

**Establishment of a European Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (EUFGIS)
(009 AGRI GEN RES 870/2004)**

EUFGIS Training workshop, Avignon, 5-7 May 2009

Participants:

Paraskevi ALIZOTI (National focal point, Greece)
Bart DE CUYPER (National focal point, Belgium)
Tiit MAATEN (National focal point, Estonia)
Eduardo NOTIVOL (National focal point, Spain)
Hikmet OZTURK (National focal point, Turkey)
Vincent SEIGNER (National focal point, France)
Federico VESSELLA (National focal point, Italy)
Milko SKOFIC (EUFGIS partner, Bioersity)
François LEFEVRE (EUFGIS partner, INRA)

Agenda of the meeting: given at the end of this report

1) General impression

- Useful meeting for exchanging experience and improve knowledge about different national strategies on gene conservation.
- The link between the unit level and the species level is clear
- Training workshop not only for clarification of the requirements and data standards but it also helped the national focal points to realise and prepare their work
- Always maintain and improve the quality of the information is a challenge for the future: keep on sharing concepts and data standards (as result of a common action plan)
- Database is very much appreciated: user-friendly and flexible, efficient web tool for long term monitoring !
- Most important is the quality of information behind the dots on the map: important to share minimum requirements and to adapt national situation to meet these requirements
- Part of the quality = consistency among countries and shared concern on the issue = result of 15 years Networking in EUFORGEN + EUFGIS project

2) Clarifications needed on requirements

- Clarify « autochtonous » in a less ambiguous way, and improve the data standard descriptor accordingly
- Clarify « designated » in the absence of legal status or when there is no single authority formally in charge of this designation
- Clarify minimum founder genetic diversity when artificial ex situ population?
- For endangered populations, change minimum 15 to « less than 50 »
- Clarify population size requirements if for core & buffer zone or core area only
- Clarify when the target is an hybrid taxon

3) Clarifications needed on data standards

- Surface area = surface area managed for conservation (includes both core area and buffer zone if both designated as such), a “yes” or “no” selection could be inserted, in case of existence or not of a buffer zone
- Minimum requirements defined for each of 3 objectives, but use the most « stringent » objective even if the requirement of the most general is fulfilled (e.g. if a unit is preserved because it is marginal and have >500 reproducing trees, use objective « marginal »)

- “PopulationShare”: expressed in % basal area
- Clarify if “PopulationReproducingTree” field is the number of trees in forest inventory (may change)

4) Further developments on the information system

- Add a filter on target species
- Add datum for EU standard
- Track historical records without duplication in the list of currently active units/species
- Read csv files with various separators « ; »
- Consultation mode without entering the editing mode
- Save option without coming back to the list
- Multiple selection on a single field (eg select « not equals to x or y or z...»)
- Possibility to map a selection (e.g. map the units corresponding to a selection on target species)
- Add a filter regarding the objective, to recognize how effectively the rare/endangered species, the marginal populations and the populations with specific adaptations are conserved and possibly identify further conservation needs in specific regions.

5) Further work for EUFORGEN beyond EUFGIS

- Develop searching facilities in the information system
- Minimum requirements for management aiming at conservation and, eventually, add a list of minimum descriptors about monitoring and corresponding standard information in the “target species” table
- Maintain consistency of the information, eg by regular synthesis of the information included into the system
- Develop equivalent standard information system for ex situ genebanks: direct use of EURISCO?
- What about information on how genetic resources are considered in silvicultural practices out of conservation units?

EUFGIS training workshop for the Mediterranean region

Avignon, France, 5-7 May 2009

Organiser:

Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA),
URFM - Ecology of Mediterranean Forests

Agenda

5 May 2009		
08:30	Pick up participants at the reception of the hotel	Hotel Médiéval
09:00	Opening of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome address (François Lefèvre, INRA) ● Introduction to the workshop (agenda, purpose, etc.) (François Lefèvre, INRA) ● Introduction of the participants 	INRA-URFM
09:30	Update on the EUFGIS project and its activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● François Lefèvre, INRA ● Discussion 	INRA-URFM
10:30	Coffee/tea break	
11:00	Updates on the national FGR documentation efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5-10 min by each EUFGIS Focal Point ● Discussion and sharing of experiences/expectations 	INRA-URFM
12:30	Lunch	INRA Restaurant
14:00	Pan-European minimum requirements for gene conservation units of forest trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● François Lefèvre, INRA ● Discussion 	INRA-URFM
15:30	Coffee/tea break	
16:00-17:30	Data standards for the gene conservation units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● François Lefèvre, INRA ● Discussion 	INRA-URFM
20:00	Joint dinner	

6 May 2009		
08:30	Pick up participants at the reception of the hotel	Hotel Médiéval
09:00	EUFGIS information system (Milko Skofic, Bioersity International) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intranet demonstration ● Web site demonstration ● Database design ● Discussion and feedback 	INRA Computer room
10:30	Coffee/tea break	
11:00	Data processing for the EUFGIS information system (Milko Skofic, Bioersity International) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Different file formats ● Data structure ● Data checking and quality ● Data import / upload 	INRA Computer room
12:30	Lunch	INRA Restaurant
14:00	Data processing and importing to the EUFGIS information	INRA Computer

	system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processing of national datasets by the Focal Points • Hands-on training on data import / upload 	room
15:30	Coffee/tea break	
16:00-17:30	EUFGIS information system and national FGR documentation efforts (Milko Skofic, Bioversity International) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapting national databases and documentation work to the EUFGIS information system • Development of a national database: what can the EUFGIS information system offer? 	INRA Computer room
20:00	Workshop dinner	

7 May 2009		
09:00	Demonstration of other relevant information system (Milko Skofic, Bioversity International) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EURISCO • SINGER • Crop Wild Relatives Portal, others? 	INRA Computer room
10:00	Demonstration of GIS softwares (Milko Skofic, Bioversity International) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Earth / Maps • DIVA-GIS 	INRA Computer room
10:30	Coffee break	
11:00	Data processing and importing to the EUFGIS information system (continued)	INRA Computer room
12:30	Lunch	INRA Restaurant
14:00	Data processing and importing to the EUFGIS information system (continued)	INRA Computer room
15:30	Coffee break	
16:00-17:30	Wrap-up of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons learnt and feedback • Instructions for further data processing work • Closing remarks 	INRA - URFM