

Newsletter

(October 2020)

INVITE – Innovations in plant variety testing



Duration:
5 years



29 partners
13 countries



EU funded budget
8 Mio Euros



10 crops



Welcome to the INVITE newsletter.

François Laurens,
INRAe – Angers, France, Project Co-ordinator.

This ambitious project will propose innovations in plant variety testing in order to foster the introduction of new varieties better adapted to (1) varying biotic and abiotic conditions and (2) more sustainable crop management practices.

Our Consortium partners is developing the project and working on such innovations addressing various and complementary scientific fields (genotyping, phenotyping, optimisation of trialling networks, statistics, and machine learning).

This newsletter and updates on the project website (www.h2020-invite.eu) will keep you updated on progress.

Watch the [video](#) presenting the INVITE project

WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR FEEDBACK.

INVITE at a glance

The Project
"Innovations in plant Variety Testing in Europe » (INVITE) is funded by the EU under the H2020-SFS-2018-2 Call. The INVITE consortium comprises a total of 29 partners, including 14 research institutions, 10 examination offices and post-registration organisations, and four industry partners.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR INVITE CONSORTIUM

www.h2020-invite.eu/partners/



For 60 months of activities, from July 2019 to June 2024, the Project aims to improve both efficiency of variety testing and the information available to stakeholders on variety performance under a range of production conditions and biotic and abiotic stresses.

INVITE works on ten species representing the main features of propagation, food and feed uses, and having an important breeding activity at EU level.

The project aims at engaging on a large scale with stakeholders in the co-creation and delivery of innovations and services to end-users involving awareness-raising, new policy initiatives and deployment.

For more information on the project, please download the description of the project [here](#) and visit our website.



INVITE kick-off meeting and stakeholder workshop on phenotyping

During the *kick-off meeting* of the project that took place in Angers-France on the 8 to 10 July 2019 all project partners met and agreed on important issues in order to guarantee a successful outcome of the **INVITE** project. In addition to project partners, other organisations and stakeholders that could provide added value to the project were invited leading to a total attendance of more than 100 participants.



In parallel to the kick-off meeting, a *stakeholder workshop on low-cost sensors and vectors* for variety testing was organised on the July 8th 2019 with the participation of about 140 participants. The morning session was dedicated to show the usefulness of new phenotyping tools in the fields and the afternoon session was planned to discuss approaches of phenotyping followed in **INVITE** or in other projects on variety testing. **For more information** on this workshop, please contact David Rousseau at University of Angers (David.rousseau@univ-angers.fr).



Other news and events

In partnership with the LIVESEED project; **INVITE** organised a *stakeholder workshop on the impacts of the new organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on variety testing* on the EU on 4th February 2020 in Brussels, targeting, in particular, organic heterogeneous material and organic varieties suited for organic agriculture. The workshop has been a unique opportunity to exchange on expectations and fears of organic and conventional breeders, examination offices, seed associations and policymakers on the opportunities provided by the new Regulation. In addition, suggestions for the set-up and implementation of the new temporary experiment on organic varieties to be started in 2021 were discussed.

Francesco Mattina, CPVO's Vice President speaks about the **INVITE** project in the European Seed Magazine

<https://cpvo.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/articles/celebrating-25-years-cpvo-part-ii>

READ MORE NEWS

<https://www.h2020-invite.eu/news/>

INVITE poster, roll-up, and flyer now available

The project flyer is now available electronically on the project website and in hard copy at meetings and conferences. It provides a short description of **INVITE** and is prepared for dissemination among stakeholders? It describes the project's aims, objectives, content, expected results, and introduce the consortium members.

The **INVITE** poster is also available via webpage to download or in hard copy. It should create awareness and interest in order to motivate the target groups and end-users to seek for more information.

THESE TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE AT <https://www.h2020-invite.eu/communication-toolkit/>

