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Dear reader,

In DiverIMPACTS we strive to achieve the full diversification potential of cropping systems for improved productivity, delivery of ecosystem services and resource-efficient and sustainable value chains. The project is funded under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Research and Innovation programme.

We are pleased to share the first DiverIMPACTS newsletter with you, and look forward to sharing more news with you soon. Enjoy!

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## DiverIMPACTS: What is it about?

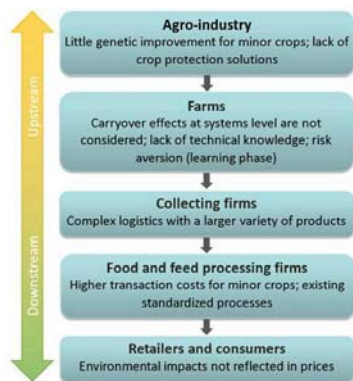


The goal of DiverIMPACTS is to foster crop diversification through rotation, intercropping and multiple cropping, by demonstrating benefits for farmers, value-chains and society, and by providing rural actors with innovations that remove existing barriers at the farm, value-chain and territory levels.

[Read more](#) >

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# Background on lock-ins: Article on INRA study on obstacles to crop diversification



A study, carried out by INRA in 2013, analysed the barriers to the development of minor agricultural crops in France, and demonstrated that the overall agricultural system (farming system, agro-industry, value-chain, research and development and regulation) has been organised around certain major crops, leading to a systemic lock-in and making it difficult to diversify existing cropping systems. Based on these results, the INRA study proposes recommendations to encourage crop diversification, which are extended and further developed in the DiverIMPACTS project.

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## Case studies: Crop diversification strategies



Case studies working on diversifying cropping systems are at the core of the DiverIMPACTS project. Not only do they cover a wide range of soil, climate, political and administrative conditions across Europe, but also various organisational structures along the value-chain.

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## DiverIMPACTS case study workshops



One of the central aspects of DiverIMPACTS is the 25 case studies, which demonstrate the potential of crop diversification. In several workshops, the first of which took place at the end of 2017, case study leaders and their monitors are supported in organizing learning for change towards crop diversification with their case study actors. Each case study cluster, which is made up of five multi-actor [case studies](#), will participate in three rounds of co-innovation workshops.

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## The DiverIMPACTS field experiments

A network of 10 field experiments across Europe aims to demonstrate the benefits of crop diversification, both in time and space. They support the transition of current simplified cropping systems towards diversified systems to increase yields and revenues, reduce inputs, enhance



ecosystem services and increase resilience to environmental stresses.

[Read more](#)

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## Survey on crop diversification initiatives

The starting point for diversification can be very different, from monoculture to already highly diversified production systems. Whatever the baseline, we are interested in learning about your experiences and the factors that have contributed to the success or failure of diversification initiatives in Europe. Take part in our survey!

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## Links to other Horizon 2020 projects on crop diversification



Several Horizon 2020 projects, addressing challenges related to crop diversification, were launched in 2017. DiverIMPACTS has been liaising with them in order to share results, develop common approaches (e.g., multi-criteria assessment of sustainability), align protocols, and organise joint workshops and conferences.

[Read more](#)

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## DiverIMPACTS at the AIS summit in Lisbon

DiverIMPACTS project coordinator Antoine Messéan presented the DiverIMPACTS project at the Agri Innovation Summit AIS, which took place from October 11-12, 2017 in Lisbon.

[Read more](#)

## DiverIMPACTS in the AIAB magazine

An article was recently published in the magazine of AIAB, the Italian Association for Organic Agriculture) describing the DiverIMPACTS's work.

[Read more](#)

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## DiverIMPACTS on Zenodo

## DiverIMPACTS is tweeting

The publications from the DiverIMPACTS project are stored on zenodo.org and announced on the homepage of the DiverIMPACTS website.

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Make sure to follow our DiverIMPACTS project on Twitter. We will keep you updated on project news and content relevant to DiverIMPACTS.

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