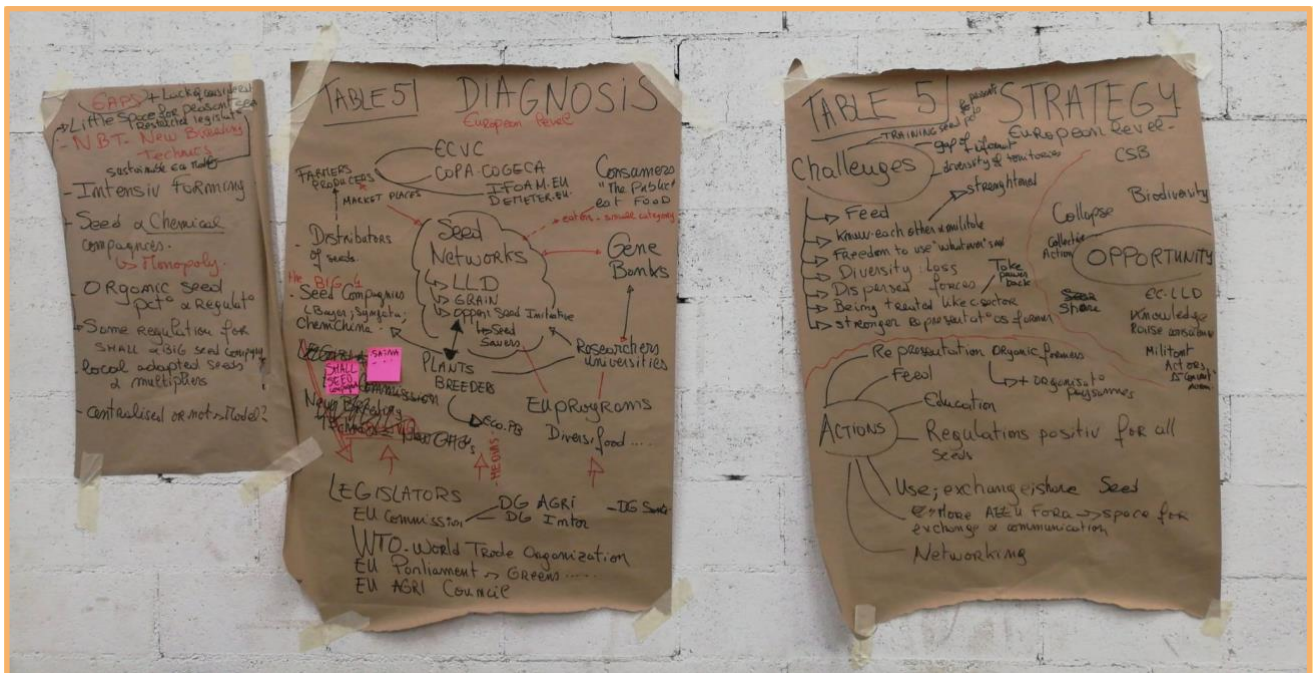


European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity!



Annual Report

2021

General Assembly

May 12th, 2022



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1. Association

This report shows the main activities that have been carried out by the Association *European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity!* during the year **2021**. They have been divided into small chapters to give an overview of the single **activities** and a summary of the economic situation. In Annex the **complete account was created** with the accounting software "Banana 8" (<https://www.banana.ch/en>).

a. Secretariat

Since April 2019, the Association has the possibility to use a **workstation** inside the office of the member Rete Semi Rurali. The headquarters, called **Casa dell'Agrobiodiversità**, has a workspace, a meeting room, an agrobiodiversity library and the "Community Seed Bank" area. The Secretary uses the space together with RSR Staff on Monday - Friday from 09:00 to 17:00. No costs are currently charged to EC-LLD for the use of the office.

b. Board meetings

During the year 2021, the EC-LLD board organised **11 virtual meetings**: January 15th, February 4th, March 4th, April 1st, May 6th, June 3rd, July 1st, August 5th, September 2nd, October 5th, November 4th.

c. General Assembly 2021

The Ordinary Assembly was called for the day **May 27th, 2021** from 16:00 to 18:00. In view of the COVID-19 circumstances and on the advice of the accountant based in Belgium, it was decided to hold a virtual meeting to carry out the administrative procedures. The assembly was held via ZOOM virtual platform.

The activity of discussion, organization and new membership was convening an extraordinary assembly in October 2021.

Participants: Koutis Kostas (Aegilops), Maria Carrascosa (RDS), Béla Barta (PSR), Corentin Hecquet (RMRM), Amelie Hallot-Charmasson, Cyrille Pacteau (RSP), Jennifer McConnell (ISSA), Riccardo Bocci (RSR), Andreas Riekeberg (DKNV), Maria Scholten (SCF), Frank Adams (SEED), Katherine Dolan (Arche Noah), Matthias Lorimer (EC-LLD)

Absent: Andrew McMillion (KVANN), Catrina Fenton (HSL), Stefano Mori (Crocevia),



Below the agenda of the Assembly, the **minutes** was share within the members.

Agenda	
16:00-16:20	Welcome to the GA Round of presentations with name of participant and organization
16:20-16:45	Presenting the report and accounting 2020 Voting of the accounting 2020
16:45-17:30	Presentation of the candidates and starting to work on the board of directors policy document Voting the new board of directors
17:30-18:30	Updates of EC-LLD activities AOB

d. Elections of Board Members

Every **two years** the board is re-elected, and the last election was in 2021.

e. Members situation

As of December 31st, 2021 all the associations have paid the annual membership fee for the year 2021, except for Centro Internazionale Crocevia.

f. Extraordinary Assembly

This Extraordinary Assembly was called to admit new members, find ways to work and collaborate among the member members and understand the actions of EC-LLD in the coming years. Given the European forum of Agroecology Europe in Barcelona that has involved many members of ECLLD, it was decided to organize it in conjunction with them and give other members a chance to be able to participate.



The Assembly was called for Wednesday, 17th November and started at 09:00 at “Nau Bostik”- Carrer Ferran Turné, 11, 08027 Barcelona.

09:00 - 09:15	Welcome
09:15 - 09:45	1. Presentations of new members and voting their membership (5 min each)
10:00 - 11:00	2. Workshop 1: Working group on the Internal Regulation
11:00 - 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 - 13:00	3. Workshop 1: Working group on the Internal Regulation
Lunch	
14:00 - 17:00	4. Seed Law reform: internal point of view and future strategy
17:00 - 17:15	Coffee Break
17:50 - 19:00	5. How will it be next year? New projects and future activities

ZOOM Invitation

The zoom room was opened, and online participants were able to follow part of the meeting. Unfortunately, the equipment was not sufficient for a full day exchange and participation.

Participants: Annika Michelson (NGO Maadjas), Maria Carrascosa (RDS), Béla Barta (PSR), Emilie Lapprand, Cyrille Pacteau (RSP), Elaine Bradley (ISSA), Riccardo Bocci (RSR), Michèle Perrin-Taillat (SEED), Magdalena Prieler (Arche Noah), Matthias Lorimer (EC-LLD), Josephus Ingen Housz, Ivone Ingen Housz (Associação Quinta das Águas), Katalin Réthy (Maghaz), Dylan Wallman (Sesam), Marcin Salnikow (Heritage Seed Library - Garden Organic), Mariam Jorjadze, Mikheil Pakatoshvili (ELKANA), Riccardo Bocci, Riccardo Franciolini (Rete Semi Rurali)

On-line: Koutis Kostas (Aegilops), Corentin Hecquet (RMRM), Susanne Gura (DKNV)

Absent: Andrew McMillion (KVANN), Stefano Mori (Crocevia), Maria Scholten (SCF)

g. New Members

During the extraordinary assembly it was voted for the entrance of 5 associations. **Maadjas (ESTONIA)**, **Biological Farming Association Elkana (GEORGIA)**, **Maghaz (HUNGARY)**, **Sesam (SWEDEN)**, **Associação Quinta das Águas (PORTUGAL)**. They did the request during the year 2021.

The 5 associations were unanimously voted on.

h. Accountant

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In March 2018, we started a collaboration with an accountant - Didier Verelst - to follow all EC-LLD bureaucratic procedures - e.g. TVA, statute, personnel, budgeting - according to the Belgian laws. The collaboration continued throughout the year 2021.

2. Activities

Limitations due to the health situation continued in 2021. For EC-LLD the difficulties were at the heart of its action, in fact it was not possible to organize all the activities and physical forums that were planned. That's why the Secretariat has been reinventing EC-LLD's tasks by trying to "occupy" the digital and on-line space through webinars and Seed Policy Dialogues series. Towards the end of the year 2021, in-person activities resumed and it was possible to organize the extraordinary meeting during the Agroecology forum in Barcelona.

a. Seed Policy Dialogues

To discuss the political and legislative developments of the agricultural biodiversity movements, the European Coordination Liberate Diversity! (EC-LLD) launched in April 2021 a series of "virtual dialogues" with actors from different backgrounds. Each meeting, for a total of 8 appointments and with a turnout of about 50 participants, was divided into two parts: in the first one, the lawyer Fulya Batur exposed the issues of the monthly newsletter *Sprouts From Brussels* and, afterwards, the invited speakers presented and started a debate on the issues of their competence. The cycle, which ended in December 2021, was opened by the French association Inf'OGM while the following months were hosted, in order, the seed savers of Arche Noah, the coalition against patents No Patents on Seeds, the network for open source seeds initiatives GOSSI, the FAO treaty secretariat and RSR, the promoters of the UNDROP treaty and Via Campesina, the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources CGRFA and Pro Specie Rara, and finally APREBES to talk about the UPOV convention and its impact on farmers' rights.

Recordings are on ECLLD's YouTube channel or at <https://bit.ly/3uvFIET>

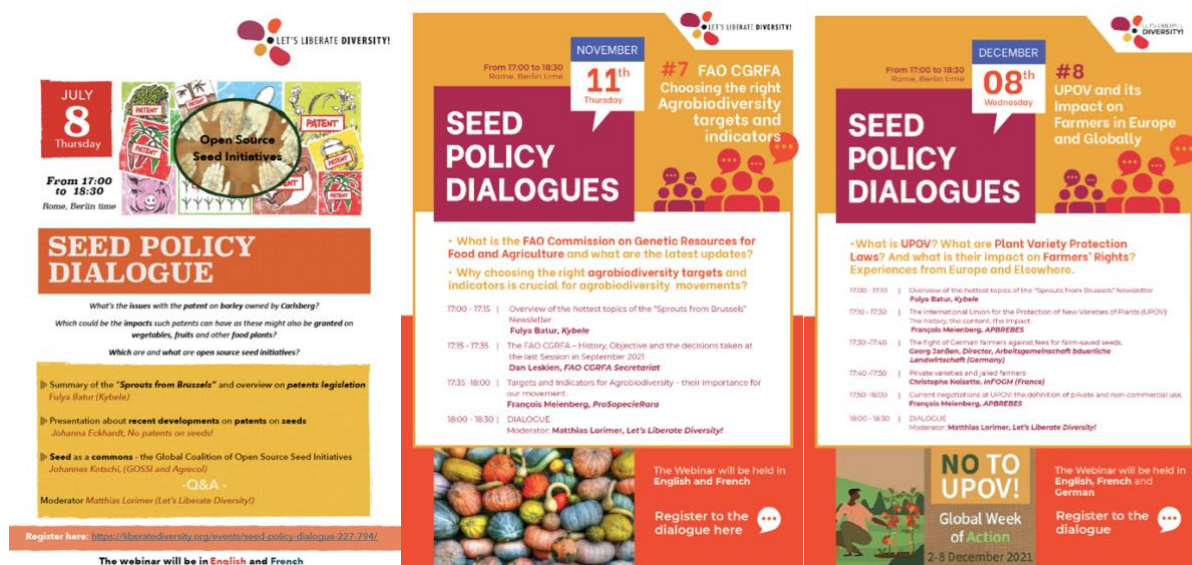


Fig. 1- Some brochures of the Seed Policy Dialogues.

CALENDAR 2021 of the Seed Policy Dialogues

<p>29 April - SPD#2: New Genetic Engineering 1. Presentation of the latest in Brussels regarding genome editing and seed policy 2. Démarches juridique des nouvelles techniques de modification génétique en France - Fred Prat, Inf'OGM</p>
<p>20 May - SPD#3: Future EU Seed Marketing Reform 1. The EU Seed Marketing Reform - Fulya Batur and Magdalena Prieler (Arche Noah)</p>
<p>8 July - SPD#4: Intellectual Property Rights: patents on seeds 1. Sprouts from Brussels- Fulya Batur 2. Recent developments on patents on seeds in Europe - Johanna Eckhardt from No Patents on Seeds 3. The Global Coalition of Open Source Seeds Initiatives on seeds as commons - Johannes Kotschi, GOSSI</p>
<p>30 September - SPD#5: The FAO Treaty and Farmers' Rights 1. Sprouts from Brussels - Updates on the seed law reform 2. ITPGRFA Secretariat on Farmers' Rights: background and implementation -Mario Marino, FAO Treaty Secretariat 3. The FAO Treaty: Implementation of Farmers' rights in Europe - Riccardo Bocci, Rete Semi Rurali</p>
<p>21 October - SPD#6: UNDROP, Farmers' rights to seeds and biodiversity 1. The "Right to seeds in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants" - Christophe Golay, Geneva Academy 2. Incorporating peasants' rights to seeds in European Law - Guy Kastler, ViaCampesina</p>



11 November - SPD#7: FAO CGRFA, Agrobiodiversity targets and indicators 1. The FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture - History objective and the decisions taken at the last Session in September 2021 - Dan Leskien, FAO CGRFA Secretariat 2. Targets and indicators for agrobiodiversity: their importance for our movement - Francois Meienberg, ProSpecieRara
8 December - SPD#8: UPOV Convention - its Impact on Farmers in Europe and Globally 1. The Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV): The history and the content - Francois Meienberg (EN) 2. Current negotiations at UPOV: The definition of private and non-commercial use - Francois Meienberg (EN) 3. Der Kampf der deutschen Landwirte gegen Nachbaugebühren - Georg Janßen, ABL (GE) 4. Variétés privées, paysan.ne.s emprisonné.e.s - Christophe Noisette, Inf'OGM (FR)

b. Main meetings / events / gathering list / WG

Below is a list of the **WG meetings** in which EC-LLD Secretariat and Members have participated:

1. 29th July Internal regulation WG
2. 7th October Internal regulation WG
3. 4th November Internal regulation WG

Below is a list of some of the **physical** meetings in which EC-LLD Secretariat has participated:

4. 5th – 7th July // FAO treaty summer school organized by RSR
5. 14th and 15th September // Salvia foundation at RSR headquarter and interview on ECLLD's project
6. 29th-30th November Presentation of the GenRes Bridge strategy, Brussels

Below is a list of the main **on-line** meetings in which EC-LLD Secretariat has participated:

1. 7th – 9th January // Presentation of EC-LLD at the Oxford Farming Conference during the Community Seed Session "Bringing Communities Together Through Seed: A Discussion and Planning Session for Community Seed Banks, Seed Libraries and Seed Initiatives Around the UK"
2. 29th – 30th January // Participation at Arche Noa's Seed Policy Workshop and moderation support during the 2-days.
3. 9th February // kick-off meeting of the Agriculture/agri-food working group within our ENoLL network (European Network of Living Labs).



4. 15th April // CSA4CSB webinar “How to turn a missed rendezvous between Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and Community Seed Banks (CSB) into a “happy end love story”? Find it out during the free CSA4CSB webinar organized by URGENCI, INRAE and ECLLD
5. 26th April // Presentation of DYNAVERSITY conclusion to RSR network.
6. 2 September // Presentation of ECLLD to Fundus Agricultura project of SAVE Foundation
7. 23rd October // ECLLD during the Gaia Foundation Seed Week - Session 8: 'Lessons from our Global Allies'
8. 3rd November // Participant at the “Incorporating Peasants' Rights to Seeds in European Law” ECV
9. 3rd November // Participant at the “Searching for flexibility - Why parties to the 1978 Act of the UPOV Convention have not acceded to the 1991 Act” APREBES
10. 9th November // Participant at the “ECO-PB 20th Anniversary”
11. 12th November // Participant at the Nov GenRes webinar
12. 17th November // Presentation of EC-LLD paper at the 2nd Agrobiodiversity Congress, Rome with Mathieu Thomas, CIRAD
13. 15th December // participation at the EU seeds marketing reform, policy coherence for agroecology (organizer Bred for all)

Participation of EC-LLD as **observer**:

1. Tenth Session of the INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (22. – 24. June) - Participation of Francois Meienberg (PSR)

f. Synergies with other organizations / Universities

During the year, new exchanges were made with other organizations that have an action of interest to EC-LLD.

Seed Policy Dialogues

All of the synergies found with the invitees of the seed policy dialogues are worth noting. From the more institutional world such as FAO, to farmers' organizations such as ECV or research institutions such as the Geneva academy.



Gaia Foundation

Since inviting Gaia Foundation to the LLD Méze 2019 meeting, there have been synergies in exchanging and disseminating each other's activities. They had formally asked to become members of EC-LLD, but since it is a very large and structured entity, the board felt it was more useful for the time being to collaborate and not join directly. In the coming years we will see which formula is the best to strengthen the respective actions.

University of Cardiff

Exchange of practices and possible planning with Cardiff University.

ENoLL

The European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL) is a global network of open innovation ecosystems (Living Labs) that places people at the centre of product and service development and innovation. We participated in some meetings and is possible to find new consortium and partnerships for future projects.

3. Projects

a. DYNAVERSITY (2017 to 2021)

The project is finished in April 2021. During the year 2021, the 3rd manual in the series dedicated to CSBs was finished written in EN, IT, FR, ES. It was made also the EC-LLD promotional video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lf50EjUZV4s&t=116s>) has also been translated the website into 3 languages with the Easyling technology.



Manual 3
Community Seed Banks:
access to germplasm and benefit sharing models

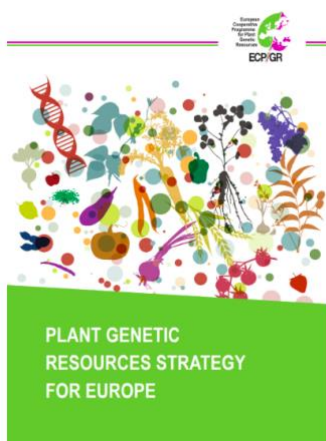


te Diversity!



b. GenRes bridge Project (2019 to 2021)

The Secretary participated at the “The GenRes Bridge final conference”. Here more information regarding the drafting of the Strategy Document presented: <http://www.genresbridge.eu/about-us/news/news/the-plant-genetic-resources-strategy-for-europe/>



c. “Strengthen and Enlarging the European Coordination - LLD network” (2020 - 2023)

The project was designed to allow the exchange between Members within the network, but also the participation and invitation of new organisations that could contribute to the movement, also by becoming



EC-LLD Members. In 2021, the project activity were mainly to pay the invoices of the secretariat, the costs of the general assembly in Barcelona and small coordination costs (zoom, other software).

d. New Project proposal during the year

LIVESEEDING – Presented

Written in 2021 and presented in September 2021, is the continuation of liveseed.eu project

University of Cardiff - not submitted

A project was wrote with researcher Poppy Nicol. Small Task for ECLLD (organization of 2 meetings).

United for Diversity - approved by members but not submitted yet

Written in 2021 and presented in September 2021, the continuation of liveseed.

Community Seed Bank Academy – lost

In December 2020, the three ECLLD organizations (Arche Noah, ProSpecieRara and Rete Semi Rurali) who have written the CSB Academy project with the Salvia Foundation, proposed to spend the final year of the project under the EC-LLD portfolio. Meetings have begun with the foundation to figure out how to present the project to their next board in May 2021. The foundation declined the project.

4. Communication and Media

a. Website

The website has been **updated** with events of the members and with articles shared by members on a weekly basis. In collaboration with RSP, it is included in a box called “*Legal Watch*”. The new site changed in 2020 on wordpress platform and in 2021, thanks to Dynaversity, was translated into 3 languages.

Let's Liberate Diversity!

To encourage, develop and promote the dynamic management of cultivated biodiversity on farms and gardens

USE IT OR LOSE IT



watch this video and [share it](#), it's time to [action!](#)



b. EC-LLD / News!

During the year 8 newsletters were produced in English, at the following links the archive:

Newsletter 17- December 2021

[EN Version](#)

Newsletter 16- October 2021

[EN Version](#)

Newsletter 15- September 2021

[EN Version](#)

Newsletter 14- July 2021

[EN Version](#)

Newsletter 13- May 2021

[EN Version](#)



Newsletter 12- April 2021

[EN Version](#)

Newsletter 11- March 2021

[EN Version](#)

Newsletter 10 - February 2021

[EN Version](#)

News and activities from EC-LLD members to share in the newsletter is **always welcome**.

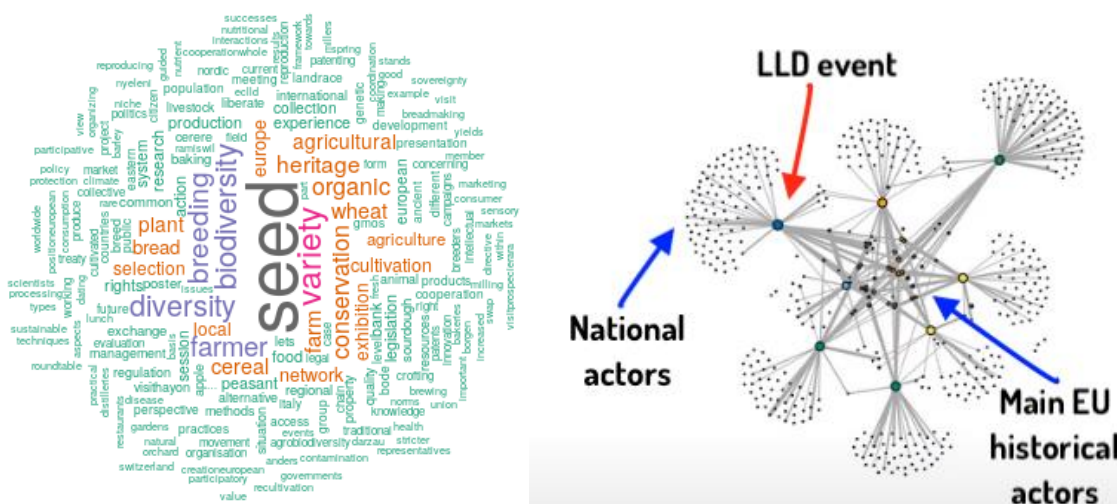
c. Social media

The Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/eclld/> “@eclld” tag, has been updated weekly with information from members. There are 355 like (previous year **305**) and 422 (**355** previous year) followers. Also the Twitter account <https://twitter.com/ECLLD>- was increasingly used, at today EC-LLD is following 166 (previous year 130 accounts) and has 193 followers (119 the previous year).

Exchange and sharing of mutual posts of members is welcome.

d. Scientific papers

Presentation of “Dynamics and impacts of the European Coordination Let’s Liberate Diversity in the networking of national and local agrobiodiversity movements: a retrospective and reflective approach” at the 2nd International Agrobiodiversity Congress, during the panel dedicated to agrobiodiversity and community conservation / on farm-conservation.



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e. Office supplies

On 28th June 2018 a telephone contract with the company ILIAD at 5,99 € per month was registered. Is still ongoing.

5. Accounting

In the figure below the economic balance sheet with the accounts at 31/12/2021.

The Banque Triodos is the account of the association based in Belgium, Paypal account is used for the transport tickets, Soldo as a debit card for traveling and Paypal card for phone fees.

ESTATE

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
BANQUE TRIODOS	21.077,35	87.481,89
PAYPAL	3.697,00	1.113,53
SOLDO	1.216,02	515,46
CASH	210,20	230,20
PAYPAL CARD	77,55	139,45
TOTAL	26.278,12	89.480,53

At 31/12/2021 the value of net assets of the association is **€ 26.278,21**

Below are reported the costs and the incomes (balance) of individual projects. On DYNAVERSITY have been spent 43.534,09 €. GenResBridge paid 6000 € as sub.-contractor of ProSpecieRara (the project is finished).

Segments

	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
DYNAVERSITY	-43.534,09	-93.162,67
GENRESBRIDGE	6.000,00	-73,90
General expenses	-2.213,15	-2.468,54
SALVIA	-23.455,17	34.585,01
CSB Academy	--	1.400,00

General expenses were **2.213,15 €** for as bank commission, general taxes and mobile phone contract.

On the following tables there is the summary of the costs items of expenses compared with 2020.

OPERATING RESULT		
	2021	2020
EXPENSES		
Travel expenses	-178,70	-907,44
General Assembly / Extraordinary	-8.510,79	--
TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENSES	-8.689,49	-907,44
Other expenses	--	-116,36
Software licences	-295,46	-160,15
Bank account expenses(Triodos)	-46,00	-36,00
Soldo Commission / fee	-48,00	-36,00
Office supplies	--	-218,48
DeepI	-81,00	--
Telephone	-131,90	-86,88
TOTAL EXPENSES	-602,36	-653,87
Secretary - Consultant	-30.000,00	-22.727,30
Accountant	-1.464,10	-508,08
interpreting	-2.302,88	--
Consultant - IT	-2.166,00	-1.200,00
Other consultant	-13.079,00	-1.042,08
TOTAL STAFF	-49.011,98	-25.477,46
Tax	--	-10,00
TOTAL TAXES	--	-10,00
Web site/server	-5.008,38	--
Printing material	-6.790,20	--
TOTAL COMMUNICATION	-11.798,58	--
TOTAL EXPENSES		
INCOME		
Membership fees	744,00	600,00

OPERATING RESULT

	2021	2020
TOTAL MEMBER INCOME	744,00	600,00
Contribution from members for events	156,00	--
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION	156,00	--
EU projects income	6.000,00	--
Foundation project income	--	36.400,00
TOTAL PROJECT CONTRIBUTION	6.000,00	36.400,00
Donation	--	50,00
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	--	50,00
TOTAL INCOME	-63.202,41	10.001,23
SALE		

Secretary annual cost in 2021 was € **30.000**. The total of EC-LLD consultants (Secretary, accountant, webmaster, graphic design for the CSB manuals and Fulya Batur consultancy for the Seed Policy Dialogues) was € **49.011,98**

The total contribution of membership fees from members was **744€**.

In the table below, the costs of the individual Associations considering that the entrance from members is the annual Membership fee (€ 50).

COST AND PROFIT CENTERS

	2021	2020
ProSpecieRara	-0,10	100,00
Arche Noah	-407,20	--
Garden Organic	-264,77	--
KVANN	50,00	--
Rete Semi Rurali	22,40	50,00
Red de Semillas	100,00	--
Sesam	-286,90	--
Quinta Das Aguias	-265,78	--
Maadjas	-283,19	--
Maghaz	-129,25	--
Centro Internazionale Crocevia	--	50,00
Reseau Semences Paysannes	-261,10	50,00
Scottish Crofting Federation	44,00	50,00
BEDE	--	50,00
DKND	50,00	150,00
Irish Seed Savers Ass	50,00	50,00
SEED	-56,96	50,00
Aegilops	50,00	50,00
Réseau Meuse-Rhin-Moselle	100,00	--
Secretariat	-22.500,00	--
Total	-23.988,85	650,00



Barcelona, Extraordinary Assembly 2021

