



## "EXCELLENT PROGRESS AND A CONSOLIDATED PARTNERSHIP AFTER HARNESSTOM 2nd ANNUAL MEETING IN THESSALONIKI"

The Second Annual Meeting of the HARNESSTOM project "Harnessing the value of tomato genetic resources for now and the future" took place from the 31<sup>st</sup> of October until 1<sup>st</sup> of November in Thessaloniki, Greece. A total of 27 HARNESSTOM participants gathered together in person while some additional one joined via zoom.

Progress made in all workpackages were presented by their leaders and were followed by vivid discussion. Main achievements: (1) the basic structure of the HARNESSTOM Database is almost finished, with some sets of data from previous EU-funded project progressively being introduced including adaptation of new visualization tools; (2) tools for speed breeding including diverse collection of characterized materials and a plan confirmed to genotype different resources for the tomato community, very promising genomic selection results were presented and protocol for tomato speed breeding presented by UPV and ENEA and distributed to the breeding companies in HARNESSTOM for further validation; (3) all the prebreeding projects are well underway and evaluation of the material by other partners in different locations discussed and a plan agreed to take place within the frame of the project.

In addition to the usual work-package-specific presentation by their leaders a series of specific topic discussion groups were organized: 1) Phenotyping that included open discussion about the standardization and definition and the organization of a phenotyping jamboree in Bulgaria; 2) genotyping and genetic analyses to be performed in the second part of the project; 3) dissemination activities and stimulating partner's to contribute with content to the dissemination leaders; news on the scientific papers published by the partners to be communicated in the news section ; 4) databases and tools: open discussion to define and prioritize which ones to introduce; 5) workshops and training: details about the organization of the upcoming school on "finding my ideal tomato" discussed and approved to be announced mid november. Discussion was open for how best streamlining activities, avoiding overlapping and include brainstorming activities to increase the innovation value of HARNESSTOM.



Photograph of presental participants in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece (31<sup>st</sup> of October until 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2022)

