



WHICH SEEDS FOR ORGANIC, AGROECOLOGY, LOW-INPUT & PEASANT SEED SYSTEMS?

Towards the inclusive implementation of the EU Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategies in the EU seeds marketing reform

CONFERENCE on 22nd June 2022 at the European Parliament, Brussels, 14:00 – 17:30
Room 6Q2

14:00: welcome coffee & sweets

14:30: Introduction by MODERATOR of the event: Hannes LORENZEN (general introduction to programme & topics covered by sessions)

14h35: Introduction to the EU seed marketing reform

- What are seed marketing laws? Reform timeline and work undertaken by the EU Commission (DG SANTE)

14:50: Introduction by hosting MEPs

- GREENS/EFA: Martin HÄUSLING
- S&D: Eric ANDRIEU
- RENEW EUROPE: Dacian CIOLOS
- EPP: Norbert LINS
- The Left: Anja HAZEKAMP

15:00: Scope of the legislation

Moderation by Hannes : This session will provide a discussion on the scope of the legislation (which activities are considered as seed marketing in the sense of the law).

- The exchange and sale of seeds by farmers and peasants: how could the reform implement the provisions of the UNDROP? (Christophe GOLAY, Geneva Academy & Guy KASTLER, European Coordination Via Campesina)
- The work of seed savers and the EU seeds marketing legislation (Magdalena PRIELER, Arche Noah)
- The marketing of seeds to non-professionals (Blanche MAGARINOS-REY, Artemisia)

15h35: Q&A session

15h45: Pathways for the marketing of varieties and populations for organic and low-input agriculture

Introduction by session moderator (Martin SOMMER, Ifoam Organics Europe): what has the Organic Regulation brought and what is at stake with the seeds marketing reform?

This session will discuss existing pathways for the marketing of varieties adapted to organic and low input growing conditions, or of traditional/local varieties (registration based on an officially recognised description, DUS and VCU tests, or alternative notification systems), and assess the changes needed to reach different policy targets (F2F & Organic Regulation)

- Organic varieties: streamlining the Organic Regulation and the seeds marketing legislation
 - Vegetable species: Barbara Maria RUDOLF (Saatgut E.V., Germany)
 - Agricultural crop species: Greitje RAAPHORST (Nordic Maize Breeding, the Netherlands)
- Conservation varieties and heterogeneous populations (Riccardo BOCCI, Rete Semi Rurali)
- An inclusive proposal for diversity varieties (François MEIENBERG, Pro Specie Rara)

16h25: Q&A session

16h35: Towards a future-proof and inclusive EU seed marketing legislation for agroecological and organic seeds?

This session will attempt to wrap up previous discussions and identify the main challenges and opportunities identified by different stakeholders in the use and development of seeds adapted to agroecology, peasant and organic production systems, in line with the European Green Deal and its Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategies.

Moderation & summary of discussions: Hannes LORENZEN

Reactions and discussions on podium

- DG SANTE (Plant health unit)
- DG AGRI (Organics unit)
- Biodynamic Federation Demeter International
- Euroseeds (Organic Seeds working group)
- Ifoam Organics Europe
- European Coordination Via Campesina
- Arche Noah

17h20 Conclusions & final remarks by hosting MEP's