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## About CERERE:

Through a balanced, multi-actor network of researchers and communities of practitioners, the project promotes innovation by producing and disseminating accessible end-user materials and training products for farmers, food manufacturers, consumers, researchers and policy makers.

# BUILDING LOCAL NETWORKS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS AROUND THE CULTIVATED BIODIVERSITY OF CEREAL.

## PROBLEM

The homogenization of cereal agroecosystems through monoculture and the lack of organic flour mills. Milling logistics needed by organic processors and supply chains, using small quantities of different local varieties is very complex and requires great effort. This hinders the access of organic artisan bakeries to high quality and locally produced raw materials.

## SOLUTION

Creation of alliances between different actors of the cereal chain. Red Andaluza de Semillas (RAS) has managed to reach agreements between local producers who are recovering local varieties, and an organic handicraft mill in the region. Besides that, he has established contacts with artisan bakeries that want to give a try to organic flours from local varieties.

## Outcomes

Building up these horizontal and cooperative relationships enables the recovery and the community-based management of the cereal cultivated biodiversity in Andalusia. Through collaboration agreements with other farmers and associations such as RAS, Alonsi Navarro has promoted the recovery of more than 70 varieties of cereals and some of them have been tested in at least 10 bakeries in Andalusia.

## Practical Recommendation

- To contribute to the recovery, community-based management and enhancement of the cultivated biodiversity in the territories, it is essential to involve all the actors of the supply chain. In this case, it is of great importance to contact a group of bakers who had concerns to try new flours of local and ecological origin, and motivated different farmers to work on the recovery of these varieties. The involvement of an artisanal and ecological mill, willing to grind small

quantities of flour that came from different varieties has been crucial.

- It is essential to dedicate part of the work to train and sensitize both the bakery sector and the civil society on how the consumption of this type of flours and breads has a very positive impact on local economies and health.

- It is recommended to involve as much as possible other actors, such as research centres or universities, in the collective task of recovering the cultivated biodiversity. These institutions can collaborate in the generation and dissemination of information about varieties (characterization, identification, nutraceutical compounds, etc.)

## Evaluation and sharing of the results

Use the comment section on the CERERE website to share your experiences with other farmers, processors, retailers, advisors and scientists. If you have any questions concerning this Practice Abstract, please contact the author by e-mail.



## Project partners

The University of Reading (*United Kingdom*),  
The University of Florence (*Italy*),  
Rete Semi Rurali (*Italy*),  
Réseau Semences Paysannes (*France*),  
Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (*France*),  
The University of Helsinki (*Finland*),  
The Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority (*Ireland*),  
Red Andaluza de Semillas (*Spain*),  
Formicablu (*Italy*),  
Organic Research Centre (*United Kingdom*),  
SEGES P/S (*Denmark*),  
Institut Technique de l'Agriculture Biologique (*France*),  
The University of Debreceni (*Hungary*).

## Further Information

Project website: <http://www.plantaromed.com/>

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