



" Harnesstom interaction with the EU project InnCoCells"

InnCoCells (<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101000373>) is a Horizon 2020 project launched in 2021 aiming to develop innovative plant-based production processes for the commercial exploitation of scientifically validated cosmetic ingredients using profitable and sustainable cell cultures, aeroponic cultivation, and greenhouse/field cultivation (more info <https://www.innococells.org/>).

Interest of HARNESSTOM in InnCoCells activities derived from the potential interest of many specialized compounds in tomato for innovation in industrial applications, in addition to their contribution to fruit quality or to the adaptation/response to the plant to biotic and abiotic stresses that are the objectives of some of the prebreeding programs in Harnesstom. InnCoCells on the other side is exploring the potential of extracts from three different tomato cultivars for the cosmetic industry. Harnesstom coordinator accepted the invitation of InnCoCells to act as Scientific Advisory Board member and he has done so during the 3 day meeting in Luxembourg.

The interaction has been a success since HARNESSTOM coordinator had the opportunity to be informed on the huge diversity in metabolism present in the wild relative species of tomato and that a large amount of information relative to the underlying genetics and metabolic profiles of several tomato accessions is stored in HarnestomDB. At the same time InnCoCells partnership reported on their 2128 initiative of establishing a cell suspension culture bank as part of the activities in InnCoCells. This opened the discussion on the importance of Genetic Resources and how important it is to characterize them, preserve them and store both the genetic resource and the information in safe repositories and that that is one of the main pillars in HARNESSTOM.



The photograph above was taken at the InnCoCells project meeting in Luxembourg, June 2023, and includes InnCoCells consortium partners, SAB members as well as some of the members of the Stakeholder Group.

