



# ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme Proposal Form

## Fourth Call

### Activity Proposal

Activity	
Full title	Networking among Working Groups for discussing and coordinating the implementation of ECPGR objectives
Acronym (or short title)	ECPGR NETWORKING
Duration of Activity (in months)	15 months
Starting date	February 2017

### Applying Working Group(s)

	Working Group	Indicate name and surname of Working Group Chair
1.	Leafy vegetables	Jelka Šuštar-Vozlič
2.	<i>Brassica</i>	Ferdinando Branca
3.	<i>Allium</i>	Helena Stavělíková
4.	<i>Avena</i>	Andreas Katsiotis
5	<i>Beta</i>	Parthenopi Ralli
6	Cucurbits	Maria José Díez Niclós / Mara Ercolano
7	Fibre crops (Flax and Hemp)	Martin Pavelek
8	Grain legumes	Creola Brezeanu
9	<i>Malus/Pyrus</i>	Marc Lateur
10	Medicinal and aromatic plants	Ana Maria Barata
11	<i>Prunus</i>	Daniela Giovannini
12	Solanaceae	Willem van Dooijeweert
13	Umbellifer crops	Charlotte Allender
14	<i>Vitis</i>	Thierry Lacombe
15	Wheat	François Balfourier
16	Wild species conservation	Nigel Maxted
17	On-farm conservation and management	Valeria Negri
18	Documentation and information	Theo J L van Hintum



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### Activity Coordinator

Activity Coordinator	
Name and Surname	Jelka Šuštar-Vozlič
Nationality	Slovene
Current position	Senior Researcher, Curator of leafy vegetables, Leafy Vegetables WG Chair
Institute	Agricultural Institute of Slovenia
Country	Slovenia
Telephone	+386 1 2805 188
Email	jelka.vozlic@kis.si

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**Activity Partners**

*Please note that each partner needs to be a member of a Working Group's Pool of Experts to be eligible.*

*A maximum of 12 funded partners can be listed. For self-funded partners please use the separate box below.*

Partner ID No.	Name and Surname	Institute	Country
1	Jelka Šuštar-Vozlič	Agricultural Institute of Slovenia	Slovenia
2	Ferdinando Branca	Università Di Catania	Italy
3	Helena Stavělíková	Crop Research Institute	Czech Republic
4	Andreas Katsiotis	Cyprus University of Technology	Cyprus
5	Parthenopi Ralli	Institute of Plant Breeding and Phytogenetic Resources	Greece
6	Maria José Díez Niclós	COMAV. Polytechnic University of Valencia	Spain
7	Martin Pavelek	AGRITEC, Research, Breeding and Services, Ltd.	Czech Republic
8	Creola Brezeanu	Vegetable Research and Development Station Bacau	Romania
9	Marc Lateur	Walloon Agricultural Research Centre (CRA-W)	Belgium
10	Ana Maria Barata	INIAV_BPGV	Portugal
11	Daniela Giovannini	CREA-Fruit Tree Research Unit of Forli	Italy
12	Willem van Dooijeweert	Centre for Genetic Resources, the Netherlands (CGN)	The Netherlands
13	Charlotte Allender	University of Warwick	United Kingdom
14	Thierry Lacombe	INRA (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique)	France
15	François Balfourier	INRA	France
16	Nigel Maxted	University of Birmingham	United Kingdom
17	Valeria Negri	Università Studi di Perugia	Italy
18	Theo J L van Hintum	Centre for Genetic Resources, the Netherlands (CGN)	The Netherlands
19	Lothar Frese	Institute for Breeding Research on Agricultural Crops	Germany
20	Mara Ercolano	Università degli Studi di Napoli	Italy

**Self-funded partners**

Partner No.	Name and Surname	Institute	Country
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1	The ECPGR Executive Committee (the Chair Eva Thorn and the members) and the ECPGR Secretariat will be invited to participate as self-funded partners		
2	Vladimir Meglič	Agricultural Institute of Slovenia	Slovenia
3	Roberto De Salvador	CREA FRUT	Italy
4			
5			
6			

### Description of Activity

*Please address the following aspects:*

– *Background:* Explain the context behind the choice of this Activity, e.g. why this has been prioritized or selected. If this is the continuation of a preceding Activity, please indicate how and why the new Activity will build on previous results/experiences

– *Justification:* Explain why this Activity is justified in terms of making progress towards achieving the ECPGR objectives

– *Methodology or Approach:* Explain how the partners will operate. What are the respective roles and synergies they can add? Explain the rationale of meeting (or not) as part of the Activity.

– *Expected impact.* Clearly specify the expected impact from this Activity for the respective ECPGR objective(s), compared to the current state of progress of those same objectives. Explain how the impact will be obtained.

– *Links with other non-ECPGR projects or individuals:* If applicable, clearly explain the objectives of the linked projects and the reasons for complementarity with the ECPGR Activity.

Describe the Activity - (max. 1000 words):

**Background:**

The long term goal to which ECPGR contributes is to increase the interactions among National, Sub-regional and Regional Programmes in Europe for collaborative, rational and effective *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation of PGRFA, providing their access and increasing their utilization. To fulfil this goal six objectives / outcomes were defined (each with several outputs, activities, responsibilities) that should be attributed to ECPGR within one phase (1. - AEGIS is operational, 2. - Quantity and quality of EURISCO data, 3. - *In situ* and on-farm conservation, 4. - Commitment and regular resources, 5. - Relations with users, 6. - Organizational structure and secretariat support). Working group (WG) chairs are together with Secretariat, National coordinators and different stakeholders responsible for the coordination of the implementation of ECPGR objectives.

In 2014/2015 new chairs were nominated for all the 21 WGs, several of them have not chaired the WG before. During the ECPGR phase IX the costs for meetings were reduced in a way that there are no more meetings of individual WGs (or meetings of several WGs together). The meetings are financed only through the successful projects/activities from the ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme.

Since the ECPGR objectives address the work of all WGs and the experience of WG chairs

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is different (from very well to less skilled in the field) there is a need and a general request for face to face meeting of all WG chairs to share their experience in order to better coordinate the actions needed to fulfil the ECPGR objectives within their WGs. There is also a need to better link some thematic WGs with crop specific ones (e.g. *In Situ* and On-farm WGs with the crop based WGs - to ensure to meet their needs; individual WGs with the Doc and Info WG - to discuss data management, documentation, etc.).

**Justification:**

Cooperation between the WGs chairs, which will be established through the proposed activity (with the support of the ECPGR ExCo, ECPGR Secretariat and stakeholders) will enable to present the activities carried out in the frame of each WG in view to synergistically implement the ECPGR objectives for phase IX in each individual WG. Based on the results achieved, recommendations will also be given to ExCo for planning the objectives for the Phase X.

**Approach:**

1. At the beginning of the project a group will be formed among the project partners (Organizing Committee) who will prepare the detailed programme for the first meeting which will be held in month 3 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. At the meeting all the project partners (WG chairs) will participate. In addition, members of ExCo and the Secretariat (also some ex WG chairs, stakeholders) will be invited. The aim of the first meeting will be:

- i) to get an overview of the current state on the fulfilment of ECPGR objectives within individual WG. The chairs will present the current state in its respective WG related to different ECPGR objectives (AEGIS, EURISCO, *in situ* and on-farm conservation – if applicable, relations with users, implementation of quality system, etc);
- ii) to define priorities and actions needed to be taken within each individual WG to fulfil the gaps identified;
- iii) to interlink the chairs of crop specific WG with the chairs of thematic WGs;
- iv) to establish good cooperation between all the partners involved (in the synergy with the ExCo) that will enable WG chairs to work in a harmonized way and better coordinate the actions to efficiently fulfil the ECPGR objectives;
- v) to review progress in development, advocacy with potential sponsors and implementation of the 'concepts' produced by Task Forces working within ECPGR.

A report will be prepared after the meeting summarizing the activities carried out by each individual WG and defining the actions needed to be realized until the end of the ECPGR IX phase.

2. In the period between the two meetings the chairs will focus on implementation of ECPGR objectives in their respective WG.

3. Towards the end of the project (month 12) the second meeting will be organized in Catania, Sicily. The Organizing Committee will prepare a detailed programme of the second meeting where all the project partners (WG chairs) will participate. The ECPGR ExCo and the Secretariat will be invited to the meeting as well as some stakeholders. The progress of the discussion and work done during the period between the first and the second meeting will be reported and discussed. The strategy for finishing the Phase IX will be discussed towards the future X phase.

4. A final report will be prepared which will include the outcomes of the meeting and the Activity. It will help the ExCo in preparing the strategy for the Phase X.

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***Links with other non-ECPGR projects or individuals:***

Links with different stakeholders will be established.

***Expected impact:***

The well-established cooperation which will go in two directions, horizontal (between WG chairs) and vertical (downstream: every WG chair with its group; upstream: WG chairs with ExCo, SC, Secretariat) will facilitate the work of WG chairs and will enable synergistic implementation of ECPGR objectives for the Phase IX.

The outcome of the activity will be relevant not only to all the WGs but also to the ECPGR Steering Committee and ExCo; by defining the progress at the end of activity and identification of gaps it will help setting priorities for the Phase X.

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**Expected products and related ECPGR Objectives**

*List concrete products and results that are obtained by the Activity and the corresponding number(s) of the ECPGR Outcome(s) and/or Output(s) and/or Activities to which each product/result will contribute.*

	Expected products/results	Corresponding ECPGR outcome, output, activity
1	Report from the first meeting	Outcome 1, Outputs: 1.1, 1.3, Outcome 2, Outputs: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, Outcome 3, Outputs: 3.1, Outcome 5, Outputs: 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, Outcome 6, Output: 6.1
2	Analysis of the state of the art and identification of gaps	As above
3	Report of the second meeting	As above
4	Recommendations on management of WGs and for preparation of the Phase X	As above

**Workplan for the proposed period of the Activity**

*Brief description of meetings and/or main actions of the Activity.*

	Type of Action (indicate if "meeting" or "other action")
1	Month 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparatory work for the organization of the First meeting ('other action')</li> </ul>
2	Month 2/3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Meeting to be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, details of the items addressed and discussed at the meeting are described on p. 4 (Description of Activity) ('meeting')</li> </ul>
3	Months 3-4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of the report of the First meeting</li> <li>Preparation of the document 'Analysis of the state of the art and identification of gaps' ('other action')</li> </ul>
4	Months 3-12: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of ECPGR objectives within individual WGs ('other action')</li> </ul>
5	Month 12/13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparatory work for the organization of the Second meeting ('other action')</li> <li>Second meeting to be held in Catania, Sicily: discussion of the progress achieved; discussion of the strategy for finishing the Phase IX ('meeting')</li> </ul>

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6	Months 14-15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preparation of the report of the Second meeting,</li><li>• Preparation of the document 'Recommendations on management of WGs and for preparation of the Phase X'</li><li>• Preparation of the final report of the activity ('other action')</li></ul>
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**Additional remarks**

*Indicate any additional remark(s) that is/are important for the evaluation/implementation of the proposed Activity*

<b>Remarks:</b>
<p>The 'ECPGR NETWORKING' is a 'cross' WG Activity aimed to include all WG chairs therefore the number of Activity partners is increased. Since by the deadline for submission not all the EoI has been received the number of participants may increase for three additional partners (WG chairs) not yet included.</p> <p>The requested budget is insufficient to cover all the activities therefore also in-kind contribution is foreseen from all the partners involved in the activity.</p> <p>The contribution of ExCo and the Secretariat will be important for the implementation of the Activity therefore their in-kind contribution will be requested.</p>

**Please send the completed form together with the budget table to the  
Chair of the submitting Working Group for submission of the Activity proposal.**