



Coordinators of Horizon 2020 Genetic Resources Projects Agree on a Roadmap for Joint Activities



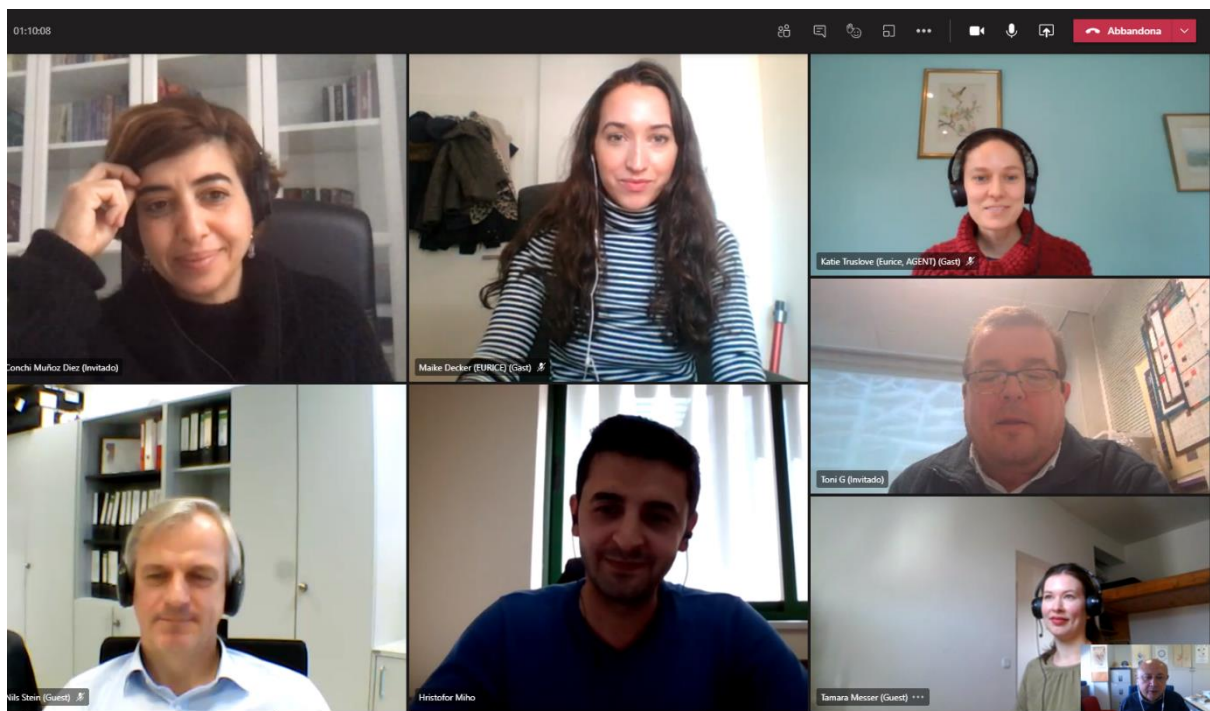
On February 25th 2021, the coordinators of five recently funded EU-projects, gather around a team's virtual meeting platform to discuss possibilities for collaborations. The idea: to find opportunities for joint actions, collaborations and common ground. All together, these five projects will receive from the Horizon 2020 program close to 40 million Euros in funding to conduct research under the same topic Genetic Resources and Prebreeding Communities. Each will be using a different crop ranging from cereals, legumes, olives to tomatoes and all started within the same year period and all will be running for 4 years or more in parallel, so they are ideally suited for collaboration.

The EC fosters such interactions that will eventually results in added value to the investment in research and innovation in Europe. For over 90 min HARNESSTOM coordinator Antonio Granell and four other projects agreed on the roadmap for joint activities. The other four projects included: Bruno Mezzetti (Universita Politecnica della Marche, IT: coordinator [Breeding Value](#) 101000747), Roberto Papa (Universita Politecnica della Marche, IT: of [INCREASE](#) 862862) Hrsitofor Miho (UCO project manager of [GEN4OLIVE](#) 101000427; and Nils Stein (Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant and coordinator of [AGENT](#) 862613). The coordinators of two other projects on the same topic SFS28 dealing with forest GenRes will be contacted to also join this networking activities: [GenRes Bridge](#) 817580 (to finalize end of 2021) and FORGENIUS (862221).

This roadmap will be presented to all partners and officers in a joint webinar meeting that will be organized in end of March early June. This joint informative outreach webinar on EU projects on 'Genetic resources and pre-breeding communities' will be organized via DivSeek and include short project presentations of around 10-15 mins. This initial webinar will continue in a period basis to be decided (yearly) to provide updates on progress made in the different projects.



Links to each other EU funded projects in their respective websites, participation in annual meetings of coordinators from other projects, joint papers etc. will be part of this roadmap. In addition, HARNESSTOM will start targeted interactions with some of the SFS28 projects, aimed to impact different aspects of Genetic Resources from databases to utilities and compatibilities, to joint papers on the use of genetic resources and tools across species. It is expected that this will result in further synergies between HARNESSTOM and related EU-funded projects and in a more efficient use of EU. Funding and other resources.



Group picture of SFS28-2019-2020 projects in the call