

ToRs for the two Task Forces for:

- (1) In situ conservation of crop wild relatives
- (2) On-farm management and conservation of landraces

Background: The activities will address the ECPGR outcome 3: In situ and on-farm conservation and management concepts are agreed.

http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/about_ecpgr/objectives.html

1. Two Task Forces will be established to develop two concepts:
 - a. In situ conservation of crop wild relatives in Europe
 - b. On-farm management and conservation of landraces in Europe
2. The draft concepts should be based upon the "Strategy Paper on the ECPGR Relationship with the European Union/European Commission" (see document no. 11:
http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/steering_committee/13th_sc_meeting/background_documents.html)
3. The draft concepts should be applicable to all the European countries (EU member states and Non-EU countries) but not prescriptive and be respectful of the sovereignty each country has on its own genetic resources. However, they should be developed in such a way that they could also become part of a future EU strategy for the conservation of genetic resources in food, agriculture and forestry.
4. The Task Forces should use the internationally agreed definitions and concepts of in situ and on-farm conservation (CBD, EC, GPA) where such definitions are available.
5. The draft concepts should be developed by the two Task Forces in close collaboration with the In situ and on-farm Network and the draft concept for on-farm management and conservation should also be developed in close collaboration with the Documentation and Information Network.
6. The draft concepts should describe the interface between in situ conservation, on-farm management and conservation and ex situ conservation of PGRFA.
7. The draft concept for In situ conservation of crop wild relatives in Europe should give special attention to locations of high diversity (hot spots) and if they fall inside (specific genetic reserve management) or outside protected areas (complementary conservation measures).
8. The draft concept for On-farm management and conservation of landraces in Europe should give special attention to the development of national inventories of landraces maintained on farm as defined by the respective national focal points as plant genetic resources naturally adapted to the local and regional conditions and under threat of genetic erosion.

9. The draft concepts should investigate options to improve the complementarity of ex situ and in situ crop wild relatives and landraces conservation in Europe through better integration of the initiatives of the In situ and on-farm Network and those of the crop-based Working Groups.
10. The draft concepts must explore the approach of unique and important accessions for in situ conservation (like in AEGIS).
11. The draft concepts should investigate options to promote awareness and raise additional funding for in situ crop wild relatives and landraces conservation in Europe.
12. The draft concepts should not exceed 10 pages each.
13. The draft concepts should be sent to the SC by the end of September 2013.
14. The SC members (National Coordinators) will be invited to undertake a national consultation and provide amendments and corrections to the draft concepts.
15. The SC will seek to finalize the two concepts by the end of 2013 and will offer them to the European Commission for its consideration when developing a future EU strategy for the conservation of genetic resources in food, agriculture and forestry. The concepts will also be the basis for the conservation strategy of ECPGR for in situ conservation and on-farm management and will be offered to the European countries if they wish to use them for their relevant national strategies.