

This report analyses funding trends, project outcomes, and factors influencing R&I in plant breeding from FP7 to the first half of Horizon Europe.

Funding allocation for plant breeding R&I has declined compared to the total FP funding  $\mathbf{\hat{}}$ 



Area	
Total FP Budget	
Total Breeding Funding	
ERC Budget	
ERC Breeding Funding	
MSCA Budget	
MSCA Breeding Funding	
Agrifood Budget	
Agrifood Breeding Funding	





Funding for the Agrifood cluster increased 277%, while R&I in plant breeding only by 12%

Trend from FP7 to Horizon 2020	Trend from FP7 to Horizon Europe
30%	42%
4%	9% *
49%	63%
4%	-8% *
11%	13%
-46%	-63% *
70%	277%
-7%	12% *

ERC & MSCA subprogrammes are seeing declines in plant breeding R&I funding, with expected reductions of 8% for ERC and 63% for MSCA compared to FP7 if trends from the first half of Horizon Europe continue.

Consortium size has increased, while funding per project stagnates



**Funding allocation per project remains stable** (5.5 - 5.9 M€) **Project length is also stable** (4 - 5 years) Funding per partner is decreasing

- entire FP (28%)

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**Regulatory uncertainty** surrounding NGTs and restrictions in recent research calls have reversed the momentum gained under H2020



• Private partners received in average half the amount of funding, compared to public partners.

• Funding for private partners participating in plant breeding R&I in H2020 (20%) was lower than the average for the

### Loss of momentum for the use of Plant Breeding Innovation



Projects using conventional methods

# PLANT BREEDING HAS DRIVEN 67% OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY GAINS OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES

and holds vast potential to further address challenges in agrifood value chains and support the transition to more sustainable systems and a circular bioeconomy.

# MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

Increase funding allocation for R&I in plant breeding, by implementing a strategic EU-wide coordinated mechanism, ensuring collaboration between the public and private sectors

Enable longer-term plant breeding-related projects and dedicated research calls aimed at the continuation of successful projects



## **ABOUT PLANTS FOR THE FUTURE**

Plants for the Future ETP promotes the flow of innovation to the market for the benefit of society. We are a multi-stakeholder platform representing the plant sector from fundamental research to crop production and distribution. We bring stakeholders from the plant sector together to consider the challenges and opportunities of agricultural value chains holistically, while developing a vision for future systems spanning food, feed, and biobased raw materials.

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Promote the use of plant breeding innovation



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