

# European **CO**operation in **S**cience and **T**echnology Action Food & Agriculture

## *An integrated systems approach to determine the developmental mechanisms controlling fleshy fruit quality in tomato and grapevine*



How fleshy fruits grow, ripen and produce their sensory and nutritional characteristics that make them so popular with consumers? Are tomato and grape using common or different strategies and signaling pathways to initiate their maturation process? To answer these questions the Laboratory of Genomics and Biotechnology of Fruits coordinates since July 2012 the COST Action FA1106 "QualityFruit". This network funded by the European Commission includes up to 47 laboratories, working on fruit, from 22 European countries. The four year budget finance scientific conferences, workshops, thematic schools or inter-laboratory exchanges to foster cooperation between European researchers and promote new research initiatives that seek for the mechanism controlling fleshy fruit development and quality.



Building on the completion of the genome sequence of tomato and grapevine, two major fleshy fruit species, this COST Action brings together research groups working on climacteric (tomato) and non-climacteric (grape) model fruits to harness European research in this area to the most advanced genomics and post-genomics technologies. Combining studies on the two fruit models in a multidisciplinary approach will expand our understanding of the molecular and physiological factors controlling fruit development and ripening thus providing new leads towards addressing fruit quality issues.

### ***Who can apply?***

- Young scientists and researchers from labs in one of the current member states of this COST action.
- Researchers with a proposal related to this topic

The training of researchers, and particularly young scientists, on cutting-edge methodologies and the implementation of bioinformatics tools for data integration will contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of European research in this field.

