

ECPGR – Phase IX 2014-2018



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**BEAN_ADAPT Kick-off meeting
11 August 2015, Bonn, Germany**



ECPGR is a collaborative Programme among most European countries, aiming at ensuring the long-term conservation and facilitating the utilization of plant genetic resources in Europe.

www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/

Participating countries in Phase IX

- Countries
 - own the programme
 - contribute funds and implement activities
- Secretariat ensures coordination



-  Countries participating in ECPGR Phase IX
-  Countries invited to participate in ECPGR Phase IX

WHY IS ECPGR A VALUABLE PARTNER?



Strengths for ECPGR collaborations

➤ STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION



ECPGR

Legumes working group

- The Grain Legumes Working Group was established in 1991.
- The profile of the Working Group has become recognized as an important focus for grain legume genetic resources coordination within Europe.
- The Working Group covers a range of species from its inception (*Arachis*, *Cicer*, *Glycine max*, *Lens*, *Lupinus*, ***Phaseolus***, *Pisum*, *Vicia faba* and *Vigna*).
- Currently the group involves 87 members – (genebank curators, crop specialists, information, documentation, plant breeders, law and policy makers, others) from 34 countries.

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***Phaseolus* Database**

- The European *Phaseolus* Database was established on the initiative of ECPGR at the meeting of the Grain Legumes Working Group in Copenhagen (1995).
- It is maintained by the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES) in Linz, Austria. The database contains passport data of the *Phaseolus* collections maintained in European genebanks. Additionally also characterization data and photos are partly available.
<http://www.genbank.at/en/ecpgr-phaseolus.html>
- The structure of the database follows the principles of the FAO/IPGRI Multi-Crop Passport Descriptors list / EURISCO Descriptors.

Strengths for ECPGR collaborations

➤ ECPGR ACTIVITIES: Conservation

Ex situ:

Create a network of European collections:



pgr.cgiar.org/aegis



In situ:

Create a network of European genetic reserves



➤ A European Genebank Integrated System

The European Collection established under AEGIS is a virtual European Genebank maintaining genetically unique accessions that are important for Europe.

These are **conserved at an agreed quality standard** and are **made available** in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

Perceived Benefits of AEGIS

- Improved **security of germplasm** through long-term commitment and systematic safety-duplication
- Facilitated access to and **availability** of germplasm
- Improved **quality standards** of conserved material
- **Cost efficient** conservation activities
- **Reduced unwanted duplication** of germplasm material
- Improved **sharing of knowledge** and information

Strengths for ECPGR collaborations

➤ ECPGR activities: Documentation

- Online catalogue, with information on the European *ex situ* collections: passport and soon C&E data



Strengths for ECPGR collaborations



➤ **EURISCO advantages**

- This catalogue gathers data from 43 national inventories
- From a central point, it provides information related to more than one million accessions conserved in more than 300 institutions throughout Europe (<http://eurisco.ecpgr.org/>)
- Increased quantity and quality of data in EURISCO,

Strengths for ECPGR collaborations

ECPGR activities: Use

Establish partnerships between genebanks and researchers/breeders to identify and test useful traits contained in collections: resistance to insects, tolerance to drought, nutritional qualities, etc.



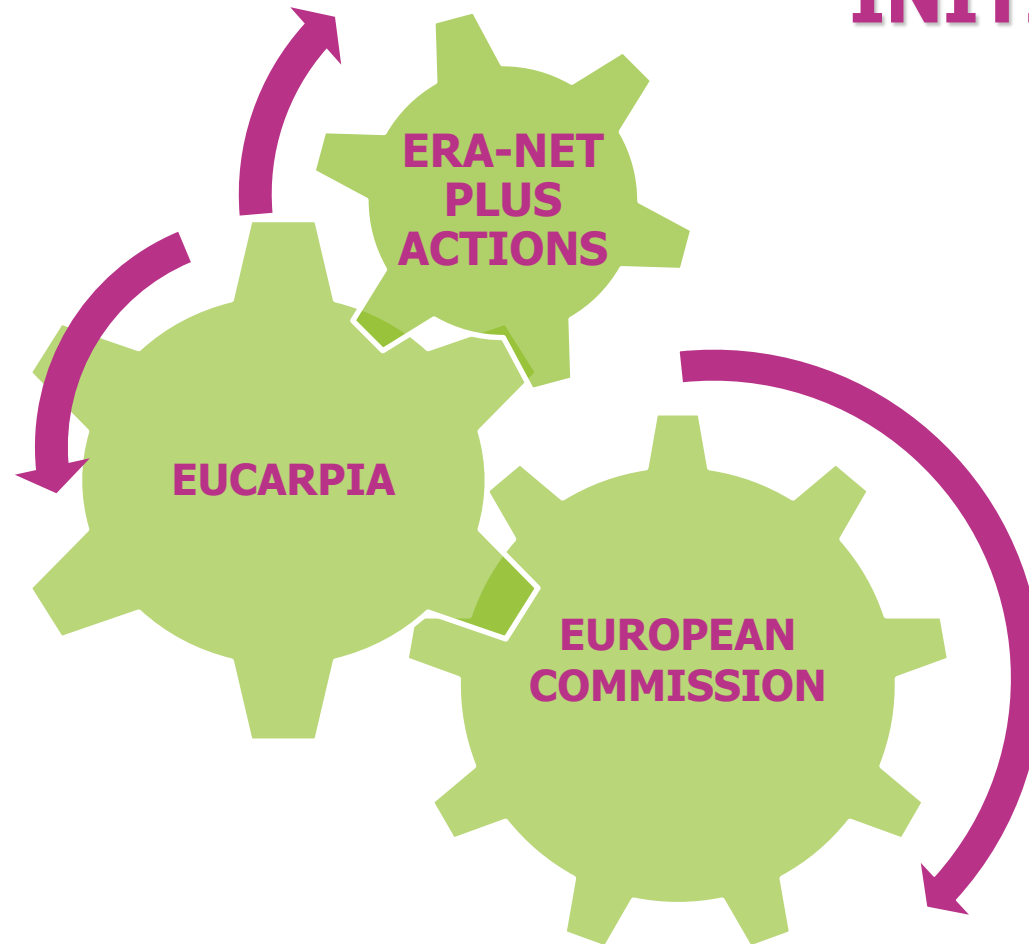
Strengths for ECPGR collaborations

➤ GRAIN LEGUMES WG OBJECTIVES:

- *ex situ* and *in situ* PGRFA, in order to provide access and increase utilization;
- priorities for characterization/ evaluation in order to detect the most suitable resources able to perform in new climate change condition;
- promoting inclusion and utilization of valuable accessions into the European Collection;
- increase quantity and quality of data in EURISCO;

Strengths for ECPGR collaborations

➤ LINKS WITH OTHER NETWORKS AND INITIATIVES



LINKS WITH OTHER NETWORKS AND INITIATIVES

- Involvement in EC calls for proposals and initiatives:
 - Preparatory action on GR
 - Focus Group on GR (EIP-AGRI)
 - FP7 Framework and EUCARPIA (PGR secure on CWR and LR)
 - H2020 (proposals submitted)
 - ERA-NET Plus actions

Potential collaboration between Grain legumes WG and BEAN_ADAPT

- Provision of genebank accessions to the project;
- Offer of evaluation sites in different environments;
- Exchange of information;
- Dissemination of results through ECPGR channels (web sites, bulletins);

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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