16 April 2019

Mid-term report

for the CORE Organic Cofund funded project

"Code of Practice for organic food processing - ProOrg"

Period covered:
May 2018 – October 2019

Index

1. Consortium

Project acronym:	ProOrg	**Project ID:**	1978_ProOrg
Project title:	Code of Practice for organic food processing		
Project website:	https://www.proorgproject.com		
Start of project:	2018, May 2nd	End of project:	2021, April 30th
Duration in months:	36		
Details of the coordinator			
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Partner no.:	**Country:**	**Institution/ organisation name:**	**Type of institution/ organisation[1)]:**	**Functions[2)]:**	**Involved in WPs:**	**Contact person with e-mail address:**
P1	Italy	Consiglio per la Ricerca in agricoltura e l'analisi dell'economia agraria	Public research centre	PC P	1, 2, 4, 6, 7	flavio.paoletti@crea.gov.it
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P3	Italy	Associazione Nazionale delle imprese di Trasformazione e Distribuzione di prodotti Biologici e naturali	Association	P	2, 7	r.pinton@organic-consulting.net
P4	Denmark	University of Copenhagen	University	P	2, 3, 4, 7	lilia@food.ku.dk
P5	Netherlands	Wageningen University, Dept. Agrotechnology and Food Sciences	University	WPL P	2, 3, 4, 7	ruud.verkerk@wur.nl
P6	Germany	Thuenen Institut	Public research centre	WPL P	2, 6, 7	katrin.zander@thuenen.de
P7	Germany	FH Münster University Applied Sciences	University	P	2, 4, 5, 6, 7	strassner@fh-muenster.de
P8	Germany	Assoziation Ökologischer Lebensmittelhersteller	Association	WPL P	2, 4, 7	alex.beck@aoel.org

P9	Poland	Warsaw University of Life Sciences	University	P	2, 4, 7	ewa_rembialkowska@sggw.pl
P10	Switzerland	Forschunginstitut für biologischen Landbau	Private research centre/foundation	WPL P	2, 4, 5, 6, 7	toralf.richter@fibl.org
P11	France	The French Network of Food Technology Institutes	Association	WPL P	2, 7	C.Cotillon@actia-asso.eu
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P14	Hungary	Hungarian Research Institute of Organic Agriculture	Private research centre	External partner – no budget P	2, 4, 7	judit.feher@biokutatas.hu
P15	Germany	University of Kassel	University	External partner – no budget P	2, 3, 4, 7	kahl@uni-kassel.de
P16	Netherlands	Wageningen Food & Biobased Reasearch	Public research centre	P	2, 3, 4, 7	ariette.matser@wur.nl

1) University, Public research centre, Private research centre, Company, Other
2) PC = Project coordinator, WPL = Work package leader, WPCL = Work package co-leader, P = Participant

2. Summary

2.1 Mid-term project summary suitable for web publication

(Please focus on results and conclusions, preferably in bullet points, max. 1 page – font size 11)

Objective of the project is to develop a flexible and practicable Code of Practice (CoP) for processors of organic foods, as well as labelling organizations. The CoP aims to provide the operators with strategies and tools for making decisions that can help them to take the best choice for careful processing methods and formulations with a limited use of additives, while addressing the organic principles, high food quality, low environmental impact and high degree of consumer acceptance.
A fundamental pillar of the decision concept to be integrated in the CoP is the Assessment Framework (AF). The main objective of the Assessment Framework is to provide guidance on how to assess organic food quality as affected by processing technologies, processing methods, additives and processing aids used. It further provides guidance on how to compare different alternatives of processing technologies and/or alternatives to contentious substances aiming at the same processing goal.
The project builds on a participatory approach and involves experts from different scientific disciplines, representatives of processors, traders, labelling organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as well as individual companies through every phase of the project.
The main results achieved so far can be summarized as it follows:

- organization of workshops with organic stakeholders to discuss and individuate drivers and barriers for organic food processing. The workshops were held in Paris (FR), Fulda (DE), Rogow (PL) and Uddel (NL);
- Development of a draft of a Management Guideline for organic food processors. The aim of this Guideline is to offer companies a comprehensive introduction to the regulatory requirements of the organic food sector applicable for the daily practice;
- A draft of the Assessment Framework and accompanying materials, including an implementation example, was established;
- the draft of the AF will be tested at company level (Case study) to evaluate whether it is understandable, comprehensible, and usable and make any changes accordingly. For this reason, a procedure to design the case studies, select companies (SMEs), perform usability tests was developed;
- guidelines to screen labels in retailer outlets for milk, juice and tomato passata/chopped tomatoes were developed and implemented in different countries. Objective of the label screening is to make an inventory of terms, which describe processing methods for the selected products;
- a questionnaire for market and stakeholder survey was designed and tested;
- Focus Group Discussions were carried out with occasional organic consumers aimed at exploring consumers' knowledge, expectations and opinions of selected processing technologies in organic foods. Findings suggest that organic food consumers know generally very little about processing technologies and feel that they would need more than the provided information to be able to judge a technology. Moreover, their choices are mainly affected by the advantages processed food products bring with them in terms of convenience and availability;
- a Dissemination Plan was developed in which target groups and dissemination tools have been individuated and defined. Project partners have implemented several dissemination activities.

2.2 Short process update of the whole project

(Explain if the project achieved its objectives and if not, what was not performed, why, what happened, etc. Max. 1/2 page – font size 11)

In the first half of the project, there were some delays in performing some activities.
Most of them were small delays with very limited consequences on the achievement of the expected results, and that will not jeopardize the achievement of those set for the second part of the project.
The main delay was in the finalization of the Consortium Agreement. ProOrg is a Consortium composed of a high number of partners. Each Partner institution/organization has its own administrations with different rules. Therefore, the negotiation took more time than expected. Anyway, the delay in the finalization did not have consequences on the progress of the project, because Partners were able to start their activities in time anyway.

3. Main results, conclusions and fulfilment of objectives

3.1 WP1

WP1	Coordination
WP leader: Flavio Paoletti Responsible partners: CREA	
Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions *(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)* The objective of WP1 is to ensure the development of the project according to the work-plan and to control the quality of outputs and dissemination of results. A consortium agreement was finalized and signed. An Advisory Board was set up. The kick-off meeting and the first project meeting were organized and held in Rome at CREA and Warsaw at the Warsaw University of Life sciences, respectively. While the first aimed at organizing the work, the second was aimed also at sharing the first outcomes, responding to upcoming challenges, making light adjustment in the project planning and making decisions on issues of common interest such as disseminations activities. A working meeting with a selected group of partners was organized to discuss issues of specific nature. An annual status report on project progress was prepared A regular communication among the partners was established as well as regular contacts with CO Cofund.	
Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C) *(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)* **A- results obtained:** The kick-off meeting was organized and held in Rome on 25.05.2018. An Advisory Board of the project was set up and the "Terms of Reference" agreed and finalized. Members of the AB are representatives of organic associations, labelling organizations, retailers, food processors. Skype meetings with the AB have been held. The AB was regularly informed and updated about the progress of the project. The AB Chairperson has been invited and participated in the project meetings. Contributions in terms of suggestions and comments to documents have been requested to the AB members. The Consortium Agreement was prepared, finalized in agreement with partners and signed. Participation in CO Cofund seminar in Bari 28.29.01.2019. Collaboration in the organization of the Biofach session "Organic food processing: quo vadis?" and participation in it. Nurnberg, 14.02.2019. Organization of a working meeting in Nurnberg on 15.02.2019. Minutes was prepared. The University of Copenhagen (P4) has made available a platform for internal communication, sharing of documents and information among the partners. Presentation of the project in stakeholders' meetings or events such as Biofach, Assobio General Assembly, Evento "Rivoluzione Bio". Preparation and finalization of the annual report. Preparation of the agenda of the first project meeting organized by P9 (Prof. Ewa Rembialkowska and her team) in Warsaw at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences on 11-12 September 2019. Minutes of the meeting was prepared. Interaction with other CO Cofund projects SUSORGPLUS and GREENRESILIENT for the organization of joint events aimed at the dissemination of the projects to different groups of stakeholders. In particular, a proposal for a joint session of ProOrg and SUSORGPLUS at Biofach 2020 was prepared and submitted; a	

joint event of communication to consumers of the objectives and content of the project GREENRESILIENT and ProOrg was organized and held on 30.11 and 01.12.2019 in Capua (Italy).

B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
Deviations from the original plan was due to the difficulties in finalizing the Consortium Agreement, due to the need to meet the requirements of the Administrations of the different institutions and organizations involved in the project and to find an agreed solution.

C- fulfilment of objectives:
Objectives were achieved.

3.2 WP2

WP2	Development of a Code of Practice (CoP)

WP leader: Alexander Beck, Johanna Stumpner WP2
Responsible partners: ***All project partners***

Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions
The objective of WP2 is to develop and structure the CoP for processors of organic foods and labelling organisations. The first steps were to develop the overall design of the CoP. The "Code of Practice for organic food processing" is composed of the three following elements. Each of them will be communicated to relevant target groups. 1. Management Guideline 2. Assessment Framework 3. Communication strategies and tools for organic food technologies.
The WP has contributed to the overall debate in the project group and has participated in different workshops and activities of actors from WP3 and 4.
Further, the actors were active in developing the "Draft Management Guideline" and have cooperated with WP4 for the "Draft Assessment Framework" and accompanying materials, like examples and other implementation tools.
The actors of WP2 are cooperating with FH Münster for two master theses testing the implementation of the before named elements on company level. One master thesis is focused towards the management guideline; the other thesis is focussing on implementation tests for the assessment framework.

Actors of WP2 have joined and contributed to workshops focusing on organic processing topics. These workshops were held in Paris (FR) on December 2018, Fulda (DE) on May 2019, Rogow (PL) on June 2019 and Uddel (The Netherlands) on June 2019. Further, ProOrg activities were reported in the Fachausschuss Verarbeitung of BÖLW (German organic umbrella organisation) and the Interest Group Organic Processing (IGOP) of IFOAM EU Group regularly.

Actors of WP2 have joined all project meetings and the meetings of internal WG 1 and 2.

Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C)

A- results obtained:

1. Draft management guideline is established
2. Draft Assessment framework and accompanying material including an implementation example is established

B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
WP2 sticks to the original planning

C- fulfilment of objectives:
The implementation tests will finally demonstrate if we have chosen for the right approach and whether

this approach can give efficient and useful guidance for decisions on organic processing technologies.

3.3 WP3

WP3	Case studies in practice
WP leader: Ruud Verkerk, WUR team members: Martijntje Vollebregt & Andrijana Horvat Responsible partners: ***WUR, KU, INRA, ITAB***	

Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions

The objective of WP3 is to contribute to the development of a CoP for organic food processing by using an iterative process of case studies 'in situ' at SMEs. This process starts testing the first version of this CoP (workability, practicability, etc.) via selected case studies for vegetable, dairy and fruit product groups 'in situ' at SMEs level. This includes decision processes at operators' level as well as assessments on existing, novel and future food processing that can vary from minimal to high-processing intensity.

We started with visiting organic food fairs in Zwolle (Biobeurs, January 2019) and in Nurnberg (Biofach, February 2019), also for expanding our network with processors. Moreover, we aimed to learn more about the potential Drivers & Barriers seen and perceived by organic stakeholders for guidelines on Organic Food Processing (Code of Practice). Therefore, we carried out multiple workshops during the first year of the project in France (Paris, December 2018), Germany (Fulda, May 2019), The Netherlands (Uddel, June 2019), and Poland (Rogow, June 2019). An elaborated documentation of the outcome of these workshops will be delivered in spring 2020. Finally, we have established a thematic Working Group (WG1) among WP2, WP3 and WP4 with the aim to work closely together for the development of strategies for 1.) a jointly comprehension, communication, and evaluation of 'organic processing', and 2.) the assessment framework for operators and labeling organizations. The focus of this Working Group is on processing technologies but also includes packaging where relevant. Moreover, WG1 jointly established facilitating the tasks of T2.1 and T4.1, T4.2 and T4.3. To achieve this, WG1 has held meetings in Germany (Frankfurt, September 2018), France (Paris, December 2018), and The Netherlands (Wageningen, March 2019).

Based on the Assessment Framework for the Evaluation of Organic Food Processing (WP4) we have compiled a protocol for the assessment of quality of processed organic food products to be applied for the Case Studies.

As part of task 3.3 (Perform experiments and scenario analyses for specific knowledge gaps), INRA has studied and evaluated processing on real products, namely the effect of processing conditions on viscosity, color, phenolic and volatile compounds on apple purées in order to choose the best and softest conditions, to limit the additives but in the same time to maintain the nutritional and organoleptic qualities of the organic fresh fruits.

Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C)

(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)

A- results obtained:

- Translation (Dutch) and dissemination of the ProOrg project leaflet;
- Setup and participate WG1 thematic meetings;
- Setup and participate Workshops on 'Drivers & Barriers Organic Food Processing' with organic stakeholders;
- A fruitful collaboration with BioNext/BioNederland was initiated
- Literature study on food processing classification systems;
- Progress report on task 3.3 (INRA partner)
- Wageningen University Thesis students reports;

1. Master thesis report | Application of organic processing; the case of fruit, Wageningen University,

February 2019, Ying Guo
2. Bachelor thesis report | Identifying and aligning of organic principles with the processing of vegetables, Wageningen University, December 2018, Jeroen Post
- Report Case Study Design & Selection of SMEs (D3.1).
- Internal protocol for an assessment of quality of processed organic food products.

B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
During the kick-off project meeting (Rome, April 2018) it was discussed and agreed that part of the success of this project is based on obtaining better insights in perceptions and a thorough understanding towards 'organic processing' by organic food stakeholders. It needs to be noted that these aforementioned events were not documented in the initial project proposal but, as explained, were seen as crucial activities for the project.

C- fulfilment of objectives:
Based on the Case Study design organic companies are being selected and approached for carrying out product case studies in three countries in collaboration with the stakeholder associations Bionext (NL), Organic Denmark (DK), and Synabio (F).

3.4 WP4

WP4	Assessment Framework

WP leader: Regula Bickel (FiBL, CH)
Responsible partners: ***AÖL, CREA, FiBL, ITAB, KU, ÖMKi, WULS, WUR***

Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions
The objective of this WP is to develop a multi-dimensional assessment framework for organic food processing providing guidance on how to assess organic food quality as affected by contentious substances and processing technologies as well as by alternatives to them.
First, it was important to get a common understanding on the terms, definitions and aims of the assessment framework. Therefore, the technical working group together with WP2 and WP 3was established. Several meetings took place. A draft of the assessment framework was established, and it is ready to use it for the case studies. In addition, an abstract, an example and a procedure were created to make the case studies easier for the users to understand.

Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C)
(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)

A- results obtained:

1. Establishing the technical working group, cooperating with WP 2 and 3 with the goal to get a common understanding of the situation and background in organic processing. Having meetings in Frankfurt (Sep 2018), Paris (Dec. 2018) and Wageningen (March 2019).
2. Presentation and discussion of the draft "assessment framework" at the meetings of the technical working group I in Paris (Dec. 2018) and Wageningen (March 2019). Discussions about terms and definitions and understanding of the first draft of the assessment framework
3. Continuous development of the "assessment framework" for organic processing in close cooperation with WP 2 (spring 2019).
4. Since the framework describes complex relationships, it was described using an example. Furthermore, a simplified version was created, and the process was condensed into a simplified version on slides.
5. Parallel to the work on the assessment framework continuous feedback to the "management guideline" for organic processing elaborated by WP2 for organic processing (2018) was provided.
6. Feedback to WP2 for the development of a discussion paper on "assessment criteria based on the

new organic regulation”

B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
The assessment framework is not included into the CoP so far. It makes more sense to test it as such in the case studies conducted at WP3.
C- fulfilment of objectives:
The Assessment Framework is ready for the case studies.

3.5 WP5

WP5	B2B Market Survey

WP leader: Toralf Richter (FiBL, CH)
Responsible partners: ***FiBL, FH MU***

Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions
The objective of this WP is to gather sound market data and information about general organic food market trends and the role of different processing technologies and processed food quality categories for the future organic market development.

In the first reporting period, the main focus was on literature research and creating the basis for market surveys. This included the establishment of an effective internal communication structure (communication working group), the collection of market data and trends in the field of bioprocessing as well as a monitoring study on how processing technologies are declared in the countries participating in the project.
In the reporting period, the questionnaire for the market and stakeholder survey was drawn up based on information and requests from the other WPs.
It turned out, that the opinion from the market side about the relative importance of the quality aspects a) sensory quality, b) nutritional value and c) environmental impact, which are influenced by the used processing technologies is an important information, which would serve to the further development of the assessment frame (together with results from the consumer surveys).

Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C)
(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)

A- results obtained:

1) Initiating the working group 2 (communication). The main tasks of this working group are interlinking WP 5 and 6 with the needs of WP 2-4. Additionally, this working group coordinates the stakeholder involvement and communication throughout Europe. Cooperating with all WP leaders in the working group communication (WGC). Organizing two skype meetings of working group 2 in April and July 2019.
2) Literature study and collection of organic market data in participating countries.
3) Drafting guidelines to screen labels in retailer outlets for milk, juice and tomato passata/chopped tomatoes. Objective of the label screening is to make an inventory of terms, which describe processing methods for the selected products. This task is to prepare the market and stakeholder survey in WP 5 as well as to design the consumer studies in WP 6. Implementation of label screening. The analysis of the results of this study is still ongoing.
4) Drafting of the report of the literature survey about organic market trends in regard to food processing (technologies).
5) Start to build up a European business directory as basis for the market and stakeholder survey.

6) Collect relevant topics to be integrated in the market survey.
7) Design and test the questionnaire for the market and stakeholder survey.
8) Organizing a ProOrg Session at Biofach 2019, where the project team could present the outline of the project in front of the target audience of processors and retailers. Starting preparations to organize a ProOrg Session at Biofach 2020
9) Submission of two papers for the Organic World Congress in France in 2020

B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
As result of the concept development of the market and stakeholder survey, it was decided not to go with personal interviews but to benefit from the advantages of an online survey, which allows a broader penetration of the survey throughout Europe and by this a bigger sample size.

C- fulfilment of objectives:
Deliverables of WP 5 are still pending.

3.6 WP6

WP6	Consumer acceptance, preferences and communication

WP leader: Katrin Zander
Responsible partners: ***TI, CREA, UNIVPM, FiBL, FH MU***

Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions
(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)
WP6.1. *Associations and expectations of processed food*
Consumers associations of processed food are often negatively connoted (e.g. additives, artificial flavours, preservatives, E-codes) Advantages: time saving, convenient, easy to portion, and enable consumption of a non-seasonal variety of goods. These associations also held true for processed *organic* products. Most important with organic processed foods were organically produced ingredients, no additives, artificial flavours or preservatives, and as little ingredients and processing steps as possible as well as transparent and environmentally sustainable value chains. Participants had a general low knowledge and awareness of (organic) food processing.
For milk processing such as homogenization, microfiltration, UHT was tested for consumer response. Mostly homogenized milk was preferred. Regarding preservation expectations and preferences varied widely and although less treated milk was perceived to be better, longer shelf-life was also an important attribute of milk. Similar results were obtained for orange juice. Processing technologies were mostly accepted as long as nutritional values are kept. Due to low knowledge and awareness of consumers on food processing it is difficult to elicit their preferences.

WP6.2: Assess consumer acceptance and preferences in a quantitative research step
In task 6.2, FiBL has developed a survey concept based on a literature review: In a first step, the relevant survey parts were identified and discussed with the WP 6 project partners at the annual meeting in Warsaw. Based on the outcome of the feedback provided by the partners, the concept was further developed and a questionnaire including an experimental design were developed. This preliminary paper version of the survey was pre-tested and analysed and further developed in several rounds. In a next step, the survey was programmed by the marketing agency respond and again pre-tested in several rounds. The data collection will be started within the next days.
WP6.3: Analysis of the role of cognition and emotions in decision making for careful processing of organic food
Design of a consumer study to understand how additional information on processing related to organic products influence purchase intention (careful/ invasive technologies) and best ways of communication to consumers.

WP6.4: Analysis of consumer acceptance of foods produced using different processing technologies
Regarding the low level of knowledge, consumers have (WP6.1), it seems challenging to ask consumers which processing methods they accept. If they do not know how processing is done and which processing steps are necessary to guarantee a safe product, they cannot decide which methods they accept. This problem stays the same if consumers are asked about their opinion on food processing in general, as long as they do not have further information on processing. On the basis of these developments and after exchanges with Katrin Zander and Alexander Beck we decided that the research question for WP6.4 was not fitting anymore (RQ: What is the consumer acceptance of existing, novel and future food processing methods for milk / fruit juice / tomato puree?).

Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C)
(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)
A- results obtained:
Consumers associations of processed food are often negatively connoted (e.g. additives, artificial flavours, preservatives, E-codes) Advantages: time saving, convenient, easy to portion, and enable consumption of a non-seasonal variety of goods. These associations also held true for processed *organic* products. Most important with organic processed foods were organically produced ingredients, no additives, artificial flavours or preservatives, and as little ingredients and processing steps as possible as well as transparent and environmentally sustainable value chains. Participants mentioned a general uncertainty concerning processed foods and aspects related to it: origin of ingredients, packaging, or CO_2 footprint.
B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
WP6.1: M6.1. and D6.1. have been delivered later than planned, but this did not delay the progress of other tasks in the work package. D6.2. is in progress and to be delivered in M 23, as was also agreed upon in the final dissemination plan.
WP6.2: Based on the research questions formulated, a discrete choice modelling approach was considered more suitable than an experimental auction approach. Therefore, it was decided to conduct a choice experiment instead of an experimental auction.
WP6.3: none
WP6.4: In the original plan, store checks were chosen as the method to answer our research question. As written above, this method does not fit anymore and is changed to interviews and focus group discussions.
Instead of examining the consumers' acceptance of individual product processing methods directly, because of the above-mentioned changes during ProOrg, we now suggest splitting our research into two parts. We want, in a first step, to evaluate the processing quality concepts of the producers. To this end we want to carry out expert interviews with different departments (marketing, production/operations, quality control, management) of several producers of organic food products in Germany (contacts through AÖL and others). We plan to do interviews with 8-10 different producers, of which at least one each processed milk, fruit juice or tomato puree. We anticipate diverging product processing quality concepts within food companies.
The results of this survey will be used in a second step for the examination of consumers' concepts of food processing quality. We will present the different concepts of producers to the consumers and test their reactions. There are several possible reactions: The consumers may agree or disagree with the concepts, or maybe they do not understand what the producers mean. Confronted with the unfamiliar or unknown quality concepts on food processing, the consumers can work out their own concepts, which we will collect. We are planning one focus group each in Münster, Braunschweig, Fulda/ Bad Brückenau and Kassel, where our partners are located.
C- fulfilment of objectives:
WP6.1: The objectives were achieved.
WP6.2: The data collection will start shortly.
WP6.3: Preliminary qualitative tests are in course and the results will be used to set up a quantitative survey carried out on 100-120 consumers of organic products. Three examples of processed products will be used for the study (milk, fruit juice, multi-ingredient product). The subjects (recruited in Rome, Italy)

will be interviewed in the in-lab evoked supermarket context (wall video-audio projection) to analyse the perceived quality of the products and other relevant variables to better understand the consumers' expectations towards the processed organic foods.
WP6.4: We are currently in the preparation of the interviews and focus group discussions that will be conducted during the next year. Focus now is the development of the guideline for the expert interviews. Base for this is a literature review. The development of the guidelines is done in cooperation with students of the M.Sc.-degree programme "Sustainability in service management and food industries". To raise the methodological expertise, we are currently trying to organize a workshop on the conduction of interviews.

3.7 WP7

WP7	Title of WP7 "Dissemination/Implementation"

WP leader: ACTIA – Christophe Cotillon
Responsible partners: ***All project partners***

Overall summary of main results, discussion and conclusions
(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)

1) **<u>Identification and definition of target groups for dissemination as well as expected results to be communicated for each target group</u>**

Expected results to communicate	**Target groups for dissemination**
Management Guidelines for organic food processors	organic food processors other food chain members labelling organizations retailers
Assessment Framework	organic food processors other food chain members labelling organizations retailers research institutes, university, academia
Communication strategies and tools for organic food technologies	organic food processors, other food chain members labelling organizations, retailers consumers, consumer organizations, research institutes, university, academia

2) <u>Dissemination tools</u>

a) Contribution to the CORE Organic Cofund Newsletter – One contribution from WP6 about *Organic food processing: Discussing technologies with occasional organic consumers*

b) Web activities: *Project website available and updated*

c) Presentations at CO research seminars
Presentation of ProOrg project during a "science bazar" during kick-off CORE Organic Cofund Research Seminar held at CIHEAM-Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (Italy) on 29 January 2019.

d) Seminars/workshops
The session "Organic processing. Quo vadis" was organized at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany) on 14/02/2019.
In the objective to discuss with organic food processors about drivers and barriers to organic food processing several workshops have been organized in collaboration with the partners.

e) Printed material (brochure, leaflets, etc.)
A ProOrg flyer/leaflet translated in all participating Countries languages has been set up as well as a PowerPoint presentation has been made to present the project.

f) Social media

https://www.facebook.com/CORE-Organic-333056647099432
https://twitter.com/CORE_Organic

g) Other dissemination activities

A Pro Org project page was set up on the platform Organic E-prints (http://orgprints.org/34104/) to upload publications, posters, abstracts on the Organic E-prints platform.
A project logo has been designed as well as a set of graphical templates (PowerPoint, Word).

Report on the results obtained (A), changes to the original plan/ WP aims (B) and fulfilment of objectives (C)
(max 1 page per WP, font size 11)

A- results obtained:
The main outcome of WP7 is the Communication & Dissemination Plan provided during this first period.
B - comments on deviations from the original plan:
No deviation was observed during this period.
C- fulfilment of objectives:
The objectives of WP7 for this period of time have been fulfilled.

4. Milestones and deliverables status

Deliverable No.	Deliverable name	Link to the document[2)]	Planned delivery month[1)]	Actual delivery month[1)]	Reasons for changes/delay and explanation of consequences
D1.1	Kick-off meeting		1	1	
D1.2	Consortium Agreement		1	7	The delay was due to the need to meet the requirements of the Administration Office of the different institutions/organizations involved in the project and find agreed solutions. The delay did not have any consequence on the project whose activities started regularly.
D1.3	Term of Reference for the Advisory Board		2	2	
D7.1	Communication material		6	6	
D3.1	Report on case study design & selection SMEs		11	11	
D6.1	Report on the outcome of the Focus Group discussions	https://orgprints.org/36566/1/index.html	12	15	Shortage in staff. Consequences on D6.2
D6.2	Scientific paper	https://org	12	18-23	The delay in M6.1 and D6.1.

	prepared on outcomes of FG discussions	prints.org/36910/			caused a delay also in the preparation of the scientific paper, which is in progress. Anyway, a preliminary paper was presented at ÖGA Conference on Month 18.
D7.2	List of workshops/Demo days	https://www.proorgproject.com/activities	12	12	
D1.4	Annual report	https://www.proorgproject.com/publications	12	12	
D4.1	Draft assessment framework		15	16	Last revision on October. 1 month of delay is expected for D3.2 (Case Studies report)
D5.1	Report on literature review of market research		18	20	Delayed reporting because some information and market data were still pending. Consequences: delayed implementation of D5.2 and D5.3
D1.5	First project meeting		16	17	The meeting was held on 11th-12th September, the earliest date practicable. No consequences.
D2.1	Draft of the Code of Practice		16	16	
D1.6	Mid-term report		18	18	

Milestone No.	Milestone name	Planned delivery month[1)]	Actual delivery month[1)]	Reasons for changes/delay and explanation of consequences
M1.1	Kick-off meeting	1	1	
M1.2	Consortium Agreement signed	2	7	The delay was due to the need to meet the requirements of the Administration Office of the different institutions/organizations involved in the project and to find agreed solutions. The delay did not have any consequence on the project whose activities started regularly.
M4.1	Compilation of product- and process-oriented aspects of	5	5	

	organic food quality to be integrated in the assessment framework			
M6.1	Focus Group conducted	9	11	Shortage in staff
M3.1	Selection of SMEs/technologies/products	10	10	
M4.2	Compilation of indicators, parameters, methods and thresholds	10	10	
M4.3	Draft Assessment Framework	15	16	The delay was due to the need of more discussions than planned to get a common understanding within the group. 1 month of delay is expected for D3.2 (Case Studies report)
M5.1	Literature overview available about market information on processed organic food	18	20	The literature is collected, inventoried and analyzed and in process to be integrated in the draft report about the literature review. Consequences: delayed implementation of M5.2 and M5.3
M2.1	Draft of the Code of Practice	16	16	

[1)] Measured in months from the project start date (month 1)
[2)] E.g orgprints.org/33121

Additional comments (in case of major changes or deviation from the original list)
The deliverables should contribute to the fulfillment of the objectives. Please include a revised list of milestones and /or deliverables if there are major changes or deviations from the original lists in the proposal.

No major changes or deviations from the original list of deliverables and milestones in the proposal.
It is important to highlight that M4.2 is a work in progress. A first compilation of indicators, parameters, methods and thresholds was completed in time as reported in the table; however, the list will be updated and integrated throughout the project.

5. Any discordance with the organic rules during the implementation (explicitly state the reasons)

None

6. Expected impact for the organic sector throughout the project

Please specify to what extent the outputs of the project contribute to the potential outcome and the impact of your project for the target groups and the organic industries and society as described in your proposal until now.

ProOrg project intends to contribute to the sustainable innovation of the organic food sector through the development of a Code of Practice (CoP) for processors of organic food, which is the main project result.
In ProOrg scientific and practical knowledge are combined for the development of the organic sector as a whole and organic food processing industry in particular. European organic processors are the main target group of the project, but the CoP concerns also certification bodies, retailers, consumers, that have been directly involved into the development of the project proposal and have been/will constantly and regularly involved in the development of the CoP.
The CoP will provide a multi-dimensional Assessment Framework (AF) that will help the operators to find the best decisions for their specific situation. Thus, it will allow for further improvements of organic food processing and support the development of new production methods. This will contribute to increase the competitiveness of the organic food industry, while guaranteeing consumers high quality food products with a limited number of additives and technological aids and a reduced impact on the environment.
Moreover, ProOrg aims at identifying strategies to communicate effectively organic food technologies to consumers. Communication strategies and tools will be included in the CoP. ProOrg Consortium expects that an appropriate communication can provide a clearer profile for organic foods and increase consumers' confidence towards organic processed foods and the organic sector as a whole.
The main outcomes of ProOrg are the CoP and the AF. Both documents will be finalized and made available at the end of the project.
With regard to organic food processors and other stakeholders, ProOrg activity has been oriented to a) inform and raise awareness about the project, its objectives and expected results, and b) directly involve them in the development of the CoP and AF. In both cases, organic food processors and other stakeholders have shown interest and great willingness to collaborate and participate, thus bearing witness to the relevance of the topic treated by the project.
ProOrg partners have experienced also the great interest to the project from EU, IFOAM, and TP Organics.

7. Publications and dissemination activities

7.1 Depositing publications and other dissemination material in Organic Eprints

All publications and other dissemination material must be deposited in Organic Eprints together with the mid-term report. Guidelines for the use of Organic Eprints can be found here in **a screenshot** manual.
Publications that due to copyright are not allowed to be deposited in Organic Eprints as open access should be deposited as "Visible to: Depositor and staff only". The project monitoring team and funding bodies will be granted access to these during the report evaluation.

7.2 List extracted from Organic Eprints

In order to extract a list of publications from your project from Organic Eprints, go to http://orgprints.org/view/projects/eu-core-cofund.html, and choose your project. You may make a screenshot of this or export the list to a word document. You can export the list by choosing "HTML citation" for export format, then click the "Export" button, mark all (ctrl A), copy (ctrl C), and then paste into a word document (ctrl V). You will have a list of all publications from the project deposited in Organic Eprints with a link for each one to Organic Eprints.

{Project} Pro Org: Code of Practice for organic food processing. Runs 2018 - 2021. Project Leader(s): Paoletti, Dr Flavio, CREA.

{Project} Pro Org: Code of Practice for organic food processing. Runs 2018 - 2021. Project Leader(s): Paoletti, Dr Flavio, CREA.

Borghoff, Lisa; Misztal, Karolina; Elsner, Friederike; Wójtowicz, Marta and Kowalski, Hubert (2019) Information about product quality on milk packages in Germany and Poland - A ProOrg Research Project. Poster at: 1st WeValueFood conference: Increasing engagement with next generation consumers, Warsaw, 3-4th December 2019.

Hüppe, Ronja and Zander, Katrin (2019) Organic food processing: Discussing technologies with occasional organic consumers. Core Organic Cofund.

Hüppe, Ronja and Zander, Katrin (2019) Consumers' perceptions of organic food processing – first insights in milk and juice processing. In: Perspektiven wertebasierter Wertschöpfungsketten, pp. 45-46.

7.3 Additional dissemination activities

Please list dissemination activities, which are not uploaded to Organic Eprints.

Contribution to the CORE Organic Cofund Newsletter

Organic food processing: Discussing technologies with occasional organic consumers - *Responsible partner*: Thuenen Institute (Katrin Zander and Ronja Hüppe).

Seminars/workshops

Session "Organic processing. Quo vadis" organized at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany) on 14 February 2019 - *Responsible partner*: FiBL (Toralf Richter).

Aiming to discuss with organic food processors about drivers and barriers to organic food processing, the following workshops have been organized:

1. Paris (France), 13.12.2018 - *Responsible partner*: ITAB (Rodolphe Vidal), Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt). Participants: 70 persons.
2. Fulda (Germany), 08.05.2019 - *Responsible partner*: AöL (Alex Beck), Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt). Participants: 15 persons.
3. Uddel (Netherlands), 06.2019 - *Responsible partner*: Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt). Participants: 17 persons.
4. Rogow (Poland), 25.06.2019 - *Responsible partner*: WULS (Ewa Rembialkowska), Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt)

Presentations at conferences etc. (not narrow scientific conferences)

1. Participation in the session "European research meets organic food processing at eye level" at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany), 15.02.2018 - *Responsible partner*: Assobio (Roberto Pinton)
2. The 6th International Conference on Organic Agriculture Sciences (ICOAS), 7.-8.11.2018 at Eisenstadt (Austria) - Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
3. Participation in the session "Organic processing. Quo vadis", organized at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany), 14.02.2019 - *Responsible partner:* FiBl (Toralf Richter), CREA (Flavio Paoletti) and AöL (Alex Beck).
4. 1st Congress of the Polish Chamber of Organic Food (PIŻE)- Strategy for promoting organic food in Poland, 22.032019; Warsaw (Poland)- Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
5. DISH high level summit "New issues and emerging trends in food safety", Bologna (Italy), 15.05.2019 - *Responsible partner*: ACTIA (Christophe Cotillon)
6. Congress of Agriculture and Organic Food 'ECO FOOD 360' at Warsaw (Poland), 11.06.2019 - Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
   Link to the event : http://www.ecofood360.pl/

https://serwiskorporacyjny.carrefour.pl/en/news/Food_Transition/Eco_Food_360_First_Congress_On_Agriculture_And_Organic_Food_Organized_By_Carrefour_Poland

7. General Assembly of Assobio Members, Bologna, 13.06.2019 - *Responsible partner*: ASSOBIO (Roberto Pinton) and CREA (Flavio Paoletti)
8. The meeting of the Mieczysław Górny Forum of Organic Farming members. 26.06.2019 - *Responsible partner*: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
9. Evento "Rivoluzione Bio", Bologna 5.-6.09.2019 – *Responsible Partner*: CREA (Flavio Paoletti)
10. ÖGA (Austrian Association of Agricultural Economics, 19.-20.09.2019: Consumers' perceptions of organic food processing – first insights into milk and juice processing. *Responsible Partner*: Thuenen Institut (Ronja Hüppe, Katrin Zander)
11. Poster presentation at 33rd EFFoST International Conference 2019, 12.-14.11.2019: How do food producers communicate producing methods to consumers? - Results of field research in different German supermarkets and analysis of online communication of various producers. Rotterdam, The Netherlands. *Responsible Partner*: Muenster University (Lisa Borghoff, Carola Strassner)

Printed material (brochure, leaflets, etc.)

A ProOrg flyer/leaflet translated in all participating Countries languages has been compiled and used to present the project, its goals, and the consortium. The project flyer reflected the ideas and planned activities of the project for the first time and might be updated with information about significant outcomes and results in a second step.

A Power Point presentation has been made to present the project during meetings, workshops, fairs... This presentation can be updated and completed with outcomes of the project during all duration of the project

Other dissemination activities

A project logo has been designed by a professional designer and has been agreed upon the partners. The logo has been designed to be easily recognizable and to be meaningful to technical people as well as the industry and general public.

A set of graphical templates (PowerPoint, Word) was designed in order to ensure a professional level of quality in terms of design and presentation in all the project documents and communications.

7.4 Specific questions regarding dissemination and publications

Please indicate.

- ***Is the project website up-to-date?***

The P11 (ACTIA) organized and regularly updated the Project website.

- ***Stakeholders oriented articles in the CORE Organic newsletter (links to the articles).***

A contribution to CORE Organic Newsletter was submitted and published.
https://projects.au.dk/coreorganiccofund/news-and-events/show/artikel/organic-food-processing-discussing-technologies-with-occasional-organic-consumers/

- ***List the categories of end-users/main users of the research results and how they have been addressed by dissemination activities***

Target groups for the dissemination of the results are

- organic food processors,
- other food chain members,
- labelling organizations, retailers
- consumers, consumer organizations,
- research institutes, universities, academia

A set of dissemination tools were used for the dissemination to the individuated target groups.
For the dissemination to a more general audience, the use of the project website was deemed the most adequate and effective venue to reach a large number of potentially interested people. The website was designed to introduce the objectives, activities and results of the project to people and organizations of varying background.
The activities targeted to academic audiences have been centred so far on presentations and short article submissions to conferences at international and national level. ProOrg partners have submitted some proposals of oral presentations/posters to the Science Forum.
The dissemination addressed to stakeholders was through the organization of workshops, sessions at Biofach, participation in events focused on organic food and agriculture, distribution of printed materials (leaflet translated in different languages). In addition, ProOrg activities are reported regularly in the Interest Group Organic Processing (IGOP) of IFOAM EU Group.
News about ProOrg are regularly sent and published on the Organic Food System Programme Newsletter (www.organicfoodsystem.net).
A connection has been established with the European Technology Platform TP Organics and national Technology Platforms in European countries.

All the partners of ProOrg project have contributed to the dissemination activities to the target groups.

- ***Interaction with other Core Organic Plus/Cofund projects, if any.***

Interactions with the following CORE Organic Cofund projects have been established: SUSORGPLUS and GREENRESILIENT. With SUSORGPLUS a proposal for a joint session at Biofach 2020 has been submitted. With GREENRESILIENT a joint event aimed to communicate the consumers the objectives and content of the two projects was organized and held in Capua (Italy) at the farm “La Colombaia”, which is partner of GREENRESILIENT.

- ***Impact of the project in relation to main beneficiaries of the project results. For the different categories of end-users/main users of the research results, explain how well the project has been able to reach these target groups, and any known impact.***

Project partners have regular contacts with organic stakeholder, particularly organic food processors, and labelling organizations. This is facilitated by the fact that two organic food processor organization are partners of the project Consortium (AoeL and Assobio). Moreover, representatives of organic association, labelling organization, retailers are members of the Advisory Board of the project.
Numerous participants attended the workshops organized in different countries.
The attendance was high also during the session set up at Biofach 2019 “Organic processing. Quo vadis?”.

ProOrg leaflet was distributed in the international and national events where ProOrg partners have taken part.

Annex 1: Cost overview and deviations from budget

Partner no.	Total person months	Spent person months	Total budget	Spent budget
P1	25	13	100.000,00	54,000.00
P2	12.3	3.1	66,000.00	15,294.00
P3	10.5	5.5	25,000.00	12.000,00
P4	24	11.5	208,404.00	107,095.00
P5	31	13	120,775.00	44,050.00
P6	15	7.6	99,834.00	49,789.69
P7	16.2	8.1	98,230.00	42,726.98
P8	17	9	128,740,00	45,971.82
P9	24	9	110,000,00	41,150.00
P10	25	8.5	269,550.00	103,576.00
P11	9.5	1.9	87,200.00	23,563.00
P12	23	13	69,500.00	31,592.21
P13	11	3.1	83,000.00	25,000.00
P14 *	//	//	//	//
P15 *	//	//	//	//
P16	6.3	3.1	85,538.00	41,282.00
TOTAL	249.8	109.4	1,551,771.00	637,090.70

Please provide an annual budget balance overview (or in accordance with agreed time-line with Programme Secretariat), indicate reasons for changes/delay in the budget and explanation of consequences.
This request is related to the overall consortium level and it is to be treated separately from the national requirements stipulated in the contracts where the budget balance will be reviewed and approved by the respective national funding institutions.

* External partner – no budget

Reported Spent PM and Spent budget are calculated at Month 18 and are in line with the activities performed by the partners.
In some cases, the table of the cost overview shows some differences with the amount of Total PM and budget as indicated in the submitted project proposal. The differences are the result of the negotiation process that partners had with their national funding body.
In addition, at the time of the project proposal submission, partner P5, Wageningen University, and P16, Wageningen Food & Biobased Reasearch, resulted as a single entity. Instead, they are two distinct institutions with two separate administrations, which has led to the negotiation and signature of two distinct contracts with their funding body.

Annex 2: Overview on the coordination costs

Together with the submission of the project proposal the coordinator requested additional funding as 'coordination budget' from the CORE Organic Cofund. Please provide a cost overview (total amounts) for the following tasks that were envisaged in the proposal:

1. Travels for participation in CORE Organic Cofund research seminars and travels to partners for problem solving (travels for project meetings were to be requested from the national funds),
2. Person months to cover the coordination work and reporting to CORE Organic Cofund, also for permanent staff,
3. Overhead (fixed at 25% of the total coordination costs),
4. Catering in connection to project meetings,
5. Other costs (must be specified).

	Total budget	**Spent budget**
Travels	7,000.00	2,800.00
Overhead	3,500.00	1,800.00
Catering	3,500.00	0.0
Other costs	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	14,000.00	4,600.00

Total person months = 11 **Spent person months =** 5

Please specify to what extend the availability of 'coordination budget' had an additional value for the project and for you in performing the role of coordinator.

Coordination budget allowed to perform activities in the interest of the project as a whole.
Thanks to the availability of a coordination budget it was possible so far to

- organize a working meeting in Nurnberg on 15.02.2019
- represent the Project Consortium in the joint event organized with the Coordinator of GREENRESILIENT project, Dr. Fabio Tittarelli
- prepare and print copies of the project leaflet to be distributed in events and posters describing objectives, activities, structure the project.

Participation in the CORE Organic Cofund seminar in Bari was an opportunity to meet the coordinators of the other funded projects and establish contacts with them. These contacts are the basis for the development of new project proposals in the near future and have been resulted so far in the organization of joint initiatives for the dissemination of project activities to different groups of stakeholders.

Annex 3: Recommendations to the CORE Organic consortium in relation to launching and monitoring of future transnationally funded research projects

Annex 4: Dissemination plan

DISSEMINATION PLAN

Project:
Code of Practice for organic food processing – ProOrg

Contact person (s) for dissemination tasks:

Christophe Cotillon C.COTILLON@actia-asso.eu
Flavio Paoletti flavio.paoletti@crea.gov.it

Introduction

The objective of this Dissemination Plan is to identify and organize the dissemination channels to utilize and the related activities to be performed within ProOrg project. The aim is to promote and spread information about goals, activities, and results of the project as well as to incite the relevant communities to provide feedback, communicate their requirements, and adapt their activities.

This document includes what has already been generated since the start of the project and provides an outline of what is planned for dissemination and communication until the end of the project.

Dissemination of the scientific results will be done through publication in scientific journals and presentations at scientific conferences and is not part of this document.

Stakeholders participation in the project

Three association of organic food processors are members of ProOrg consortium: "Assoziation Ökologischer Lebensmittelhersteller" (AöL) from Germany, "Associazione nazionale delle imprese di trasformazione e distribuzione dei prodotti biologici e naturali" (Assobio) from Italy and BioNext from the Netherlands.
ProOrg partners are constantly in contact with the organic associations and their members in their respective countries for the development of the Code of Practice (CoP).

National organic processor associations and individual companies from different European countries have signed a Letter of Intent to state their interest in the project.
Representatives of stakeholders (retailers, companies, organic associations, labelling organizations) are members of the Advisory Board of the project.

ProOrg adopts a participatory action research method for the involvement of the stakeholders into the process of development of the CoP.
Through specific workshops to be held in different countries, organic food processors were requested to indicate drivers and barriers to the production of processed organic food. The development of the CoP will be performed through an iterative process. A draft version of the CoP will be prepared based on literature available, already existing guidance materials for organic operators, expert interviews, and consultation with standard organizations, researchers and operators. The draft of the CoP will be tested at SMEs level for its workability and practicability through the involvement and direct participation of the operators responsible for making decision processes and quality control management. Via a feedback procedure, revision will take place leading to the final version of the Code of Practice applicable by industry for organic food processing.

Target groups for dissemination

ProOrg dissemination activities will ensure wide reaching impact, uptake and use of project deliverables among identified stakeholders at national and European level:

- food processors producing organic foods
- other food chain members (suppliers of specific materials, services, etc.)
- organic labelling organizations
- retailers
- civil society (consumers, consumer organizations, others)
- research institutes, university, academia

Expected results of ProOrg to be communicated and target groups for dissemination

The "Code of Practice for organic food processing" is composed of the three following elements each of them will be communicated to relevant target groups:

- Management Guideline
- Assessment Framework
- Communication strategies and tools for organic food technologies

Expected results to communicate	Target groups for dissemination
Management Guidelines for organic food	organic food processors

processors	other food chain members labelling organizations retailers
Assessment Framework	organic food processors other food chain members labelling organizations retailers research institutes, university, academia
Communication strategies and tools for organic food technologies	organic food processors, other food chain members labelling organizations, retailers consumers, consumer organizations, research institutes, university, academia

Dissemination tools

a) Contribution to the CORE Organic Cofund Newsletter (mandatory)

1. Organic food processing: Discussing technologies with occasional organic consumers - *Responsible partner*: Thuenen Institute (Katrin Zander and Ronja Hüppe). Within October 2019
2. Drivers and barriers for organic food processing. A summary of the outcomes of the workshop with stakeholders-*responsible partner*: Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt). Within March 2020
3. Information on processing - "What can we see on the packaging?" A summary of the product screening - *Responsible partner*: FH – Muenster (Lisa Borghoff). Within March 2020
4. A summary of the results of the organic market survey and role of organic processed food - *Responsible partner*: FiBL (Toralf Richter). Within September 2020
5. A short description of the multidimensional assessment framework - *Responsible partner*: FiBL (Matthias Meier or Regula Bickel or?). Within March 2021
6. A short description of the Code of Practice - *Responsible partner*: AöL (Alex Beck). Within March 2021

b) Web activities

CO Cofund website (mandatory)
ProOrg Consortium will provide the CORE Organic Cofund website with the most up-to-date details about project activities and results through a news feed, events calendar and links,

ProOrg website
The ProOrg project has a public website available since November 2018 (https://www.proorgproject.com/). It provides a responsive design in order to be correctly displayed on any device (ranging from regular PC to mobile devices).

The ProOrg website represents the first vehicle in raising awareness of the project and contains a general presentation of the project objectives and the consortium as well as all public information news related to the project activities, results, events, publications, deliverables. Links to other relevant websites will be also included.
The content of the website will be updated periodically, especially concerning the information on project outcomes, publications and events.

A mention of the ProOrg project will be done on institutional websites of the partners.

Furthermore, a project page has been initiated in ResearchGate. All ProOrg participants are most welcome to add bits and pieces in this page as we go along.

c) Practice Abstract (mandatory – 2 at least)

1. An extract from the study on the effect of different pasteurization on quality characteristics of organic apple juice. *Responsible partner: Ewa Rembialkowska*. Within 2020.
2. An extract from the study on the effect of cooking conditions (temperature, time, vacuum and additive) on apple puree qualities (texture, polyphenol and volatile contents). *Responsible partner: Carine Le Bourvellec*. Within 2020.

d) Presentations at CO research seminars (mandatory)

1. Participation in the kick-off CORE Organic Cofund Research Seminar held at CIHEAM-Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (Italy) on 29 January 2019 - Presentation of ProOrg project during a "science bazar" - *Responsible partner*: Coordinator
2. Participation in the CORE Organic Cofund mid-term evaluation meeting with the aim to present the progress of the project to the national funding body representatives, discuss and agree on any minor or major changes to be required - *Responsible partner*: Coordinator
3. To be communicated from CORE Organic Cofund

e) Seminars/workshops

The session "Organic processing. Quo vadis" was organized at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany) on 14 February 2019 - *Responsible partner*: FiBL (Toralf Richter).
During this session, the project ProOrg and its first results were presented - *Responsible partner*: CREA (Flavio Paoletti), AöL (Alex Beck).

Aiming to discuss with organic food processors about drivers and barriers to organic food processing, the following workshops have been organized or scheduled:

5. Paris (France), 13 December 2018 - *Responsible partner*: ITAB (Rodolphe Vidal), Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt)
6. Fulda (Germany), 8 May 2019 - *Responsible partner*: AöL (Alex Beck), Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt)
7. Uddel (Netherlands), June 2019 - *Responsible partner*: Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt)
8. Warsaw (Poland), 25 of June 2019 .- *Responsible partner*: WULS (Ewa Rembialkowska), Wageningen Food & Biobased Research (Martijntje Vollebregt)

9. Switzerland. Seminar for Swiss organic processors about processing technologies dedicated to organic products (2020/21)
10. Contribution about project results to «Biosymposium» 2020 or 2021 (target group organic processors).

Workshops will be organized by project partners in the participating countries in order to present and discuss about ProOrg outcomes. The European Technology platforms TP-Organics and Food for Life and their national members in the respective countries as well as IFOAM-EU will be involved.

f) Articles on specialized journal/magazine and other non-scientific information and communication media

1. Barriers and drivers for organic food processing. *Responsible partner: Martijntje Vollebregt*. Within March 2020
2. Consumers' expectations and preferences of organic processing technologies. Outcome of the focus group discussions. *Responsible partner: Katrin Zander*. Within March 2020
3. Information on processing: what can we see on the packaging? *Responsible partner: Lisa Borghoff*. Within September 2020
4. Benefits or threats of certain (new) processing technologies to use in the organic sector. Results of a market and stakeholder survey. *Responsible partner: Toralf Richter*. Within December 2020
5. A Code of Practice for organic food processing. *Responsible partner*: Alex Beck. Within March 2021

Further articles in specialized journals will be published within March 2021.

g) Presentations at conferences etc. (not narrow scientific conferences)

12. Participation in the session "European research meets organic food processing at eye level" at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany), 15 February 2018 *Responsible partner*: Assobio (Roberto Pinton)
13. The 6th International Conference on Organic Agriculture Sciences (ICOAS); 7-8 November 2018 at Eisenstadt (Austria)- Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
14. Participation in the session "Organic processing. Quo vadis", organized at Biofach, Nurnberg (Germany), 14 February 2019 (see point e) - *Responsible partner:* CREA (Flavio Paoletti) and AöL (Alex Beck).
15. 1st Congress of the Polish Chamber of Organic Food (PIŻE)- Strategy for promoting organic food in Poland, 22 March 2019; Warsaw (Poland)- Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
16. Borghoff, Lisa and Strassner, Carola (2019) Klassifikationssysteme für verarbeitete Lebensmittel: Ein Vergleich. [A Comparison of Classification systems for processed food.] In: Mühlrath, Daniel; Albrecht, Joana; Finckh, Maria R.; Hamm, Ulrich; Heß, Jürgen; Knierim, Ute and Möller, Detlev (Eds.) Innovatives Denken für eine nachhaltige Land- und Ernährungswirtschaft. Beiträge zur 15. Wissenschaftstagung Ökologischer Landbau, Kassel, 5. bis 8. März 2019, Verlag Dr. Köster, Berlin. Presentation at Wissenschaftstagung Ökologischer Landbau see also http://orgprints.org/36139/
17. DISH high level summit "New issues and emerging trends in food safety", Bologna (Italy), 15 May 2019 - *Responsible partner*: ACTIA (Christophe Cotillon)
18. *Propose to do an update Seminar at Biofach 2020 "First results from ProOrg project"??*
19. *Congress of Agriculture and Organic Food 'ECO FOOD 360' at Warsaw (Poland), 11 June 2019 - Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)*

Link to the event : http://www.ecofood360.pl/ https://serwiskorporacyjny.carrefour.pl/en/news/Food_Transition/Eco_Food_360_First_Congress_On_Agriculture_And_Organic_Food_Organized_By_Carrefour_Poland

20. General Assembly of Assobio Members, Bologna, 13 June 2019 - *Responsible partner*: CREA (Flavio Paoletti)
21. The meeting of the Mieczysław Górny Forum of Organic Farming, members.26 June 2019 - Responsible partner: WULS (Ewa Rembiałkowska)
22. Evento "Rivoluzione Bio", Bologna 5-6 September 2019 – *Responsible Partner*: CREA (Flavio Paoletti).
23. ÖGA (Austrian Association of Agricultural Economics, 19.-20.09.2019: Consumers' perceptions of organic food processing – first insights into milk and juice processing. Thuenen (Ronja Hüppe, Katrin Zander)
24. Poster presentation at 33rd EFFoST International Conference 2019, 12-14 November 2019, Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Borghoff & Strassner: How do food producers communicate producing methods to consumers? - Results of field research in different German supermarkets and analysis of online communication of various producers
25. The Organic World Congress 2020 (OWC), 21-27 September 2020, Rennes (France) – Participation of all ProOrg partners.

h) Printed material (brochure, leaflets, etc.)

A ProOrg flyer/leaflet translated in all participating Countries languages has been compiled and used to present the project, its goals, and the consortium. The project flyer reflected the ideas and planned activities of the project for the first time and might be updated with information about significant outcomes and results in a second step.

A flyer/leaflet explains the background for undertaking the initiative, indicates the targeted results, and provides an overview of the consortium and contacts: major contacts, website.

The ProOrg leaflet is disseminated in various contexts. For instance, it was used to familiarize the "drivers and barriers for organic processing" workshop's participants with the ProOrg project in Poland (see above) and shared on the meeting of the Mieczysław Górny Forum of Organic Farming, within a lot of organic producers, processors, employees of certification bodies, academic teachers, organic food enthusiasts.

The ProOrg leaflet was also used to present the project to students (and staff) at the Department of Food – Nutrition – Facilities, FH Münster University of Applied Sciences in Germany.

A Power Point presentation has been made to present the project more fully at least once a semester within various courses, especially in the Master degree course "Sustainability in Service Management and Food Industries", e.g R&D in Sustainability.

During consortium meetings and events interviews/videos of partners especially WP leaders are planned. They will be uploaded on the website on the public part. They will contribute to promote the CoP and case studies of ProOrg.

i) Social media

LinkedIn

LinkedIn is a Professional Network through which Pro Org can address particular, professional target groups. It is mainly functional for targeted networking and to create a sustainable Pro Org network in which the status of the project but also project outcomes can be shared.
The Pro Org Group is communicating via the Core Organic community
(https://www.facebook.com/CORE-Organic-333056647099432)

Twitter
The communication via twitter is also done through Core Organic. https://twitter.com/CORE_Organic

j) Other dissemination activities

A ProOrg project page was set up on the platform Organic E-prints (http://orgprints.org/34104/). Partners will regularly upload publications, posters, abstracts on the Organic E-prints platform.

A project logo has been designed by a professional designer and has been agreed upon the partners. The logo has been designed to be easily recognizable and to be meaningful to technical people as well as the industry and general public.

A set of graphical templates (PowerPoint, Word) was designed in order to ensure a professional level of quality in terms of design and presentation in all the project documents and communications.

h) Other initiatives among partners

1) The information for Department of Functional and Organic Food, Institute of Human Nutrition Sciences and the whole Warsaw University of Life Sciences about the main goals of the ProOrg project. Providing access to the ProOrg leaflet in Polish and project information on the main WULS website: http://www.sggw.pl/aktualnosci/projekt-bdquo-kodeks-praktyki-dla-przetworstwa-zywnosci-ekologic
2) Students in the Department of Food – Nutrition – Facilities at FH Münster University of Applied Sciences are given a number of opportunities and actively encouraged to get involved with the research activities within the project. To date (11.10.2019) student projects in the Bachelor and Master degree courses as well as Bachelor and Master theses have been undertaken.