

agrícola: conocimiento y práctica en Europa

GROW

ACTIVITY REPORT

Activity number	8					
Activity title	Visit to microenterprises of organic seeds and experiences with local varieties					
Organizers	Andaluz Seed Network "Cultivating Biodiversity"					
Size of organization						
A/ Personnel & Board of Directors	28					
B/ Trainees	40					
Date of activity	24-26/01/2014					
Duration	3 days					
Place	Coín, Alozaina, Yunquera and Ronda (Málaga)					
Number of participants and organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 2 members of Réseau Semences Paysannes and Graines del Pais (France).▪ 2 members of Rete Semi Rurali (Italy).▪ 3 members of Garden Organic (UK).▪ 3 members of Red Andaluza de Semillas "Cultivando Biodiversidad" (Spain).▪ 3 members of la Málaga Seed Network (Spain). Spain▪ 2 members of Silvema – Ecologists in Action, Serranía de Ronda (España).▪ 1 member of Shared Action Group (Spain)▪ 2 members of La Reverde S.C.A. (Spain)					
A/ Men	11					
B/ Women	7					
C/ Students	14					
D/ Teachers	4					
E/ Companions	0					
F/ People with special needs	0					
Ages	22-65					
Stakeholders	Farmers, consumers, technicians and local seed networks					
Activity themes (mark with an X)	Exchanges	Regulations	Microenterprises	Fruit trees	Cereals	Horticulture
			X			
Type of activity	Seminar					
Crops related to the activity (mark with an X)	Cereals	Horticulture		Fruit trees	All	
					X	
Dissemination strategies	Information via the list of the project GROW and via the information lists of the Red Andaluza de Semillas "Cultivando Biodiversidad", social networks and web page of the project.					
News (links) in the press	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Red Andaluza de Semillas (23/01/2014). Málaga hosts the start in Andalucía of the project "Cultivating Agricultural Biodiversity in Europe" (http://www.redandaluzadesemillas.org/centro-de-recursos/proyectos-y-estudios/proyecto-growing-agricultural/article/malaga-acoge-el-comienzo-en)▪ Red Andaluza de Semillas (21/01/2014). Activity - Technical workshop on the production of organic seeds and the management of microenterprises. (http://www.redandaluzadesemillas.org/centro-de-recursos/proyectos-y-estudios/proyecto-growing-agricultural/article/actividad-taller-de-normativa-de)▪ Red Andaluza de Semillas (23/01/2014). Activity - Programme of the visit on production of organic seeds and the management of microenterprises. (http://www.redandaluzadesemillas.org/centro-de-recursos/proyectos-y-estudios/proyecto-growing-agricultural/article/actividad-programa-de-visita-sobre)					
Verification of the activity						
A/ Contents of the activity	Friday, 24th January, 2014 13.00 h. Arrival in Málaga. 14.00 h. transport to Coín. 15.00 – 17.00 h. Visit to the farm of a member of the Red Malagueña de Semillas: The Hevilla family. 17.00 – 19.00 h. Visit to the Rural Development Group Valle del Guadalhorce for the presentation of the plan for the promotion of the tomato "Huevo de Toro".					

Socios del proyecto

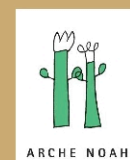
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	<p>19.00 – 20.00 h. Transport to Alozaina. 20.00 h. Supper and accommodation.</p> <p>Saturday, 25th January, 2014 09.00 – 13.00 h. Visit to the microenterprise of organic seeds Plantaromed (Yunquera). 14.00 h. Lunch in Ronda. 16.00 – 20.00 h. Technical workshop on the production of organic seeds and the management of microenterprises given by Jean-Luc Brault (Graines del Pais – Réseau Semences Paysannes) 21.00 h. Supper and accommodation in Ronda.</p> <p>Sunday, 26th January, 2014 9.00 – 12.00 h. Visit to the local seed bank of Silvema and the allotments they manage. 12.00 h. Journey to Málaga. 14.00 h. End of Meeting.</p>
B/ Objective of the activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase the training of the participants in the production, organization and commercial aspects related to the production and sale of organic seeds of local varieties. 2. To be a meeting point for people and initiatives bound to the production of seeds of local varieties. 3. To increase relations amongst the several European diverse enterprising experiences on the organic production of seeds. 4. To highlight the experiences on the production of seeds of local varieties in Andalucía. 5. To make known to the colleagues of other European countries the production, cultural, environmental etc specificities of Andalucía.
C/ Impacts and results obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthening of relations between the Red Andaluza de Semillas and Silvema-Ecologistas en Acción Serranía de Ronda. ▪ Learning on the organization models of seeds microenterprises mainly Italian (Arcoiris) and French (Graines du País). ▪ Increase of understanding of the participants of other European countries of the andaluz idiosyncrasy which directly affects the improvement of relations and the joint work.
D/ Obstacles found	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ None in particular.
E/ Proposals to improve this type of activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To prepare the training workshops in a more concrete manner regarding the subject matter and the materials to be used.
F/ Materials prepared for the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programme of activity: http://www.redandaluzadesemillas.org/IMG/pdf/140124-26_programa_actividad_ras_grow_malaga_esp.pdf ▪ Poster of Technical Workshop on the production of organic seeds and the management of microenterprises: http://www.redandaluzadesemillas.org/IMG/pdf/1-2.pdf ▪ Catalogue "Collection of Biodynamic seeds del Viso de los Romeros (Plantaromed)": http://www.tienda.plantaromed.es/4-semillas
G/ Value added of the activity regarding a more intense European cooperation	<p>This activity has been very important for the Red Andaluza de Semillas since it has tightened links and the possibility of future collaborations regarding the development of microenterprises of organic seeds of local varieties with organizations like Garden Organic (UK), Réseau Semences Paysannes (Francia) and Rete Semi Rurali (Italia).</p>
H/ Brief description of the visiting groups of project GROW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Réseau Semences Paysannes (Francia) (www.semencespaysannes.org): organization which bring together 70 groups, which include agricultural organizations, of organic agriculture, microenterprises of seeds and nurseries, professional and non professional farmers, development NGOs and organizations for the conservation of biodiversity. Their objective is to link the existing diverse initiatives which work in the conservation and renewal of cultivated biodiversity, increasing their capacities and knowledge by way of exchanges and training. This organization also collaborates with the scientific community of the public sector by way of participatory and innovating research. One of its members, the seeds microenterprise Graines del País (www.grainesdelpais.com),

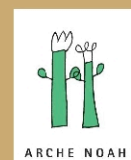
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	<p>participated in the visit with two people. This microenterprise is also integrated into a network of several French microenterprises, a Belgian and a Spanish, called Croqueurs de Carottes (http://www.semaille.com/croqueursdecarottes.html)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Garden Organic</u> (www.gardenorganic.org.uk/): Pioneer association in the organic movement in the United Kingdom, being ahead in the promotion of proximity production and internal consumption of organic horticultural produce for over 50 years. The work with cultivated biodiversity is carried out from its project The Heritage Seed Library, through which it conserves hundreds of traditional horticultural varieties. ▪ <u>Rete Semi Rurali</u> (Italia) (www.semirurali.net): organization which brings together 18 Italian groups and which works for the conservation of biodiversity by way of its use in situ and in organic agriculture. Its objectives are the support of systems of seeds based in the active role of the farmers in the production and spreading of varieties in agroecological systems by way of short circuits of commercialization. Two of their member organizations participated in the activity organized by the Red Andaluza de Semillas: the microenterprise of organic seeds Arcoiris (http://www.arcoiris.it/) and WWOOF-Italia (www.woof.it). ▪ <u>Silvema- Ecologistas en Acción Serranía de Ronda</u> (España) (http://www.silvema.org/): The Association Silvema Serranía de Ronda is a non profit organization which works since 1988 for the protection of the environment, both rural and urban, and for the conservation of the natural heritage in all its aspects, its scope of action being the natural district of the Serranía de Ronda (Andalucía, España). For all these years, the members have maintained intact their initial objectives of the study, protection and enjoyment of nature, separate from any political ideology and working in an altruistic manner. They bring out reports and complaints prepared periodically and highlighted to public opinion, they work to extend to all sectors of society the compromise to conserve a threatened natural heritage and carry out direct non violent actions with which to draw public attention. ▪ <u>Plantaromed</u> (España) (http://www.plantaromed.es/): Plantaromed is a synergic-biodynamic farming project. The farm Viso los Romeros, is situated in the Reserve of the Biosphere in the Sierra de las Nieves, between Alozaina and Yunquera (Málaga). It started its activities nearly twenty years ago, first with ornamental plants and afterwards with aromatic, medicinal and culinary plants. Also the conservation of seeds has been present from an early age, at first with the plants from the vegetable garden, and later with wild plants. The methods of cultivation which are being practised at the farm have evolved from traditional agriculture to organics, and finally to synergic-biodynamic methods. The daily work is centred around the conservation and recuperation of heritage seeds and the creation and maintenance of collections of medicinal, culinary and aromatic plants. The project goes alongside a deep research work with the earth, seeds and plants: to study how to create their own fertilizers, how certain plants can cure other plants and people, or affect the properties of the crops (aroma, taste, nutrients, etc.). ▪ <u>Group of Shared Action</u> (España) (http://grupodeaccioncompartida.blogspot.com.es/): This Group is being created at the moment and its objective is clear, to urgently conserve the agricultural wealth of which was available to their grandmothers and grandfathers and which, in so few years, has been nearly entirely lost. The case of cereals is particularly urgent since it is a basic foodstuff, and because, its production process having been entirely mechanized, current seeds have been favoured, wiping out nearly all varieties which grew in the Andalusian fields only six decades ago. Legumes are equally an essential resource of the Mediterranean diet, as well as crop rotations and a water saving agriculture. Therefore there are those in the group who maintain alive excellent quality varieties.
I/ Short description of organizing group	<p>The Red Andaluza de Semillas "Cultivando Biodiversidad" (RAS) is an organization which has among its purposes to tackle the loss of Andalusian agricultural biodiversity and of traditional peasant know-how, fostering a peasant and organic agriculture, as the basis for rural development. It is made of farmers and horticulturists, consumers, technicians, collectives and all those people who believe that it is possible to develop a type of agriculture in harmony with our environment and health.</p> <p>Its main objective is to reach as many farmers who maintain these local cultivation varieties in situ</p>

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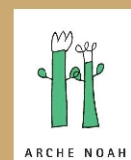
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	<p>helping them to recover the agricultural biodiversity of Andalucía and facilitating the access, cultivation and exchange of seeds among farmers.</p> <p>It also intends to make society aware of the need to conserve agricultural biodiversity, promoting the knowledge of local varieties amongst consumers, recuperating the cultural and popular tradition attached to the Andaluz cultivated genetic heritage and the creation of employment in the rural environment by way of production and commerce at local level.</p> <p>The Andaluz Seed Network defends before public institutions the development of policies designed to return to farmers the right to sow and exchange their seeds, to promote agricultural biodiversity and the conservation of our genetic resources by using local cultivation varieties, to favour agro ecological practices and to maintain our food free from genetically modified organisms.</p> <p>This organization is legally set up as a non profit association since December 2003.</p> <p>Web page: www.redandaluzadesemillas.org</p>
J/ General evaluation of the activity	The activity is evaluated in a very positive way.

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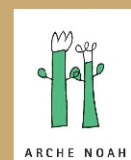
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Photographs of the activity



Visit to the local seed bank of Silvena and the allotments they manage

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