

ALLIUM WG REPORT FOR PHASE IX (2014-2018)

Submitted to the 15th Steering Committee Meeting, Thessaloniki, Greece, May 2018
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1. CONTRIBUTION TO ECPGR OBJECTIVES

1.1. Achievements and success stories

Outcome 1. AEGIS is operational. Accessions in AEGIS are characterized and evaluated. (standards)

The AQUAS quality system was adopted and implemented by the WG through the approval in May 2015 of the *Allium*-specific genebank standards for field genebanks (May 2015) and for *in vitro* culture and cryopreservation (August 2017).

Outcome 4. Commitment and regular resources of national governments are sustained or increased, and commitments and resources of the European Commission (EC) as well as of other potential donors towards ECPGR are increased (SafeAlliDiv).

The first SafeAlliDiv project meeting was held 11-12 July 2017 in Tallinn, Estonia. Partners presented the situation about *Allium* crop cultivation and conservation in their countries. The partners agreed on criteria to select the accessions for DNA analysis. The samples of potato onion (*Allium cepa* L. Aggregatum group) were sent in autumn 2017 to the Latvian State Forest Research Institute for molecular analysis. The samples were sent by partners from Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden. DNA analyses are currently in progress. All partners received Descriptors for *Allium* (*Allium* spp.) by IPGRI ECP/GR, AVRDC 200, both in electronic and printed form. The material for DNA analysis will be characterized morphologically, too. The questionnaires had been sent to partners to gather information about their *Allium* collections: type of collection, type of conservation (in vitro, cryoconservation), source of new accessions, description, chemical analyses, DNA analyses, safety duplication, cooperation with other genebanks, current projects, other activities related to genetic resources. The replies were compiled and the summary sent to all Activity partners. The questionnaire was also sent to all members of the *Allium* Working Group.

1.2. Gaps or constraints identified

Constraints due to mode of operation:

- Many WG members, validity of their nomination? (lack of motivation/activity of some members)
- Lack of meetings, difficulty to prepare proposals without personal contacts
- Elimination of Vice-Chair is regrettable

2. GRANT SCHEME ACTIVITIES

- **Grant Scheme proposals (submitted: 1; approved: 1)**
 1. [Safeguarding of potato onion \(*Allium cepa* L. *Aggregatum* group\) and garlic \(*Allium sativum* L.\) crop diversity in North Europe - Baltic region \(SafeAlliDiv\) – Fourth Call \(2016\)](#)
- **Total number of partners involved: 12 from 9 countries**
 - ECPGR-funded: 11 from 9 countries
 - Self-funded: 1 from 1 country
- **Meetings held**
 1. SafeAlliDiv First project meeting, 11-12 July 2017 in Tallinn, Estonia.
- **Reports and related data**
- **Funds mobilized**
 - ECPGR granted funds: € 29 100
 - Inputs in-kind declared in Grant activities: (none)

3. OTHER ACTIVITIES (CROSS-WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES, LINKS WITH OTHER NETWORKS, PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES)

- **Cross-Working Group activities:** none
- **Others**

4. WORKING GROUP DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

 [Crop-specific standards for *in vitro* culture and cryopreservation \(agreed by the *Allium* WG, August 2017\)](#) (71 KB)

 [Crop-specific standards for field genebanks \(agreed by the *Allium* WG, May 2015\)](#) (80 KB)

5. EXPECTED ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

SafeAlliDiv Second meeting, 17-19 April 2018, Olomouc, Czech Republic.
At the meeting the results of the DNA analysis will be discussed.
The project SafeAlliDiv will end May 2019.

Others activities: preparation of an article about result of project. Discussion about topic of the next project.