

LIVESEED

Task 1.3. – Organic seed databases

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 727230. The information provided reflects the views of the authors. The Research Executive Agency is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information provided.

Aim of task 1.3 in LIVESEED

- Raise awareness about importance of functioning and up-to-date organic seed databases in the EU
→ Because: Any variety which has **not been registered in the database shall be considered as unavailable**
- Support national authorities in improving system and information quality of their databases
- Reduce administrative burdens for seed supplier to list organic seed in national seed databases (Router database as a backend solution)



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Current status on implementation

- All EU Member States provide a “database” according to Art. 48 of EC 889/2008
- Implemented as: online database, Excel or PDF file
- Managed by: national authority or designated body
- Upload of new data by: database manager or seed supplier
- Frequency of updating: real-time, weekly, monthly to annually
- Data collection on granted/rejected derogations: automatically through online database or manually through authority



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Additional requirements

- Be informative
- Show actual availability of organic seed supply
- Be user friendly and intuitive to handle
- Reduce administrative burdens for farmer, seed supplier, control bodies and authorities
- Increase the transparency of the organic seed market
- Promote the use of organic seed
- Reduce number of derogations



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Features to improve system quality

- Accessibility (direct link to seed database)
- Easy registration process
- Navigability (search/filter for species, seed supplier, etc.)
- Frequent (real-time) updating
- Intuitive user guidance
- History function (what was when available)
- Updating of seed offer (directly by seed supplier)
- Online derogation process (farmer apply online for derogation, authority grants/rejects online)



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Features to improve information quality

- Easy language understandable for users (not officialese)
- Process description: how/when to apply for a derogation
- Explanation of national rules (e.g. national implementation of Category I, deadlines for derogation requests, ...)
- Organigram with roles, responsibilities and mandates of stakeholders (authorities, control bodies, seed inspection bodies, expert group)
- User-guides, skilled help-desk, contact for notification
- Additional information (variety traits, breeding process, regional suitability, region of delivery....)



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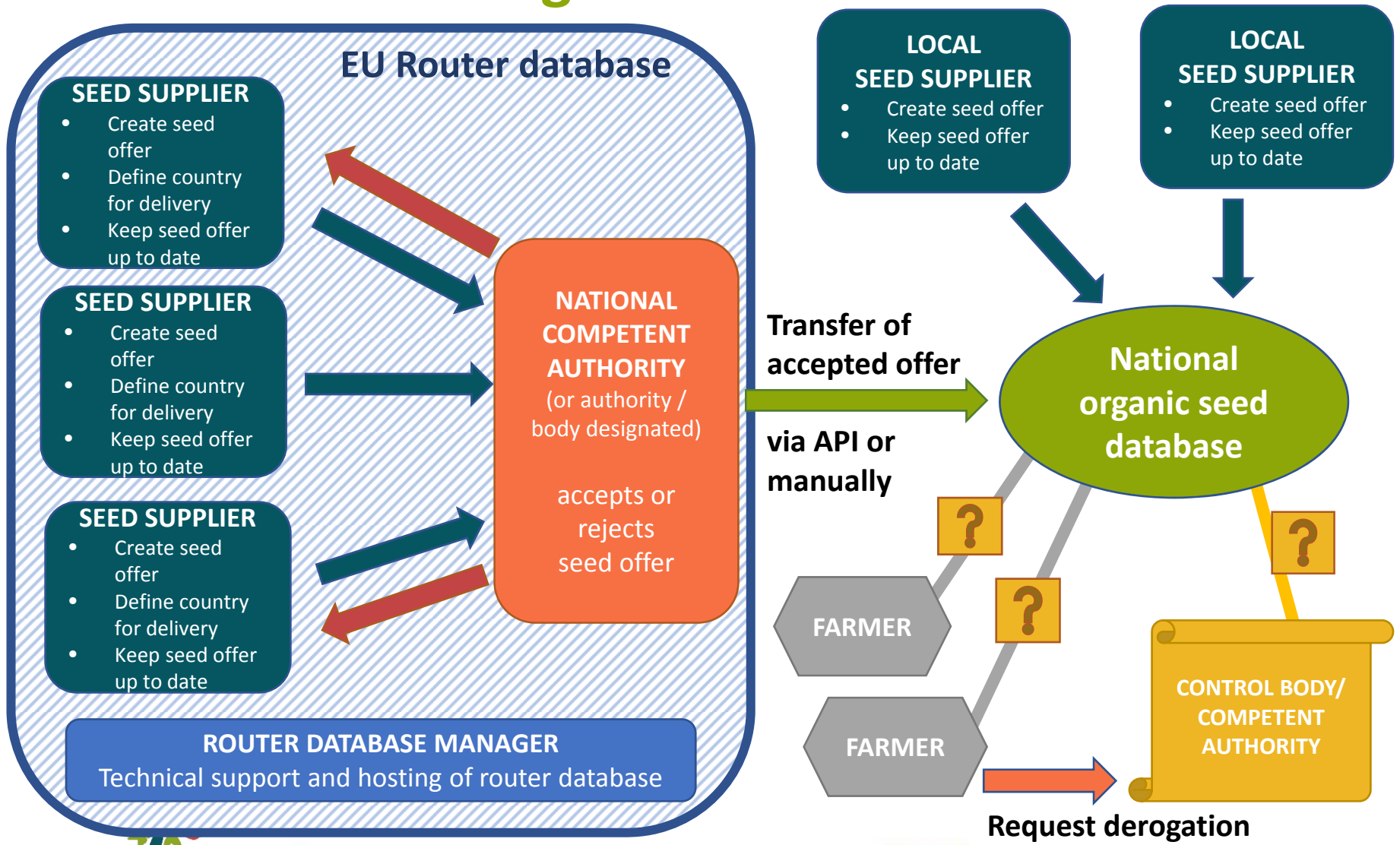
Vision on an EU-wide router database

- Support transparency of available organic seed offers
- Boost the use of organic seed and planting material
- Decrease derogations (as they should be an exception, not the rule)
- Simplify access to international organic seed markets
- Reduce administrative burdens for seed supplier
- Harmonize the use of databases in the EU
- **Optional:** Give information on breeding process
 - organic breeding, breeding for organic, conventional breeding
- **Optional:** Give information on critical techniques used in breeding process (e.g. CMS-Hybrids)



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Aim of LIVESEED: Develop a EU-router database to link national organic seed databases



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Seed supplier shall ensure

- Suitability of offered seed according to pedo-climatic condition
- Offer local supply of seed or supply seed through local trading company

National competent authorities shall ensure

- Fair judgment on seed offers from abroad
- Avoid protectionism
- Reduce trade barriers such as national rules that avoid free flow of commodities



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Current status of EU router database

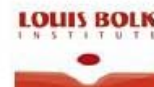
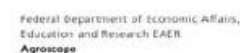
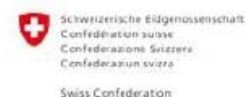
- Programming is almost finalized
- Whole sale level of potential seed supply will be added
- Install interfaces (API) to other national databases
- Testing of database (autumn/winter 2019)
- Translation database and user guides
- Presentation on COP meeting in Oct (planned)
- Official Kick-off: spring 2020



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