Main purpose

Access to high quality seeds in remote mountain areas is often difficult. A strategic solution is to ensure the establishment of community seed enterprises. Community-based seed enterprises are well established systems in East Africa; however, they are not common in the Mediterranean Region. The selected farmer will engage in establishing a community-based seed enterprise for the multiplication and sale of the new cultivars as part of the PRIMA project MountainHER. It is foreseen that these “informal” units will be guided to achieve official legal recognition.

Main responsibilities

- Production of G1 seeds obtained from individual spikes collected from spikes of selected entries
- Multiply G1 seed to obtain R1 and R2 seed ready for selling while maintaining homogeneity
- Ensure absence of seed pests or diseases
- Ensure proper seed storage
- Engage in seed marketing strategies to create awareness about the new available varieties

Education, qualifications, and experience

- Wheat and/or barley farmer with more than 5 years of experience
- Own a farm or rent fields with at least 2ha available for seed multiplication with ensured rainfall or irrigation facilities
- Own machinery and equipment to properly manage a cereal field (tractor, planter, combine, fertilizer/pest management applicators, etc.)
- Have available a covered working space of at least 1000m² and/or having access to a silo for storing seeds
- Owning or having access to seed treatment equipment would be desirable
- Experience in farmer field days (hosting or attending) would be appreciated
- The farmer should be part of the local farmers’ cooperative or farmers’ association and should be well respected
- Entrepreneurial spirit would be desirable
Empowering women in mountain farming communities