



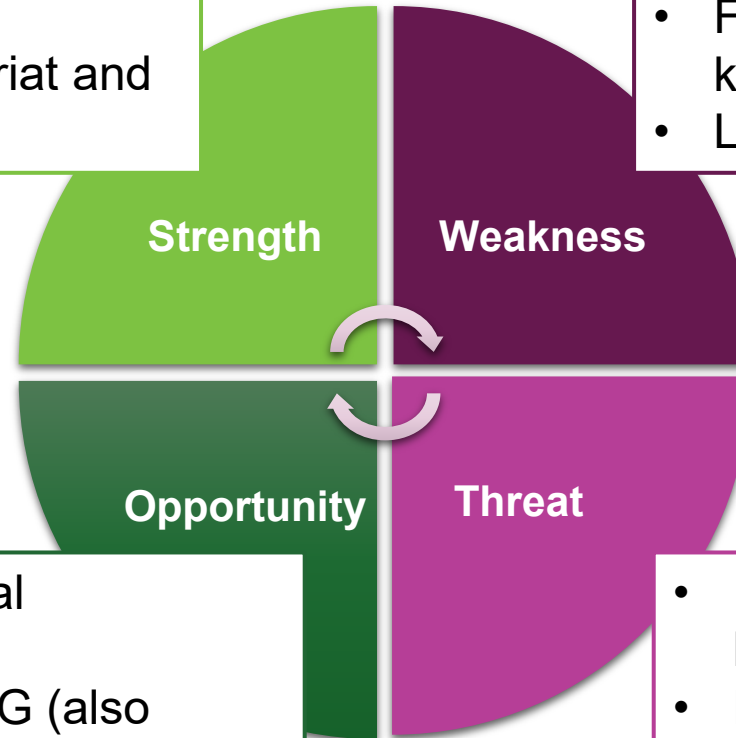
# SUBGROUP EAST

*ECPGR 18<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting  
Tbilisi, 3 June 2026*



- International network and WGs with technical expertise
- Effective PGR infrastructure (EURISCO, AEGIS, EVA, GenResJ)
- Online resources for practitioners (standards, protocols etc.)
- Strong connection btw. Secretariat and NCs.

- Limited political recognition of ECPGR contributions and linkages at national level
- Unequal capacity of national programmes and engagement in ECPGR
- Financial limitation (dependence on in kind contributions and bilateral funds)
- Low visibility and outreach of ECPGR



- Genebanks recognized as critical infrastructure
- EU projects developed within WG (also Colibri)
- Outreach (50-year anniversary of ECPGR in 2030, FAO side events, Svalbard)
- ECPGR to enable PGR use and support national programmes

- Political priorities at national and EU level
- Limited funds for PGR and lack of stable financing
- Geopolitical developments
- Limitation for PGR regeneration

# Questions for discussion session

- How can the ECPGR framework be improved to help countries save and use PGR more effectively?
  - Support of cryopreservation, focus on regional collaboration, established something we call “expertise market” to share who can share their knowledge and what knowledge, as a platform who to ask for help in different areas of challenges, e.g. gene bank manager, cryopreservation, etc., for volunteering basis with support of Secretariat and WGs chairs
- What useful ideas from Pro-GRACE and other European projects should ECPGR include in its next Phase XII?
  - From European projects, genotypic and phenotypic data as a part of EURISCO, then from PRO-GRACE – deliverables 2.1., 2.2. 4.1 and anything connecting to the capacity building

# Questions for discussion session

- What actions at national or regional level are needed to make PGR recognized as essential for food security?
  - Support documents from ECPGR secretariat with lessons learned, examples of good practice, share videos of best practice on ECPGR and present ECPGR and ourselves together to show we are all part of the community, establishing the European genebank day 😊 – supported by all genebanks in ECPGR, having other social media to be visible for general public and share all these reels or posts via our national channels
- What kind of investment is needed for ECPGR to make a real leap forward in helping countries implement the PGR Strategy?
  - As a first step, if it is possible, change ECPGR for legal person to be possible being the coordinator of different projects
- What outreach activities could the ECPGR Secretariat and the SC do to become more visible, build partnerships, and attract funding?
  - FB, Instagram, meetings with EU parliament members, council and other structures,

# Questions for discussion session

- Using our existing MoUs (with Crop Trust, Euroseeds, ITPGRFA), what joint activities make sense based on shared interests and different strengths?
  - Side events in ITPGRFA, CGRFA, EUCARPIA genetic resources section – this is important for sharing information on evaluation and characterization of PGR from different projects, promotion of benefit sharing fund and BOLD projects of ITPGRFA, COLIBRI projects – sharing information with stakeholders
- What background work is needed before we can include these ideas in ECPGR's work plan for Phase XII?
  - Share knowledge as in the first question, update list of partners and put also information about the expertise to all names of our colleagues, who are they, what are they responsible for what they can offer, shar knowledge or space for safety duplication, capacity building activities etc.

# TASK 1: Phase XII preferred mode of operation

*INSTRUCTIONS: Please write here any adjustments to the ECPGR framework the subgroup suggests and why*

## TASK 2: Brainstorm on ECPGR priority activities for Phase XII

*INSTRUCTIONS: In the following slides, please list the ECPGR actions that have priority 1 or 2, suggested type of action and funding, and any relevant comment.*

*Consider exploitation of project outputs, national and regional initiatives that ECPGR could promote and the network's interaction with other international organizations.*

# Priority 1

- More efforts for visibility

## Any other business

*INSTRUCTIONS: Please write here any other issues the subgroup wants to share with the plenary.*