



EU SEEDS MARKETING REFORM - Inception Impact Assessment

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21st June 2021

ARCHE NOAH Project "Gemeinsam Vielfalt befreien", with the kind support of the Software AG Stiftung



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INCEPTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT



- **Context**
- **Problem analysis**
- **Policy Options**
- **Impacts**

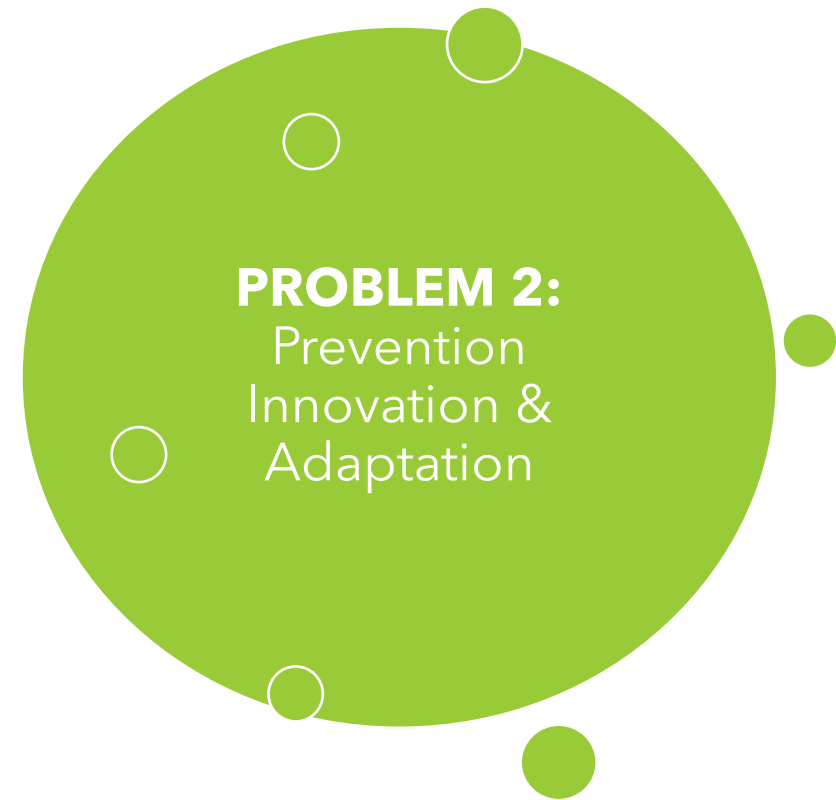
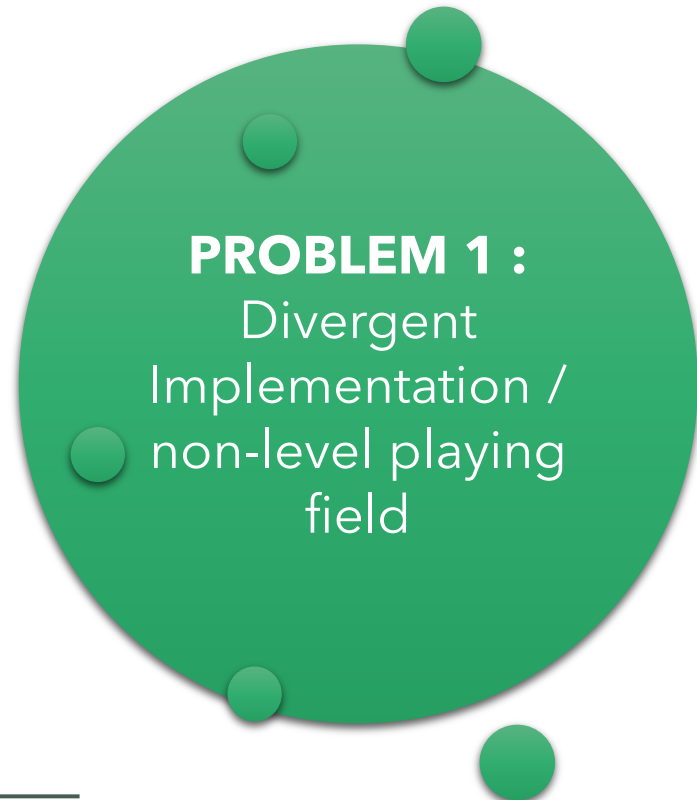
INCEPTION IA : CONTEXT

Broader focus than productivity & export-oriented large-scale production

- Availability diverse, healthy & high quality food starts with seeds
- Plant breeding indispensable to tackle extreme weather events & new plant pests :
 - *Which breeding?*
 - *What about systemic issues?*
- Reference to EGD & F2F goals & strategic priorities
 - *Crop diversity not mentioned as issue in itself, but as tool for innovation*

INCEPTION IA : PROBLEMS

Premise: legislation considered a success for identity, performance, quality & health seeds in commercial crop production



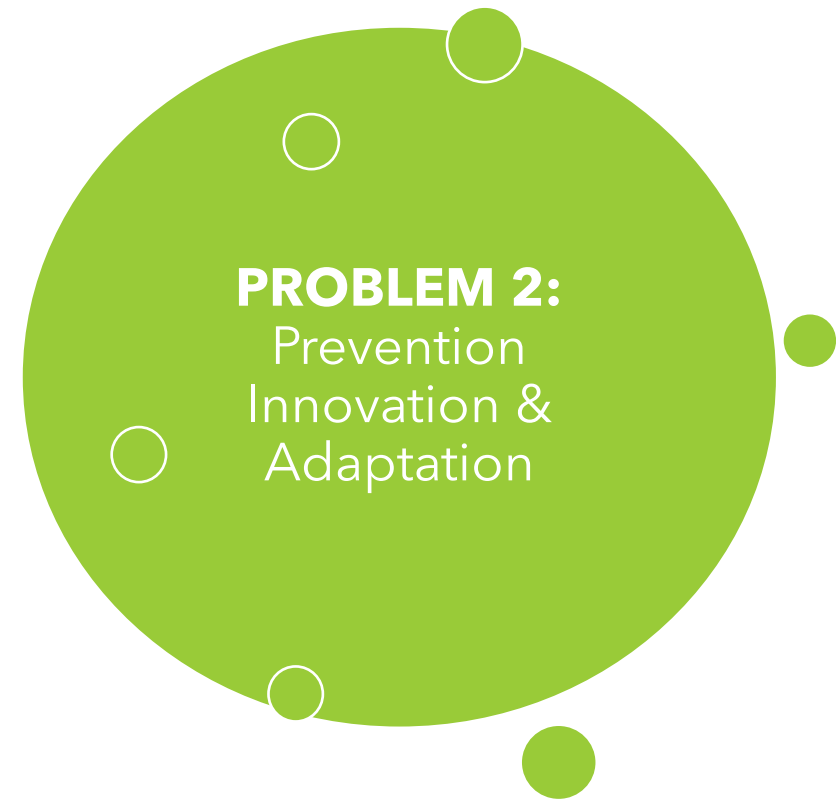
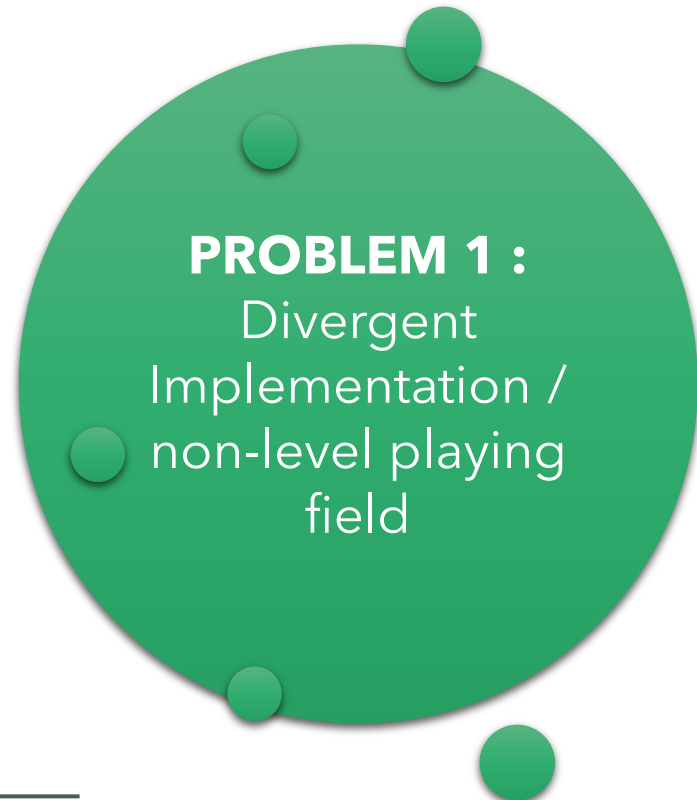
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INCEPTION IA : PROBLEMS

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Complex & rigid procedures with different objectives than EGD

Lack EU rules on VCU testing & no sustainability criteria

Need conditions for development organic seeds & varieties (adapt DUS-VCU criteria)

Barriers to market access of PRM developed & produced innovatively; not enough emphasis on technical developments (biomolecular techniques)

Conservation varieties : not enough incentive in use of regime & restriction consumer demand

PROBLEM 2:
Prevention
Innovation &
Adaptation

INCEPTION IA : POLICY OPTIONS

General Objectives of the Reform?

- Coherence on basic rules & fundamental principles
 - Clarification rules for seed conservation networks & amateur market
- Efficiency in seed sector with simplified, flexible & proportionate procedures
 - Allocation of control resources & risk-based approach?
- Support conservation & sustainable use of GR for development of diverse farming systems
 - Appropriate conditions for the development of organic varieties
- Lighter requirements for conservation & amateur varieties (registration & production? For all species?)
- Support innovation & digital technologies (incl. biomolecular techniques)

INCEPTION IA : POLICY OPTIONS

Four options identified by the Commission (// Staff Working Document)

OPTION 0
Do nothing

OPTION 1
*Legislative alignment & structural
simplification*

OPTION 2
*Flexibility to adapt & harmonise,
coherent sustainability*

OPTION 3
*Full flexibility & harmonisation-
high guarantees for users*

INCEPTION IA : POLICY OPTIONS

Four options identified by the Commission (// Staff Working Document)

*OPTION 0
Do nothing*

*OPTION 1
Legislative alignment & structural
simplification*

- *Keep 12 Directives, focus on professional operators*
- *Alignment definitions on scope*
- *Alignment & inclusion conservation & amateur variety regimes*
- *Simplification procedures, incl. Controls “under official supervision”, remove duplication inspections*
- *Allow adaptation requirements through COM Directives*
- *Add sustainability criteria testing (VCU)*
- *Facilitate registration organic varieties*

*OPTION 2
Flexibility to adapt & harmonise,
coherent sustainability*

OPTION 1 & ADDITION :

- *Exemption seed conservation networks & amateur gardeners*
- *Specific framework for “exchange in kind” between farmers (only in associations)*
- *Modern & flexible system for registration/certification & labels*
- *Mandatory sustainability criteria*

*OPTION 3
Full flexibility & harmonisation-
high guarantees for users*

OPTION 1 & ADDITION :

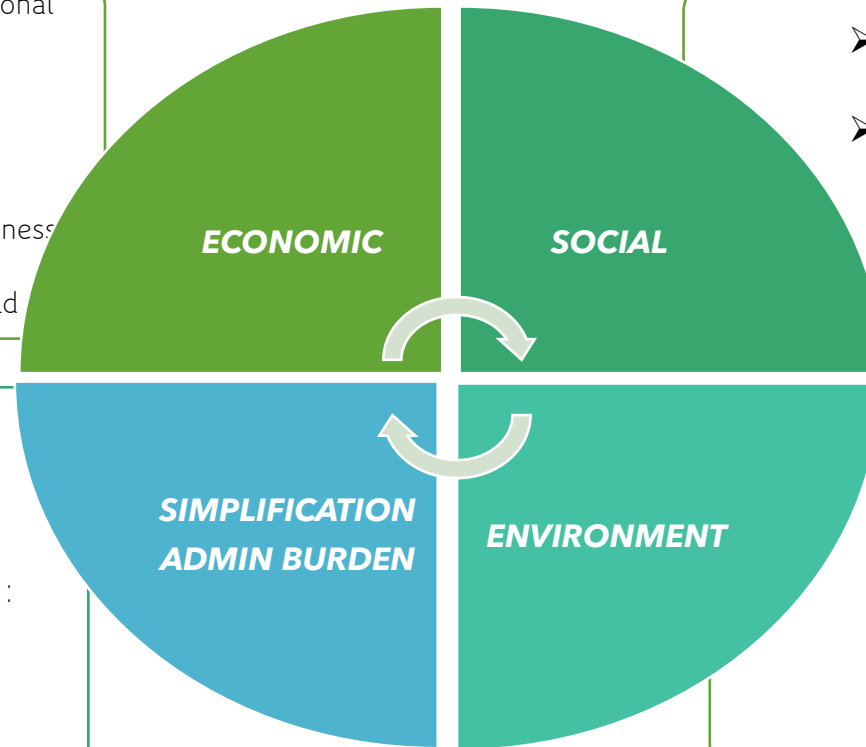
- *Marketing applies to professional & non-professional users*
- *Derogations kept to minimum*
- *Integration of PRM controls within OC Regulation*

INCEPTION IA : EXPECTED IMPACTS

Just preliminary analysis BUT flags areas that will be further explored?

- Flexibility operators : adaptability sector ; food & nutritional security; competitiveness
- Controls under official supervision : efficiency sector & decrease costs CNA (except need to support SME)
- Lighter requirements conservation varieties : equality in common market, more income for "niche" SME
- Responsiveness to technical developments : competitiveness support innovation & research
- Harmonised definitions & derogations : level-playing field

- Coherence: less burden on operators
- Flexibility & easier adaptation of procedures : Less burden & decreased costs on CNA
- Risk-based approach controls : efficiency



- Skilled employment in rural & remote areas
- Protection & viability European cultural heritage

- Conservation & use of species & genetic diversity, more resilience in agri production
- Sustainability criteria in testing : support climate-proof varieties
- Growth organic sector & seeds



20XX



NEXT STEPS

Consultation Deadline, Collaboration & Process

NEXT STEPS

Road Ahead Towards Commission Proposal at end of 2022

- Inception Impact Assessment
 - Deadline for comments until 13th July
- Impact Assessment
 - Supported by external study (contractor)
 - Targeted stakeholder consultation (CNA, industry, farmers, international organisations, CSO, include “SME test”)
 - Open public consultation with online questionnaire November 2021-February 2022
- Commission Directive Proposal
 - Expected end of 2022



THANK YOU!

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