

## ECPGR Mode of Operation Phase X

Executive Committee

Steering Committee

Coordinating Secretariat

Crop Working Groups

Thematic Working Groups

- Allium
- Avena
- Barley
- Beta
- Brassica
- Cucurbits
- Fibre Crops (Flax and Hemp)
- Forages
- Grain Legumes
- Leafy Vegetables

- Maize
- Malus/Pyrus
- Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
- Potato
- Prunus
- Solanaceae
- Umbellifer Crops
- Vitis
- Wheat

- Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Reserves
- On-farm Conservation and Management
- Documentation and Information



## What is ECPGR?

The European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources (ECPGR) is a collaborative Programme among European countries. Its long-term goals are the effective long-term conservation, provision of access and increased utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in Europe.

ECPGR was founded in 1980 on the basis of the recommendations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Genebank Committee of the European Association for Research on Plant Breeding (EUCARPIA).

### ECPGR Secretariat

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Barley multiplication plots © M. Grau, IPK

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## European Programme for Plant Genetic Resources ECPGR

Phase X (2019-2023)



## How we operate

ECPGR is financed by the European countries, nearly 40 members, and is guided by a Steering Committee (SC), consisting of the National Coordinators of the member countries. The SC nominates an Executive Committee (ExCo) composed of five persons, to plan and execute the ECPGR activities, as decided upon by the SC.

The Secretariat coordinates the implementation of the programme, which is organized in Crop and Thematic Working Groups.

The starting budget of Phase X of ECPGR (2019-2023) is Euro 2,688,250, covering the cost of the Secretariat, the management and development of EURISCO as well as the activities of the Working Groups.

ECPGR-funded actions are approved by the Executive Committee and consist of Working Group meetings on demand and activities granted on the basis of Calls for Proposals.

## Objectives

- ▶ To efficiently conserve and provide access to unique germplasm in Europe through the European Genebank Integrated System (AEGIS)
- ▶ To provide passport and phenotypic information of actively conserved European plant genetic resources diversity through the EURISCO catalogue
- ▶ To improve *in situ* conservation and use of crop wild relatives
- ▶ To promote on-farm conservation and management
- ▶ To promote use of plant genetic resources

## Achievements

### AEGIS A European Genebank Integrated System



The European Collection established under AEGIS is a decentralized collection of genetically unique accessions maintained by Associate Member genebanks/institutions. This Collection is conserved at agreed quality standards and accessions are made available in accordance with the terms and conditions set out by the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.  
([www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/aegis](http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/aegis))

### EURISCO



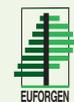
The European Catalogue of plant genetic resources gathers passport and phenotypic data from 43 National Inventories. It provides online information related to ca. 2 million accessions conserved by more than 370 institutions throughout Europe.  
(<http://eurisco.ecpgr.org>)

### EVA (European Evaluation Network)

The European Evaluation Network was established by ECPGR in 2018, in the form of a framework to facilitate Private/Public Partnerships to carry out evaluation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and improve digitization, harmonization, availability and exchange of evaluation data. EVA is expected to start its implementation during Phase X (2019-2023).

### GenRes Bridge

Together with the European forest (EUFORGEN) and animal (ERFP) genetic resources networks, ECPGR is partner of the EU-funded project 'GenRes Bridge' on 'Joining forces for GenRes and biodiversity management' (SFS-28- 2018-2020). This is a Coordination and Support Action (2019-2021), aiming at strengthening the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources in Europe.



### ECPGR Concept for *in situ* conservation of crop wild relatives in Europe

Crop Wild Relative (CWR) genetic resources native to Europe contain a wide pool of genetic diversity that is of value for crop improvement. This Concept, developed in 2015 by the Working Group on Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Reserves, provides a strategic approach to CWR diversity conservation and utilization in Europe. The Concept is meant to guide EU and national policy development throughout the region.

### ECPGR Concept for on-farm conservation and management of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

The driving force that maintains our crop heritage is the diversity of cultivation and management strategies of a large number of smallholder farmers. This Concept, developed in 2017 by the Working Group on On-farm Conservation and Management, identifies the role of ECPGR to promote on-farm management and conservation approaches. Suitable areas of intervention concern those initiatives related to promote on-farm diversity that can benefit from international collaboration.

