

ON FARM AGROBIODIVERSITY IN THE BALKAN REGION: from preservation to plant population development



LLD FORUM in
Florence, Italy, on May
24, 2026.

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Activities
Environmental movement "Frame of life"
From October 2025 to May 2026

Exhibition of old varieties and seed exchange

18th October 2025, Botanical Garden "Jevremovac", Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade



Exhibition of old varieties and seed exchange

Children's workshop related to old fruit varieties

18th October 2025, Botanical Garden "Jevremovac", Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade



Children wrote and recited a poem about old varieties of fruit



Using the description of the fruit, the children tried to find the variety

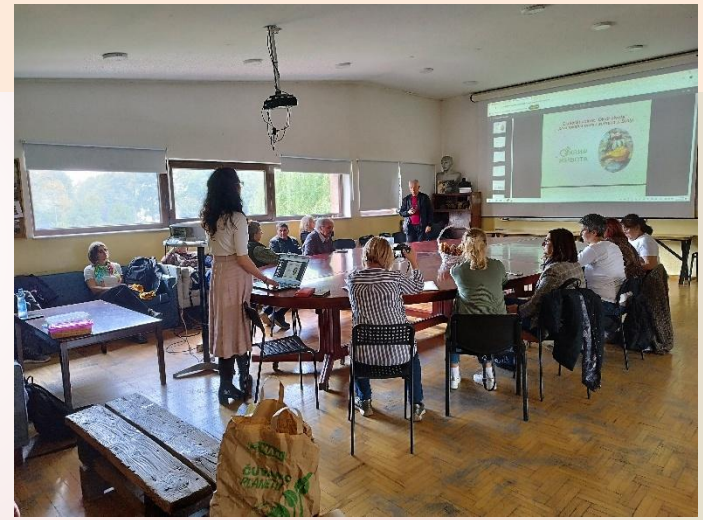
Project "Strengthening the capacity of local communities for the preservation of biodiversity and traditional knowledge", which is implemented with the support of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (FAO REU), at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

As a result of the project a network for plant genetic resources in Serbia was established (about 50 members).

NETWORK MEMBERS:

- **agricultural producers**
 - **gardening hobbyists**
 - **cooperatives**
- **agricultural professional services**
- **secondary agricultural schools**
 - **other related institutions**
 - **researchers**
- **producers of planting and seed material**
 - **decision makers**
 - **media**
 - **citizen associations**

As part of the project, three workshops were held on the topic: "Agrobiodiversity and the right to seeds", in Prokuplje, Valjevo and Belgrade with the aim of further developing the newly formed network for plant genetic resources in Serbia.



At the final meeting in Belgrade, a working group for several areas was formed, which will continue its work in the coming years.

Why do we need a comprehensive network and not a centralized system where there is a main actor?

- holistic approach to problems
- encouraging dialogue and exchange of knowledge
 - linking preservation and use of old varieties
 - developing policies that make sense in practice
- strengthening the participation of the local community and a more equal position- equal decision making
 - strengthening the application of international agreements in practice



Project - establishment of local seed banks outside western Serbia

- In order to establish local seed banks, three secondary agricultural schools were selected**
 - Two professors from each school attended the training**
 - The training lasted 5 days (23-27 March 2026) in Paštrić, Mionica, Serbia**
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- The training included lectures on all relevant topics for this type of conservation of plant genetic resources**

List of topics provided to training participants:

- The importance of old varieties - the Balkans as a "hot spot" of the diversity of plant genetic resources - prof. Zora Dajić-Stevanović, Ph.D., Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade



- Old varieties of pears - Aleksandra Savić, Ph.D., Natural History Museum

List of topics provided to training participants:

- Types of seed systems; way of functioning of the institutional seed bank - Vojka Babić, Ph.D., Maize Institute "Zemun Polje“
- Local seed banks - concept, characteristics and importance; Formation and management of seed collections; Ethics of the collection formation process; Legislative framework (national and international level); Stakeholder analysis - Ivana Radović, Ph.D., Ecological movement "Okvir života“



List of topics provided to training participants:

- The importance of agrobiodiversity for modern agriculture; Collection missions and field work - Slađana Savić, Ph.D., Institute for Plant Protection and Environment**
- Phytosanitary risks in seed banks and safeguarding the health of seeds - Marina Dervišević, Ph.D., Institute for Pesticides and Environmental Protection**
- Cultivation of old varieties in practice - producer Miloš Đorđević, owner of the village farm Šutci, Ljig**
- Old varieties in the function of rural tourism - Predrag Petrović, owner of the rural farm Petrović, Mionica**

List of topics provided to training participants:

- Experience in creating a collection with elementary school students - Danijela Žunić, Ph.D., PSSS Sombor
- Preservation of old wheat varieties - Sanja Mikić, Ph.D., Institute of Agriculture and Vegetables Novi Sad
- Guide to the Rulebook on the circulation of small quantities of plant-based food - Dragana Tar



List of topics provided to training participants:

- Proper documentation of old varieties - photo and video; Aleksandar Stefanović (with practical exercise), founder of Media Center and designer
- Storytelling as the basis of a sustainable small business - Nenad Blagojević, journalist, "Stories with Soul" portal
- Communication skills with the media - Dejan Milošević, journalist, "Prvi Prvi na Skali" portal



Field trips



Two workshops as a part of project „Strengthening sub-regional knowledge sharing for stronger agroecology organizations in the Caucasus, Balkans and Central Asia region“ - which is implemented with the support of the Schola campesina Aps

Еколошки покрет “Оквир живота” и
Ботаничка башта “Јевремовац”
вас позивају на радионицу

“Очување старих сорти воћа”

09.05.2026.год.,
10:00 - 11:30 часова

Таковска 43, Београд



*учешће на радионици је бесплатно

***ПРИЈАВЕ ОБАВЕЗНЕ:** на број 064 823 7919 (9–17 ч)

*пријаве су отворене **до 08.05. у 12 часова**

ОКВИР
ЖИВОТА



Универзитет у Београду - Биолошки факултет,
Институт за ботанику и Ботаничка башта “Јевремовац”

Ова радионица се реализује уз подршку организације Scola Campesina, у склопу Agroecology Fund пројекта «Strengthening sub-regional knowledge sharing for stronger agroecology organizations in the Caucasus, Balkans and Central Asia region »

Еколошки покрет “Оквир живота” и
Ботаничка башта “Јевремовац”
вас позивају на радионицу

“Оснивање баште - основе
повртарства”

09.05.2026.год.,
12:00 - 13:30 часова

Таковска 43, Београд



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Workshop - Preservation of old fruit varieties (with practical exercise - fruit grafting)



Workshop - Starting a garden - the basics of vegetable growing (practical exercise - sowing and planting of vegetables)

