

**Name of Issue:**

Are the Biological Resources Centres (BRC) the future of Genetic Resources?

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**Participants:**

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**Highlights from the discussion:**

Opening questions: How do you feel with regard to biological resources? How do you feel with regard to apply same rules for human, animals, plants and microorganisms biological resources as in the OECD project?

- remark: Human biodiversity is excluded from CDB (Convention on Biological Diversity):
- To separate the different fields (plants, animals and also forest trees, vegetables...) in different centres (no huge organisation!); there is a gap between animals and plants, as plants conservation has to be completely funded.
- To co-ordinate all the different fields into something like a central committee;
- To have a good selection about what activities could be led in such BRC. Research could be excluded.
- It would be easier to share and to promote the activities in an open structure if CRB could be such a structure.

**Future/Next step:**

- To keep limits of genetic resources as genetic material that can be regenerated according to the CBD and the International Treaty on PGRFA. There is so a real limit, but it depends from technology. Gene library are non-reproducible gene information:
- The organisation of BRC implies new additional money.

- To be aware of the great differences between countries with regard to the level reach in the development of their national programme, to the existing organisation and to the origin of funding:
- The expression “Biological resources” has to be well explain, specially with regard to human material.