



## **Report of a Working Group on Cucurbits**

### **First meeting of the ECPGR Activity CUCURBITLOCAL**

#### **Exploitation of Cucurbita local germplasm for sustainable agriculture**

**26 February 2021, virtual, via Skype**

**Report prepared by:  
Maria Ercolano**

Present:

Maria Ercolano, Italy (Activity Coordinator)

Ulrike Lohwasser, Germany

Dan Mihai Giurca, Romania

María Belén Picó Sirvent, Spain

Hela Chikh Rouhou, Tunisia

After welcoming the partners, the Cucurbitlocal Coordinator, Maria Ercolano, described the project timeframe, the main project goals and the related planned activities. The ExCo recommendations, included in the Letter of Award, were reported and discussed. All attendees agreed to accept them, except Dan Mihai Giurca from the Suceava Genebank, Romania. He pointed out that he had no possibility to increase the planned number of accessions to test. The issue was discussed, and each funded partner agreed to test between 5 and 10 additional accessions next year. Cucurbita sowing is performed from March to May and this year it will be not possible to add foreign accessions to each field. A list of descriptors will be sent to all partners from Ulrike Lohwasser and Dan Giurca. Based on these lists, each country will select a number of local accessions on which morphological evaluation will be carried out in 2021 (30 accessions in Germany, 20 in Romania, 10 in Spain, 10 in Tunisia, 10 in Italy). Italy and Tunisia will also perform an agronomic evaluation in low input conditions. Next year, 5 to 10 foreign accessions will be added for the evaluation by each country, except Romania.