

PROJECT TITLE:

An integrated approach to diversify the genetic base, improve stress resistance, agronomic management and nutritional/processing quality of minor cereal crops for human nutrition in Europe

PROJECT ACRONYM:

HealthyMinorCereals
FP7 COLLABORATIVE PROJECT
GRANT AGREEMENT NUMBER: 613609

PROJECT DURATION:

September 2013 – August 2018

Budget of 6.5 million €,

The project involves sixteen participants from ten European/Associated countries: Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.

The project aims to enhance the exploitation of five of the so-called 'minor cereal' species - spelt, rye, oat, einkorn and emmer.

Project Background and Drivers

The productivity of European and global agriculture has been vastly improved through focussing on a relatively small number of crop species (for cereals grown in Europe mainly on common wheat and barley) bred for high yields, and dependent on large inputs of mineral fertilizers. However, this strategy has left agriculture with a reduced genetic variation and diversity which makes crops more vulnerable to biotic and abiotic stresses, and high inputs of fertilizers and energy lead to environmental damage.

More information: <http://www.healthyminorcereals.eu/en/about-project/about>