Quality Assurance Plan

for the

Breedtech Project

1st Version

Produced by Pixel

Issue: 01

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Introduction

Purpose of the Quality Assurance Plan

The current document aims to outline quality expectations and quality standards related to the Breedtech project. Quality Assurance activities aim at monitoring and verifying the effectiveness of processes used to manage and create the expected deliverables. This document provides guidelines for Quality Assurance procedures and indicates templates to be used to guarantee the carrying out of the evaluation tasks. In addition, within the Quality Assurance Plan, the Quality Management bodies are clearly identified along with their roles and responsibilities.

Main Actors

The main actors involved in the Quality Assurance and Supervision of the Breedtech project, and their related activities, are the following:

Pixel – Internal evaluator
- Production of 3 issues of the Quality Plan
    - During the first month of the Quality Assurance Activity
    - Before the presentation of the progress report assessing the in-progress outputs and results reached
    - Before the presentation of the final report assessing the final outputs and results reached
- Definition, in the quality plan, of quality indicators and procedures
- Monitoring the progress made towards the production of the project outputs and achievement of results according to the qualitative and quantitative results outlined in the Quality Plan.
- Creation and Deliverable of Evaluation Questionnaires addressed to the project's partners and end users
- Organization of online monitoring and evaluation meetings with the partnership
- Presentation of the Quality Plan to the partnership and related approval
- Monitoring of the outputs produced and results achieved, assessment of their quality and provision of recommendations
- Consultancy for the most appropriate presentation of the outcomes produced and for making them easily accessible.
- Analysis of the project Internet Portal to provide suggestions to make results accessible in a user-friendly environment both for the EACEA assessors and for the users of the portal
- Assess respect for deadlines
- Production of an Interim Evaluation Report. It will be organized in:
    - Evaluation of the project planning, management, activities, in progress results;
    - Advice and recommendations for the improvement of the project deliverables.
- Creation and Deliverable of Final Evaluation Questionnaires addressed to the project's partners
- Production of a Final Evaluation Report. It will be organized in:
    - Evaluation of the project planning, management, activities, in progress results;
- Analysis of the capacity of the project's coordinators to respond to the recommendations made in the Assessment of the Progress Report made by the EACEA's Assessor as well as in the Interim Evaluation Report.

Partners
- Filling in internal and external evaluation questionnaires
- Involvement of end users
- Collection of evaluation questionnaires from end users
- Creation of final national evaluation reports

End users
- Evaluation of project results

Quality Assurance and Supervision Approach

The Quality Assurance and Supervision approach focuses on:

Evaluation of Project Planning
- Objectives, resources, expected results

Evaluation of Project Management
- Organization, communication, finances, meetings

Evaluation of activities and results
- Workplan, quality of results and outcomes

Quality Assurance and Supervision Outcomes and Process

The Quality Assurance and Supervision process foresees the production of the following documents and related subjects involved:

Document	Produced by	Approved by	Addressed to
Quality Plan	Pixel	Project Partners	Pixel and Project Partners
Questionnaires for Partners Meetings	Pixel	Egerton University (KE)	Project Partners
Questionnaires for Project Planning / Management	Pixel	Egerton University (KE)	Project Partners
Questionnaires for Project Results and Deliverables	Pixel	Project Partners	End Users
National progress / final report	Project Partners	Pixel	Pixel
Transnational progress / final report	Pixel	Egerton University (KE)	EACEA

Quality Assessment of the EACEA

The evaluation report, provided by the Evaluation Committee assessing the Breedtech project proposal, underlined the following aspects related to the relevance / design / team / impact of the proposal:

Relevance

Weaknesses
- The needs analysis description to better understand the specific challenges and requirements in plant breeding within the target countries was not described

Suggestions for improvement and explanations
- The partnership throughout the duration of the project should cooperate to ensure proper identification of the target groups' needs, pertaining to the plant breeding sector within the target countries of the project activities

Project Design

Weaknesses
- The project budget appears to be overly concentrated on WP2
- The justification for cooperation between South Mediterranean and Sub-Saharan countries is not sufficiently justified
- The proposed mitigation measures are not adequately described but simply justify why the risks are low
- The justification for the purchase of laboratory equipment and laptops, which significantly contribute to the budget, could be more clearly explained
- The proposal lacks detailed descriptions of the new courses and the process for their accreditation is not clearly outlined

Suggestions for improvement and explanations
- The budget allocation, although it has a higher concentration relative to WP2, appears correct in relation to the training mobilities foreseen in the work package.
- The rationale as well as the benefits of cooperation between Southern Mediterranean and sub-Saharan countries should be highlighted and explored in depth during the duration of the project.
- Risk analysis as well as mitigation strategies are indicated within the project proposal. This quality plan proposes a wider description of the mitigation measures.
- The justification for the purchase of laboratory instrumentation should be properly made explicit by the partnership as soon as the detailed schedule of courses is made available.
- A detailed description of the courses should be attached to the presentation of the courses when the second work package will be implemented.
- Project Partners should identify since the beginning of the project the national process for accreditation

Impact

Weaknesses
- The expected impacts of the project are not linked with reasonable verifiable indications and realistic means of verification. It also fails to describe the specific contingencies and policies that could affect the expected impact.

Suggestions for improvement and explanations
- The leader of the WP4 should include a dissemination plan with related quantitative indicators functional for objective verification of the correspondence between the expected impacts and those achieved by the project.

Quality Assurance and Supervision Tools

The proposed tools for carrying out Quality Assurance and Supervision are:
- Quality Plan
- Meeting Evaluation Questionnaires
- Project Yearly Evaluation Questionnaire (for project partners)
- Project Evaluation Questionnaire (for end users)

Details on the Evaluation Strategy

Evaluation of Project Planning

The evaluation of the project planning includes the following aspects:
- Quality of the needs analysis
- Clarity and realism of project objectives
- Consistency of objectives with the identified needs
- Consistency of the project idea with the partnership competencies
- Consistency between original objectives and results achieved

Evaluation of Project Management and Implementation

The evaluation of Project Management and Implementation addresses the following aspects:
- Clarity and transparency of partners' role and responsibilities
- Effectiveness of internal coordination and communication strategy
- Project information accessibility
- Cost-effectiveness of the project
- Management of financial resources by the project coordinator
- Clarity and transparency of contractual and administrative rules
- Appropriateness of quality control measures
- Effectiveness of problem solving strategy

Evaluation of Activities

The evaluation of Project Management and Implementation addresses the following aspects:
- Clarity and effectiveness of the Calendar of Activities
- Time management and respect of deadlines
- Clarity and feasibility of the methodology implemented
- Appropriate distribution of responsibilities and tasks among the project partners
- Commitment and active contribution of the project partners

Evaluation of Project Results / Deliverables

The evaluation of results / deliverables includes:
- Availability of the results / deliverables originally planned
- Consistency of project results / deliverables with the original objectives
- Overall quality of the project results / deliverables
- Appropriateness of the Project website
- Compatibility between ex ante and state of art results / deliverables
- Consistency
- Innovative potential
- Transferability potential
- Impact
- Satisfaction of end users

Evaluation of Impact and Dissemination

The evaluation of impact and dissemination includes:
- Level of integration of the project results and deliverables in the regular work of the partner organizations
- Impact of the project results and deliverables on the target groups
- Potential transferability of the project results and deliverables outside the partner organizations
- Effectiveness of the dissemination strategy

End Users' Evaluation

Students, teachers, and administrative university staff will be involved in the evaluation of the outputs and results developed within the project's framework. Ad hoc tools and methods will be used as questionnaires and collection of testimonials.
Evaluation of end users will be included in the Final Evaluation report.

Evaluation Reports

- National evaluation report
  Each project partner will be asked to produce a progress and final evaluation report. Templates will be provided for this purpose.

- Transnational evaluation report
  Pixel, based on the results collected through the questionnaires, the end users' testimonials and the comparative analysis of the national evaluation reports, will produce progress and a final evaluation report.

Change / Risk Management

The following potential risks have been identified based on the previous experience in project management of some of the project partners. Corrective measures to address the possible risks have also been identified.

Possible Risk: conflicts between partners
Corrective Measures: the identified partners have experience in transnational cooperation and some of them have already successfully cooperated in the framework of previous experience. Previous experience in European projects, as well as the habit of working in teams, should be useful factors in reducing conflict within the partnership

Possible Risk: delays
Corrective Measures: the timeframe for each Work Package (WP) has been mutually agreed upon by the project partners during the project preparation phase. Additionally, a comprehensive schedule of the activities as well as the deadlines will be presented and ratified by all partners.

Possible Risk: communication and coordination challenges within the consortium
Corrective Measures: effective communication and coordination mechanisms within the consortium will be achieved through regular meetings and the establishment of clear lines of responsibility among members. These practices will facilitate collaboration and decision-making processes throughout the project lifecycle.

Possible risk: negative policies and regulations regarding the research and application of biotechnology in crop and animal improvement.

Corrective measures: sensitization of the policymakers on the role of biotechnology in sustainable food production, safety of biotechnology in research

Possible risk: social constraints such as civil war and political instability

Corrective measures: timely planning of activities before major political events in the respective countries and timely communication in case of instability will be measured to ensure that the project stays on track.

Possible risk: unpredictable research outcomes

Corrective measures: regular and timely project activities and outcomes review

Conflict Resolution

The strategy to prevent and deal with conflicts that might arise within the project includes the establishment of the Board Management Commeettee. This commeette will be responsible for general management and quality assuarance.

In case the Board Management Commeettee will not be able to solve an issue, the final dicision will be taken by the Steering Commeette composedby the legal representatives of the contractual partners.

Procedure and Timing

The Quality Plan will be updated by Pixel by inserting in the Evaluation column the assessment. The range of scores will be the following:

- Very Good
  All relevant aspects of the criteria identified for the assessment of the deliverable/result are convincingly and successfully addressed.
- Good
  The deliverables/results address the criteria well although some small improvements can be made.
- Fair
  The deliverables/results fairly address the criteria but there are several areas where improvements are needed.
- Weak
  The deliverables/results do not meet the criteria or cannot be judged due to the lack of information/materials.

The evaluation will be made by Pixel at a progress and final stage.

As an integration to the update of the Quality Plan, Pixel will produce progress and final Evaluation Reports referring to the evaluations carried out by the project partners and target groups, for example by filling in Evaluation Questionnaires.

Partnership

The partner organizations involved in the project and in the evaluation activities are:

1 - Egerton University (KE) - Coordinator
2 - Al-Quds Open University (PS) - Partner
3 - Laikipia University (KE) - Partner
4 - Pixel - Associazione Culturale (IT) - Partner
5 - Haramaya University (ET) - Partner
6 - Oda Bultum University (ET) - Partner
7 - An-Najah National University (PS) - Partner

8 - Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet (SE) - Partner
9 - Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (IT) - Partner
10 - Institut Za Ratarstvo I Povrtarstvo Institut Od Na (RS) - Partner

The project results to be achieved and assessed in terms of quality assurance are the following:

WP1 – Project Management and Coordination

Objectives of the WP	- To define and implement the agreed project management structure and facilitate the coordination of work package leaders - To create detailed guidelines for communication flows within the project - To plan and organize the project management meetings fostering close and systematic collaboration towards reaching the common goals of the project - To introduce an approach for bringing creativity and transformational change during the lifetime of the project - To evaluate the quality of the project activities - To assess the partnership performance and lead the communication and workflow between partners
Start Date	01 March 2024
Deadline	28 February 2027
Quality Assurance Procedure	Egerton University (KE), as the leading partner, will be responsible for checking the scientific relevance and contents of the results produced: - If contents and relevance are not appropriate, the leading partner will send the results back to the project partners, asking for further improvements based on detailed recommendations - If the results' contents and relevance are appropriate, the leading partner will send the results to the Quality Assurance team Pixel will be responsible for checking, assessing and validating the results produced. To do so, Pixel will: - Check their presentation on the project website - Check the appropriateness of the organization of contents, structure, editing, etc - Create an evaluation questionnaire for the project partners - Produce an evaluation report - Produce a PPT evaluation report to be shared and discussed with the partners
Lead Beneficiary	Egerton University (KE) in cooperation with Pixel (IT)

Task 1.1 – Develop Project Management handbook/plan

Deliverable 1.1: Management Handbook/plan		
The handbook consists of a manual to be used as a reference by all partners. It should include information related to communication, project meetings, administrative and financial arrangements, and reporting. It should also include a plan to achieve all the expected results in the different WorkPackages		
Status:	**Expected Deliverable date:** 31 May 2024	**Deliverable date:**

		Benchmark	Comment	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Availability of a Project Management Handbook/Plan	Project Management Handbook including guidelines and rules for partners regarding: - Communication - project meetings - administrative and financial arrangements - reporting Availability of Project Management Plan defining for each WP: - Activities - Deadlines - Expected results - Responsible partners	Presence of and responsibil	
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: ● Clarity of contents of the handbook ● Usefulness of the management plan ● Efficiency of the internal communication	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		

	• Clarity of partners' roles • Efficacy of the risk management strategy • Efficacy of the conflict management strategy • Appropriateness of the work plan			
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

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Task 1.2 – Kick-Off Meeting Organization

Deliverable: Kick-Off Meeting		
Status:	**Expected Deliverable date:** 15 May 2024	**Deliverable date:**

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Organization of Kick-off meeting • Number of participants in the meeting • Creation of the Project Board Management	• Kick-off meeting at Egerton University (KE) • Agenda • List of Participants • Minutes • 2 participants for each partner • 1 representative per partner in the Project Board Management		
Qualitative indicators	The meeting will be evaluated through a questionnaire assessing the following indicators: • Clearness of assigned tasks and timeline • Clearness of the tasks to be carried out • Clearness of the project description • Consistency results/objective • Results Reached • Time Management • Time available • Participation in the meeting • Answers Satisfaction • Personal Contribution • General Meeting Management	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		

	• Working Atmosphere • Working Conditions • Material Presented • Meeting Agenda • Organization of the on-line facilities • Information received before the meeting		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel		

Task 1.3 – Management Meetings Organization

Deliverable: Management Meetings		
Status:	**Expected Deliverable date:** 28 February 2027	**Deliverable date:**

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Organization of partners' meetings • Number of participants in the meetings	• 3 Project Management meetings to be held in Haramaya University (ET), Pixel (IT), SLU (SW) • 2 participants per partner per meeting		
Qualitative indicators	The meetings will be evaluated through a questionnaire assessing the same indicators as the kick off meeting	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 1.4 – Virtual Collaboration Environment

Deliverable: Virtual Collaboration Environment		
The Virtual Collaborative environment has the aim to support the circulation of internal documents and materials. Al-Quds Open University (PS) will be responsible for setting up and configuring the environment.		
Status:	**Expected Deliverable date:**	**Deliverable date:**

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Availability of a Virtual Collaboration Environment	1 Virtual Collaborative Environment		
Qualitative indicators	The Virtual Collaboration Environment will be evaluated through the following indicators: • Usability • Interactivity • Clear organization	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

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Task 1.5 – 1.9 Quality Assurance Tasks

Deliverable 1.2: Quality Plan		
The Quality Plan is a document aiming at supporting and monitoring all the project activities. It indicates the expected deliverables for each WP and it identifies the related qualitative and quantitative indicators.		
Status:	**Expected Deliverable date:** 31 Dec 2026	**Deliverable date:**

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Number of issues of the Quality Plan • Number of indicators per deliverable	• 3 Issues of the Quality Plan • At least 1 quantitative and 1 qualitative indicator per deliverable		
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: • Appropriateness of the monitoring plan • Clear identification of deliverables • Adequacy of indicators	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Deliverable 1.3: Evaluation Reports

The report is issued at the final stage of the project and it presents analytically, through commented graphs the data emerging from the questionnaires filled in by all the subjects involved in the project activities. The Report also takes into account all the information provided by the National Reports created by each partner.

Status:	Expected Deliverable date: 28 Feb 2027	Deliverable date:

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: ● Consistency of the report ● Usefulness of the report ● Appropriateness of the report	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

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Deliverable 1.4: Midterm Progress Report
The report is issued at the progress stage of the project and it presents analytically, through commented graphs the data emerging from the questionnaires filled in by all the subjects involved in the project activities.
The Report will also take into account all the information provided by the National Reports created by each partner.

Status:	Expected Deliverable date: 31 Aug 2025	Deliverable date:

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: ● Consistency of the report ● Usefulness of the report ● Appropriateness of the report	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

WP2 – Capacity Building and Equipment Upgrade

Objectives of the WP	• To provide training and capacity-building opportunities to the academic staff from African and Palestinian HEIS staff in the field of plant breeding and biotechnology as well as to provide them with hands-on experience and knowledge about the latest techniques and advancements in the field of plant breeding. • To enhance the capabilities of the Palestinian and African partner universities by purchasing and installing equipment aligned with the project objectives and activities to let the universities be able to improve the functionality of their existing labs and centers. • To provide students from African and Palestinian universities with an opportunity to participate in research and practical visits to EU Universities to have the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning experiences and build their research and practical skills in the field of plant breeding. • To provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the latest research trends and best practices in the field as well as to foster international collaboration and knowledge exchange.
Start Date	01 March 2024
Deadline	31 August 2025
Quality Assurance Procedures	An-Najah National University (PS) and Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (IT), as the leading partners, will be responsible for checking the scientific relevance and contents of the results produced: • If contents and relevance are not appropriate, the leading partner will send the results back to the project partners, asking for further improvements based on detailed recommendations • If the results' contents and relevance are appropriate, the leading partner will send the results to the Quality Assurance team Pixel will be responsible for checking, assessing and validating the results produced. To do so, Pixel will: • Check their presentation on the project website • Check the appropriateness of the organization of contents, structure, editing, etc • Create an evaluation questionnaire for the project partners • Produce an evaluation report Produce a PPT evaluation report to be shared and discussed with the partners
Lead Beneficiary	AN Najah National University (PS) Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (IT) Institut Za Ratarstvo I Povrtarstvo Institut Od Na (RS)

Task 2.1 – Training Material Preparation

Deliverable 2.1: Training Material for Staff		
The training materials will be used during the capacity-building training sessions involving the representatives of the Palestinian and African partners. These materials will include instructional handbooks, presentations, case studies, and other interactive resources. The preparation of these materials will be carried out by a team of experts from EU Partners reviewed and approved by Palestinian and African partners to ensure that the content is relevant and tailored to the needs of the target groups in Plant Breeding.		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31 July 2024 · **Postponed deadline:** 1 March 2025	**Delivery date:**

	Quality Indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Teaching Supporting documents (e.g. presentations, scripts, Instructional handbooks, Case studies, Interactive resources etc)	• At least 1 supporting document per training day. • At least 80% of the lecture materials shared within 10 days of the end of the course		
Qualitative indicators	The materials produced will be assessed by the project partners on the basis of the following indicators: • Relevance of materials • Utility of materials • Clarity and comprehensibility	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10	To be assessed by an evaluation questionnaire produced by Pixel	

	• Interactivity • Adaptability to different learning styles			
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners and end users through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Deliverable 2.2: Training Material for Students
The training materials will be used during the capacity-building training sessions for the Palestinian and African students. The training materials will be designed in a way that effectively conveys the knowledge and skills that need to be acquired by the participants. These materials will include instructional handbooks, presentations, case studies, and other interactive resources. The preparation of these materials will be carried out by a team of experts from EU Partners reviewed and approved by Palestinian and African partners to ensure that the content is relevant and tailored to the needs of the target groups in Plant Breeding.

Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31 July 2024	**Postponed Delivery Date:** 1 March 2025	**Delivery date:**

	Quality Indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Teaching Supporting documents (e.g. presentations, scripts, Instructional handbooks, Case studies, Interactive resources etc)	• At least 1 supporting document per training day. • At least 80% of the lecture materials shared within 10 days of the		

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		end of the course		
Qualitative indicators	The materials produced will be assessed by the project partners on the basis of the following indicators: • Relevance of materials • Utility of materials • Clarity and comprehensibility • Interactivity • Adaptability to different learning styles	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10	To be assessed by an evaluation questionnaire produced by Pixel	
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners and end users through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 2.2 – Capacity Building for African and Palestinian Partners

Deliverable 2.3: Report on capacity building for Training 1 for Staff		
The project foresees the organization of 2 training course for representatives of the staff of the Palestinian and African partners: one in the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SE), the second one in Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (IT). The courses will not only include theoretical training sessions, but also practical sessions through field visits. The aim of this activity is to provide the participants with hands-on experience and knowledge about the latest techniques and advancements in the field of plant breeding.		
Status: Completed	**Expected Delivery date:** 30 November 2024	**Postponed Delivery date:** 1 November 2025	**Delivery Date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	- Number of training courses - Number of participants - Number of participating HEIs	1 report per training course including: - Invitation Letters - Agenda - Signed Presence List - Pictures - Presentations - Evaluation report - Feedback questionnaire 24 Staff Members Participating 6 participating HEIs from Palestina and Africa		
Qualitative indicators	The report will be assessed by the project partners on the basis of the following indicators	Minimum expected level of evaluation of 7 / 10		

	- Relevance of the training programs - Organization of the schedule training course structure - Quality of practical sessions - Usability of the acquired skills - Consistency with the existing needs - Effectiveness of training in improving participants' skills - Effectiveness of training in improving professional skills For the students: - All of the above - Competences of the trainers - Capability of the trainers to transfer knowledge			
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners and the end users through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 2.3 Student visits to program countries HEIs

Deliverable 2.4: Report on capacity building for Training 2 for Students
This activity aims to provide students from African and Palestinian universities with an opportunity to participate in training and practical visits to EU universities. During this five-day program, students will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on learning experiences and build their research and practical skills in the field of plant breeding. This will be achieved through a combination of lectures, laboratory work, field visits, and interaction with experienced researchers and professionals from the EU universities. The goal of this activity is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the latest research trends and best practices in the field, as well as to foster international collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Status: Completed	Expected Delivery date: 31 August 2025	Postponed Delivery date: 1 November 2025	Delivery date:

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Number of participating students • Number of days • Completeness of documentation	1 report including: • Invitation Letters • Agenda • Signed Presence List • Pictures • Presentations • Evaluation report • Feedback Questionnaire • 12 Students Participating • 5-Days field visits		

Qualitative indicators	The report produced will be assessed by the project partners based on the following indicators For the partners: • Relevance of the visits organized • Usefulness of the visits organized • Usability of the acquired skills • Consistency with the existing needs • Effectiveness of training in improving participants' skills • Effectiveness of training in improving professional skills For the students: • All of the above • Competences of the trainers • Capability of the trainers to transfer knowledge	Minimum expected level of evaluation of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 2.4 Upgrade of Centers and Laboratory Facilities

Delivery 2.5: Report on facilities upgrading			
This activity aims to enhance the capabilities of the Palestinian and African partner universities by purchasing and installing equipment aligned with the project objectives and activities			
Status:	Expected Delivery date: 31 August 2024	Postponed Delivery date: 1 March 2025	Delivery date:

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comment	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Number of upgraded centres • Number of staff representatives trained to use the equipment	1 report including: • Identification of the 8 upgraded centres • Clear identification of the purchased equipment • Link of the equipment to the project results • Expected impact of the new equipment • Feedback from the staff using the equipment		
Qualitative indicators	The material produced will be assessed by the project partners based on the following indicators • Quality of the new equipment • Upgrade of the facilities • Contribution of the facilities to the achievement of the project objectives	Minimum expected level of evaluation of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners and the target groups through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

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WP3 – Curriculum Development and Equipment Deployment

Objectives of the WP	To develop a curriculum that aligns with the project objectives and activities in plant breeding
	To pilot the newly developed curriculum and assess its effectiveness in the Palestinian and African HEIs
	To engage students in the project activities and gather their contributions to the project's progress
	To collaborate with the private sector and involve them in the project activities to ensure their impact on the industry
Start Date	01 February 2025
Deadline	28 February 2027
Quality Assurance Procedures	Evaluation Questionnaire
Lead Beneficiary	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SW)
	Haramaya University (ET)
	Oda Bultum University (ET)

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Task 3.1 – installation and Deployment of New Equipment

Report on Installation and Deployment of New Equipment		
The activity involves the installation of the equipment in the relevant labs and centers and the deployment of the equipment to make it operational. The new equipment will be used to enhance the educational experience of the students and to improve the research capabilities and teaching activities of the universities.		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:**	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number reports	1 report presenting the activity and impact of the installation and deployment of new equipment		
Qualitative indicators	The report will be assessed by the project partners on the basis of the following indicators • Completeness of the report • Consistency of the report	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	• The assessment is already included within the deliverable 2.5 of this same document			

Task 3.2 – Curriculum Development

Deliverable 3.1 – Development of the curricula content

This deliverable consists of the content creation in plant breeding and biotechnology developed in consultation with EU experts to ensure they meet the current needs and challenges in the field.

Status:	Expected Delivery date: 30 November 2024	Postponed Delivery Date: November 2025	Delivery date:

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number of new and updated curriculum content	At least 8 new and updated curriculum content in plant breeding and biotechnology		
Qualitative indicators	The developed and updated curricula will be evaluated through a questionnaire, assessing the following indicators: • Relevance of Content • Clarity of Learning Objectives • Timeliness and Relevance • Innovative Teaching Methodologies • Practical and Laboratory Approach • Implementation of Interdisciplinary Approaches • Students Engagement • Relevance of the skills acquired	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 3.3 – Piloting Phase

Deliverable 3.2 – Curriculum developed - Pilot courses
This deliverable aims to report the piloting phase of the contents developed within the deliverable 3.1

Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 28/02/2025	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number of new and updated curricula piloted	At least 8 new and updated curricula piloted		
Qualitative indicators	The developed and updated curricula will be evaluated by partners and students through a questionnaire, assessing the following indicators: • Relevance of Content • Clarity of Learning Objectives • Timeliness and Relevance • Innovative Teaching Methodologies • Practical and Laboratory Approach • Implementation of Interdisciplinary Approaches • Students Engagement • Relevance of the skills acquired	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners and students through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

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Deliverable 3.3 – Official approval of the developed curriculum			
This deliverable consists of a report presenting the official approval of the developed or updated curricula referenced in the previous deliverables of this work package			
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31 August 2025	**Postoponed Delivery Date:** 30 March 2026	**Delivery Date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number of new or updated curricula officially approved	At least 8 new and updated curricula officially approved in consultation with EU experts		
Qualitative indicators	The accreditation is a qualitative indicator it self			
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 3.4 – Plant Breeding Transformation through Student Engagement

Deliverable 3.4 – Students pilot projects		
The implemtnation of pilot project has the main aim of contributing to the the development of the next generation of plant breeders in Palestine and Africa. Two piloting projects in the field of plant breeding will be developed and will serve as innovative testbeds. Students will be encouraged to lead projects that apply the knowledge and skills they gained during the exchange visits and practical training. These projects will focus on addressing specific challenges in their home countries related to plant breeding and biotechnology.		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31/08/2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number of students piloted projects	2 piloting projects in the field of plant breeding		
Qualitative indicators	The piloting projects will be evaluated through a questionnaire, assessing the following indicators: • Relevance • Innovativeness • Transferability • Students Engagement • Consistency with the skills acquired	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 3.5 – BreedTECH Incubators

Deliverable 3.5 –Establishment of Three BreedTECH Incubators		
This deliverable aims at establishing 3 incubators that will provide tangible support to entrepreneurs and startups in the plant breeding and biotechnology sector, which will help to drive innovation and growth in the target region		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31/12/2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number of Breedtech Incubators	Presence of 3 BreedTECH incubators: • 1 Incubator in Palestine (QOU) • 1 Incubator in Kenya (EgU) • 1 Incubator in Ethiopia (HA)		
Qualitative indicators	The BREEDTECH incubators will be evaluated through a questionnaire, assessing the following indicators: • Variety of subjects involved (Academic Institutions, private sector entities, government bodies) • Efficiency of the Incubators • Efficacy of the Incubators	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

WP4 – Impact and Dissemination

Objectives	• Ensure the highest visibility of the project and its activities • Disseminate the project outcomes, products as well as the experience gained during the implementation of the project • Ensuring the sustainability of results and impact of this project at the long-term by making its resources and educational content available to all consortium members and to other external beneficiaries
Start Date	1 March 2024
Deadline	28 February 2027

Quality Assurance Procedures	Al-Quds Open University (PS), as the leading partners, will be responsible for checking the dissemination activities carried by the partners meet the requirements of the visual identity of te European Commission and if they are appropriate:
	    ● If not appropriate, the leading partner will ask for improvements based on detailed recommendations
	    ● If appropriate, the activities will be approved
	Pixel will be responsible for checking, assessing and validating the results produced. To do so, Pixel will:
	    ● Check their presentation on the project website
	    ● Check the appropriateness of the organization of contents, structure, editing, etc
	    ● Create an evaluation questionnaire for the project partners
	    ● Produce an evaluation report
	    ● Produce a PPT evaluation report to be shared and discussed with the partners

Lead Beneficiary:	Al-Quds Open University (PS) Laikipia University (KE)

Task 4.1 – Preparation and Exploitation of the Dissemination Plan

Deliverable 4.2 – Dissemination Plan		
This plan will include design and follow-up a dissemination strategy, which include detailed actions including establishing and managing the needed dissemination infrastructure such as the web-based platform, portal, and social media, awareness campaign, networking. The plan will also define the selected and adapted according to the intended audience or target groups.		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31/05/2024	**Postponed Delivery date:** 31 July 2024	**Delivery Date**: July 2024

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	● Differentiation of the dissemination target groups ● Variety of dissemination channels identified ● Total number of dissemination activities carried out	● At least 3 target groups identified ● At least 5 dissemination channels identified (e.g. brochure, poster, PPT presentation, social media, website, etc) ● At least 15 dissemination activities (including publications, press release, social media and Universities websites, etc) per contractual partner		
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: ● Clarity of the dissemination objectives ● Relevance of the target groups identified ● Variety of dissemination event typologies ● Homogeneous distribution of the dissemination activities during the project life cycle ● Appropriateness of channels identified to reach	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		

	each of the target groups ● Level of sharing responsibilities among partners			
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 4.2 – Dissemination of the designed, created, and promoted materials

Deliverable 4.1 – Project Website
The website will host the project webpage (objectives, aims, outputs, events' description, etc.). The content will be available in English and Arabic.

Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31/08/2025	**Delivery date:**

		Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Availability of the website • Two different languages	Availability of the Website in English and Arabic		
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: • Quality of the website • Usefulness of the website • Readiness of the website • Easiness of navigation of the website • User-friendliness of the website • Attractiveness of the project visual identity	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 4.3 – Networking and Collaboration among EU and Pal and African experts and researchers

Delivery 4.7 – Scientific Papers and Research		
Scientific papers and research will be prepared during the WP2 and Wp3 and presented during the final conference		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 31/08/2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	Number of scientific papers	• At least 1 scientific joint publications in WP2 • At least 1 scientific joint publications in WP3		
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the project partners in terms of: • Collaboration • Knowledge Exchange • Relevance of the contents • Scientific reliability	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 4.4 – Conduction of Final Closing Event

Deliverable 4.3 – Final Project Conference		
A final meeting is organized by Al Quds Open University in Palestine for two days with the participation of 3 person from each university to discuss the project outcomes, present research, develop action plans and disseminate the project and its outcomes.		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 30 November 2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation

Quantitative indicators	• Organization of the Final Meeting in Palestine (Al Quds Open University)
	• Number of participants
	• Number of representative from partners HEIs
		• Report of the event including:
		  • Invitation letters
		  • Agenda
		  • Signed list of participants
		  • Presentations
		• 100 Participants
		• 3 participants per partner HEI		

Qualitative indicators	The result will be evaluated by the project partners assessing the following indicators: • Relevance of contents • Consistency with the expectations • Quality of the speeches • Appropriateness of the programme • Timetable • Technical equipment • Networking Opportunities	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tools	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Task 4.5 – Knowledge Transfer Workshop

Deliverable 4.4 – Knowledge Sharing Workshop in Kenya		
The knowledge transfer workshop, included in the impact and dissemination work package, will be a three-day event During this workshop, representatives from each university as well as stakeholders from the private sector and community who are indirect beneficiaries of the project, will attend and participate in the transfer of knowledge and information related to the project outcomes and results		
Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 28/02/2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	- Number of Workshops in Kenya - Number of participants - Number of Reports	2 workshops organized 70 attendee per workshop - Report including - Invitation letters - Agenda - Signed list of participants - Presentations		
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the participants in terms of: - Relevance of contents - Consistency with the expectations - Quality of the speeches - Appropriateness of the programme - Timetable - Technical equipment - Networking Opportunities	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tols	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Deliverable 4.5 – Knowledge Sharing Workshop in Ethiopia

The knowledge transfer workshop, included in the impact and dissemination work package, will be a three-day event During this workshop, representatives from each university as well as stakeholders from the private sector and community who are indirect beneficiaries of the project, will attend and participate in the transfer of knowledge and information related to the project outcomes and results

Status:	Expected Delivery date: 28/02/2026	Delivery date:

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation

Quantitative indicators	• Number of Workshops in Ethiopia
	• Number of participants
	• Number of Reports
		• 2 workshops organized
		• 70 attendee per workshop
		• Report including
		  • Invitation letters
		  • Agenda
		  • Signed list of participants
		  • Presentations		

Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the participants in terms of: • Relevance of contents • Consistency with the expectations • Quality of the speeches • Appropriateness of the programme • Timetable • Technical equipment • Networking Opportunities	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tols	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

Deliverable 4.6 – Knowledge Sharing Workshop in   Palestine

The knowledge transfer workshop, included in the impact and dissemination work package, will be a three-day event During this workshop, representatives from each university as well as stakeholders from the private sector and community who are indirect beneficiaries of the project, will attend and participate in the transfer of knowledge and information related to the project outcomes and results

Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 28/02/2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation

Quantitative indicators	• Number of Workshops in Palestine
	• Number of participants
	• Number of Reports
		• 2 workshops organized
		• 70 attendee per workshop
		• Report including
		  • Invitation letters
		  • Agenda
		  • Signed list of participants
		  • Presentations		

Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the participants in terms of: • Relevance of contents • Consistency with the expectations • Quality of the speeches • Appropriateness of the programme • Timetable • Technical equipment • Networking Opportunities	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tols	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			

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Deliverable 4.8 – Plant Breeding MOOC
This activity will provide students, researchers, and professionals in the field with an opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge and skills in plant breeding. The MOOC will be developed by experts in the field, and will cover the latest research, trends and best practices in the area. It will be accessible to everyone, regardless of their location or background, and will provide a platform for learners to connect with each other, share their knowledge, and engage in discussions and debates.

Status:	**Expected Delivery date:** 28/02/2026	**Delivery date:**

	Quality indicators	Benchmark	Comments	Evaluation
Quantitative indicators	• Number of users	More than 100 participants		
Qualitative indicators	The result should be assessed by the participants in terms of: • Relevance of contents • Consistency with the expectations • Quality of the layout • Innovativeness	Minimum expected level of satisfaction of 7 / 10		
Evaluation Tols	The deliverable will be assessed by the partners through an online questionnaire produced by Pixel			