



European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity! "Our diversity is our strength"

Vision

The main challenge of the EC-LLD is to **encourage, develop and promote** the dynamic management of **cultivated biodiversity** on farms and in gardens. We share the same concern that our **food systems** are **too uniform**, and that conventional agriculture has been the only model supported until now by European policies, with the aim of modernising all agricultural systems. In our view **promoting** biodiversity is the key for achieving food sovereignty. Our goal is to bring back diversity in our food systems in a socially and economically sustainable way throughout the whole food chain. The diversification of our food systems can be achieved linking the work of the **different actors** involved (e.g. farmers, gardeners, citizens, researchers, processors, technicians, small-scale seed companies), supporting and promoting their knowledge and actions associated to cultivated biodiversity. EC-LLD also recognises the importance of **collective action** around cultivated biodiversity and of working together across countries fully aware of our **differences**.

Actions

To achieve this vision, the objective of EC-LLD is to be an **open and fruitful space of exchange of knowledge and experiences** among its members. After already 14 years of cooperation among different partners from different countries, we learned that is crucial to have a **platform** promoting exchanges and sharing of experiences/point of views/policies among its members to foster local actions. Our methodology to address this issue is by *farmer-to-farmer* (we use "farmer" as an example) approach to training and knowledge sharing. It means facilitating a horizontal way of disseminating knowledge among different actors bearing different knowledges, overcoming the usual top-down approach. In the same way, EC-LLD projects are built in collaborative, democratic and horizontal way, to take into account the diversity of its members' point of views.

During the time EC-LLD has developed two kinds of meetings as to as implement this methodology:

- i. "*Let's Liberate Diversity!*", targeted to **general public** and **citizens**: promoting exchange across countries and **raising awareness**. Usually **in a city**.
- ii. "*Let's Cultivate Diversity!*", targeted to **farmers, processors** and **practitioners** with the aim of sharing their knowledge around crops. Usually **in a farm**.

EC-LLD through its activities is facilitating the networking between its members and partners to share their different knowledge, point of views and strategies.