



NEWSLETTER No. 2



MESSAGE FROM THE COORDINATOR

**Prof. Manuel
Valiente**



Hello all,

Thank you for reading the 2nd edition of the SE4ALL newsletter. This issue includes updates and news about the project and related areas in science, biotechnology, and agricultural engineering.

Professor Manuel Valiente

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Se4All VIDEO RELEASE

The Se4All video, detailing the goal of the project, the science behind it, and the reason why Selenium is such an important nutrient was created in November. This YouTube video marks a change in the way that this project engages with its audience.

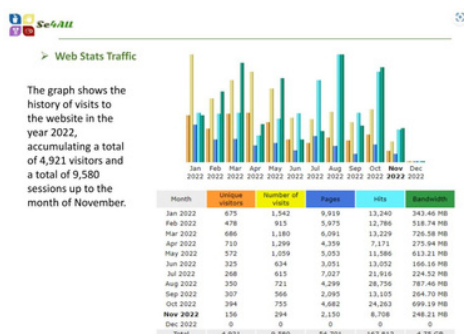
[Watch it here.](#)



SE4ALL MIDTERM REVIEW

In the 3rd week of November, Se4All's results-to-date were presented to the consortium. The event took place at the EXE Hotel in Barcelona at the UAB campus.

The event began with a roundtable introduction. Project Coordinator Prof. Manuel Valiente presented the results of each Work Package along with the respective WP leaders. At the end of the session, there was an open discussion and question section before the meeting was closed by the Project Officer, Mr. Rodrigo Gutierrez-Dominguez, from the European Commission.



ALBA SECONDMENT

Also in November, Dr. Laura Simonelli from ALBA and Professor Federico Marini from the University of Rome La Sapienza applied multivariate analysis (MCA) to extract the main common spectral components of the x-ray absorption data collected at ALBA in September 2022 at the Se K-edge on Se-enriched alfalfa shoots by foliar application. This approach allows access to the Se chemical speciation and its evolution as a function of several cultivation parameters.



"The ALBA Synchrotron Light facility in Barcelona is a complex of electron accelerators to produce synchrotron light, which allows the visualization of the atomic structure of matter as well as the study of its properties" (sincrotronalba.es). The ALBA facility serves over 2000 researchers every year, including 35% from foreign countries.

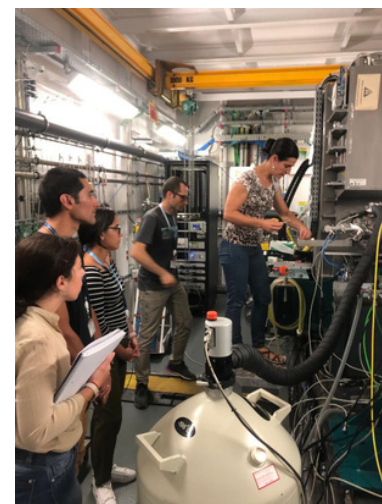
UNL SECONDMENT

In November 2022, Professor Fernando Muñoz and Micaela Stoffel from the Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL) made a visit to the ALBA Synchrotron Light facility in Barcelona to analyze the Selenium content in alfalfa (WP1).

Dr. Muñoz earned a Ph.D in biological sciences from the Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata in Argentina in 2012. He completed a post doctorate with a focus in nanomedicine at the Institute of Biological Research-UNMDP-CONICET in 2014. He is currently the Chief of Practical Works Plant Physiology at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, UNL and Researcher of CONICET. His area of interest is increasing the nutritional properties of plants through biofortification.

Micaela Stoffel is a university technician in the postharvest of grains and seeds at the UNL Laboratory of Research in Physiology and Plant Molecular Biology, and an advanced student of biology.

The Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL) is a public institution dedicated to higher education, scientific research, technological development, and transferring knowledge and technology to society. UNL has a strong international reputation based on partnerships with universities around the world. UNL has welcomed roughly 200 international professors, 250 foreign students, and has about 200 of its own students and 90 faculty researchers on academic stays in other countries.



1ST INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Se4All organized its first international workshop on November 17th. The workshop was a way for us to disseminate information about the project and advances in the field of functional food. The workshop also included a guided tour of the Center for Research in Agricultural Genomics (CRAG).

Topics discussed were:

- The two faces of Selenium in broccoli: improving nutritional and commercial quality (Dr. Fernando Muñoz)
- Differential cell wall response between two contrasting stalk-lodging resistant maize lines upon drought (Dr. David Caparrós Ruiz)
- Selenium uptake by plants to the development and characterization of functional foods (Ms. Marcia Viltres)
- Evaluation of stress tolerance of horticultural seedlings produced with Selenium addition (Ms. Micaela Stoffel)
- Legume-PGPB interactions as a biotechnological tool to limit the translocation and accumulation of arsenic in peanut crop grain (Ms. Eliana Carolina Bianucci)
- Giving added value to staple products. Case study of rice? (Associate Prof. Jordi Saldo)

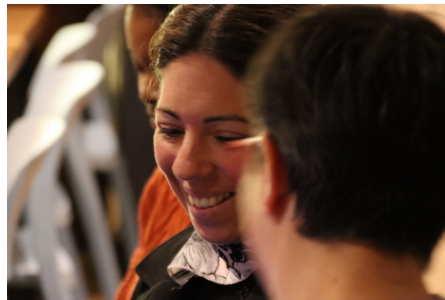


SCIENCE CAFE

On November 18th, the Se4All project hosted a Science Cafe at the El Cau restaurant in Cerdanyola.

A Science Cafe is an event that allows students and other interested parties to interact with researchers and ask questions. It also provides researchers with an avenue by which to disseminate information about their research.

The subject of the event was "Urban Food Systems for Plant Based Products for Local Sustainability: Would you grow your greens at home?" The speaker, Dr. Roberto Boada spoke about the benefits of growing plant-based food locally and new initiatives in the field of urban food systems.



SUBSCRIBE

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PROJECT PARTNERS

These organizations have partnered with us to advance our common goal: increasing the availability of Selenium-rich dairy products for common consumption. We thank them for their support and are proud of the relationships we've built thus far. They have been instrumental in the progress of this project.



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