

AEGILOPS (<u>http://www.aegilops.gr/</u>), Volos, Greece) is a non-governmental organization founded in 2004 whose main aims are: i) to conserve heritage varieties and traditional agricultural knowledge and to restore landrace varieties into contemporary agricultural

practice in ways that benefit community, ii) to develop plant varieties adapted to local organic production which utilize the benefits of locally adapted genetic resources for ecological agriculture, iii) to strengthen the role of the farmers in the conservation of genetic resources as well as to protect their rights in taking part in the management and benefits of agrobiodiversity.

AEGILOPS has developed Focal Points in various regions of the country (Volos, Athens, Thessaloniki, Patra, Kastoria, Aridaia, Kefalonia Island, Lesvos Island. Each Focal Point conserves a Community Seed Bank and coordinates activities working closely with an organic farmers group.