

Announcement of the Second Call for Proposals

Competitive AEGIS Grant Scheme



On behalf of the ECPGR Steering Committee and the AEGIS Advisory Committee, the ECPGR Secretariat, is pleased to announce the Second Call for Proposals of the AEGIS Competitive Grant Scheme.



A total of € 103,000 has been made available for Phase VIII of the ECPGR programme, from 01.01.2009 until 31.12.2013. During the First Call a total amount of € 34,530 has been allocated and thus, a total of € 68,470 remains available for project proposals submitted to this Second Call. In case not all remaining funds will be used by the second call in 2010, or additional funds will become available, these funds might be used for an additional call in 2011 or 2012. A typical individual Grant, i.e. a defined set of related actions that contribute all to the achievement of a clearly written set of objectives and one or more milestones, will be approximately € 10,000. The duration of a Grant will be up to one calendar year from its initiation. A longer period will only be agreeable on an exceptional basis and requires a well-argued justification.

Every proposal requires a written endorsement from at least one Network Coordinator or Working Group Chair. In case the proposed project deals with a crop specific subject, a letter of endorsement should be obtained from the corresponding Working Group Chair. If the proposal deals with a topic that is broader than a crop-specific approach, the respective Network Coordinator (or even two or more Coordinators of the respective Networks) should be requested to endorse. See list of Network Coordinators and Working Group Chairs, at: <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/Introduction/Networks.htm>.

For more information, please contact Jan Engels (j.engels@cgiar.org) or Lorenzo Maggioni (l.maggioni@cgiar.org)

Application requirements

- Applications may be submitted by any individual or institution based within an ECPGR member country.
- Each Grant requires a well-written proposal in English. The proposal has to follow an agreed format and length (*See Guidelines for preparation of project proposals*).
- Each Grant application requires a named coordinating individual or institution which will receive and manage the funds on behalf of the partners of that Grant.
- Germplasm material and related information used in or resulting from the Grant must be made, or will remain, publicly available in line with the conditions as set out by the SMTA of the International Treaty.
- Grant outputs/results have to be concrete, measurable and sharable (where applicable) and could be a method, a list of accessions, a database, etc.
- Each proposal will include a detailed itemized budget, consisting of one or more of the following cost factors: staff time, travel, meetings, equipment, supplies and/or services.
- The complete application package should include the filled out *application form*, the proposal, a cover letter and an endorsement letter from the corresponding ECPGR Network Coordinator or Working Group Chair and must be submitted before the deadline of 31 December 2010 to: Jan Engels (mail to: j.engels@cgiar.org).

Objective:

The objective of the Grant is to support activities that will be directly linked to the goals of AEGIS and thus contribute to the establishment and/or operation of AEGIS. Details on AEGIS can be obtained from its website (<http://aegis.cgiar.org>), in particular from “A Strategic Framework for the Implementation of a European Genebank Integrated System (AEGIS) - a Policy Guide”

ECPGR member countries:

Albania
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Macedonia (FYR)
Malta
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russian Federation
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

Bioversity International strives for diversity in gender and nationality in its training and capacity development programmes

Deadline for applications is 31 December 2010

Selection and review procedure

- All proposals will be screened for eligibility by the ECPGR Secretariat and where necessary clarifications will be sought from the applicant. Eligible proposals will be forwarded to the AEGIS Advisory Committee.
- Eligible proposals will be reviewed by the AEGIS Advisory Committee and ranked according to the selection criteria below, based on expected contributions to the AEGIS establishment and/or operation process.
- The AEGIS Advisory Committee will make the final decision on the successful proposals, avoiding conflicts of interest and assuring transparency. This decision will be final.
- The titles of all proposals as well as the results from the review and selection process will be published on the AEGIS website.

Selection criteria

Proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The anticipated impact of the Grant on the establishment and development of AEGIS (e.g. speed and breadth of applicability, the inclusion of more public domain Most Appropriate Accessions (MAAs) in the European Collection, etc.) and multi-national or regional relevance of the expected benefits. Applicability of the results to the entire AEGIS region versus just a few countries or a single country or a single institute.
Weighting: 30%
- The quality of the proposal and the likelihood of the project reaching the expected results.
Weighting: 30%
- Contributions (financial and/or in kind) of the applicant to the total cost of the project, as well as the cost effectiveness of the project in advancing AEGIS.
Weighting: 20%
- The appropriateness and quality of the partnership submitting the Grant (i.e. countries; institutions; multi-sectoral - NGOs, public and private sector and/or others) and multi-national or regional relevance of the expected benefits.
Weighting: 20%

Implementation of the AEGIS Grant Scheme

The ECPGR Secretariat will:

- Publish the calls for proposals
- Coordinate the review and selection process
- Administer the implementation of the Scheme
- Coordinate technical backstopping by mobilizing necessary expertise from the ECPGR Networks as required

The AEGIS Advisory Committee will:

- Approve the calls for proposals
- Contribute to the review and selection process (avoiding conflicts of interest)
- Evaluate the results of each call for proposals and report to the ECPGR Steering Committee
- Advise on opportunities for raising additional funds for the Scheme