



“HARNESSTOM takes place in a Workshop on the sustainable management of plant genetic resources”

The Workshop on the sustainable management of plant genetic resources (PGR) took place on Tuesday, Oct 3 at 9.30 to Wednesday, Oct 4 at 13.30 Eastern European time at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania, Chania, Greece and online as part of the ProGRACE initiative to promote the establishment of a PBR research infrastructure. Several HARNESSTOM partners including ENEA (the coordinator of ProGRACE), CSIC (the coordinator of HARNESSTOM) and UPV are active partners of ProGRACE.

The Programme (<https://www.grace-ri.eu/>; <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101094738>) Innovative research infrastructure for plant genetic resources is an initiative funded by the EU and aims to develop the concept toward the establishment of European research Infrastructure on PGRs. The rationale behind it is that Europe is rich in plant genetic resources (PGRs), which occur on farms, in gardens and in nature (in situ), and are conserved in gene banks (ex situ). In fact, more than 2 million plant accessions are preserved ex situ in more than 400 institutes in Europe and associated countries, and even more in situ in European farmlands and wild habitats. All these play a central role in ensuring Europe's green transition, food security and climate change mitigation. However, accurate information about both is lacking. In this context, the EU-funded PRO-GRACE project is developing the concept of a novel research infrastructure dedicated to the conservation and study of PGRs that will describe the proposed distributed structure, governance, economic plan and scientific services.

The participation in a session dedicated to the EU-funded projects dedicated to PGR allowed HARNESSTOM coordinator to present HARNESSTOM to an audience of over 100 attendees mostly experts in plant genetic resources but also to the members of large European Research Infrastructures dealing with plants or food.

9.30-9.40 Welcome from MAICH Director

9.40-10.00 Introduction. G. Giuliano (ENEA, Rome): The GRACE-RI: A European Research Infrastructure dedicated to PGR

10.00-11.00 Presentations of existing European Research Infrastructures: EMPHASIS, DISSCO, ELIXIR, METROFOOD. (Chairs: G. Bucci, CNR; G. Giuliano, ENEA)

10.00-10.15: DISSCO (J. Alonso)

10.15-10.30: EMPHASIS (R. Pierushka)

10.30-10.45: ELIXIR (A. Smith, online)

10.45-11.00: METROFOOD (C. Zoani, online)

11.00-11.20 Round table: Synergies/complementarities between the future GRACE-RI and other European Research Infrastructures (Chairs: G. Bucci, CNR; G. Giuliano, ENEA)

11.20-11.40: Coffee break

11.40-13.10 Presentations of EU-funded projects dedicated to PGR: TRADITOM, HARNESSTOM, G2P-SOL, FARMER'S PRIDE, AGENT, COUSIN, GEN4OLIVE,





INCREASE, BREEDINGVALUE, FORGENIUS (Chairs: J. Prohens. UPV; G. Giuliano, ENEA)

11.40-11.58: TRADITOM-HARNESSTOM (A. Granell)

11.58-12.07: G2P-SOL (G. Giuliano)

12.07-12.16: FARMER'S PRIDE (N. Maxted)

12.16-12.34: BREEDINGVALUE (B. Mezzetti, online)

12.34-12.43: AGENT-COUSIN (S. Weise)

12.43-12.52: GEN4OLIVE (H. Miho)

12.52-13.01: INCREASE (R. Papa, online)

13.01-13.10 FORGENIUS (I. Scotti, online)

13.10-13.30 Round table: How to best incorporate the know-how gathered in previous EU projects on PGR in the future GRACE-RI Research Infrastructure. (Chairs: J. Prohens. UPV; G. Giuliano, ENEA)



Fig 1: Giovanni Giuliano partner of HARNESSTOM (ENEA) and coordinator of PROGRACE during his presentation at the Workshop in Chania

