



"Spanish Harnesstom partners leading role in the EIP Agri operational group FitoNet"

Spanish Harnesstom partners CSIC (as part of the interdisciplinary thematic platform Agrofor), and FCCV, with the collaboration of UPV partners, are actively working on the operational group FitoNet. Operational Groups are intended to bring together multiple actors such as farmers, researchers, advisers, businesses, environmental groups, consumer interest groups or other NGOs to advance innovation in the agricultural and forestry sectors. In this case FitoNet addresses these issues by proposing the development of a digital environment and living labs to promote the use of genetic resources of agricultural interest. Detailed information can be found at <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/fitonet-desarrollo-de-un-entorno-digital-y-de> html and <https://gofitonet.es/>.

In short, FitoNet will establish a dynamic network of partners with the objective to boost the use of genetic resources by the agrifood sector. This network aims to be a meeting place for the exchange of knowledge and necessities of the different actors in the agrifood sector in Spain in order to cooperate and obtain quality, sustainable and profitable products.

The project is focused on the development of four Living Labs as well as in creating a web and app to tackle the farmers and producers needs in their cropping tasks. These products (LL and APP) will contain information and knowledge coming from farmers and producers but also further information about the National Inventory of Plant Resources belonging to the collections related to the Plant Resources National Programme.

CSIC and FCCV will organize a Living Lab to promote the production and consumption of tomato, melon and pumpkin traditional varieties selected from public repositories (TRADITOM, UPV). Other living labs will focus on new breads and bakery products from traditional and new breeding lines of maize, rye and spelt, low allergenic breads from low-gluten varieties and introduction of underutilized legume species and landraces.

Dissemination workshops on Plan Genetic Resources, Biodiversity to exploit primary production and better practices will be offered to farmers, breeders, producers and enterprises linked to plant primary production.

