan	Ruhnke	SAATEN-UNION GmbH	Germany
Stefanie	Hundsdorfer	Interessengemeinschaft für gentechnikfreie Saatgutarbeit (IG Saatgut)	Germany
Stefanie	Sievers-Glotzbach	University of Oldenburg	Germany
Stefano	Balestri	C.A.C. Soc. Coop. Agr.	Italy
Stefano	Orsini	Organic Research Centre	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Stephanie	Beavis	Elsoms Seeds	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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Steven	Jacobs	Organic Farmers & Growers C.I.C	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Steven	Groot	Wageningen Research	Netherlands
Stoilko	Apostolov	FOA Bioselena	Bulgaria
Susana	Gaona Saez	European Commission	Belgium
Svenja	Puls	Uni Oldenburg, RightSeeds Project	Germany
Sylwia	Zakowska-Biemans	Warsaw University of Life Sciences	Poland
Szilvia	Bencze	ÖMKi	Hungary
Taewan	Park	University of Hohenheim	Germany
Tamara	Neuhaus Gea Navarro	HSRW	Spain
Terje	Tähtjärv	ECRI	Estonia
thea	van andel - van der eng	bejo	Netherlands
Thomas	Weber	European Commission	Belgium
Thyra	von Creytz	BDP	Germany
Tom	Wood	Robin Appel Ltd	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Tomáš	Mezlík	ÚKZÚZ	Czechia
Tove	Mariegaard Pedersen	SEGES	Denmark
Troels	Battrup	The Danish Agricultural Agency	Denmark
Tsvetanka	Dintcheva	Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute	Bulgaria
Tudor	Stanciu	SC "Beleza Store" SRL, member of Romanian Association for Sustainable Agriculture (RASA)	Romania
Ulrich	Schmutz	Coventry University, CU Research, Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Ursula	SOLTYSIAK	AGRI+EKO+PLAN Consulting	Poland
Valérie	Dehaudt	Ministry of agriculture (MAA/DGPE)	France
Veronique	Chable	INRAE	France
Victor	Petcu	Centre for Agroecological Research St. Maximus, NARDI Fundulea	Romania
Violeta	Lopes	INIAV I.P.	Portugal
Viorel	Gherciu	Donau Soja	Moldova, Republic of
Virginie	Rimbert	Limagrain	France
Vivian	Vilich	Federal Office for Agriculture and Food	Germany
Vladimir	Meglic	Agricultural Institute of Slovenia	Slovenia
Volpoet	Romain	KWS	France
Wim	Sangster	Naktuinbouw	Netherlands
Xenia	Gatzert	FiBL	Germany
Zita	Dargienė	Farmer	Lithuania

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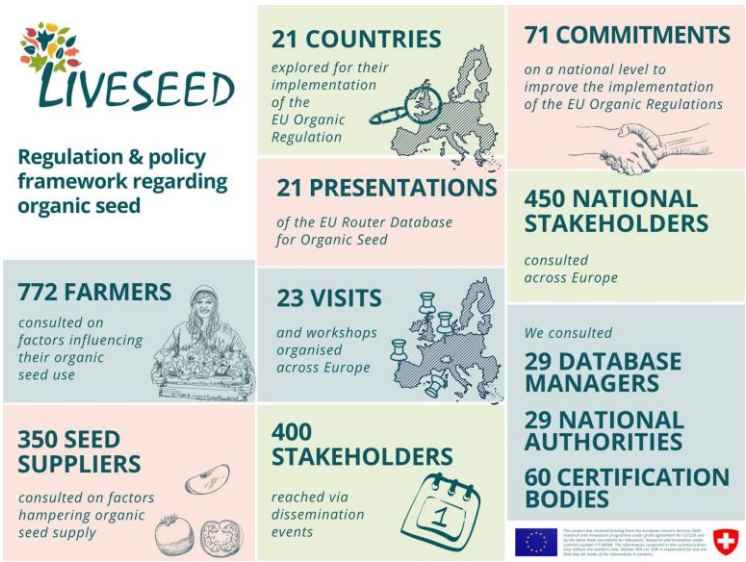
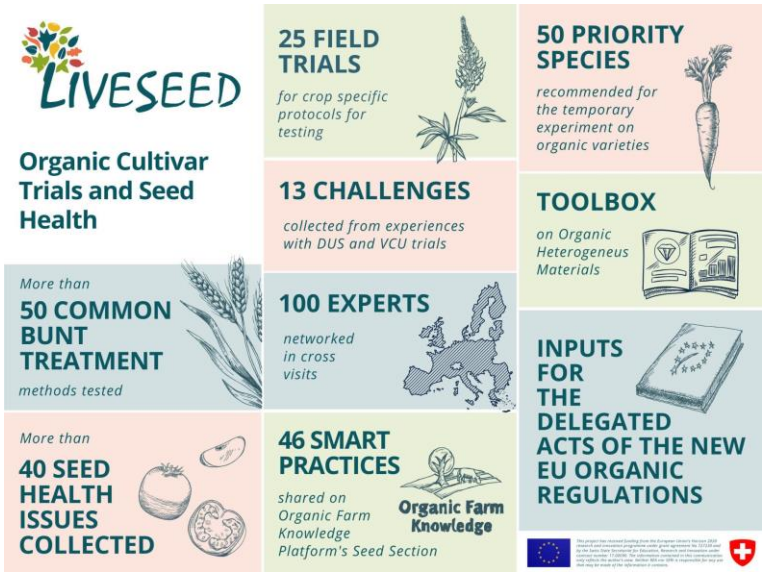
Annex III. Infographics





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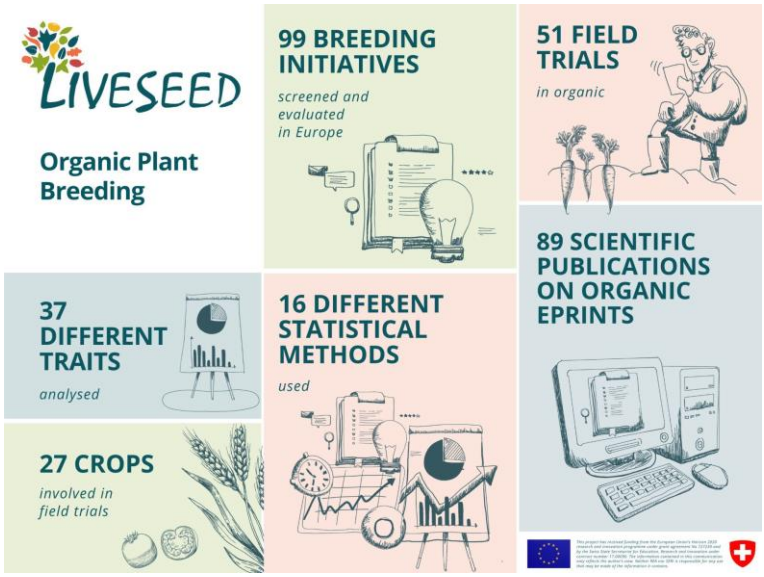

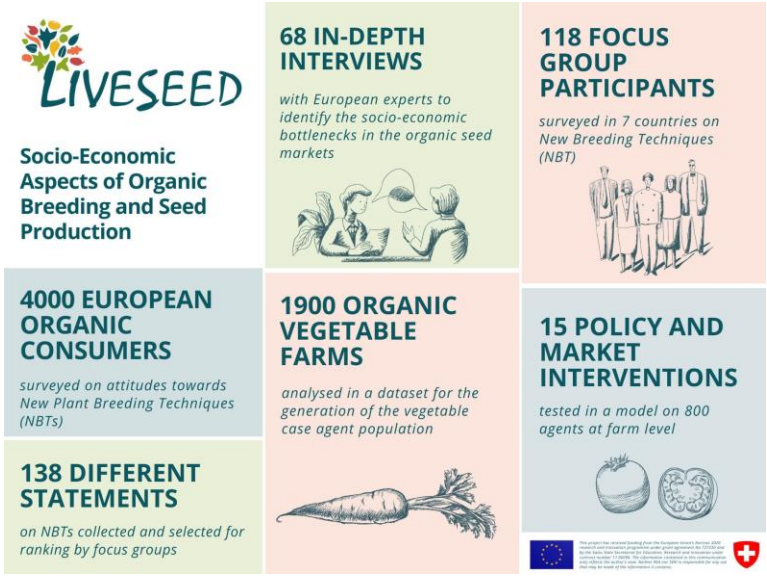

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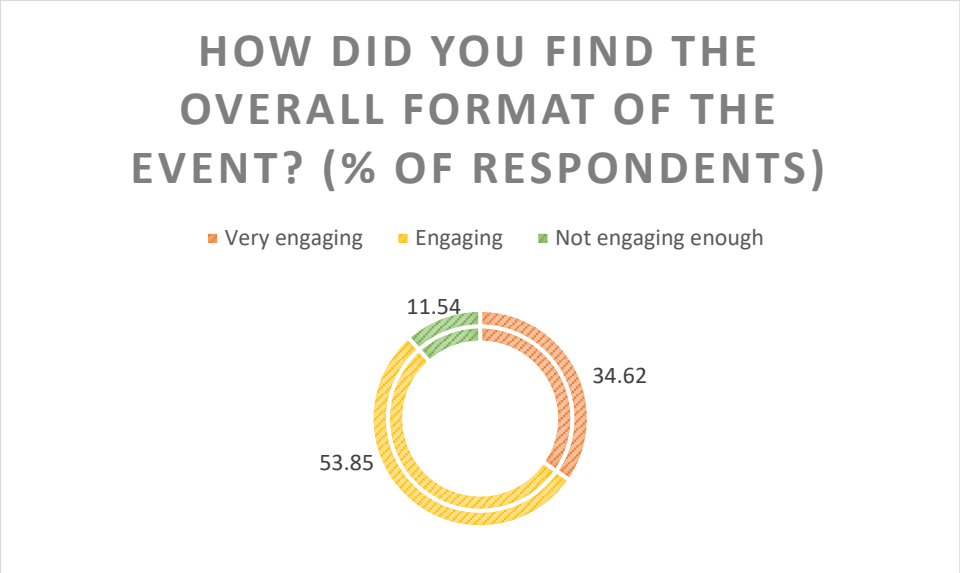
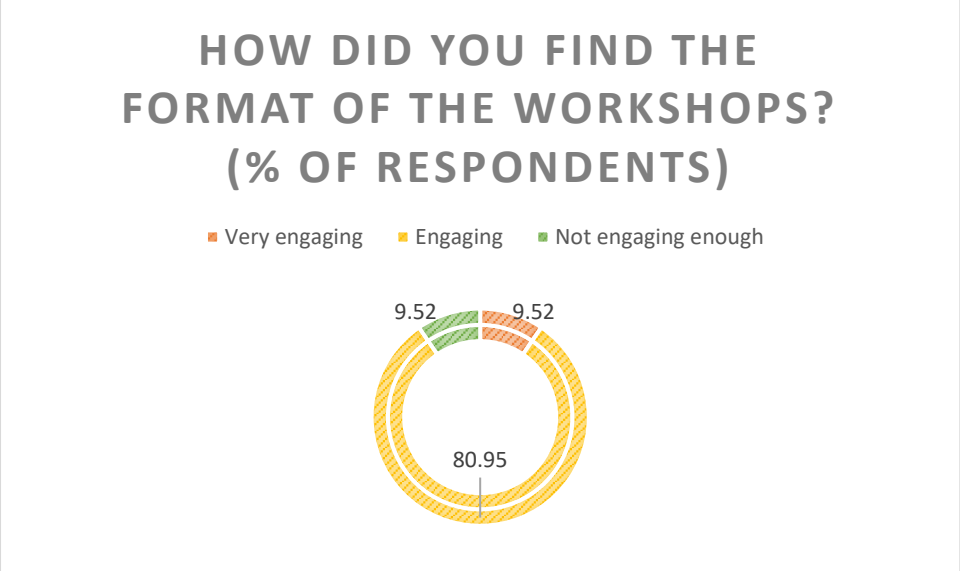
Annex IV. Evaluation by participants





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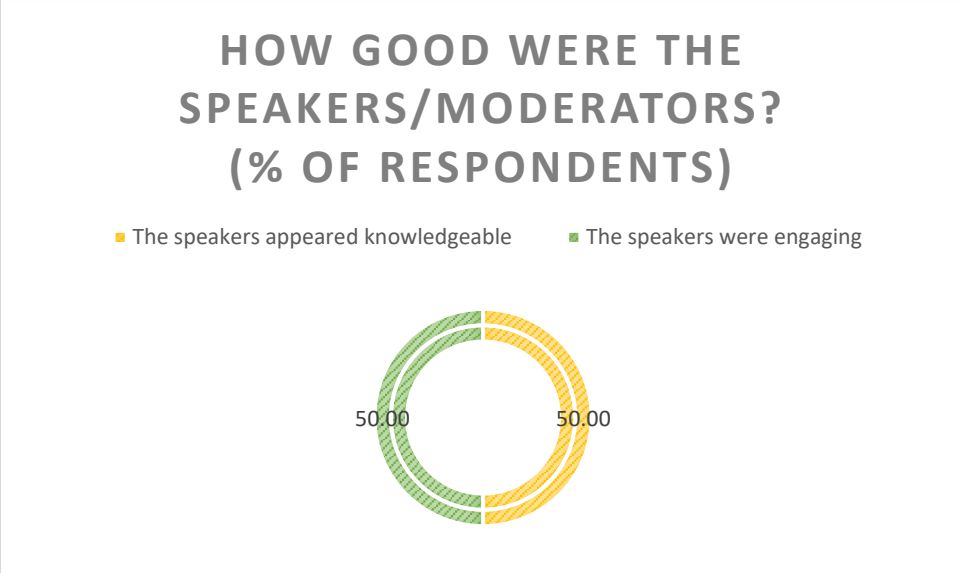

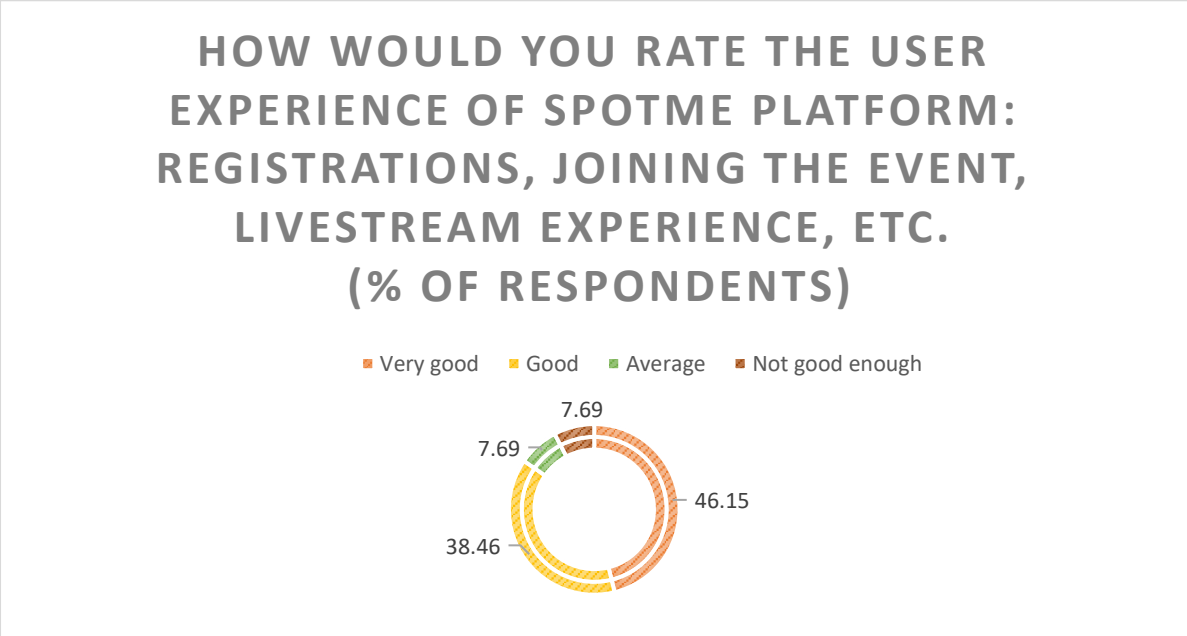

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Annex V. Feed posts

No	Feed posts
post_001	Welcome to Organic Innovation Days – Funded by:
post_002	#LIVESEED project is a co-organizer of the #OrganicInnovationDays #OID2020! To learn more about the project's objectives and achievements, visit the website www.liveseed.eu and follow on Twitter and Facebook @LIVESEEDeu #ReadMore
post_003	Check out our interesting research reports and documents from #LIVESEED in our RESOURCES SECTION in the left menu bar and enjoy the reading! https://euprod23-webapp.spotme.com/8b0e9a368a34fa01f4a5cd9e6d6016c9/view/kgkmiv1x-385d41hibdq0000000/ba4030ede3852c9c55efa9b797d33f82 #ReadMore
post_004	Join the #LIVESEED's campaign on organic plant breeding #BreedingABrightFuture! Awareness of the interrelatedness of the value chain and policy with actual breeding practices is key. #ReadMore 👉 https://www.liveseed.eu/2020/social-media-campaign-on-organic-plant-breeding-breedingabrightfuture/
post_005	Only through the joint effort of farmers 👩‍🌾👨‍🌾, processors, traders, policy-makers & citizens will it be possible to achieve our #organic vision! Take part in shaping the EU's #FoodAndFarming system by sharing existing initiatives & submitting your own! https://euorganic2030.bio/initiatives/leading-by-example/ #EUOrganic2030
post_006	Visit our new website on www.organicseurope.bio! 🌐 Find out what we work on, how we work, who makes it possible & much more 🌿🐝🌳 #MakingEuropeMoreOrganic #OrganicsEurope
post_007	At #LIVESEED we worked on a booklet displaying our main outputs and reports! Check it out to gain a quick and easy overview of our activities and results >> https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/LIVESEED-%E2%80%93-Boosting-Organic-Seed-and-Plant-Breeding-Across-Europe.pdf
post_008	#QuestionTime! 🤩 🧐 What section or resource of the #LIVESEED website did you find useful for your daily practice? 🤓 Leave a comment! 👇
post_009	#QuestionTime! 🤩 In your opinion, what are the main arguments the organic sector should use to explain/promote a wider uptake of foods produced from organic seeds towards consumers? 🤓Leave your comment!👇
post_010	#Survey 👥 We listed several organic breeding initiatives on our website 👉 https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/LIVESEED_D3.9_List-of-existing-organic-breeding-initiatives-v3-FIN-003.pdf ❓Is yours there? 🤓 If not, leave a comment, we'd be glad to add it! 👇

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post_011	#QuestionTime! 🤩 3️⃣ ❓Do you agree with #LIVESEED's proposal for 3 categories of Organic Heterogeneous Materials (OHM) as farmers' selection, dynamic population, and CCPs? 🤓 #ReadMore 👉 https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/LIVESEED_D2.8_Toolbox-on-heterogeneous_materials.pdf and leave your comment below! 👇
post_012	#QuestionTime! 🤩 ❓What are you taking with you from today's event? 🤓 Leave your comment! 👇
post_013	🎆 Check out our practical videos on organic seed management and participatory breeding & testing on the #LIVESEED website! 👉 https://www.liveseed.eu/tools-for-practitioners/videos/practical-videos/
post_014	#ReadMore ❓Curious to learn about the sector's thoughts on organic plant breeding in a systems-based approach and integration of OPB in value chain partnerships? 🤓 Then check out our report and let us know what you think! 👉 https://www.liveseed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/LIVESEED_M3.5_WS-report_Integration-of-organic-plant-breeding-in-value-chain-partnerships-FIN.pdf
post_015	#DYK that #LIVESEED connects organic apple breeding initiatives to share knowledge and genetic resources? 👶🍏🍎 Not on the map? Leave a comment below! Have a look at our map of initiatives! 👉https://www.liveseed.eu/tools-for-practitioners/maps/
post_016	❓Struggling with #CommonBunt in organic? Have you checked #ITAB's webpage dedicated to this fungus? Here's a summary with directions for you 😊👉 https://www.liveseed.eu/tools-for-practitioners/common-bunt-management-website/ 🤓 Was it helpful? Leave your comment below! 👇
post_017	#LIVESEED's cell-fusion free brassica list is a helpful tool for label organisations and traders, as well as for farmers producing under certain labels. It is available in GB, FR, DE, ES and IT and can be viewed here 👉https://www.liveseed.eu/results/wp3/ #ReadMore
post_038	Thank you for joining this year's edition of the Organic Innovation Days! We hope you enjoyed this virtual event brought to you by TP Organics and LIVESEED and would be happy to get your feedback which will help us to improve our future events. Please write any comments you have to info@tporganics.eu. Let's continue shaping the #FoodAndFarming system we want for Europe! Find great initiatives on 👉 https://euorganic2030.bio/initiatives/leading-by-example/ , submit your own & share the initiatives you like 😍 #EUOrganic2030 #MakingEuropeMoreOrganic

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Annex VI. Full presentations

Links to presentations and recordings on the LIVESEED Website:
https://www.liveseed.eu/wp5-and-wp6/liveseed-final-policy-and-stakeholder-event/

- Presentation by Monika Messmer, Scientific Coordinator of LIVESEED will present the main outcomes of the Horizon 2020 project LIVESEED, with a focus on results impacting European and national policy-making, as well as the main innovations arising from the project: LINK: **Highlights and policy recommendations of LIVESEED: improving transparency and competitiveness of the organic seed and breeding sector**
- Presentations of the Workshop: LINK: **Organic varieties in the organic regulation** (The objective of the workshop was to present and discuss the new definition of organic varieties in the organic regulation and the possibilities to work with adapted registration procedures for organic varieties during the upcoming temporary experiment)
- Presentations of the Workshop: LINK: **New models of cultivar testing for organic farming** (LIVESEED designed "New models of cultivar testing for organic agriculture". These new models for pre/post-registration cultivar testing are intending to be frugal, multi-actor, decentralized, able to produce high-quality data and on-farm. This workshop will present Liveseed outcomes on this issue and open an interactive discussion with participants. This discussion aims to collect feedback on outcomes presented to finetune recommendations and to consider next steps and further cooperation opportunities)
- Presentations of the Workshop: LINK: **Innovative breeding approaches for organic farming** (Awareness of the interrelatedness of policy with actual breeding practices is very important. A policy can stimulate the development of new sustainable diversity based breeding practices involving the whole value chain. The new organic regulation is an important first step. Can the new EU farm to fork strategy enable further steps? As a perspective, systems-based breeding will be used. The first concept of a toolbox allowing breeding for diversity will be presented. Lessons learned on building breeding networks will be presented.)
- Presentations of the Workshop: LINK: **Strengthening organic seed markets and business models** (The objective of the workshop is (1) to provide an overview of the current situation of the organic seed market in Europe, and (2) to identify the opportunities for strengthening it. The analysis carried out within LIVESEED – e.g. current supply and demand for organic seed, best practices and incentives in place, modelling results of possible policy/private interventions – will serve as a basis for the discussion during the session with participants about recommendations for the sector)

Recordings

Recordings are available under this link.

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Annex VII. Booklet on LIVESEED's overall results

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