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| Call Type – Open Call 1 for SOFT projects |
| Acronym & Project code | Genomics\_RoHuROHU00244 |
| Project title | Strengthening the knowledge exchange in plant genomics through the development of a strategic cross-border Romanian-Hungarian consensus |
| Priority | P3 - A more sustainable, community-based and effective cross-border cooperation |
| Specific Objective  | ISO6.3 - Building up mutual trust, in particular by encouraging people-to-people actions |
| Implementation period | 12 months (24.02.2025 – 23.02.2026) |
| Objective | The general objective is to know and identify the valorization of the genetic material of local landraces of Allium sativum L. and Allium cepa L., species from the cross-border area. |
| Partnership | Main/Lead Partner: LP1 - Universitatea de Științele Vieții “Regele Mihai I” din Timisoara / University of Life Sciences “King Mihai I” from Timisoara (RO) |
| Project Partner: PP2 - Magyar Agrár- és Élettudományi Egyetem / Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (HU) |
| Total budget | EUR 199,640.00, of which ERDF EUR 159,712.00  |
| Summary | The project has 3 specific objectives, as follows:1. Identification of local plant landraces in the counties in the program's eligible area; 2. Studies regarding characterization from biometric, cytological and chemical analyses of genotypes; 3. Informing about the genomic value and the importance of cultivating local landraces.Plant genomics is a field of strategic regional importance that aims to achieve a collaboration based on the requirements of the landscape of developing rural economies and why not of general social problems. The ecological features are similar on both sides of the border, and the development of local varieties was historically the result of almost identical production culture.The studies will improve the understanding of the genetic mechanisms of local landraces, through which valuable genes and cellular reproduction are active and participate in preserving the valuable genetic material from the point of view of productivity, vigor and of course disease resistance and can be used to develop new strategies of cross-border economic interest. Through them, it will be possible to stop the loss of genetic material, of local landraces cultivated for hundreds of years with obvious genetic value. The current objectives have multidisciplinary addressability and coordinated actions which in the end are of double benefit, in addition general information is provided, including plant genetic resources, biometrics (i.e. studies on phenotypic characters that obligatorily contribute to the development of plant material), education (young specialists, students, teaching staff, farmers,) and knowledge (highlighting) of valuable genetic material.The main output of the project is, on the one hand, to scientifically verify whether the local varieties of the region differ from each other, and on the other hand, to display the new information in agricultural education (students), expert advice (farmers) and consumer information (curriculum, booklet, workshop, press).Although horticultural culture and agricultural research are highly developed on both sides of the border, genetic testing of local varieties of onion and garlic has not yet been done. |
| Main results | The main results of the project are:* 2 organizations cooperating across borders;
* Cooperation investigation across the border – 50 students, teachers, researchers, farmers, local and regional public authorities participating in a joint program for the evaluation, conservation, exploitation of the genetic material of the local populations of the species Allium sativum L. and Allium cepa L;
* Joint Action Plan on cultivation of valuable Allium genotypes to protect cross-border local - in English, Hungarian and Romanian, 100 copies in Romanian and Hungarian languages, and 50 copies in English language.
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