

Popular scientific project description for project funded by Ekhagastiftelsen

Popular scientific project description is to be submitted within 2 months of project grant.

Application number:	2007-2009
Project title:	Farm Seed Opportunities - Opportunities for farm seed conservation, breeding and production
Receiver of grant (name, address):	Louis Bolk Institute, Hoofdstraat 24, NL-3972 LA Driebergen, The Netherlands
Contact / project manager:	Edith Lammerts van Bueren
Project start (yyyy-mm-dd): *	January 1, 2007
Project end (yyyy-mm-dd): *	December 31, 2009
By Ekhagastiftelsen granted sum:	SEK 850.000,- for the three years

Project description: (max 150 words)

The strict rules for marketing of seeds (set in Directive 98/95/EC) combined with the small market niches for landraces varieties threatens the conservation of local varieties and the agro-biodiversity. In preparing the EU Directive facilitating the certification and marketing of seed in the interest of conserving plant genetic resources, Farm Seed Opportunities will contribute to the enlargement of the market of local varieties, by setting up a science and marketing based framework involving all relevant actors. The project will achieve this by characterising requirements, identifying bottlenecks and challenges, developing methodologies, combining scientific approaches and farmers know-how, and by providing recommendations and a practical framework for protection and promotion. The Consortium associates six European countries to cover a great variability of regional characteristics. Combining scientific competences and farmer knowledge will enable, in an approach of participatory innovation, the development of on-farm plant breeding and genetic resources management.

* Dates for project start and end should be the dates for which the grant is received (Not dates for total project if longer than period for which grant is received)