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PIC number: 920778903

Your R&D&I partner in plant science

 **Location:** Saint-Pol-de-Léon, France

 **Organization type:** Non-profit applied research organization, SME

 **Project involvement:** Partner or Task Leader or WP Leader

 **Expertise areas:** Plant health, plant breeding support, food product quality, all crops

HORIZON-CL6-2026-02-FARM2FORK-04

Accelerating the development of breeding tools for perennial crops, specifically fruits and nuts

Project Idea(s)

✓ Development and first steps of implementation of several tools and methods for faster genetic improvement in fruit trees, especially in apple, pear, Prunus species and vine.

Expertise & potential contributions

 **Support in breeding for faster enhancement of sustainability traits in perennial crops**

Tools and methods to screen for improved plant materials:

- ✓ Development of phenotyping protocols for indoor evaluation of young trees for disease resistance and tolerance to abiotic stresses
- ✓ Development of sensory analysis tests and set up of biochemical analysis protocols to evaluate the organoleptic and nutritional quality of fruit
- ✓ Development of DNA-based molecular markers for efficient gene stacking

Cutting-edge tools and methods to accelerate the breeding of perennial crops:

- ✓ Enabling inter- and intra-specific crosses for efficient and fast trait introgression: pollen analysis, embryo rescue and *in vitro* plant regeneration
- ✓ Improvement of genomic selection method

Translation of tools and methods from one (model) crop to other crops

Contribution areas

 R&D&I → TRL 3 to 6 : experimentation in labs, growth chambers and greenhouses

 Organization of annual professional training courses on breeding technologies, particularly on MAS and *in vitro* techniques

 Active communication through professional networks and social media : LinkedIn, Website, Newsletters, blogs, trade magazines, ...



About Vegenov

Vegenov is an applied research center specialized in plant science.

Its R&D teams conduct trials under controlled conditions (labs, growth chambers, greenhouses) in three main areas:

- Plant health - Evaluation of biosolutions (biocontrol and biostimulants)
- Plant breeding support
- Sensory and nutritional analysis of fresh and transformed products

Founded in 1989 in Brittany, France, Vegenov conducts national and international projects on plants and their interactions with microorganisms.

Its research focuses on:

- Sustainable and performant agriculture with reduced chemical inputs
- Climate change adaptation through resilient plant materials and biosolutions
- Production of fresh, tasty and nutritious food

Vegenov contributes to about 10 collaborative projects per year (European, national, regional projects). Vegenov is actively involved in professional networks of the seed and biosolutions industries (UFS, IBMA,...)

30 employees work at Vegenov, including 5 PhD researchers, 10 engineers, and 10 technicians.

European projects



Natural fungicides against Air & Soil borne Pathogens in the Atlantic Area
2018- 2022

<https://keep.eu/projects/19361/Natural-fungicides-against-EN/>



Breeding for Resilient, Efficient and Sustainable Organic Vegetable production
2018-2023 Work Package Leader

<https://www.bresov.eu>

Equipment



Molecular biology lab



Cell biology lab



Pathology lab



Biochemistry lab



Greenhouses and growth chambers



Sensory analysis lab

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