

OIL AND PROTEIN CROPS NETWORK

3.4. Oil and Protein Crops Network

Working Group: Grain Legumes.

The **Oil and Protein Crops Network Coordinating Group** consisted of four members: Mike Ambrose, United Kingdom (Network Coordinator); Siyka Angelova, Bulgaria; Andrea Carboni, Italy; and Gérard Duc, France.

The **Fifth Meeting of the Working Group on Grain Legumes** was planned to be held in Antalya, Turkey on 22-23 April 2010, including the ad hoc meeting of the Grain Legume Database Managers. Unfortunately, the meeting was cancelled at the last minute due to the air transport difficulties caused by ash from the Icelandic volcano. One third of the Network's budget was lost since a number of air tickets were no longer refundable. Presentations prepared for the meeting were uploaded on the ECPGR Web site, including reporting updates of the Grain Legume Databases and notes on national experiences. The WG intended to mainly focus on defining its engagement towards AEGIS, with particular interest in the AQUAS elements related to the regeneration of allogamous species.

The **ECPGR project for urgent regeneration and safety-duplication activities**, funded by the Global Crop Diversity Trust, started its operations in 2009. In the case of grain legumes, six countries (Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Hungary and Portugal) were involved in the regeneration of chickpea, common bean, cowpea, faba bean, grasspea and lentil. Of the 1255 grain legume accessions that are expected to be regenerated with support of the project, 985 (78%) were successfully regenerated.

A proposal submitted by the Oil and Protein Crops Network **for funding to the AEGIS Grant Scheme** in 2009 was successful and started in 2010. The proposal, "Towards comprehensive pea germplasm management for future use", is coordinated by Agritec Plant Research, Czech Republic. In 2010, a proposal was submitted for funding to the second call of the grant scheme. This was prepared by partners from Ukraine (evaluation of chickpea collection).

Outlook for 2011: In accordance with the Steering Committee decision, the Fifth Meeting of the Grain Legumes Working Group, which could not take place due to air transport difficulties in May 2010, can be rescheduled for 2011 or later.