

 Seeds of
Growth

Seeds of Growth: Strengthening Community Seed Banks and Sustainable Seed-Saving Practices in Europe

Project ID: KA210-ADU-1727BE52

Community Seed Bank Labs (CSB Labs)

A Seeds of Growth online training series: 3 interactive workshops

Format: Online | **Duration:** 2 hours each | **Languages:** English & Czech (bilingual delivery)

Through these three practical and accessible workshops, the **Seeds of Growth** project invites farmers, gardeners, educators, local initiatives, municipalities, NGOs, community seed banks, seed savers, and community organisers to explore how CSBs work in practice, from governance and seed quality to the policy and legal frameworks shaping access and exchange of seeds.



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WS1 – Community Seed Banks in Practice: Origins, Purpose & Community Biodiversity Management

Wednesday 11 March 2026 | 16:30–18:30 (CET)

Topic focus: What CSBs are, why they matter, and how they work in Europe

Participants will explore:

- Community biodiversity management in practice (resilience, local adaptation, stewardship)
- CSB origins, core functions and mission (conservation, access, regeneration, learning, empowerment)
- European CSB models and how local context shapes priorities
- Drivers, objectives and operating structures for sustainable community management
- **CSB vs. Seed Library:** key differences in purpose, responsibilities, and seed quality protocols

WS2 – “Don’t waste your effort”: How to ensure good quality of your seeds

Wednesday 18 March 2026 | 16:30–18:30 (CET)

Topic focus: From seed harvest to storage — protecting germination and long-term viability

Participants will learn practical techniques on:

- The nature and life of a seed (“sleeping beauties”)
- The right time for harvesting: neither too early nor too late
- Cleaning seeds (“sorting the wheat from the chaff”)
- How to test germination rates (“wake-up call”)
- Drying and storing seeds correctly (“sing your seeds to sleep”)
- Stock management and labelling (“label your treasure”)

WS3 – Seeds, Access & Rules: Policy and Legal Frameworks for Community Seed Banks

Wednesday 25 March 2026 | 16:30–18:30 (CET)

Topic focus: Accessing germplasm and sharing seeds responsibly: understanding the EU context

This workshop provides a practical introduction to the policy and legal dimensions that affect CSBs and seed initiatives in Europe, with a focus on:

- **Access to germplasm:** how CSBs can access **ex situ material** (e.g., public genebanks, research collections) and what conditions may apply
- **Sharing and exchange:** what is generally possible for community exchange, seed swaps, and collective multiplication
- **EU rules and regulations:** an accessible overview of the European seed framework and how it shapes CSB opportunities and constraints
- **Practical implications for CSBs:** how to navigate rules while supporting seed diversity, local adaptation, and community seed sovereignty

How to participate

The workshops are free and open to all.

To join, please **register here**:

WS 1: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/BB90U12FSJmmy8hHx_rIqA

WS 2: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Aj6V-jK_QDGRXy5YvJdMEQ

WS 3: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/7abt2b4CSJag2hkvFtGAjQ>