



Plant Breeding and Acclimatization Institute – National Research Institute

Public-private collaboration Experiences from the Polish Genebank

How to collaborate with industry, NGOs, and academia

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The Role of Genebanks in the 21st Century

- biodiversity conservation
- food security
- climate change
- sustainable agriculture
- consumer preferences



What is Public-Private Collaboration in the Genebank Context?

Enhance conservation
enhance biodiversity
improve crop traits
support innovation
ensure benefit-sharing

Academic institutions

Research partnerships
material exchange
joint projects
technology transfer

NGOs

GeneBank

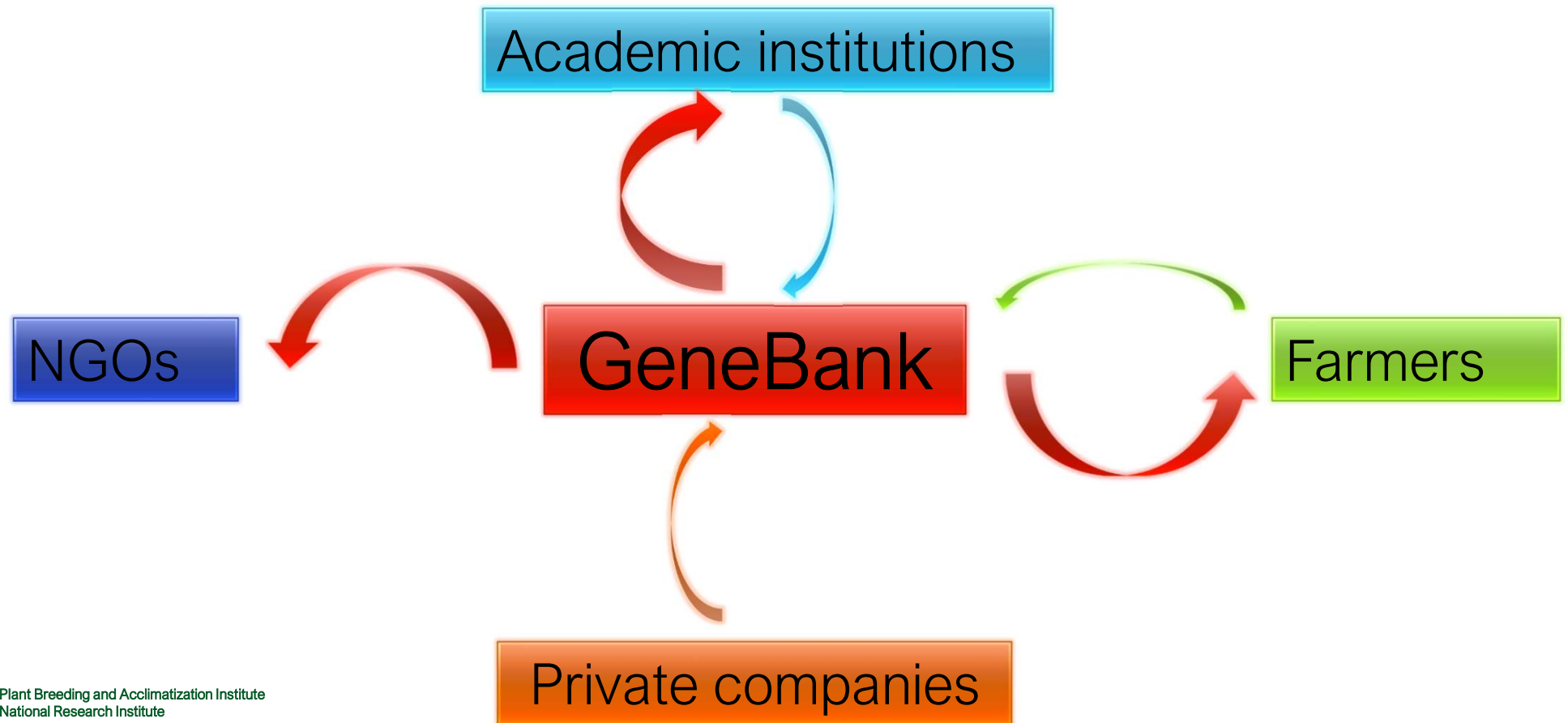
Farmers

Private companies



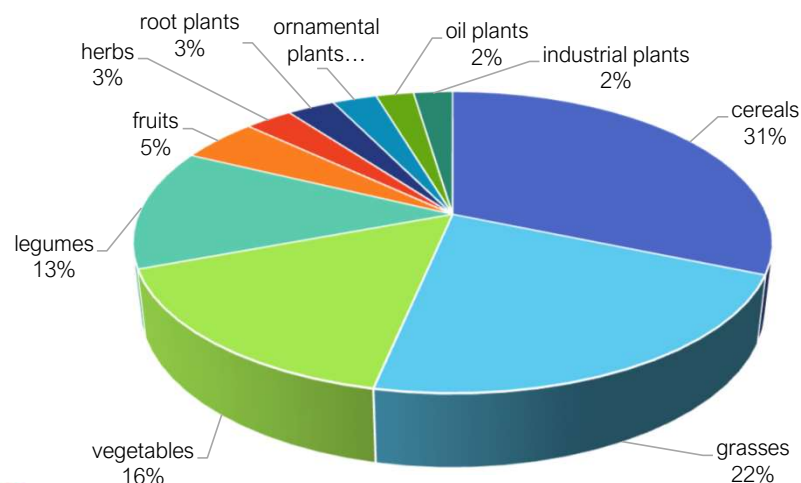
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What is Public-Private Collaboration in the Genebank Context?



The Polish Genebank: Structure and Mission

Over 90 000 accessions
2nd in the EU
15th in the World



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Our Collaboration Partners



- National collaboration:

- Academic institutions



SZKOŁA GŁÓWNA
GOSPODARSTWA
WIEJSKIEGO



Instytut Włókien
Naturalnych
i Roślin Zielarskich



Instytut Uprawy
Nawożenia i Gleboznawstwa
Państwowy Instytut Badawczy



- Private companies



- NGOs



- Farmers



We ♥ Diversity



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Case study – NGO: Kwietna Foundation



- We inspire, we network, we act! We bring wildness to cities, protect nature of rural areas



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Case study – Farmer: BioBabalscy



- We offer certified organic food. In our offer, you will find natural products created based on, among others, spelt, emmer, einkorn, and black oat



International Cooperation



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Key Factors of Successful Collaboration

- Shared objectives and values.
- Open communication and mutual trust.
- Equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- Respect for intellectual property and traditional knowledge.



Challenges and Barriers

- Legal complexity.
- Limited financial and technical resources.
- Bureaucracy and institutional inertia.
- Misalignment of timelines and expectations.



Strategic Recommendations

- Develop structured platforms for co-innovation.
- Promote long-term partnerships over ad hoc projects.
- Enhance stakeholder awareness and trust through transparency.
- Invest in communication and soft skills among genebank staff.





COST

**EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**



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CAPGEN: Capacity Building and Career Pathways in Plant Genetic Resource Conservation Across Europe

- To establish a pan-European educational and career development platform for young professionals in plant genebanks.
- European genebanks face generational turnover and a shortage of skilled young Staff.
- Strengthen professional competencies of early-career genebank staff.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange and mobility.
- Support modern and harmonized training across institutions.

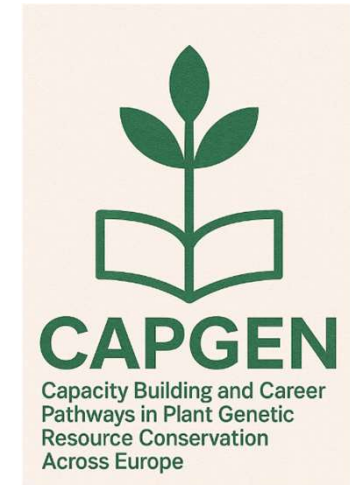


CAPGEN

Main Activities:

-  **Training Schools & Workshops**
Practical courses on PGR management, ex situ/in situ conservation, and digital tools.
-  **Mentoring Programmes**
Senior experts guide career development of young professionals.
-  **Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs)**
Hands-on internships and knowledge exchange across European institutions.
-  **E-learning Platform**
Open-access training materials, webinars, and discussion forums.

CAPGEN



Expected Outcomes:

- A new generation of highly skilled genebank professionals in Europe.
- Harmonized standards in PGR conservation.
- A sustainable European network for training, mentoring, and collaboration in genebank management.



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Think
outside the
~~**BOX**~~ *jar*

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