

DIVERSICROP NEWSLETTER

-CA22146-

Diversity is good for nature and for our well-being. Agriculture is dominated by few crop species, and local specialization further depletes diversity at national and local levels. DIVERSICROP addresses this, enabling future engagement with crops such as rye, chickpeas and peas by understanding their ancient history, existing germplasm and limitations, nutrition importance and policy aspects.

1.

CONFERENCE (4-5 MAY 2026) “CULTIVATING CONNECTIONS: INTERDISCIPLINARY INSIGHTS FROM DIVERSICROP, RECROP AND PANGEOS”

Venue: Institute of Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague.

Local organiser: Prof. David Honys



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- Aleš Pečinka (Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic)- Renowned for his work on how chromatin factors control plant development, stress resistance and genome stability.
- Antonio Granell Richart (Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain)- Renowned for his work on tomato genomics, metabolomics and transcriptomics.
- Silvana Hudjetz (Project Management Juelich, Germany)- Key architect in the coordination of the Horizon Europe Partnership call on AGROECOLOGY.
- Marta Vasconcelos (Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Portugal)- Renowned for her work at the interface between plant and human nutrition.
- Philip Wigge (University of Potsdam, Germany)- Renowned for his work on temperature sensing and flowering time.



CONFERENCE WEBSITE-

[HTTPS://WWW.COST2026PRAGUE.EU/HOME](https://www.cost2026prague.eu/home)

2.

NEXT EVENT- SCIENCE AND POLICY TRAINING SCHOOL



1-3 JUNE, 2026



DEADLINE

for submission: April 20, 2026



CEU (Central European University), Budapest, Hungary

Host and lead trainer: Dr. Bálint Balázs

DIVERSICROP is pleased to announce the second edition of its Science & Policy and Society Training School, hosted by the Environmental Social Science Research Group (ESSRG) in Budapest.

This Training School will introduce participants to science for policy in the context of our Action, building on the successful 2025 edition held at CEU Budapest.

Our Training School invites participants who bring practical experience in policy-relevant research and innovation. Training School participants will be expected to contribute to the WG4 deliverables outlined in the MoU. This event's principal activity mode will be hands-on, collaborative writing.

Applications open to all DIVERSICROP Working Group members.

Priority will be given to early-career researchers (under 40) and postgraduate applicants (PhD, MSc students, postdoctoral researchers).



Participants will be able to:

- Understand the basics of policy-driven studies
- Better understand policy-related stakeholders' needs
- Reflect on their own role and capacity as researchers to engage with policy work in a science-policy context
- Gain hands-on experience in approaching and raising interest from policy actors

All Training School expenses are covered by COST!.

3.

NEXT EVENT- COOKING TRAINING SCHOOL



1-2 JULY, 2026



DEADLINE

for submission: April 26, 2026

Host and Lead trainer:

Dr. Szymon Lara

University of West
London, London, UK



Join our two-day DIVERSICROP Training School exploring the intersection of nutrition, cooking, and underutilised crops. This interactive programme combines scientific insight with hands-on culinary practice, offering participants the opportunity to engage with real recipe data, experiment in professional kitchens, and critically reflect on the role of gastronomy in sustainable food systems.



Participants will be able to:

- Evaluate the role of underutilised crops in nutrition, sustainability, and food systems.
- Apply basic culinary and sensory techniques to develop and assess innovative recipes.
- Analyse key barriers and opportunities for integrating diverse crops into practice and research.

4.

DIVERSICROP- ANIMATION VIDEOS

Two of the six video series are now available on the DIVERSICROP website. Through engaging storytelling, they highlight the importance of crop diversification in enhancing biodiversity, strengthening climate resilience, and supporting sustainable food systems. Our videos also showcase our Action's interdisciplinary and collaborative framework, bringing together researchers and stakeholders from across Europe to address agricultural, nutritional, and socio-economic challenges.

Watch the videos on our website and meet Szymon Lara, a food scientist and educator who works both in the kitchen and the laboratory, as well as Carsten Behr, an organic farmer from Germany. <https://diversicrop.eu/useful-resources/Videos/>. Next video: the EC perspective on crop diversity

5.

DATA SCIENCE TRAINING SCHOOL IN ALICANTE (SUMMARY)

TRAINING SCHOOL ON DATA ANALYSIS

 UNIVERSIDAD DE ALICANTE, SPAIN

 17-18 MARCH 2026

Our two-day training school brought together members of the DIVERSICROP Working Groups, with a particular emphasis on early-career researchers, for hands-on sessions focused on Python and Power BI applications using DIVERSICROP data. The program strengthened participants' practical data analysis and visualisation skills, while fostering active knowledge exchange and collaboration within an engaging and supportive learning environment.

A great conclusion to two days of intensive learning, collaboration, and knowledge exchange within the DIVERSICROP network.



DIVERSICROP
Training School
on Data Analysis



More than 20 participants
15 countries represented

HAPPY EASTER!



Wishing you a vibrant and restorative Easter season!

May your holidays be brightened by the beauty of spring and the delight of new beginnings.

 *Easter* 

MORE TO FOLLOW...

<https://www.diversicrop.eu>