

Report to the Ninth ECP/GR Steering Committee meeting (October 2003)

Network/Working Group/Task Force on Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Reserves

Progress made by the Group during Phase VI (1999 - 2003)

Specific objective	Achievements
Meetings	
ECP/GR Task Force on wild species conservation in genetic reserves - 1st meeting, 18-20 May 2000. Isola Polvese, Italy	Technical terms were defined. Guidelines and methodologies were discussed. Progress towards establishment of genetic reserves in Europe was reviewed. A report of the meeting was published
Funding applications	
Prepare grant applications for EU funding to research and establish genetic reserves for <i>Brassica</i> , <i>Beta</i> and cereals in Europe	Waiting for 1467/92 replacement to submit grant application
Project proposal " <i>In Situ</i> Conservation of European Crop Relative Genetic Resources" (<i>In Situ</i> PGR) was developed at the University of Birmingham by Maxted and Ford-Lloyd with ECP/GR and several Task Force members as partners	Integrated Project submitted to the EU Fifth Framework Programme in February 2001 but was rejected
Project proposal "European crop wild relative diversity assessment and conservation" (PGR Forum) was developed at the University of Birmingham by Maxted and Ford-Lloyd with ECP/GR and several Task Force members as partners	Thematic network project submitted to the EU Fifth Framework Programme in October 2001. The project was approved and started in November 2002
Project proposal "European Plant Genetic Resource Conservation and Use Research Training Network" (PGR Conservation) was developed at the University of Birmingham by Maxted and Ford-Lloyd with several Task Force members as partners	Marie Curie Research Training Networks project submitted to the EU Sixth Framework Programme in April 2003 but was rejected. The project is being reformulated and will be resubmitted in November 2003
Project proposal "Understanding and Managing Change in European Genetic Resource Conservation and Use" (GRACE) was developed at the University of Birmingham by Maxted and Ford-Lloyd with ECP/GR and several Task Force members as partners. Larger project for Sixth Framework Programme, Genetic Resources and Changing Ecosystems GRACE but was rejected in 2002	Expression of interest submitted to the EU Sixth Framework Programme (sub-priority category 1.6.3 - Global Change and Ecosystems) in June 2002 and was successful. Waiting for appropriate call to submit full project for funding

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Plan of action for Phase VII (2004 - 2008)

Specific objective	Action	Timeframe	Request of support from ECP/GR for specific actions	
			Funding requested	Type of support requested
<u>Meetings:</u> Hold the next meeting of the WG on Genetic Reserve and On-Farm conservation in Minorca Spain, in April 2004 to run back-to-back with PGR Forum meeting	Request for approval to the Steering Committee to update various issues from 2000 meeting and prepare grant application for 1467/92 replacement	2004	YES	- Logistic support - Financial support for non-PGR Forum partners only
<u>European PGRFA NGO Association:</u> Improve inter-NGO collaboration, share conservation activities and technical expertise it is proposed to establish an association of European PGRFA NGOs and through ECP/GR enhance technology transfer from the more formal European PGRFA community	Request for approval to the Steering Committee for PGRFA NGO meeting	2005	YES	- Logistic support - Financial support for NGO participation - Technical support from ECP/GR and Task Force members to assist Association establishment and facilitate technology transfer
<u>European PGR <i>In situ</i>, <i>Ex situ</i> and Botanic Garden Collaboration:</u> Improve PGR and Botanic Garden collaboration, share conservation activities and technical expertise	Request for approval to the Steering Committee for PGR/ Botanic Garden community meeting	2005	YES	- Logistic support - Financial support for PGR community participation - Technical support from ECP/GR and Task Force members to assist collaboration
<u>European PGR <i>In situ</i>, <i>Ex situ</i> and European Protected Areas collaboration:</u> Improve PGR and European Protected Areas collaboration, share conservation activities and technical expertise	Request for approval to the Steering Committee for PGR / European Protected Areas community meeting	2006?	YES	- Logistic support - Financial support for PGR community participation - Technical support from ECP/GR and Task Force members to assist collaboration

Specific objective	Action	Timeframe	Request of support from ECP/GR for specific actions	
			Funding requested	Type of support requested
<u>Inventory:</u> Establishment and develop a crop wild relative and land race inventory for Europe	Submit grant application to 1467/92 replacement research and build inventory	2004	NO	Technical support from ECP/GR
<u>Gap Analysis:</u> Allied to the production of the crop wild relative and land race inventory will be an estimation of European PGRFA conservation gap analysis	Submit grant application to 1467/92 replacement to research and build <i>in situ</i> inventory to complement EURISCO	2004	NO	Technical support from ECP/GR
<u>Ex situ Conservation:</u> Ensure safety duplication of all <i>in situ</i> conserved PGRFA		2005	YES	Support from ECP/GR and Task Force members in public awareness and establishing closer relationship between gene banks and the <i>in situ</i> community
<u>Public awareness:</u> Broaden information on PGR activities	Establishment of an <i>in situ</i> newsletter to be published on the ECP/GR Web pages		YES	Technical support from ECP/GR and Task Force members

Prepared by: Working Group Chair: Nigel Maxted

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