

## **PROVIDING GUIDANCE ON PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION: EXPERIENCE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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### **The CPVO International Relations Strategy**

- The Administrative Council of the CPVO has adopted the Strategy in 2014.
- Some of its major features:
  - Cooperation with third countries (EU candidate and potential candidate countries) and regional organizations in relation to the conduct of the DUS test;
  - Cooperation with the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries;

- Cooperation with UPOV countries and regional organizations having started the accession procedure (Ex. ARIPO and OAPI);
- Technical cooperation with Japan and Singapore.



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- **Priorities:**
- EU international co-operation policies governed by the European Commission;
- Countries of priority expressed by the EU Member States;
- Countries of priority expressed by UPOV;
- Countries of priorities expressed by breeders Organizations



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- The CPVO is a member of the **European Observatory on infringements of Intellectual Property Rights** established with the OHIM and is participating in the Legal working group and the Infringement working group.
- The objective is to raise awareness on the PVR system. Before the CPVO joined the Observatory PVRs were not even considered.



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- **Enforcement seminars**
- Since 2005, the CPVO has organized seminars to raise awareness and best practices on enforcement of PVRs throughout Europe (Brussels, Warsaw, Madrid, Romania and Bulgaria, Athens, Hamburg, Rome, Zagreb).



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- **Cooperation with Universities and IP Masters of the EIPIN Network**
- Since 2014 the CPVO has entered into cooperation agreement with the Magister Lucentinus of Alicante (Spain), the CEIPI of Strasbourg (France), the Queen Mary of London and Wageningen University.
- The objective is to raise awareness on PVRs in academic IP specialized Masters.



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## Cooperation outside EU

### Multi Beneficiary Program

Program set up by the European Commission to prepare candidate countries for their accession to the EU.

- since 2006: Croatia and Turkey
- since 2008: FYR of Macedonia
- since 2009: open for all countries of the western Balkan; however, only Albania, Serbia and Bosnia & Herzegovina participate.
- Budget for activities (2011-2014):  
400.000 €



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## Activities

- Practical trainings in DUS testing at nat. PVR authorities in beneficiary countries and in CPVO EOs, e.g.
  - Wheat DUS test for Albanian examiners
  - Soy testing for Serbian experts
- Intensive 2 weeks PVR course University of Wageningen (NL)
- Participation in experts' meetings
- Legal consultations
- Seminars for breeders and growers



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## Recent and upcoming activities for Turkey:

- May 2013: participation in the enforcement seminar held in Rome
- June 2013: technical workshop on the conduct of DUS technical examination of vegetables
- Oct 2013: fruit expert meeting
- Dec 2013: Annual meeting CPVO – EOs



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- Participation of CPVO in **TAIEX** (the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange Instrument of the European Commission);
- **Beneficiaries:** Croatia, Turkey, Fyr of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine.



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- **Who are helped?**
- Civil servant, judicial and law enforcement authorities, Parliaments and Legislative Councils, representative of social partners, trade unions and employers associations.
- **What are the tools used?**
- Workshops, expert missions, study visits.



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- **Breeders Organizations**
- The CPVO participates at the annual meetings of the breeders Organizations such as CIOPORA and ESA.



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- **Participation to International Fairs**
- The CPVO participates to Fairs such as the Salon du Végétal in partnership with GEVES in Angers and the International Trade Fair for Plants (IPM) in partnership with BSA, NIAB and Naktuinbouw as well as Open Days such as the Vegetable Open Day in partnership with OEVV and INIA in Valencia (Spain).



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