

Arable cross visit

Boost innovative arable systems: Intercropping, Organic Heterogeneous Materials and Organic districts as models for advisors

ITALY, TUSCANY AND UMBRIA

10-12 MARCH 2026



The OrganicAdviceNetwork project aims at building a strong network of advisors with organic competences across Europe. As part of this mission, the project organizes cross visits for agricultural advisors to meet, exchange and share their innovative organic farming practices.

Join us for this OrganicAdviceNetwork Cross Visit on Arable Production! A comprehensive 2-day farm tour focused on innovative advisory models, intercropping and its CAP opportunities and bottlenecks as well as mechanization. Gain first hand-on insights into the challenges, solutions, and management strategies that shape modern organic arable farms, including examples from systems that use the newly regulated Organic Heterogenous Materials (OHM) - Article 3(18) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 - and an overview on their potential benefits.

What you can expect from this cross visit

This Cross Visit offers participants an in-depth look into organic farming practices for arable systems (intercropping and more), as well as innovative advisory models for the organic sectors, like the Biodistretto (organic district) as space for cooperation and exchange. By the end of the visit, you will:

- Understand how advisors can take advantage on new ways of networking with farmers and other agricultural stakeholders, and how diversification can be promoted in innovative local value chains
- Be familiar with possible solutions to address on-farm diversification with organic heterogenous materials and intercropping, mixing multiple functional crops in the same field for a resilient arable cropping system.
- Gain insights on mechanization for intercropping and its administrative limitations and bottlenecks (with possible solutions!), together with opportunities for arable systems with CAP subsidies.

DAY 1 – Tuesday 10 March 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
11:00	Meeting point	Pick up in Florence nearby the Santa Maria Novella railway station
13:00-15:00 Biodistretto del Chianti – Chianti organic district (Tuscany)	Kick-off meeting of the cross-visit	Welcoming of participants, project presentation and introduction to the cross-visit topics
15:00-18:00	Presentation and workshop	Meeting with the Biodistretto advisors debating territorial advisory business models Organic advisory to stimulate crop diversification: exploring options for organic arable systems to promote local value chains and supplies for territorial Green Public Procurement (in areas typically vocational for viticulture and olive groves) Possible visit to an artisanal organic pasta factory
18:00-18:30	Reflections of the first day	Outcomes of the first day and reflections on key learnings
20:00-22:00	Social dinner	Taste local organic food!

DAY 2 – Wednesday 11 March 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
9:00-13:00	Visit 1, Passerini Organic Farm (Torrita di Siena – Tuscany)	<p>Field visit to discuss a series of intercropping combinations and on farm diversification strategies, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oat + chickpea - Black chickpea + durum wheat - Durum wheat OHM + faba bean - Grass pea + soft wheat - Pea + emmer
13:00-15:00	On-farm lunch (local organic food)	
15:00-17:00	Presentation	<p>Meeting with the EU IntercropVALUES project's partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on intercropping management and sorting - Joint analysis of administrative/bureaucratic bottlenecks for intercropping on CAP subsidies across EU countries
17:00-19:00	Reflections on the second day	Discussing lessons learned from the visit
20:00-22:00	Social dinner	Taste local organic food!

DAY 3 – Thursday 12 March 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
9:00-12:00	Visit 2, Torre Colombaia Farm (Torciano, PG – Umbria)	<p>Farm and field visits to explore intercropping options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pea + wheat - Flax + chickpea <p>Meeting at farm machinery showroom to discuss mechanisation focused on intercropping</p>
12:00-13:00	Reflections and feedback	Key outcomes and feedback session
13:00-14:00	Lunch	(Optional) lunch and goodbyes

Practical Information

Requirements

Participation to the entire cross visit program. There is no possibility to arrive later or leave earlier, except for local participants.

Participants

Agricultural advisor supporting organic farmers or famers in conversion as well as advisors or young graduates willing to gain competences in organic advice are welcome to join this cross visit. Maximum 15 participants.

Registration

You will be asked to provide some personal information, a brief description of your interest in joining this visit and your capacity in covering your travel costs. Participation is not guaranteed, because the number of advisors who may join the visit is limited. Participants taking part will receive a confirmation message.

First-round registration deadline: 13 February 2026;

Confirmation of application: 20 February 2026.

The registration deadline might be extended in case of undersubscription.

Link to Registration: [Cross Visit: Intercropping, Organic Heterogeneous Materials and District 10-12 March 2026 – Fill out form](#)

Travel costs

In case you do not have budget to cover your travel costs, the project advisory partner in your respective country can reimburse part of your travel costs. Eligible countries for cost reimbursement are FR, DE, IT, BG, EE, DK, AT, CH, HU, ES, PT, HR, RO, IE, NL, SE, FI, CZ, PL, GR, SI, RS. Eligible costs for reimbursement are transport (train, flight), accommodation (2-3 nights), social lunch and dinners, up to a limit of 400-800 EUR/participant (depending on the project partner).

Costs during the Cross Visit are estimated around 350 EUR including for breakfasts, social lunch & dinner & activity as well as the accommodation for 2 nights (450 EUR if staying overnight in Florence before or after the CV). Rooms are pre-reserved at Passerini farm and neighbouring agriturisms. This estimation does not include the food and transport expenses to reach Florence.

Once your participation to the cross visit is confirmed, you will receive more detailed information by the advisory project partner in your country about the conditions for cost reimbursement.

Contact information

For any additional information, please contact:

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