

Stakeholder Forum Meeting

Summary of Proceedings

28th October 2022

61 participants

- **Introduction**

Adam Gauley introduced the session and passed the word to Lisa.

- **Project overview**

Lisa Black (project coordinator) gave an overview of the InnoVar project, explaining the main objectives and the work in progress. She covered progress in genomics, phenomics and machine learning, and the broad range of trials over the five agroclimatic zones.

- **Scientific updates**

Fiona Doohan (scientific coordinator) presented the preliminary phenomics results for VCU and DUS trials. She explained the emerging results in durum wheat genomics and the transcriptomics results. The constraints related with COVID were also explained.

- **INVITE Project**

François Laurens (INVITE coordinator) presented the latest progress within the INVITE project, in the 1st and 2nd period. Also, François presented the possibilities and opportunities to explore together with InnoVar. Some of the proposals were, to collaborate in:

- Dissemination Events;
- Joint Publications;
- Reciprocal testing of projects outputs;
- Collaboration on other crops.

Discussion With Stakeholders

1. How do you think that technologies could increase the cost of new varieties testing?

Anna Giuliani (responsible for the wheat varieties registration in Italy) responded – a small increase in costs is a possibility to put new varieties on the market

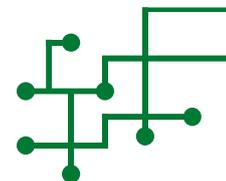
2. What was your plan for delivering discoveries and testing around the world?

Lisa Black (project coordinator) responded that InnoVar will organise more dissemination events and the stakeholder forum. InnoVar ran a mini-conference online last year and it expect to run an in person mini-conference in May 2023. Publications coming from the trials will be part of the public domain.

3. How much of your data reports are public and were to see that? I've been searching for that on the website and couldn't find it.

Dina Lopes (communication manager) responded that we have 5 papers available on the website under the target groups (Variety Community; Seed Community and Agri-food Value





Chain) button in the main menu. Each of these buttons have materials and events, and the papers are stored on the Variety Community Materials and the other 4 in the Seed Community Materials.

4. How will the tests implicate in the seeds certificate scheme?

Michael Brown from DEFRA UK responded that it could impact in the DUS testing and there might be some implications.

5. Currently VCU results are not used for DUS testing. Do you think that InnoVar can change this?

Lisa Black responded that yes, InnoVar is searching for synergies between VCU and DUS testing.

François Laurens from INVITE, also responded that the Austrian partners from INVITE are trying to find synergies as well.

6. Aren't VCU trials used for DUS in sugarbeet?

Michael Brown from DEFRA UK responded that yes there are joint trials for VCU and DUS, carried out in the same trials and the same plots, but results are taken differently.

7. Barley isn't there. Will it be?

Lisa responded that barley isn't being covered within InnoVar. InnoVar will provide road-maps to illustrate how the InnoVar approach can be applied to other crops.

8. Possibility of organising a big joint symposium, to invite all the EOs, the breeders, and the level that we are in the TRLs and the possibilities to move forward and to attain a bigger audience at the EU level.

Lisa Black responded that InnoVar is now having more dissemination events, mini conferences, and as InnoVar and INVITE will end at the same time, it makes a lot of sense to plan that together.

François Laurens also agreed that now we are at a good time to have a discussion between both projects, to organise together joint events. And speaking about other crops besides wheat.

9. Some trials of InnoVar are on organic. Do you think that the project will analyse the organic trials specifically?

Nora Mendlerné from UNIDEB, Hungary, responded that yes there are 4 countries with organic trials that are being analysed at the same time and with the same conditions that the conventional trials.

