

BOLD

Biodiversity for Opportunities, Livelihoods and Development



In Los Baños, Philippines, an IRRI researcher takes notes on a trial of rice plants' response to rainfall.

Photo: Brent Stirton/Reportage by Getty Images for the Crop Trust.

Harnessing Crop Diversity to Adapt to the Effects of the Climate Crisis

Funded by the Government of Norway, led by the Global Crop Diversity Trust

Crop diversity is the biological foundation of agriculture, a treasure trove of useful traits in plants that we can harness to build climate-resilient crops that have a long-term impact in farmers' fields and sustain productivity, income, resilience, and ultimately food and nutritional security. Conserving and using our crop diversity is the foundation for developing crops and diversifying farming systems that are resilient to the devastating effects of a rapidly changing climate, ensuring food security and nutrition for all in a sustainable way.

BOLD (Biodiversity for Opportunities, Livelihoods and Development) is a groundbreaking 10-year project to strengthen food and nutrition security worldwide by supporting the conservation and use of crop diversity. Funded with USD 58 million from the Government of Norway and launched in 2021, it builds on the work and achievements of the decade-long Crop Wild Relatives Project (2011- 2021).

Genebanks, plant breeders, farmers, and everyone in between, are equal stakeholders in the process of conserving and harnessing crop diversity. BOLD will support 15 national genebanks worldwide to conserve their existing collections, develop new crop diversity through partnerships with breeders, and collaborate with farmers to use that diversity in their fields.



Supporting United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2

BOLD directly contributes to Target 2.5 of SDG 2, to “maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.”

Climate change is the most urgent crisis of our time.

The livelihoods, health and wellbeing of millions are at stake.

About the Global Crop Diversity Trust

The Crop Trust is an international organization working to support conservation and use of plant genetic resources.

The Crop Trust is recognized as an essential component of the funding strategy of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

For more information, see www.croptrust.org.

About the Government of Norway

The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports projects and programs around the world through Norway's development agency, Norad.

