LOCALNUTLEG

Welcome to the first LOCALNUTLEG newsletter!

Dear Reader,
We are pleased to announce the publication of the first issue of the LOCALNUTLEG newsletter where you will find a recap on the developments of our project since its beginning in MAY 2021.

LOCALNUTLEG is a Mediterranean project co-funded under the PRIMA 2020 program section I Agro-food Value Chain 2020, for a period of 42 months. The main objective of LOCALNUTLEG is to empower local Mediterranean nuts and legumes with a legal registered trademark (Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) or autochthonous identity through the development of innovative plant-based added-value food products tied to recover the attractiveness of the Mediterranean diet.

LOCALNUTLEG will:

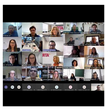
- Provide a complete nutritional and biochemical portfolio of nut and legume crops with PDO/PGI/autochththonous identity from Israel, Turkey, Morocco, Spain, Portugal, Italy and France,
- Produce innovative and healthy plant-based food products by adopting innovative processes to reach high quality products,
- Increase the range of local nut and legume-based products at Mediterranean level,
- Develop a commercialization and exploitation strategy for all the new developed products,
- Promote health benefits of the studied food products

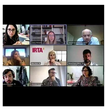
STAY TUNED!

We are looking forward to updating you on a regular basis about LOCALNUTLEG work, developments and happenings and informing you on the opportunities for you to make your voice heard and to participate in the development of innovative plant-based added-value food products.

Overview of the LOCALNUTLEG Project

More Information Here





LOCALNUTLEG KICK-OFF MEETING

26th and 27th MA, 2020

Due to the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Kick-off Meeting was organized remotely by the project coordinator IRTA from 26 to 27 May 2021. During these two days, LOCALNUTLEG partners presented the project activities in progress and discussed legal requirements. The various project partners took the floor to display the work they were conducting towards the purposes of LOCALNUTLEG, leading to a broad technical and scientific discussion.

Technical Committee Meetings

28th of July and 22nd Oct, 2020

Every 2 months, partners meet online to monitor the overall run of the scientific and technological activities. In these meetings, the leader of each work package presents the progress of the project and schedules a plan for the next activities. All aspects related to project, deliverables, the scope of milestones, financial aspects and dissemination/communication of results are reviewed and discussed in depth.

Visit to LOCALNUTLEG partners to develop a booklet

Spain

26-29 July 2021

The partners Laboratório Colaborativo Montanhas de Investigação (MORE), Fundació Miquel Agustí-Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (FMA-UPC) and Unió Nuts (UNIO) visited and interviewed different local producers of nuts and legumes in Spain, during 4 days. The main objective of these visits is to collect pictures and videos to develop a LOCALNUTLEG booklet.
In the first three days, MORE and FMA-UPC interviewed Pere Massana producer of "Cigronet de l'Anoia" chickpea; Josep Rius producer of "Castellfollit del Boix" bean; Joan Furosas and Montserrat Ferrer producers of PDO Santa Pau bean, and Ramon Casamada producer of Ganxet beans.
The last day, MORE and UNIO visited almond, carob and hazelnut fields and talked to Francesc Xavier Cort from Comercial Garrofa S. Cooperativa.

Turkey

16-19 August 2021

MORE and partner Izmir Institute of Technology (IZTECH) visited hazelnut producers during three days.
In the first visit, they interviewed Demet Ozturk and Damla Yildiz, two entrepreneur women that founded Findik Harmani (Piraziz – Giresun). Findik Harmani is an association where hazelnuts are produced and processed, developing efforts to manufacture novel products hazelnut-based and to expand such knowledge to other farmers and producers in Turkey.
On the second day, they visited two places where hazelnut was produced. Leman Kültür and Burhanettin-Ordu, and they interviewed Hülya Ergen, a hazelnut producer, in the company of professors Emre Kilicaslan and Hasan Türe of the Ordu University.
On the last day, the partners went to see hazelnut fields in Düzköy - Giresun and talked to Habibe Şensoy, in the company of professor Ülkü Baykal of the Giresun University.

Multimedia Gallery

Events

Sustainable Food Citizen Week

LOCALNUTLEG was presented in the Sustainable Food Citizen Week celebrated in Barcelona the 16th of October 2021. This event provides an opportunity to understand the relationships between food habits and cross-cutting aspects such as the climate emergency and local economic development. The event was dedicated to citizens, by presenting different projects on topic of sustainable food.

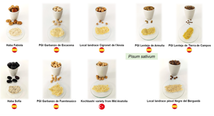
Know More

Mercabarna and companies visit

Mercabarna and Barcelona Activa promoting the INNOFOOD Program to support the creation of innovative companies that improve any part of the food value chain. Mercabarna and companies from the Innofood program visited IRTA-Frutícola facilities the 3th of November. The coordinator of LOCALNUTLEG explained the project to the visitors and the objective in promoting local nuts and legumes from Mediterranean countries through the development of plant-based products.

LOCALNUTLEG progress

IPB, partner of LOCALNUTLEG and WP1 leader, is analyzing the chemical and nutritional properties of local Mediterranean nuts and legumes. The nutritional characterisation is almost finished. It should be noted that some of the samples are now being received because their harvesting season has just begun. These samples will have a slight delay in being processed and analysed. Concerning bioactive compounds, IPB performed the different extractions, and the preliminary results are expected to be ready by the end of the year. In the next Figure are presented some of the local legumes already received from the partners.



Restrictions of the Covid-19

Due to the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, some problems can arise to achieve all objectives of the project. Nevertheless, despite the restrictions and difficulties in perform some activities, LOCALNUTLEG partners showed a great commitment and a very strong intention to continue working together in the stream of the project activities.

PRIMA
IS THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA

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LOCALNUTLEG, MORE – Mountains of Research Collaborative Laboratory, Avenida Cidade de Leão 506, Bragança, Bragança 5300-358, Portugal
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