



Joining forces to enable financing for Organic Plant Breeding

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Webinar IV 13th -14th May 2026

Financing organic plant breeding – long term



Plant breeding needs 10 to 15 years from the first cross to the final cultivar



Therefore it needs long term commitment from all sides



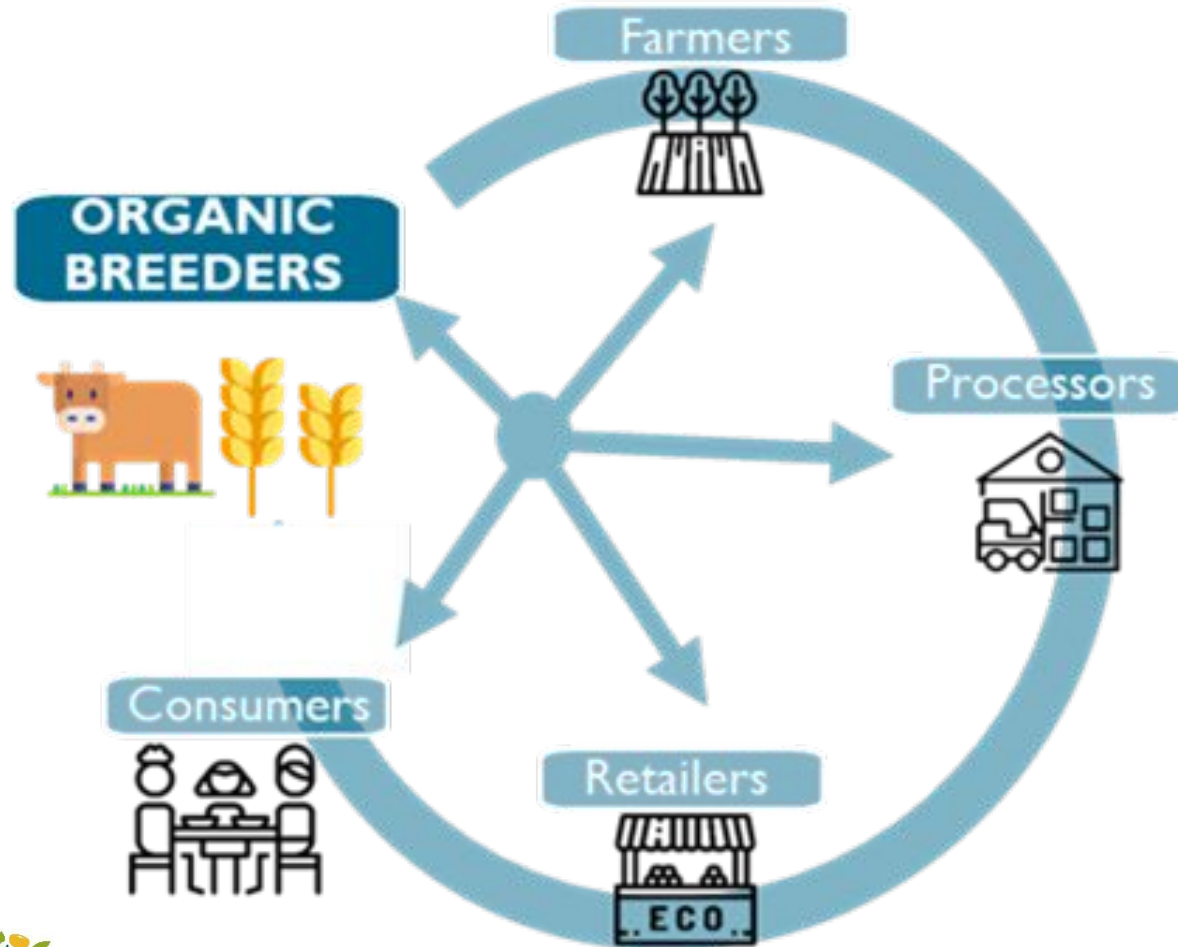
Video



☐ Joining forces to enable financing for Organic Plant Breeding



Financing organic plant breeding – Value chain partnerships



Sow what you sell: strategies for integrating organic breeding and seed production into value chain partnerships

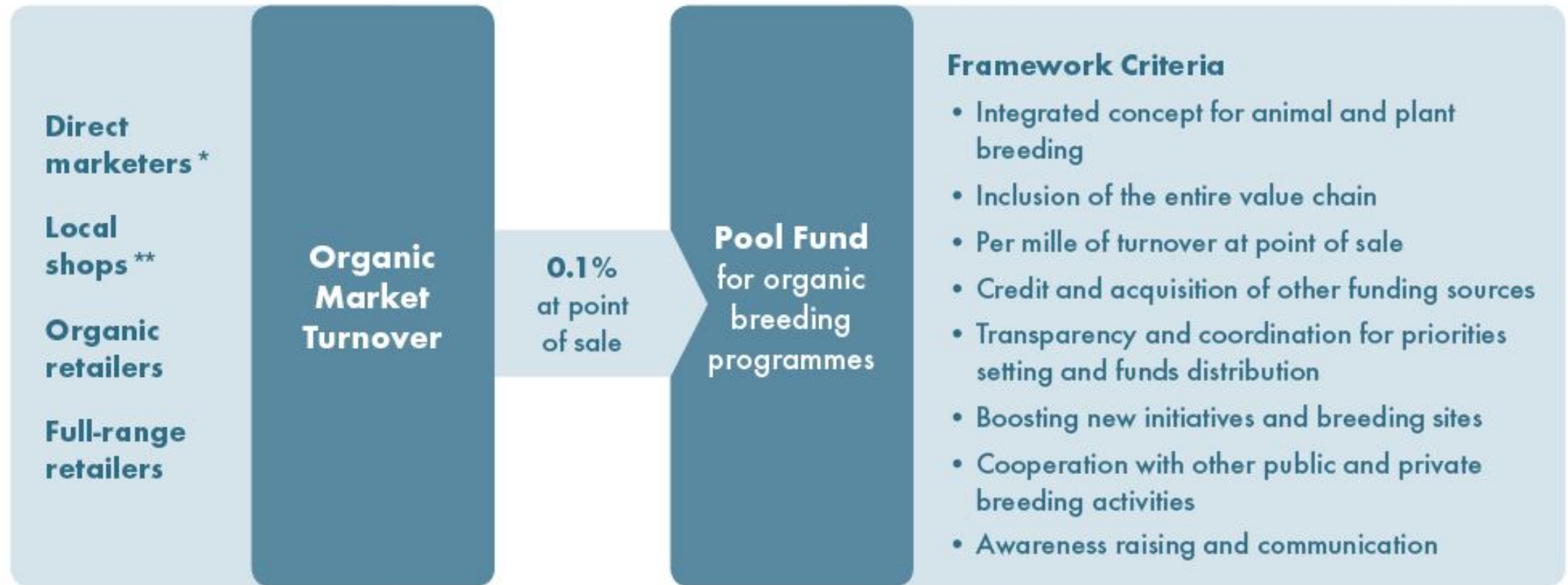
Success factors for financing

- Long term commitment
- Pool funding for organic cultivars
- Awareness raising on importance of plant breeding
- High level of transparency

Winter et al. 2021



Financing organic plant breeding – pool funding



* Farm gate sales, farmers markets, box schemes, farmers markets

** Bakeries, butcheries, specialised vegetable and fruit shops, health shops

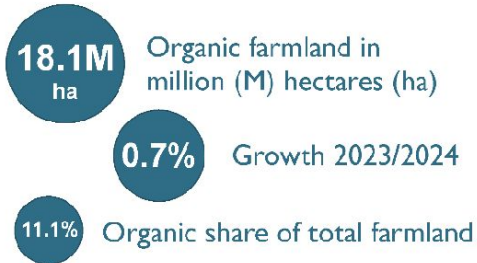
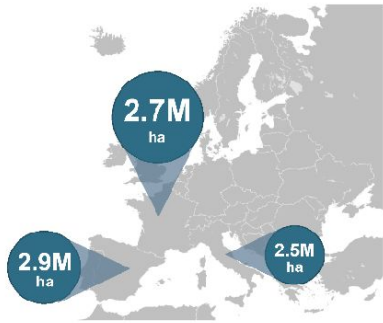
Winter et al. 2021



49.4 billion € Organic market in EU in 2024 □ **49.4 million € to boost organic plant breeding**

Organic Agriculture in the European Union 2024

Organic Farmland

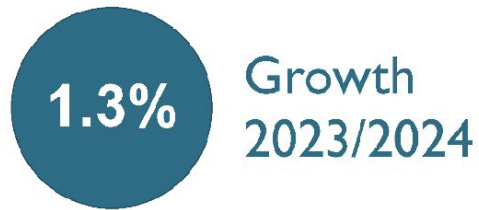


Farmland in million hectares Top 3 countries

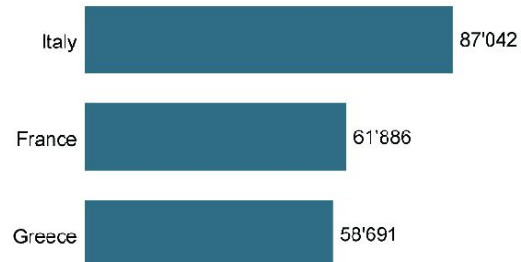


Organic Producers

The number of organic producers is increasing



Number of producers Top 3 countries

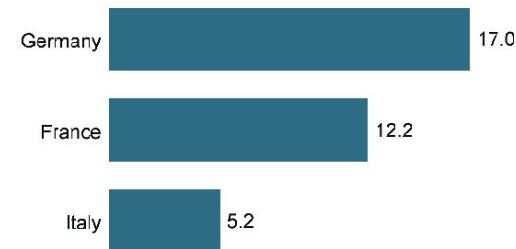


Organic Market

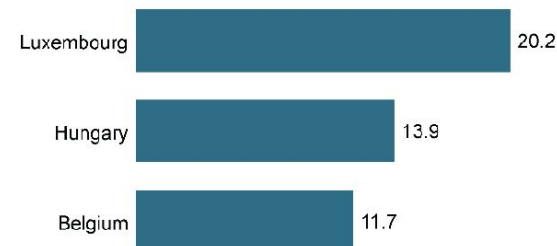
The European Union's market increased slightly in 2023/2024



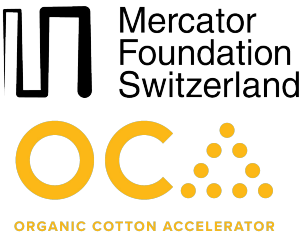
Market in billion euros Top 3 countries



Market growth in percent Top 3 countries 2023/2024



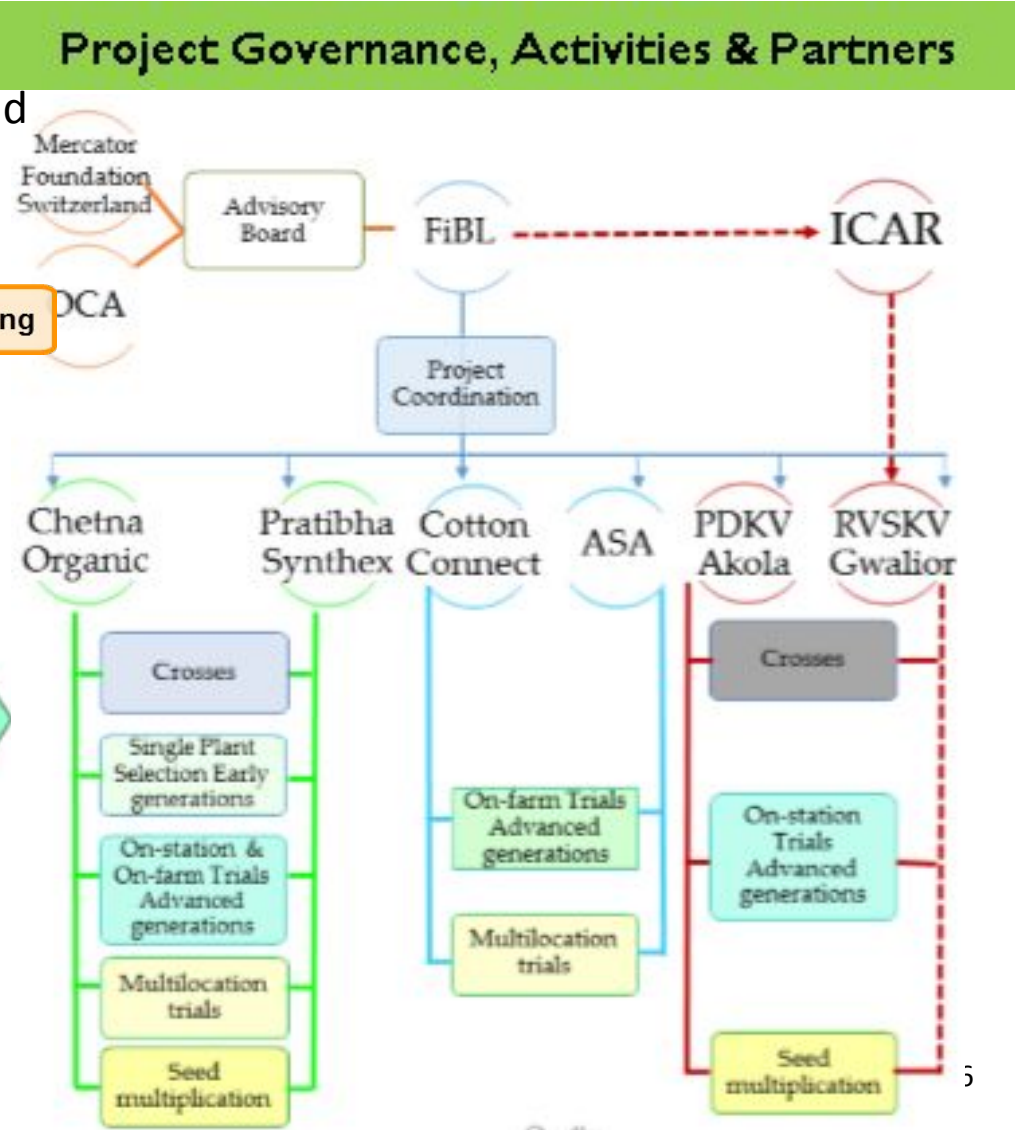
Example for cross-sector promotion of organic cotton breeding



Poolfunding of organic breeding:
 50% Mercator Foundation Switzerland
 50% Organic Cotton Accelerator



Fund raising



The SGF project facilitated the first release of **new organic cotton cultivars in India**, developed through a participatory approach with farmers and value chain in 2022.

Financing organic plant breeding – key success factors

- Awareness raising and targeted communication are key for promoting organic NGT free organic plant breeding
- Frame organic breeding in a long-term vision of food systems transformation supported by society
- Extensive knowledge of value chain requirements in planning breeding objectives
- Increase reliability and efficiency of organic breeding
- **Diversified funding sources**
 - *Public support for organic and agroecological breeding not only for short term projects*
 - *Value chain support to drive and amplify public support (not only farmers)*
 - *Project funding to support organic breeding*
 - *Charity foundations*
 - *Ethical financing*



Financing organic plant breeding – Next level

The most important and promising pathway to leverage sustainable funding for organic, non-GMO plant breeding is a **collaborative effort at European level gathering public funding bodies, value chain actors, philanthropic foundations, and ethical banks.**

□ Meeting in June to join forces for EU wide support of organic breeding

Horizontal and vertical cooperation models connecting seed companies, food companies, and value-chain partners

Blended finance approaches combining private capital, industry contributions, and impact funds—supported by public funding, risk-sharing mechanisms, and the development of rewarding mechanisms for ecosystem services

Public–private partnerships to strengthen strategic capacities and accelerate deployment

Social entrepreneurship initiatives that anchor seed sovereignty in society



**European Conference on financing for organic seeds:
Grow the Difference and Scale It**





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Europe



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Germany



bingenheimer
saatgut



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www.liveseeding.eu



Sister project on organic
fruit breeding:
www.InnOBreed.eu



Registration is open



Final conference

10 June

- Brussels
- 9 - 20h

*Change seed,
grow difference!*

<https://liveseeding.eu/save-the-date-liveseeding-final-conference/>



LiveSeeding

Thank you for your attention!

