

# POTATO WG REPORT FOR PHASE X (2019-2023)

Submitted to the 17th Steering Committee Meeting, Oeiras, Portugal, May/June 2023  
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## 1. CONTRIBUTION TO ECPGR OBJECTIVES

### 1.1. Achievements and success stories

- To efficiently conserve and provide access to unique germplasm in Europe through AEGIS and the European Collection

In 2022, the ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme Proposal 'Get Potatoes United – Collaboration Action for Updating the Virtual European Potato Collection' was submitted via Potato WG for the 6th Call of Phase X. In the previous Grant Project (2014), it was noted that the ECPGR member states were relatively reluctant in flagging their accessions for AEGIS. However, during Phase X, there have been several requests from ECPGR member countries to include their potato accessions into the AEGIS. This activity can now be stimulated and assisted by the Potato WG through the Activity Project, which was granted in February 2023 by ECPGR. In the new Project, the role of each partner country would be to share data from local potatoes to search for their unique genotypes. The standard genotyping technology should be searched for identification of duplicates and variants. Partners will contribute to providing a list of duplications to make the AEGIS system operational. Thereby standards for the genotyping and conservation of potato accessions can be updated. The information from previous potato genotyping projects will be shared to search for the most standardized and up-to-date genotyping technology.

- To provide passport and phenotypic information of actively conserved European PGRFA diversity *ex situ* and *in situ* through the EURISCO catalogue

Not applied, but to be activated at the end of 2023 through the ECPGR Grant Scheme Project via sharing information on long-term conservation technologies between partners for standardization, including also cryopreservation techniques.

- To improve *in situ* conservation and use of crop wild relatives  
Not applicable.
- To promote on-farm conservation and management of European PGRFA diversity  
Not applicable.
- To promote use of PGRFA  
Not reported.

## 1.2. Gaps or constraints identified

Chairs of the ECPGR Potato WG changed in Phase IX. Regardless of the appointment of a new Chair already in 2017, there were first constraints in getting any feedback from the nominated members of the Potato WG in Phase X. ECPGR actions are expected to be carried out self-funded, which is challenging because the WG member's organization cannot allocate any support from its budget for the actions. Only a very limited work time can be arranged through a request from the National PGR Programme for the needs of WG Chair's duties.

## 2. GRANT SCHEME ACTIVITIES, WG MEETINGS AND EVA ACTIVITIES

- **Grant Scheme proposals (submitted:1; approved:1 (February 2022))**  
Get Potatoes United – Collaboration Action for Updating the Virtual European Potato Collection (EURO-POTATOES) (6<sup>th</sup> call)
- **Total number of partners involved: 19 from 19 countries**
  - ECPGR-funded: 18 from 18 countries
  - Self-funded: 1
- **Meetings held**  
None
- **Reports and related data**  
None
- **Funds mobilized**
  - ECPGR granted funds: € 30,000
  - Inputs in-kind declared in Grant activities: € 10,000

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

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

## 4. WORKING GROUP DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

None for Phase X

## 5. EXPECTED ADDITIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES THAT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PGR STRATEGY FOR EUROPE