



14th
**LET'S LIBERATE
DIVERSITY!**
Forum

FARM to FORK SEED to PLATE

Regional seeds and
varieties for the
future of our food

Lycée Technique Agricole Luxembourg
1 Kréiwénkel, 9374 Gilsdorf

4–6 September 2025

Seeds and other plant reproductive material are the foundation of all food production. As Europe navigates the *future of agriculture*, two distinct paths emerge: one centred on the diversity of traditional, regionally adapted varieties developed on farms and in gardens; the other driven by technological breeding and increasingly centralised, privatised seed systems.

The *Let's Liberate Diversity! Forum* affirms that *farmer-led plant breeding* and variety development are irreplaceable. No matter how advanced, technology cannot substitute the ongoing, place-based processes that sustain *cultivated biodiversity*.

This year's program has been structured around three main themes:

Food Sovereignty and Seed Autonomy

Exploring how shifting political and economic contexts shape seed-saving practices, with an emphasis on policy advocacy and grassroots action.

Resilience in Times of Crisis

Identifying strategies for adapting agricultural models to environmental and socio-economic disruptions, highlighting the role of local and regional food systems.

Building Alliances for a Sustainable Future

Fostering collaboration between farmers, researchers, and policy-makers to scale sustainable solutions and strengthen seed networks.

The Forum is a vital space for *sharing knowledge* on plant breeding, seed production, laws, property rights, and research and **fostering actions** to **bring diversity back into our food systems**.

*Some rooms and the main conference will be interpreted in at least two languages

More info | www.liberateddiversity.org
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Register here > <https://liberateddiversity.org/registration-lll-luxembourg-2025/>





Introduction

From **September 4th to 6th**, the European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity! will host its **14th LLD forum** at the Agricultural Technical High School of Luxembourg. This event, co-organised by SEED Luxembourg, LUGA, Seeds4All, will once again serve as a key gathering for farmers, seed savers, researchers, policy-makers and activists. This year's forum takes place against the backdrop of significant **socio-political shifts and challenges** that **impact the future of food sovereignty, seed autonomy, and rural resilience**. The workshops featured in this dossier aim to foster **in-depth discussions**, promote **strategic alliances**, and provide **practical**

solutions to navigate these turbulent times. By bringing together diverse stakeholders from across Europe, the forum will create a space for reflection, **knowledge-sharing, and collective action** in shaping a more resilient and diversified agricultural future. The global agricultural sector faces pressure from environmental crises, economic instability, and political shifts. The rollback of EU green policies and financial uncertainty threaten biodiversity and sustainable food systems. In this context, it is more important than ever to **reinforce local and regional strategies** that empower **small-scale farmers**, support **dynamic seed networks**,

and promote **agroecological transitions**.

The workshops at this year's forum will explore these challenges and opportunities through a series of **interactive sessions**, panel **discussions**, and **practical demonstrations**. Participants will engage with critical issues such as the role of small-scale farmers in sowing **cultivated biodiversity**, the impact of **New Genomic Techniques (NGTs)** on **seed sovereignty**, and strategies to scale up seed alternatives in a way that strengthens local food systems.

Forum Programme

WEDNESDAY
3 SEPTEMBER

ALL DAY LONG

LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY! GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(only for members)

THURSDAY
4 SEPTEMBER

09:00–10:00

Opening of the Forum

10:00–19:00

WORKSHOPS

FRIDAY
5 SEPTEMBER

09:00–12:00

WORKSHOPS

12:00–13:00

Wrap-up Session

16:00–20:00

Conference, diversity fair and exhibition

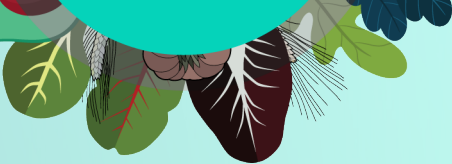
20:00–22:00

Vin d'honneur, finger food and live music

SATURDAY
6 SEPTEMBER

09:00–12:00

Fieldtrips / Visit of LUGA



- Public Relations: Networks and movement building
- Seed Policy and legal Framework
- Technical Practices & On-farm management



Workshop List

Topic Area	Title	Hosts/ Speakers	Description
Movement Building	From Grassroots to Policy: Strengthening International Seed Networks Initiative	EC-LLD! and International Seed Networks	How can we connect the dots across diverse seed networks and experiences? Following the work done at the #LLD2024, we will continue our journey to build transboundary solidarity across networks, share practices, and strengthen our voice in key policy processes.
Seed Entrepreneurship	What is value? How to make a living as a seed artisan?	Seeds4 All	Can you live off seed work? Explore business models, networks, and infrastructure needs to earn a living as a seed grower—while staying rooted in diversity and care.
Diversity for Value Chains	Territorial dynamics in Wallonia, Luxembourg and Grand Est	Benoît Delpauch, Sofia Baltazar, Corentin Hecquet, Frank Adams, Yann Michaud, Guillaume Boitel	Discover regional “seed to plate” projects and co-construction approaches building circular food systems—with insights on policy, community, and multi-actor dynamics.
City Food Policy	From Granollers to Europe: Local Food Policies for Cultivated Biodiversity	Red de Municipios Por La Agroecología, LiveSeeding	What role can cities and regions play in supporting seed diversity? This session shares insights from the 1st European Symposium in Granollers, highlighting how local food policies can foster cultivated biodiversity and strengthen community-based seed systems.
International Seed Policy Framework	Seeds and Sovereignty: What’s Happening in Global Policy?	EC-LLD! + PSR	From access and benefit-sharing to global conservation goals, major international processes are shaping the future of seeds. Get updated on key negotiations—like the Treaty’s Multilateral System and the Global Plan of Action—and discuss ways to engage.
Diversity actors in the EU seed legislation reform	Bridging the Gap: Informal Varieties, Small Producers, and EU Seed Law	Arche Noah, DKNV	EU seed rules risk sidelining informal varieties, nano-enterprises, and small producers. Explore how current definitions and legal barriers impact diversity—and what changes are needed to ensure inclusive, biodiversity-friendly regulation.



Topic Area	Title	Hosts/ Speakers	Description
<i>Intellectual Property Rights</i>	Seed Market Leaders and Patents	Pro Specie Rara, DKNV, Other Speakers TBD	Patents on conventional plants, traits, and even viruses are rising. This workshop unpacks how breeders are affected and what can be done to protect open innovation and diversity.
<i>New Genetic Techniques</i>	NGTs: State of the Art	Work in Progress	Where do we stand with New Genomic Techniques? This session offers a critical update on current developments, their implications for seed sovereignty, and regulatory challenges.
<i>Plant Breeding</i>	Variety development and Utilisation Strategies of old fruit tree cultivars	InnoBreed, Hans-Joachim Bannier	What can traditional fruit varieties teach us about resilience? Explore how breeding based on long-term field experience fosters robustness beyond genetic modification.
<i>Plant and Seed Health</i>	Seed Health, Plant Health	SEED, ITAB, LiveSeeding, DKNV	What makes plants truly resilient? Explore how diverse vegetable varieties adapt through on-farm evolution and how agroecological practices shift plant health from pest control to ecosystem support and long-term vitality.
<i>Seed quality</i>	Don't waste your effort! How to foster technical seed quality?	ITAB, RSP, SEED, LiveSeeding	Seed quality matters. Discover practical, low-cost methods to improve germination, vigour, and storage—essential tools to support resilient, diverse seed systems.
<i>Gene Banks and On Farm Dynamic Management</i>	Gene bank conservation vs. ecosystemic evolution	Maadjas, Maatiainen	What happens when genebank seeds return to the field? This session compares static conservation with evolutionary practices, exploring how seeds regain vitality through adaptation.
<i>Diversity for Value Chains</i>	Our daily bread - Cereal genetic diversity	François Kieffer, Florent Mercier	Why is modern bread hard to digest? Discover how traditional, long-straw wheat varieties could restore nutrition, taste, and biodiversity to our most basic food.

>> If you'd like to present a proposal, there are still a few slots available!