

PLANT AND FOOD BIOSECURITY

Fact Sheet

Project Information

PLANTFOODSEC

Grant agreement ID: 261752

Status
Closed project


Start date
1 February 2011

End date
31 January 2016

Funded under
FP7-SECURITY

Overall budget
€ 5 642 277,69

EU contribution
€ 4 624 499

Coordinated by
UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI
TORINO
 Italy

This project is featured in...

RESEARCH*EU MAGAZINE
**Where science meets
security**

NO. 44, JULY 2015

Objective

This project will focus on biological threats having the capacity to affect and damage agriculture, infect plants and ultimately affect the food and feed at any stage in the

agriculture, infect plants and ultimately affect the food and feed at any stage in the food supply chain.

Traditional thinking and planning regarding bioterrorism has focused primarily on humans as the primary target. If the perpetrator's objectives can be met solely through the creation of human illness, death and associated panic, this may be appropriate. However, if economic and political vulnerabilities are included as contributing factors, agricultural bioterrorism must be considered among other possible avenues of attack.

Agricultural bioterrorism (agroterrorism) is a subset of bioterrorism, and it is defined as the deliberate introduction of an animal or plant disease/pest with the goal of generating fear, causing economic losses, and/or undermining stability.

Programmes preparing for attacks against agriculture are not new, and have been conducted both by nation-states and by substate organizations throughout history. At least nine countries (Canada, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, South Africa, United Kingdom, USA and the former USSR) had documented agricultural bioweapons programmes during some part of the 20th century. Four other countries (Egypt, North Korea, Rhodesia and Syria) are believed to have or have had agricultural bioweapons programmes.

In the mean time, natural outbreaks of diseases demonstrate the destructive potential of an agroterroristic attack.

Recent trends in biosecurity recommend a shift from a largely national approach to biosecurity towards greater international cooperation. Current capabilities to detect and respond to agroterrorism are limited and spread among many organizations, with a corresponding lack of coordination.

The project deals with threats which are multifaceted, interrelated, complex and increasingly transnational in their impact. The European Network of Excellence PLANTFOODSEC aims to establish a virtual Centre of Competence in plant and food biosecurity to enhance preparedness and response capabilities to prevent, to

respond and to recover from a biological incident or deliberate criminal activity threatening the European agrifood system.

Field of science

/agricultural sciences/agriculture, forestry, and fisheries

/agricultural sciences/agriculture, forestry, and fisheries/agriculture

/humanities/history and archaeology/history

Programme(s)

Topic(s)

Call for proposal

FP7-SEC-2010-1

Funding Scheme


NoE - Network of Excellence

Coordinator



UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

Address

Via Giuseppe Verdi 8
10124 Torino
 Italy

[Website](#) 

Administrative Contact

Maria Lodovica Gullino (Prof.)

Activity type

**Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments**

[Contact the organisation](#) 

EU contribution

€ 897 224

Participants (13)



NIAB

 United Kingdom

EU contribution

€ 442 057,75

Address

Huntingdon Road
CB3 0LE Cambridge

[Website](#) 

Administrative Contact

Jane Thomas (Dr.)

Activity type

Research Organisations

[Contact the organisation](#) 



Food and Environment Research Agency

 United Kingdom

EU contribution

€ 345 692

Address

Area 1A, Nobel House, Smith

Activity type

Private for-profit entities

Square 17
SW1P 3JR London

(excluding Higher or
Secondary Education
Establishments)

[Website](#)

[Contact the organisation](#)

Administrative Contact

Christina Steveni (Dr.)



RHEINISCHE FRIEDRICH-WILHELMS-UNIVERSITAT BONN

 Germany

EU contribution

€ 299 680

Address

**Regina Pacis Weg 3
53113 Bonn**

[Website](#)

Activity type

**Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments**

[Contact the organisation](#)

Administrative Contact

Daniela Hasenpusch (Ms.)



INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE POUR L'AGRICULTURE, L'ALIMENTATION ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT

 France

EU contribution

€ 639 183,75

Address

**Rue De L'universite 147
75338 Paris Cedex 07**

[Website](#)

Activity type

Research Organisations

[Contact the organisation](#)

Administrative Contact

Sophie Perrin (Ms.)



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE -REC

 Hungary

EU contribution

€ 300 000

Address

**Ady Endre Ut 9-11
2000 Szentendre**

Activity type

**Public bodies (excluding
Research Organisations and
Secondary or Higher
Education Establishments)**

[Website](#) 

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Marta Szigeti Bonifert (Mrs.)



IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

 United Kingdom

EU contribution

€ 314 157

Address

**South Kensington Campus
Exhibition Road
SW7 2AZ London**

Activity type

**Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments**

[Website](#) 


[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Brooke Alasya (Ms.)



MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

 Turkey

EU contribution

€ 332 820

Address

**Dumlupinar Bulvari 1
06800 Ankara**

Activity type

**Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments**

[Website](#) 

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Hami Alpas (Prof.)



SPIN-TO SRL

 Italy

EU contribution

€ 219 200

Address

**Via Gressoney 29/B
10155 Torino**

Activity type

**Private for-profit entities
(excluding Higher or
Secondary Education
Establishments)**

[Website](#) 

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Alessandro Bertin (Dr.)



UNITED NATIONS INTERREGIONAL CRIME AND JUSTICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

 Italy

EU contribution

€ 124 000

Address

**Viale Maestri Del Lavoro 10
10127 Torino**

Activity type

Research Organisations

[Website](#) 

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Francesco Marelli (Mr.)



THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION OF ISRAEL - THE VOLCANI CENTRE

 Israel

EU contribution

€ 324 000

Address

**Derech Hamcabim 68
50250 Bet Dagan**

Activity type

**Public bodies (excluding
Research Organisations and
Secondary or Higher
Education Establishments)**

[Website](#) 

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Abraham Gamliel (Dr.)



Oklahoma State University

 United States

EU contribution

€ 213 697

Address

**Whitehurst 203
74078 Stillwater**

Activity type

**Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments**

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Bob Dixon (Mr.)



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

 United States

EU contribution

€ 67 500

Address

**Fairchild Hall 2
66506-1103 Manhattan Ks**

[Website](#) 

Activity type

**Higher or Secondary
Education Establishments**

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Paul Lowe (Dr.)



FERA SCIENCE LIMITED

 United Kingdom

EU contribution

€ 105 287,50

Address

**30 Berners Street
W1T 3LR London**

[Website](#) 

Activity type

**Private for-profit entities
(excluding Higher or
Secondary Education
Establishments)**

[Contact the organisation](#) 

Administrative Contact

Henry Henry (Ms.)

Last update: 26 May 2017

Record number: 100052

Permalink: <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/261752/>

© European Union, 2020