

Achievements Solanaceae WG 2014-2015

- The Universitat Politecnica de Valencia (UPV-COMAV) and the Centre for Genetic Resources, The Netherlands (CGN) have put effort and financial resources in saving valuable accessions for the European Collection. In 1985, 199 Spanish landraces of pepper (*C. annuum*) were collected from all regions of Spain, under the umbrella of IBPGR, now Bioversity International. Due to different reasons more than half of these collected accessions were not regenerated and are not available to users. Part of the material has been retrieved from the AVRDC. In 2014 eighty accessions of this collection were regenerated in Spain according to standards set by the Solanaceae WG in a joint project of UPV-COMAV and CGN. These eighty accessions are characterized morphologically with the minimum descriptors developed by the Solanaceae WG. The accessions, passport information and minimum descriptors will be made available to users by both UPV and CGN. The 80 accessions will be proposed by CGN to be entered in the European Collection. In 2015 a new group of 50 accessions has been regenerated.
- For the implementation of AQUAS, the Working Group felt no need to develop crop-specific standards. The Group concluded that the FAO Genebank Standards could be adopted as they are, and that the genebanks should strive to follow them.
- In 2014 a project proposal was submitted under the ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme. The proposal was called: Molecular analyses of Spanish material for the European collection with SNP's. In this proposal counter funding was asked from ECPGR to make a better selection of the regenerated Spanish landraces, executed and financed by UPV-COMAV and CGN, for the European Collection. The proposal was not granted.
- In 2015 a second project proposal was submitted under the ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme. The proposal was called: Implementation of Phyto Sanitary regulations and protocols in gene banks. The idea was to make an inventory of the working mode in gene banks related to seed health in order to raise more awareness among collection holders regarding phyto sanitary rules and the production of disease free seeds. Again the proposal was not granted.

The working mode for phase XI has changed compared to phase XIII. The idea is to get more involvement of the members. They must express their commitment for a certain activity. Activities must be formulated and the recommended number of members attending an activity is no more than 12.

When WGs fail to produce proposals or proposals are not approved by the ExCo, one of the main goals of ECPGR, being a platform for people working in genetic resources, cannot be met anymore. When people do not meet and do not know each other, the network will not function and this works counterproductive in getting more involvement of members.