

ECPGR framework and expectations

Convening of the ECPGR Doc&Info bodies to discuss the best approach to continue progress with the European PGR info system and Eurisco

Network Coordinating Group

and

Eurisco Advisory Group

F. Begemann
I. Faberova
T. van Hintum
H. Knüpffer
I. Thomas
V. Jamilloux
A. Tan

F. Begemann
I. Faberova
T. van Hintum
V. Jamilloux
E. Bettencourt
S. Gaiji
D. T. Endresen

Areas of necessary/desirable developments (EPGRIS2 preparation meeting, March 2004):

- Improvement of data flow within countries between the original data providers and the National Inventories
- Furthering the integration between EURISCO and ECCDBs
- Sustaining the funding support to EURISCO and related activities
- Improved definition of roles and responsibilities with a particular emphasis on ECCDB and EURISCO Focal points.
- Improved data standards for EURISCO (taxonomy; C+E data)
- Upgrading of existing technologies
- Improved downloading functionality from EURISCO

Four 'phases' as the building blocks:

- Data standardization

(Multi crop and crop specific descriptors for Passport and C+E data)

- Data schema

(XML: Increasing the flexibility and efficiency of data transfer between data source, NI, EURISCO, ECCDB, and data user)

- Infrastructure upgrade

(Technical backbone to allow for data standardization and the use of schemas. Installing upgrading and testing of wrappers, web servers etc.)

- Capacity building

(the technology should reach the PGR user community, via training to partners)

EURISCO (the *ex situ* catalogue)

- Maintained by Bioversity on behalf of ECPGR (8500 euro/year)
- Sonia Dias (temporarily replaced by Milko Skofic) is the contact point for the National Inventory Focal Points
- Since its launch, in September 2003 Eurisco has made progress
i.e.: one million accessions passed last week
downloading options
became a GBIF provider
- Eurisco has received some criticism
- Overall, it is considered a valuable and important product by the ECPGR circles and beyond and it is necessary to improve its functionality and the services that it can offer

The ECCDBs

- Have in some cases taken advantage of data available from EURISCO
- The harmonization between ECCDBs and EURISCO is far from perfect
- National efforts are mainly dedicated to EURISCO
(ex. SEEDNet is recommending fulfillment of Eurisco data)
- Support for ECCDBs:
 - Institutional
 - Voluntary
 - Unsustainable

New developments / needs

FAO International Treaty

- Using Eurisco
as a formal DB to flag Multi Lateral System accessions
as a reporting mechanism for Europe

AEGIS

- Documentation requirements → Jan

EUFGIS

- Forest Genetic Resources Information System → Jarkko

Development of *in situ*/on-farm component of the Info system:

- Ongoing nomination of Focal points: 19 nominations (on-line from D&I web site)
- Ongoing development of *in situ* descriptors for the GEF project – ready to be shared with D&I
- Opportunity to create an *in situ* component of EURISCO
- N. Maxted's proposal to organize a meeting in Birmingham to follow up with EGRISI

Further progress of the PGR info system taking place within the context of the ECPGR Network:

- In order to maintain coherent efforts of all the member countries
- This is also the most likely way to obtain funding support from ECPGR
- Need to consider consensus planning and training sessions



D&I network agreement: NCG/EAG & SC agreement
DB managers + NIFP involvement