



ECPGR

Phase VIII

(Jan. 2009 – Nov. 2012)

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Phase VIII (2009-2012)

- Main Secretariat activities -

- Implementation of Network's proposals (75/25 rule) with 4 priority areas:
 1. Task sharing (AEGIS) and capacity building
 2. Characterization and Evaluation
 3. *In situ* and On-farm management
 4. Documentation and Information
- AEGIS Competitive Grant Scheme
- Submission of 2 FP7 proposals (2009 and 2011)
- Independent External Review
- Support to ExCo for options paper including tender process
- EURISCO
- Links with other initiatives

Status of membership

Phase V: 32

Phase VI: 36 (ARM, ALB, LVA, MKD)

Phase VII: 40 (AZE, BIH, GEO, UKR)

Phase VIII: 43 (BLR, MNE, RUS)

Membership status:

- 39 countries signed LoA
- 2 countries contributed
- 2 countries did not sign or contribute:

Armenia

Malta





Structure and mode of operation – Phase VIII – selected items

- 9 Network and 20 WGs
- Executive Committee as of 2010 → See report of GK
- EURISCO Advisory Body (Doc&Info NCG) as of 2008 → clarification sought from Bioversity about EURISCO development
- AEGIS Advisory Committee as of 2007 → ToRs and composition proposed to be revised with evolving AEGIS
- Country quota → good use of assigned quota and Chair's quota: $(298+20)/386$ - status of use available online

1. Task sharing and capacity building

- **Genetic stocks:** Inventory of existing genetic stocks for cereals and their conservation status (preliminary step to improve task sharing and capacity building)
- **Safety-duplication:** Bilateral arrangement Bulgaria-Netherlands (1064 cucurbit accessions). Plans for Solanaceae
- **Collecting and monitoring of threatened populations:** Wild *Avena* in Cyprus, Italy and Spain. Plans to collect wild *Beta nana* in Greece
- **Successful EU projects:**
 - AGRI Gen Res: AVEQ; EURALLIVEG; LEAFY VEG; GrapeGen; AEGRO
 - FP7: PGR Secure

2. Characterization and evaluation

- **Pre-breeding:** Workshop on cereals resulting in concept note; NordGen Private-Public partnership project on perennial ryegrass pre-breeding.
- **Characterization and evaluation:**
 - *Allium* to define core collection and identify duplicates
 - *Avena* for quality for human consumption and cold tolerance
 - *Beta* populations to establish baseline of genetic diversity
 - *Brassica* for morphological, biochemical and molecular description
 - *Daucus* wild relatives taxonomy characterization and evaluation for disease resistance
 - Harmonized fingerprinting protocols for *Malus*, *Prunus* and *Pyrus*
 - *Origanum* to monitor genetic diversity and essential oil content
 - *Vitis* for agronomic and technological traits

3. *In situ* and on-farm conservation and management

- AEGRO and PGR Secure projects
 - Methodologies for CWR and LR *in situ* management
 - CWR *In situ* Strategy helpdesk to assist countries
 - Crop Wild Relatives Information system – Population level Information System allows the search for *in situ* occurrences
 - Europe-wide national CWR and LR checklists and inventories under development
 - Status of progress of European CWR and LR conservation reviewed
 - Priorities for the future identified (Horizon scanning exercise)
- Crop Network activities:
 - Barley, Forages, Umbellifers, *Beta* (*Beta patula* – first EU genetic reserve in Madeira)

4. Documentation and Information

- Updates, new C&E data included, improvements and new functions of several ECPGR Central Crop Databases. Some highlights:
 - Links to *in situ* systems (*Avena* and *Beta*)
 - Duplicate search function (*Brassica*, *Tomato*)
 - Merging (*Forages*)
 - Name checking tool to find synonyms and validate names (*Malus* and *Pyrus*)
 - Online tools for direct data input from curators (*Potato*, *Prunus* and *Vitis*)
 - Pictures of accessions: *Eggplant*, *Prunus*, *Vitis*
 - Molecular markers data: *Vitis*
- PGR DuplicateFinder (CGN) to assist in the identification of putative duplicates



EURISCO – Coordination

- Data from 43 National Inventories and 332 collection holdings.
- The total number of accessions is 1 113 348 (November 2012).
- Accessions flagged as part of MLS: 251 173 from 18 countries
- Help desk function
- 4 country seminars trained 113 people.
- 1 regional workshop trained 30 National Focal Points
- > 900 taxonomy and geo-reference reports sent back to countries to highlight errors and inconsistencies
- A new EURISCO Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) after the end of 2009 and was signed by 20 countries (19 outstanding)
- E-bulletins, factsheets, presentations



EURISCO – Development

- New descriptors (AEGIS)
- Upgraded Web site search and downloading functions
- Taxonomy searches include synonyms
- Taxonomy and geo-reference reports available in real time on countries upload pages
- Road map for the inclusion of C&E data
- Database backbone system under re-development to allow upload of C&E data
- Ongoing data comparative analysis of EURISCO vs. WIEWS vs. CCDBs to identify gaps in EURISCO



EURISCO and ECPGR Central Crop Databases – 1

- Vision for a European PGR information landscape (September 2008): need for a changing role of CCDBs
- 12th SC meeting (2010): role and use of CCDBs should be elucidated

The dilemma

- WGs find it increasingly difficult to sustain development of CCDBs
- Frustration that EURISCO does not contain enough passport and crop-specific data to select AEGIS accessions
- At the same time, EURISCO is the official repository of potential AEGIS accessions



EURISCO and ECPGR Central Crop Databases – 2

- Recommendations from the WGs (seemingly contrasting):
 1. Invest more on EURISCO and make sure that all relevant data for the selection of AEGIS accessions are available there
 2. Rely on CCDBs that are more flexible and suitable for crop-specific needs and can accommodate functions that EURISCO will never have (Synonyms, duplicates, photos, GIS, taxonomy standards, molecular, pedigree, *in situ* data, etc.).
- An increasing role of EURISCO is necessary and can serve both groups, including those who will work with evolving CCDBs as they also need official data.
- WGs requested possibility to discuss relationship between EURISCO and CCDBs in a meeting with NI Focal Points and database managers to agree on common intent for the future – **For consideration by SC**



AEGIS

ABOUT AEGIS LINKS



A European Genebank Integrated System

Search

About AEGIS

Membership

Structure

European Collection

AQUAS

AEGIS ROAD MAP



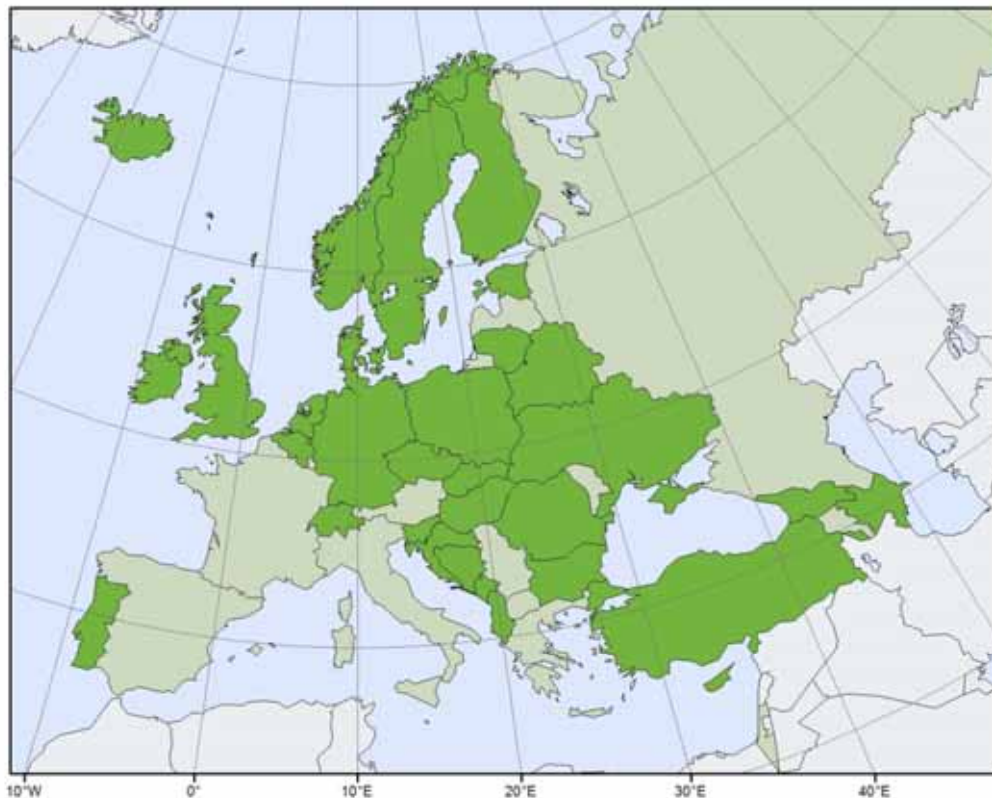
A **European Genebank Integrated System**, or AEGIS for short, aims to establish a European Collection, which would be a virtual European Genebank, to be maintained in accordance with agreed quality standards, and to be freely available in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture...

[More about AEGIS](#)



2010 (25 countries)

2012 (32)



AEGIS membership status

1. **Albania** (06 May 2009)
2. **Azerbaijan** (16 July 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
3. **Belarus** (02 November 2011) - [Associate Members](#)
4. **Belgium** (01 June 2012) - [Associate Members](#)
5. **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (19 May 2010)
6. **Bulgaria** (02 December 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
7. **Croatia** (02 December 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
8. **Cyprus** (15 September 2012) - [Associate Members](#)
9. **Czech Republic** (23 July 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
10. **Denmark** (22 February 2010)
11. **Estonia** (22 May 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
12. **Finland** (02 December 2009)
13. **Georgia** (18 May 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
14. **Germany** (05 November 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
15. **Hungary** (22 November 2011) - [Associate Members](#)
16. **Iceland** (22 October 2010)
17. **Ireland** (22 July 2009)
18. **Latvia** (01 June 2012)
19. **Lithuania** (12 October 2010)
20. **Montenegro** (16 December 2010)
21. **Netherlands** (28 May 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
22. **Norway** (17 August 2009)
23. **Poland** (17 May 2010)
24. **Portugal** (20 November 2009)
25. **Romania** (14 April 2010) - [Associate Members](#)
26. **Slovakia** (17 June 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
27. **Slovenia** (21 September 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
28. **Sweden** (31 May 2011) - [Associate Members](#)
29. **Switzerland** (27 July 2009) - [Associate Members](#)
30. **Turkey** (14 November 2011) - [Associate Members](#)
31. **Ukraine** (30 April 2009)
32. **United Kingdom** (18 June 2010) - [Associate Members](#)

46 Associate Membership Agreements