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Unveiling alternative varietal pathways for a resilient food system

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Unveiling alternative varietal pathways for a resilient food system: the case of cereals in Andalusia (Spain)

Context

- Modern cereal system, pure-lines
- Genetic and cultural erosion
 - Unsited for agroecology
- Emergence of seed networks in Europe
- Reintroduce diversity
 - Bread quality concerns

Objectives

- 1) Understand how farmers choose varieties and which factors influence this choice;
- 2) Identify, map and describe varietal novelties;
- 3) Unveil factors preventing their wider development and identify possible leverage points.**

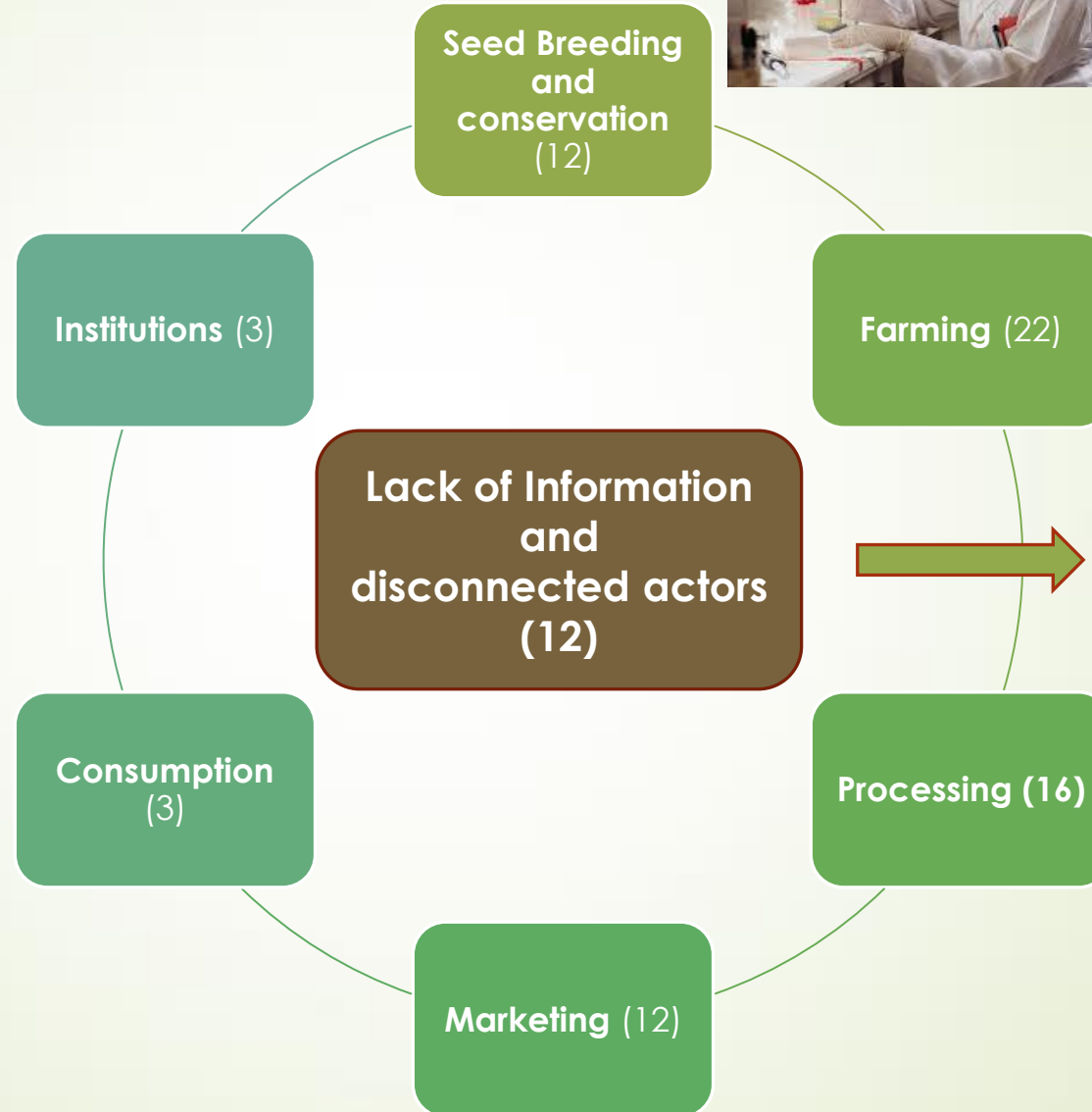
Methods

Data collection: 24 semi-structured interviews with stakeholders of the cereal system (11 farmers, 4 bakers, 3 millers, 2 researchers, 3 associations and 1 private breeder) + participant observation

Data analysis: inductive thematic analysis, NVivo

Main Results

Varietal novelties exist but marginal



Food systems approach



Network



Discussion and Conclusions



- Other examples in Europe (Baltazar et al. 2016; Rivière et al., 2013; Pimbert, 2011)
 - Network and open-up a safe learning space
 - Action-research programs (collaborative management of seed, PPB)
 - Perspective: RAS and CERERE program
- Similar diagnosis in Wallonia



Work in progress: suggestions welcomed! sofia.baltazar@unamur.be