EURISCO DOI service

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Content

1   Introduction

In order to exchange plant genetic resources (PGR) and all the associated information, the unique identification of material is indispensable. So far, a combination of MCPD attributes – holding institute code, genus name and accession number – is being used for this purpose. However, these attributes are subject to changes, thus hampering the identification of PGR accessions. Permanent unique identifiers in the form of Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) offer the potential to master this challenge.

For EURISCO, DOIs provide the possibility to simplify the data management in the long run. In the frame of the Global Information System (GLIS), the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) provides the infrastructure for registering genebank accessions for DOIs free-of-charge.

Thanks to the continuous efforts of the National Inventory Focal Points, EURISCO has all information necessary for the DOI registration with the GLIS. Thus, in agreement with the EURISCO Advisory Board, a EURISCO service was implemented to support the DOI registration. Thereby, EURISCO acts as a mediator in the registration process and hands over the issued DOIs to the respective National Inventory Focal Point.

Please note that DOIs for genebank accessions are recommended, but not mandatory. If you want to register material for DOIs, please feel free to use this optional service of EURISCO or, if you prefer, to register with the GLIS directly.

2   Registration of accessions

The process of registering germplasm accessions for DOIs is shown in Figure 1.
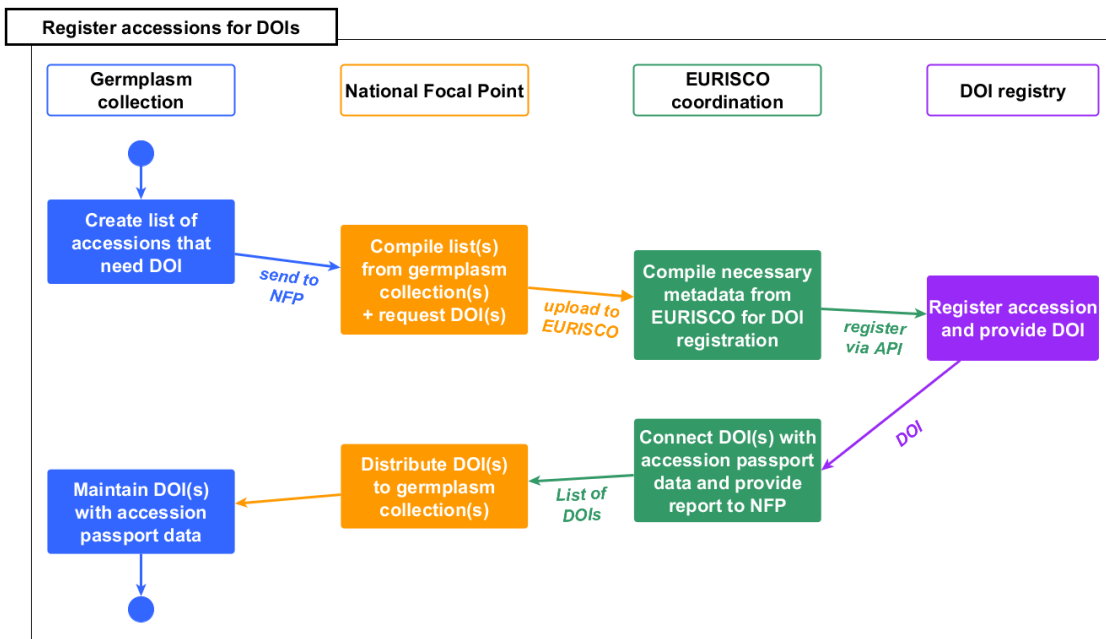

Figure 1: Procedure for registering accessions for DOIs.

1. A genebank sends its request for DOIs to its National Inventory Focal Point.

2. The National Inventory Focal Point submits this request to EURISCO. Therefore, only three MCPD attributes are necessary:
     o INSTCODE
     o GENUS
     o ACCENUMB
   In addition, the PID of the respective genebank needs to be known (see below).

   Please send your request for DOI registrations to the EURISCO coordination:
   eurisco@ipk-gatersleben.de

3. EURISCO registers the corresponding accessions for DOIs with the GLIS using the already available passport data and hands over the DOIs to the National Inventory Focal Point. Only the following passport descriptors will be used:
     o INSTCODE
     o GENUS
     o ACCENUMB
     o ACQDATE
     o ACCEURL (if available)
   In addition, a link to the full passport data in the EURISCO information system will be provided. Other passport descriptors are not necessary for the DOI registration.

4. The National Inventory Focal Point provides the DOIs to the requesting genebank.

The requesting genebank should then maintain the obtained DOIs together with their accession passport data. For future updates of both passport data and C&E data in EURISCO the new DOI should be used, thus improving the correct identification of accessions. This will help to significantly reduce time consuming checks for changes in the MCPD fields currently used for identification and will reduce the workload of the data providers.

As a prerequisite, genebanks need to register with the ITPGRFA via Easy-SMTA to get a unique personal identifier number (PID). For a genebank exchanging material via sMTA, this information should already be available.

Since the acquisition date is a mandatory field in the GLIS-DOI registration process, only those accessions having at least a year of acquisition can be registered for a DOI.

3 Update of meta data

In case of passport data changes relevant for the DOI provider, the National Inventory Focal Points are not required to become active themselves. Due to the regular updates of the National Inventory datasets, EURISCO has all necessary information. If changes occur, the EURISCO coordination will ensure to forward this information to the GLIS (Figure 2). Again, only the five above mentioned passport descriptors will be considered. This will take place automatically.
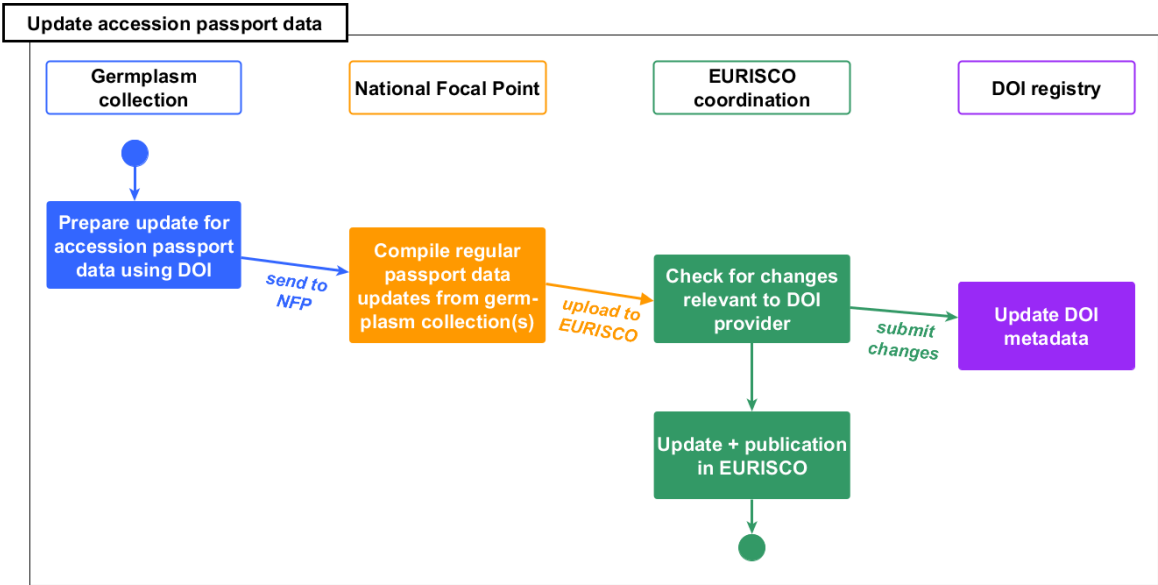

Figure 2: Regular updates of passport data using DOI.