

# EUGENA

## -who is signing documents?

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NordGen Farm Animal Council meeting,

May 19<sup>th</sup> 2026, Sassari, Sardinia



**ERFP**



**EUGENA**

# The state of EUGENA after 10 years

15 Countries

30 Gene Banks

6063859 Samples



# The European Genebank Network

**Stronger national genebanks**

**Shared data for better AnGR monitoring**

**Harmonised standards and procedures**

**Efficient conservation of transboundary breeds**

**Integrates genebanks into the European research infrastructure**

**Facilitates coordinated European cooperation and exchange of AnGR, including Nagoya Protocol implementation**



**EUGENA**

**Support for SDG 2.5  
and EU legislation**

# Questions:

1. How to become a member?
2. Who can sign EUGENA documents?
3. The status of official gene bank is required – how to become an official gene bank – which national authority grants recognition and what the process looks like

## **How to join EUGENA?**

Participation in EUGENA can  
be agreed by two ways



## 1. A two-step process.

1

### step 1 (international):

ERFP Member Country and the ERFP Secretariat sign the EUGENA Memorandum of Understanding (see Annex 1).



2

### step 2 (national):

Member Country representative(s) and genebank representative(s) sign the EUGENA Letter of Agreement (see Annex 2).



# Nomination by NC or competent authority and declaration of the genebank



## 2. A single steep process:

**1** The NC or other valid competent authority nominates a host institution (genebank) as EUGENA member, presenting to ERFP Secretariat a statement recognizing it as a repository for ex situ conservation and sustainable use of AnGR.

**2** A declaration of commitment of the host institution must accompany the nomination by the NC or other valid competent authority



- Enrolment in EUGENA recognises the first nominated genebank.

### Valid competent authority:

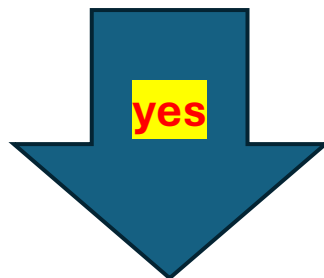
Any authority in the country with the legal competences under national rules to nominate a host institution a genebank as EUGENA member

# From EUGENA terms of reference...

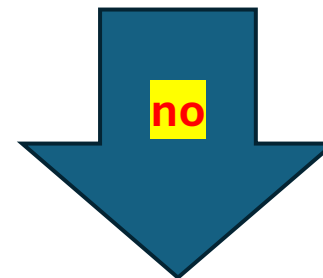
**Genebank:** is a repository for ex situ conservation and sustainable use of AnGR

- held by a **host institution authorized and/or recognized by a national authority to fulfil these tasks**
- may be constituted by one or more repositories (in vitro or in vivo) collaborating as a network

The right to decide about  
genebank operations (is genebank a governance body or not?)



Genebank



Host institution - authorized and/or recognized  
by a national authority for executing the genebank functions  
– Universities, Stations, Institutes

# Definitions- Membership

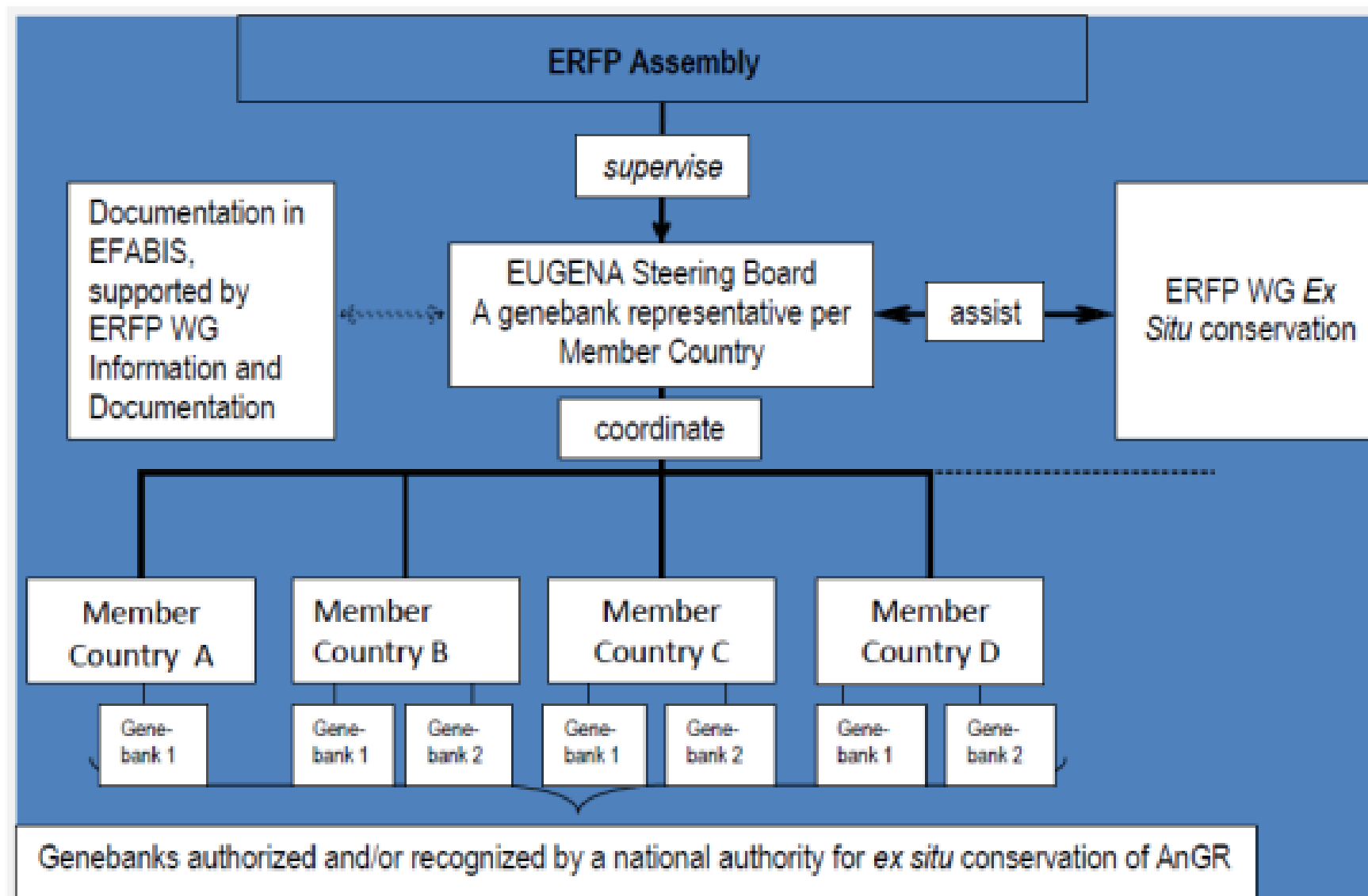
- **Host institution:** The host institution is the institution(s) authorized and/or recognized by a national authority for executing the genebank functions.
- **Legal basis:** The legal basis describes the legal framework or the official decision for the establishment and/or recognition of the genebank.
- **Governance body:** Governance body is the legal person, institution, group of institutions or such body as entitled and stated by the legal basis to decide on the operations of the genebank.

# Definitions – Material

- **Genetic Material:** Reproductive or any genetic material from breeds for long-term storage, which can be used for reproduction or research and development, particularly semen, oocytes, embryos, somatic cells and DNA
- **Ownership of the material:** Ownership of the material describes the owner(s) of the genetic material which is stored or maintained in the genebank.
- **Acquisition conditions:** Acquisition conditions are the conditions, which have to be fulfilled to acquire genetic material, possibly outlined in a specific document (e.g. material acquisition agreement (MAA)) in order to include it into the genebank.
- **Access conditions:** Access conditions are the conditions, which have to be fulfilled to get access to the genetic material held in the genebank, possibly outlined in a specific document (e.g. material transfer agreement (MTA)).

- In both processes, the compliance of the **relevant national legal framework** by the host institution (i.e. animal health regulation, ABS regulation, animal welfare regulation...) must be settled in the EUGENA Memorandum of Understanding and EUGENA Letter of agreement or in the statement of nomination and declaration of commitment.

Diagram 1: The organizational structure of the EUGENA



# POLAND - Genebanks enrolled to EUGENA



EUGENA



2019



M · C · B

MCB (Małopolskie Centrum Biotechniki w Krasnem )



2022



NEW Genebanks  
in 2026

Agricultural University Kraków  
Androbus  
Stalions Herd Łąck?

# NBBM as part of AnGR conservation net in PL and EUGENA network

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development



Breeding legislation, art. 34

**Governance body**  
Host institution



Agreement between  
NRIAP and MCB Krasne



Genebank (national)



Genebank for cattle  
-private company



EUGENA

# Cooperation with other genebanks for AnGR - EUGENA net



**APRIL 2023**

**Slovakian National Genebank  
in Nitra, Slovakia**



**NOVEMBER 2023**

**German National Genebank  
in Neustadt, Germany**





## EUGENA Steering Board Meetings –

2023, online meeting  
28-29 May 2024, Balice, Poland  
11-12 September, 2025 Olsztyn,  
Poland  
June 2026, Nitra, Slovakia

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**

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