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Veronique Chable, Isabelle I. Goldringer, Martin Wolfe, Paolo Barberi, Geza Kovacs, Stefania Grando, Marianna Rakszegi, Hanne Ostergard, Riccardo Bocci

### ► To cite this version:

Veronique Chable, Isabelle I. Goldringer, Martin Wolfe, Paolo Barberi, Geza Kovacs, et al.. Strategies for organic and low input breeding and management, a European programme (2010-2014). Colloque Eucarpia, Dec 2010, Paris, France. 1p., 2010. hal-02820868

**HAL Id: hal-02820868**

**<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02820868v1>**

Submitted on 6 Jun 2020

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## Strategies for Organic and Low Input Breeding and Management, a European programme (2010-2014)

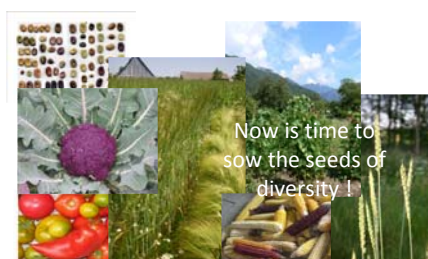
Véronique Chable<sup>1</sup>, Isabelle Goldringer<sup>2</sup>, Martin Wolfe<sup>3</sup>, Paolo Barberi<sup>4</sup>, Geza Kovacs<sup>5</sup>, Stefania Grando<sup>6</sup>, Marianna Rakszegi<sup>7</sup>, Hanne Ostergaard<sup>8</sup>, Riccardo Bocci<sup>9</sup>

1 - INRA, SAD Paysage, 65 rue de Saint Briec, 35042 Rennes – France, [Chable@rennes.inra.fr](mailto:Chable@rennes.inra.fr); 2 - INRA, UMR8120, 91190 Gif sur Yvette – France, [isa@moulon.inra.fr](mailto:isa@moulon.inra.fr); 3 - ORC, The Organic Research Centre, Wakelyns Agroforestry, Fressingfield, Eye, IP21 5SD Suffolk, UK, [wolfe@wakelyns.co.uk](mailto:wolfe@wakelyns.co.uk); 4 - Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Piazza Martiri della Libertà 33 56127 Pisa PI – Italy, [barberi@ssup.it](mailto:barberi@ssup.it); 5 - HAS, Agricultural Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Brunszvik u. 2., H-2462 Martonvásár, Hungary, [kovacs@maim.mgki.hu](mailto:kovacs@maim.mgki.hu); 6 - ICARDA, The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas, P.O. Box 5466, Aleppo, Syria, [S.GRANDO@CGIAR.ORG](mailto:S.GRANDO@CGIAR.ORG); 7 - HAS, Agricultural Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Brunszvik u. 2., H-2462 Martonvásár, Hungary, [rakszegi@mail.mgki.hu](mailto:rakszegi@mail.mgki.hu); 8 - Risø National Laboratory DTU, Biosystems Department, P.O. Box 49, 4000 Roskilde, Denmark, [hanne.oestergaard@risoe.dk](mailto:hanne.oestergaard@risoe.dk); 9 - AIAB (Associazione Italiana per l'Agricoltura Biologica) via di Casignano 25 Scandicci - Florence – Italy, [r.bocci@aiab.it](mailto:r.bocci@aiab.it)



**Our research hypothesis:** developing diversity at all levels is the best strategy for improving crop adaptation to fluctuating environmental conditions and for increasing yields and yield stability in organic and low-input systems.

**Our objective:** to increase our understanding of the vital role of diversity in agricultural activities, through plant breeding and crop management, and their impacts from the soil to the market.

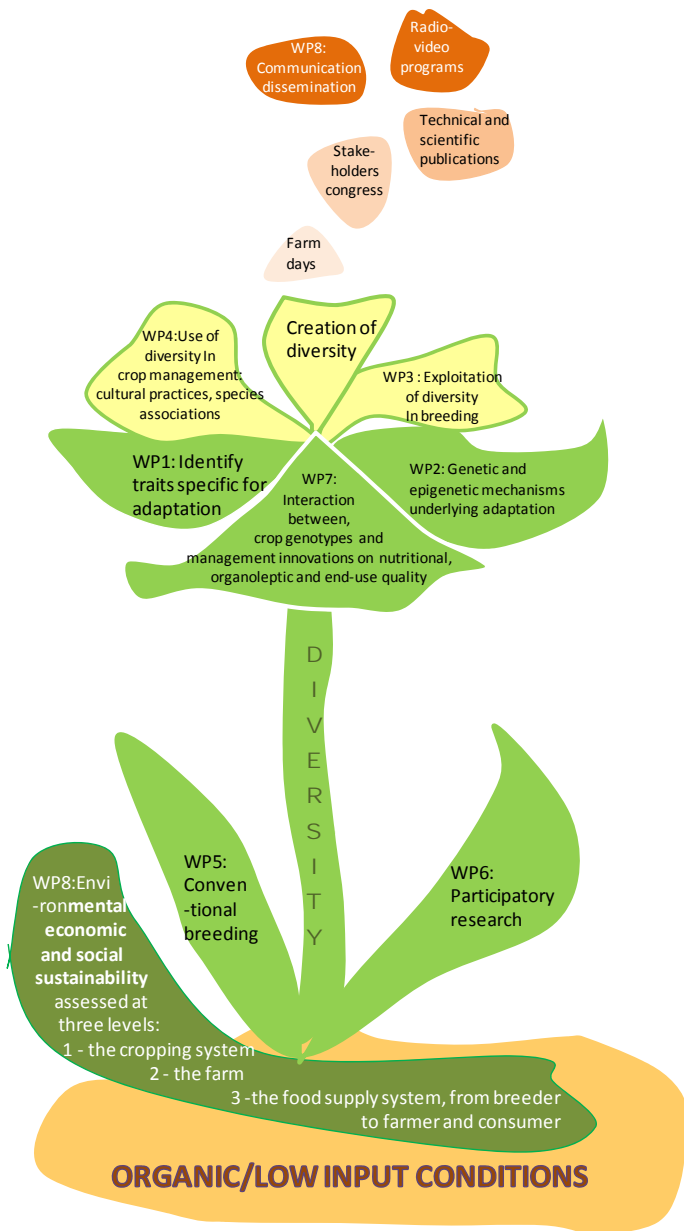


**Three groups of species:** cereals (wheat, maize, barley...), legumes (faba beans, niebe, beans) and vegetables (broccoli, tomato).

**Participatory research:** a large part of the methodological development will involve farmers in the framework of participatory research in relation to the diversified management practices, needs, expectations and traditions of farmers, end-users and consumers.



Participatory Plant Breeding and Management (PPBM) strategies are perhaps best suited to meet the specific and original demands of organic and low-input agriculture, particularly related to small-scale farms or farms in marginal areas. Particular attention will be paid to quantifying the effects and interactions of breeding and management innovations on crop performance, crop nutritional, organoleptic and end-use quality.



23 organisations from 12 countries in Europe and Africa