REPORT

of ERFP *Ad hoc* action: EUGENA Web portal design

Meeting in the City Hotel Ljubljana, Slovenia
3rd – 4th February 2016

Chair: Dace Smiltina (Latvia)

Participants: Zhivko Duchev (Bulgaria), Sylvain Marthey (France), Christina Ligda (Greece), Gustavo Gandini (Italy), Sipke Joost Hiemstra (The Netherlands), Danijela Bojkovski (ERFP Secretariat).

Wednesday, 3rd February 2016; 1:00 pm

Chair D. Smiltina welcomed Participants and opened the Meeting. Objectives, expected results and Agenda of the meeting were presented. All Participants approved the Agenda.

The main objective of the ERFP *Ad hoc* action - EUGENA Web portal design is to develop a Web portal to enable access to the (register of) Genebanks in Europe.

Expected outputs of the EUGENA Web portal Ad hoc action are:
– Terms of Reference for Web portal and proposals for the structure and the content of a European Web portal for AnGR, with particular emphasis on facilitating access to information about the (register of) gene bank collections in Europe;
– A road map for development and implementation of the Web portal;
– Estimation of development and maintenance costs, as well as indication of contributors.

The background of the *Ad hoc* Action proposal was presented by S. J. Hiemstra. The establishment of the EUGENA network of gene banks and the need to have better access to information about gene bank collections across countries in Europe was explained. Relationship and overlap of EUGENA with the Horizon 2020 IMAGE project was clarified. Aims of the IMAGE project include the improvement of the functioning and networking of animal gene banks, and to establish an information system for data integration and data sharing.
Current situation of sharing information about gene bank collections at European level through EFABIS was presented and examples of Web portals in other domains: ECPGR (AEGIS and EURISCO), Genesys, SLU biobank, BBMRI, Geneticresources.eu and EBI.

Access and information about AnGR and gene bank collections was presented by Z. Duchev:
– National websites and gene bank databases,
– Aggregated data in EFABIS,
– ERFP website – contact details of gene banks.

S. Marthey presented the French CRB-Anim initiative, in particular the Portals giving access to (meta) information about genetic collections in France (http://www.crb-anim.fr). CRB-Anim is a national infrastructure whose main objective is to build a functional network (common web portal) connecting domestic animal Biological Resources Centers (BRC).

The objective of CRB-Anim is to integrate and reinforce BRCs that conserve reproductive and genomic material for domesticated animals raised in France including mammals, birds, fish and crustaceans.

Objectives of the CRB Anim Web Portal are:
–   To promote reproductive and genomic collections and their use in research;
–   To provide users with a single entry point;
–   To explain the rules for distribution of samples;
–   To publish news about CRB-Anim, seminars, training activities;
–   To provide an intranet for partners to share information;
–   To provide information on the nature and availability of collections and samples;
–   To provide research tools to explore the collections/samples available and find samples of interest;
–   To allow user to send requests about sample (information /ordering);
–   To allow user to send a request for storing new collections.

A diagram showing the *type of information for each sample* will be used to obtain a sufficient characterization and to make sample attractive for potential users was presented (presentation available).

Conclusion and discussion. Which information will be displayed at the EUGENA web portal was debated. The members agreed that questions which have to be answered are main issues for the 2nd day Agenda:
➢   Potential users;
➢   Data providers;
➢   Minimum data fields;
➢   Management of portal;
➢   Costs;
➢   Relationship between ERFP website and EUGENA portal.

The meeting was closed at 7 pm.

Thursday, 4th February 2016; 8:30 am

Chair Dace Smiltina opened the meeting and presented the agenda.

Participants started discussion about designing of EUGENA Web Portal (and ERFP website). The following topics were discussed:
➢ Potential users;
➢ Data providers;
➢ Minimum data fields;
➢ Management of portal;
➢ Costs
➢ Relationship between ERFP website and EUGENA portal

Potential users:
– Researchers:
    o Information to develop new research
    o Collections attractive to research partners
– Conservation – stakeholders:
    o Tool for countries to have overview of their AnGR
    o Planning and managing conservation activities
    o Transboundary breed conservation
    o International conservation policies
    o Cryobank
– Industry and private breeders
Potential users need portal where they can easily find information – easy accessible.
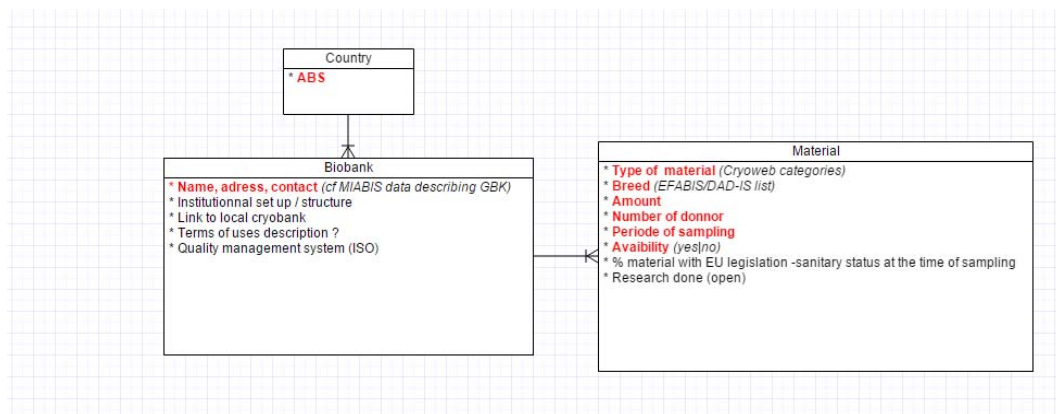
Data providers:
– Individual Participating Gene banks of EUGENA

Minimum (meta) data fields:
– Gene bank
    o Name, address, contact person <-> MIABIS – Data describing bank - link to local genebank database/website for searching;
    o Institutional set up/Structure;
– Information per breed/type of genetic material
  (Species and breeds <-> EFABIS/DAD-IS definitions based on the CryoWEB definitions):
    o amount of genetic material;
    o number of donors per genetic material;
    o date of sampling - first and last year of collection;
    o % of material with EU legislation sanitary status at the time of sampling (voluntary field);
    o Availability of material – percent of availability or non-availability <-> specify conditions, Terms of use
– Country level entry
    o ABS – legal perspective should be taken into account <-> availability, link to the ABS and ABS Focal Point
– Additional
    o Research done on the genetic material/sample/breed
    o Quality management system (ISO)
    o Map of Europe
    o Search engine
    o Language/translation?

o   Link to other databases
–   Diagram (below example) how data fields are connected/related:

Management of portal
Two options/procedure for data entry:
–   Gene bank will enter data (but data manager has to control entered data),
–   Web portal manager will enter data.
Procedure for entering data and updating has to be developed and procedure for distributing data to user.

Costs and development for the portal:
–   Approx. 10.000 €for designing, development of the software and implementation of the web portal;
–   5.000 €for the portal manager - technical costs for entering data,

Relationship between ERFP website and EUGENA portal
–   Hosting the web portal EUGENA and ERFP website - which direction and €?
–   Modernization and re-structuring of ERFP Website was proposed and development of EUGENA at the same time.

Suggested road map for development and implementation
a)   Definition of details and preparation of the Terms of Reference and Functionalities of EUGENA portal
b)   Design EUGENA portal and re-structuring the ERFP Website --> outsourcing
c)   Style and new ERFP logo + EUGENA logo --> outsourcing
d)   Consultation with relevant IMAGE WP Leaders
e)   Meta-data EUGENA Web Portal --> Decision
f)   Specific documents on functionalities and management issues -->Decision
g)   Building Portal and Website --> outsourcing

The meeting was closed at 1 pm.

Annex 1:

Specification of meta data and structure of EUGENA portal

a. Gene bank
   i. Name, address, contact person <-> MIABIS – Data describing bank - link to local genebank database/website for searching;
   ii. Institutional set up/Structure;
b. Information per breed/type of genetic material
   (Species and breeds <-> EFABIS/DAD-IS definitions based on the CryoWEB definitions):
   i. amount of genetic material;
   ii. number of donors per genetic material;
   iii. date of sampling - first and last year of collection;
   iv. % of material with EU legislation sanitary status at the time of sampling (voluntary field);
   v. Availability of material – percent of availability or non-availability <-> specify conditions, Terms of use
c. Country level entry
   i. ABS – legal perspective should be taken into account <-> availability, link to the ABS and ABS Focal Point
d. Additional
   i. Research done on the genetic material/sample/breed
   ii. Quality management system (ISO)
   iii. Map of Europe
e. Link to other databases

Annex 2:

Functionalities and management issues for EUGENA portal

a) Data entry procedure
b) Interface
c) Data ownership
d) Access rights and data management
e) Registration (User ID, password)
f) Outputs and statistics
g) Search engine by country and by cryo-bank
h) Languages

Annex 3:

Suggestions for overall ERFP website structure and content

a. Main structure
    i. EUGENA-Ex Situ
    ii. Documentation
    iii. In situ support
    iv. Else
b. News items
c. Social media