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EpiSeedLink

From seed to seedling: Epigenetic mechanisms of priming to design crop improvement strategies
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network

11 PhD positions in: Spain, Germany, Ireland, France, Netherlands, and Switzerland

High profile joint research & training network that will improve career prospects in academia & private sector

Key words: Seed priming, Arabidopsis, Oilseed rape, Epigenetics, Epigenomics, Biostimulants, Abiotic stress, Climate change

<https://episeedlink.eu>

Summary:

EpiSeedLink's mission is to train 11 predoctoral researchers in epigenetic regulation of seed priming mechanisms, and to translate scientific knowledge and skills into innovation and applications. Crop performance is threatened by climate change and hence *EpiSeedLink* focuses on training a new generation of scientists with a broad range of scientific and transferable (e.g. communication and entrepreneurship) skills to tackle main agricultural challenges, and to enhance their career perspectives in both academic and non-academic environments. Through its Doctoral training programme, the network will provide international, multidisciplinary, and inter-sectorial training in experimental and computational biology, and will generate an in depth understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying 'epigenome priming' at the genetic and molecular level. The programme combines the unique know-how of academic experts and seed companies in seed biology, crop breeding, epigenetics, biochemistry and biostimulants to synergise research and knowledge transfer between a model plant (*Arabidopsis*) and the premium crop oilseed rape. *EpiSeedLink* will hence not only contribute to excellent research, but also address urgent societal and agricultural needs, contributing to the development of a sustainable bioeconomy and meeting climate targets.

Benefits

- High profile training programme
- Interdisciplinary research training
- Academic and industry training
- International network
- Collaborative projects
- Soft skills
- Resources to attend conferences
- Funds to support PhD students on secondments
- Well-structured supervision arrangements