

CUSTOMICS Kick-Off Meeting

Rome, 17–18 September 2026

Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma

DAY 1 – Consortium Meeting

Thursday, 17 September 2026

13:00 – 14:00

Welcome Lunch & Registration

14:00 – 14:45

Welcome Remarks

Project overview and meeting objectives

Speaker: Prof. Vittoria Locato

Administrative aspects of the grant

Speaker: Dr. Therese SHRYANE

14:45 – 15:15

WP1 – Project Management and Scientific Coordination

Lead: UCBM

Speaker: Prof. Vittoria Locato

15:15 – 15:45

WP2 – Genomic and Metagenomic Protocols for Seed Authentication and Pathogen Detection

Lead: UCBM

Speaker: Prof. Marta Giovanetti

15:45 – 16:15

Coffee Break

16:15 – 16:45

WP3 – Fraud Intelligence and Data Infrastructure

Lead: IESE

Speaker: Prof. Antonino Vaccaro

16:45 – 17:15

WP4 – Integration and Pilot Validation of Biomolecular Protocols

Lead: Genechron

Speaker: Dr. Vittorio Rosato

17:15 – 17:45

WP5 – Stakeholder Engagement, Criminological Analysis and Risk Communication

Lead: UCBM

Speaker: Prof. Vittoria Locato/ Prof. Antonino Vaccaro

17:45 – 18:15

WP6 – Innovation Management, Dissemination, Communication and Exploitation

Lead: RISE

Speaker: Josip Luša

18:15 – 18:30

WP7 – Ethics Requirements

Lead: UCBM

Speaker: Prof. V. Locato

18:30 – 19:00

Open Discussion and Next Steps

20:30 Consortium Dinner

DAY 2 – Scientific & Stakeholder Workshop

Friday, 18 September 2026

09:00 – 09:30

UCBM Institutional Greetings

09:30 – 10:45

Unlocking plant identity through SNP fingerprinting

Speaker: Prof. D'Agostino

Portable Sequencing Technologies for Seed Authentication

Speaker: Dr. Walter Sanseverino

10:45

Speaker: Dr. Maurizio Martina (vicedirettore generale FAO)

11:00 – 11:30

Presentation of the CUSTOMICS Cascade Funding Programme

Speaker: Josip Luša

11:30– 12:00 Coffee Break

12:00– 12:15 Introduction to the Stakeholder Roundtable

Moderator: Prof. Vittoria Locato

12:15 – 13:30 Stakeholder Roundtable: Protecting European Agriculture Against Illegal Seed Trade

Prof. Antonino Vaccaro (IESE Business School – Università di Navarra)

Dr. Monserrant Garcia Monco (Head of the Legal & Governance Affairs Unit del Community Plant Variety Office - CPVO)

Dr. Walter Sanseverino (CEO di Sequentia)

Dr. Salvatore Gaglione (Direttore Commerciale di Enza Zaden Italia) – Dr. Gianplacido Di Rosa (Senior breeder di Enza Zaden)

Dr. Antonio Villarroel López de la Garma (Direttore generale di Asociación Nacional de Obtentores Vegetales - ANOVE)

Dr. Paola Giovannini Pasti (Presidente di Confagricoltura Donna)

13:30 – 14:00 Closing Remarks