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This document describes the work packages to be processed in 2020 for hosting and maintaining the European search catalogue for plant genetic resources (EURISCO), and for coordinating the EURISCO network.

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1 Work plan for the EURISCO development

1.1 WP1: Extension of the intranet support mechanism for National Inventories (permanent activity)

1.1.1 Rework of update mechanism

The current uploading/updating mechanism in EURISCO is based on a technology that can no longer be used due to changes in the licence conditions and restrictions in manufacturer support. It will be

evaluated as soon as possible which appropriate solutions are available. This will be followed by a corresponding reimplementations of the functionalities. The well-established procedures of data integrity checks on database level will not be affected.

The new development will be presented to participating National Inventory Focal Points at this year's training workshop in Bulgaria. On this occasion feedback from the users can also be received.

1.1.2 Infrastructure for ECPGR EVA

In 2018, the ECPGR Steering Committee established the European Evaluation Network (EVA). For an initial project covering barley/wheat, vegetables and maize funding was granted by the German government.

Within the framework of this project, EURISCO's task is to develop the necessary infrastructure (data management and search functionalities in protected intranet site for project partners, definition of an embargo period etc.).

The initial work in 2020 will focus on the collection of requirements and their specification.

1.1.3 Extension for SSR data

In 2019, an evaluation of the extension of EURISCO for SSR data was started. This task has been put on hold due to time constraints. The importance and urgency of these extensions for the Working Groups will be verified in 2020.

1.1.4 Update how-to documents

In connection with the developments described above, the how-to documents for National Inventory Focal Points will be updated.

1.2 WP2: Extension of functionality of the public EURISCO application (permanent activity)

1.2.1 Revision of the public web interface and general improvements

Both technologies and user behaviour continue to develop. Therefore, even established information systems need to be revised regularly.

The EURISCO web interface will undergo a regular technical revision. The focus will be on the implementation of a responsive design with a clearer layout and support of mobile platforms. In this context, a critical review will be carried out to determine which functionalities are used particularly heavily or very little. In the latter case, it may be necessary to decide which functionalities should be discontinued. In addition, new functionalities will be implemented based on the feedback received from users, in particular a combined search using passport data and phenotypic data.

1.2.2 Continue crop portal for forages

In 2019, a prototype for a new crop portal dedicated to forages was developed in the frame of the ECPGR Grant Scheme Activity "ImprovLoliumCol". This portal allows users to search over different genera of forage crops and gets automatically updated with passport and phenotypic data from EURISCO in the background. The prototype was presented on a workshop of the ECPGR Forages WG in

2019 and feedback was collected. Those requirements will be implemented in 2020 in close collaboration with the Forages WG, especially the combined search over passport data and phenotypic data.

1.2.3 Update of synchronisation mechanism with AEGIS website

The flagging of genebank accessions for AEGIS is done in EURISCO. Information on AEGIS accessions is then provided to the AEGIS website of the ECPGR. For security reasons, the interface previously used for this must be switched off. A RESTful API will be developed as a replacement.

1.3 WP3: Documentation and planning of the next steps

In parallel to the implementation processes, all developments will be documented.

Furthermore, the next development steps (WP1-2) will be specified in detail.

2 Schedule

	Work package	2020			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	Upload mechanism extension				
	Rework of update mechanism				
	Infrastructure for ECPGR EVA				
	Extension for SSR data				
	Update how-to documents				
2	Extension of functionality of public application				
	Revision of the public web interface and general improvements				
	Continue crop portal for forages				
	Update of synchronisation mechanism with AEGIS website				
3	Documentation and planning				

3 Coordination tasks

3.1 Coordination task 1: EURISCO network development maintenance

As in previous years, the contact to (potential) EURISCO stakeholders will also be intensified in 2020 as a continuous activity. The aim is to raise the awareness of EURISCO for breeders, researchers and also on political level by demonstrating the potentials of this common European approach. In this context, public awareness materials will be updated continuously. Potentials for presenting EURISCO (posters, talks) will be exploited.

Furthermore, feedback to the EURISCO users will be provided by regularly issuing the EURISCO newsletter (e-bulletin). We aim again at issuing a newsletter twice a year (June/December).

This will be complemented by direct, personal communication with the users, e.g., for supporting updates, provisioning of specific database queries and special data export formats, discussion about future developments etc. In this context, an important task is to make available missing or incomplete data sets and to update outdated data by providing targeted support to the respective National Inventory Focal Points.

A new training workshop for data providers will be organised in 2020. The workshop will be hosted by IPGR Sadovo, Bulgaria, and co-organised by the EURISCO coordination. All necessary training materials and test systems will be developed or updated.

3.2 Coordination task 2: Coordination of the EURISCO development

The coordination of the future EURISCO development mainly comprises (i) the definition of new services, (ii) the advancement of current standards and (iii) the discussion and definition of new standards.

For reaching common goals, the EURISCO coordination will explore all possibilities for coordination with initiatives such as Genesys and the GLIS under the International Treaty, respectively.

In order to improve the coverage of EURISCO, we will focus on bilateral communication with the respective National Focal Points / National Coordinators. This will be a permanent activity. In this context, the EURISCO coordination will participate in activities under the ECPGR Grant Scheme.

3.3 Coordination task 3: Participation in project proposals

An indispensable task of the EURISCO coordination is to participate in the preparation of project proposals in order to acquire additional funding for the future development of EURISCO.

Support/supervision will be provided for ongoing projects. Currently, the EURISCO coordination participates in the three Horizon 2020 projects “EUCLEG” (work package lead) and “Farmer’s pride” (task lead) as well as “GenRes Bridge”. End of 2019, another Horizon 2020 project was approved for funding – Activated GENEbank NeTwork (AGENT). The AGENT project is a concerted effort to activate genebanks. It focuses primarily on wheat and barley and aims to facilitate access to genetic resources for breeders and farmers through standardised protocols for data generation, documentation and provision to users. The EURISCO coordination will be mainly involved in two work packages aiming at the development of guidelines and formats for data production, exchange and representation, and at the development of the infrastructure for managing and analysing genotypic and phenotypic data about genetic resources, respectively. Work on this project will start during 2020.

Two other project proposals (Greenbooster, SpectraGenRes) with participation of the EURISCO coordination are currently under review.

In the frame of the ECPGR European Evaluation Network, the activities of EURISCO will start in 2020.

A considerable amount of time will be involved in the management and supervision of the activities within the context of the third-party funds raised.

Due to time constraints, these activities could not be pursued further in 2019, but are to be continued this year.