

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Overview of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009**

**Purpose**

To provide Members with an update on Trust activities during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009.

**Programme update**

**i) Report Card**

Refer to Annexes A and B for progress against the Report Card performance indicators and Dashboard.

Overall progress has been good and steady on the majority of indicators. Half the indicators (14) show an increase in activity performance since October 2008 and another 11 show a steady-state level of progress. Many of these will not show an increase in progress against the target until other activities that are prerequisites have been completed, for example 3d, number of genebanks adopting GRIN-Global. Two of the programme indicators, however, have seen an initiation of activity for the first time during this reporting period (2b and 2c). New grants with new partners and countries continue to increase (7a, 7b).

We have also seen an increase in new funding pledges compared to the previous 2 reporting periods.

Two indicators (5e and 5h) show a decline in performance activity and these are all linked to the poor performance of endowment fund investments during the last reporting period, despite the fact that the Trust's investments fared better than comparable endowments due to decisions that were taken to increase allocations to cash prior to the most severe drops in equity markets.

**ii) Svalbard global backup**

In February 2009, CIAT, CIMMYT and ICARDA deposited an additional 58,238 accessions in time for the one-year anniversary of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. This brings the total number of accessions deposited by international and national collections assisted by the Trust to 299,733. Additional deposits by OECD countries in February 2009 amounted to 27,816 accessions (with deposits from Canada, Ireland, Switzerland and USDA). The total number of accessions in the Vault as of February 2009 was 406,607.

**iii) Regeneration**

*Status of Grant Agreements*

Since EB4 we have concluded agreements with another 2 holders of priority collections, a member institute of the coconut network (COGENT), the Pacific network (PAPGREN) and 4 national institutes of the Southeast Asia region/network (RECSEA). In total we now have 37 regeneration projects underway on 67 globally prioritised collections and 58 regionally

prioritised collections, plus projects with CATIE (the Centre for tropical agriculture in Costa Rica) and the World Vegetable Center (AVRDC) that in total amount to 70,347 accessions targeted for regeneration, characterization and safety duplication. A further 5 project agreements with holders of global priority collections and 9 with region/network priority collections are under active negotiation. Negotiations with some institutes have stalled for various reasons, as explained in Paper 4. However, we now have projects going forward in 18 countries that are not parties to the International Treaty but have agreed to provide the regenerated germplasm in accordance with the Treaty Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA).

#### *Monitoring the regeneration*

At the beginning of 2009 we started to receive the first annual progress reports for our regeneration projects. So far 27 reports have been received and processed. These show that 6,223 accessions have been successfully regenerated so far. Overall, the implementation of the projects appears to be proceeding adequately. We try to ensure that the regeneration is carried out properly. The crop regeneration guidelines, prepared under a contract with Bioversity International and the CGIAR System-wide Genetic Resources Programme (SGRP) have been distributed to partners in draft form, in advance of their final versions, which should soon be available on CD-Rom in 5 languages. In addition, we are engaging CGIAR scientists to help troubleshoot specific problems. The reports show that in many cases the number of accessions successfully regenerated is lower than expected. Where this is due to pest or disease attacks, or adverse climatic conditions in the field the partner is re-planting. But some failures in germination (due, for example to the death of all seeds in a sample) have been reported and indicate what is likely to be irretrievable losses of accessions from collections.

#### *Safety duplication of regenerated materials*

Our project agreements require partners to safety duplicate the regenerated accessions after each growing season. We are now busy helping to get the process for duplication organized between the partner institutes and host genebanks, typically CGIAR genebanks, as well as the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. For the transfer of the material to the CGIAR genebanks the national programmes should use a Treaty SMTA and for most partners it is their first experience of issuing a SMTA and working out the national procedures to do this. There are also technical challenges ranging from getting the seed samples properly dried and packed for transport to dealing with quarantine requirements especially for the root and tuber crops. We are ensuring that all partners have the equipment and supplies to be able to at least manually dry their seeds and pack the samples properly. In some cases we can provide more specialized equipment, on a needs basis, for processing and storing seed and vegetative materials. To date three project partners have duplicated a total of 161 accessions in international genebanks (barley at ICARDA, wheat at CIMMYT and yams at IITA).

The vegetatively-propagated crops pose a significant challenge for transport and quarantine, especially if transferred in the form of tubers or corms, etc. As an example, a Nigerian quarantine officer had to travel to Togo with an IITA specialist to personally treat the accession samples before they could enter Nigeria (with good reason as most of the accessions were infected). This approach would have prohibitive costs for transfers to IITA from collections in Asia and the Americas. Consequently grants for regenerating these crops are generally higher to allow for accessions to be introduced into tissue culture. Furthermore, the costs of virus indexing and cleaning and cryopreservation — activities that are not planned for in the present project but will ultimately be essential for fully incorporating duplicated accessions into the in-trust collections — will have to be covered by additional fund-raising or borne by the international genebanks.

#### **iv) Information systems**

We have two major informatics initiatives, one with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop a genebank data management system and the other with SGRP/Bioversity to develop a global portal to genebank databases. There has been important progress in both this year. In February the Beta version of the new genebank management system, based on the USDA genetic resources information system (GRIN), was released for testing. A prototype of the global portal has been produced that can link passport data in the existing systems SINGER (CGIAR Centre system), EURISCO (European system) and GRIN. Next steps will involve potential users and data providers in the further development of these systems.

#### **v) Evaluation and pre-breeding**

The Trust is supporting the evaluation (screening) of collections for specific traits through a competitive grant scheme. 12 of the 13 projects selected for funding in 2008 are now underway. The project of EMBRAPA (Brazil) has not yet been signed or initiated.

The second call for proposals was linked with the FAO/Global Initiative on Plant Breeding (GIPB) for pre-breeding projects, as well as the work of the Generation Challenge Program (GCP) on genotyping. This call resulted in 63 proposals, 21 of which were selected for funding by external and Trust reviewers. Currently we are finalizing the grant agreements. If all the agreements are successfully concluded then in total the 33 evaluation projects will be evaluating 48 collections of 19 crops in 30 countries for traits of importance to the poor in the context of climate change, traits such as drought and heat tolerance.

The Trust provides support for the FAO/GIPB under the BMGF/UNF grant. A major element of its work this quarter was the selection of 6 pre-breeding projects. To facilitate the management of these projects, we are administering them as Trust grant agreements. All 6 agreements have been prepared and are with the partners for signature.

#### **vi) Research**

The Trust has been working with COGENT, the genetic resources network for Coconut, to identify the most cost-effective way to improve the design and implementation of protocols for the transfer of coconut embryos — currently the best known method for moving coconut germplasm internationally. With Trust funds, a workshop took place in December 2008 of all the major coconut genebanks and tissue culture specialists. The workshop was successful in identifying the real constraints to use of the protocols and recommendations for improved implementation. The Trust will continue to provide support over the next two years to strengthen expertise and the implementation of the protocols in the major collections. At the same time the Trust is funding the International Coconut Genebank in Cote d'Ivoire to produce seed nuts for testing the protocol, serving also for safety duplication at the same time.

Work to develop cryopreservation protocols for yam, cassava, sweet potato and edible aroids is underway under the six grants that the Trust has established with CGIAR centres, advanced research institutes and the SPC. The partners are due to submit their first progress reports and to meet in Leuven, Belgium, for a hands-on workshop held in conjunction with the SGRP GPG2 project.

#### **vii) Long-term Grants**

Negotiations have progressed towards signing the long-term grant for yam and edible aroids with SPC, the first non-CGIAR genebank to be funded by the Trust long-term. This

grant was approved in 2007 for funding in 2008. Because it is the first non-CGIAR long-term grant, it has required additional work by both parties, as non-CGIAR genebanks do not necessarily have all of the required criteria already in place (such as itemized operational costs, signatories to the Treaty, International Standards).

Due to the global financial crisis and the state of the endowment fund, no other grants have been made in 2009.

#### **viii) Mid-term review of the BMGF/UNF project**

We were very fortunate to have had the panel choices presented to the UNF and BMGF accepted and also to have had the first choice nominees themselves accept to be on the panel. The panel members consist of Dr Bob Clements (Australia, Chair), Ms Maria Jose Sampaio (Brazil) and Dr Regassa Feyissa (Ethiopia). It is expected they will start work on the evaluation, in Rome, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June and complete it within 2 weeks (21<sup>st</sup> June). Minor changes to the ToRs were suggested by the BMGF and the final ToRs are at [Annex C](#).

#### **ix) Future Programmatic Initiatives**

At EB4 we presented 4 areas for future work. Since November we have taken steps to lay the basis for initiatives in 3 of the 4 areas.

*Endowing a crop.* We have worked together with CGIAR Centre experts and others to put together short briefs on "finishing the job" for 4 crops (wheat, rice, grasspea and taro). These include cost estimates both for one-off and recurrent activities. They are being used by the Executive Director in fund-raising. Meeting with potential donors are scheduled.

*Crop wild relatives.* The end of March saw the publication of the results of an extensive analysis of the distribution of crop wild relatives of key genepools with the aim of identifying priority areas for collecting. This will be followed by a targeted call for collecting proposals under our GRDC grant that will serve as "proof-of-concept" for an eventual major initiative on the focused and prioritized collecting of crop wild relatives.

*Vegetatively propagated crops.* As part of developing a brief for "completing the job" for banana and taro, we are working through the specific issues that make the conservation and use of vegetatively propagated crops so much more complicated and costly than for seed.

*Global initiative on untapped traits.* Progress has been limited in this area, so far confined to thinking about how a next phase of development of the global online portal to accession-level information could address the issue of selection of material for testing in a more nuanced and intelligent manner.

### **Fundraising update**

#### **Recent activity**

Since EB4 the following contributions have been received. For a full set of pledges to date, refer to [Annex D](#).

Endowment Fund:

Australia	AUD 850k	\$547,570
Ireland	EUR 1m	\$1,276,750
Germany	EUR 1.5m	\$1,885,950

Spain	EUR 1m	\$1,295,337
Operations:		
Canada	CAD 1m	\$809,716.60
Gates		\$7,103,265
Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust		\$200,000
Switzerland		\$70,000
GRDC		\$662,500

## Major achievements

Several new pledges were received during this period.

The Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust finalized its grant for \$1 million, as reported at the last meeting.

Spain made its first contribution to the Trust, providing €1 million.

The US made two pledges during the period. Firstly, \$1million in support of operations for the year. Secondly, US fundraising took a major step forward in March when President Obama signed the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009. Included in this is the following clause: "That of the funds appropriated under this heading for agricultural development programs, not less than \$7,000,000 shall be made available for a United States contribution to the endowment of the Global Crop Diversity Trust pursuant to section 3202 of Public Law 110-246".

This is particularly important for two reasons:

- it is the first appropriation based on the authorization in the 2008 Farm Bill for \$60m over 5 years (Public Law 110-246 referred to above);
- it is for the endowment, setting an absolutely vital precedent for further US funds and for other countries.

It also takes the total funds raised past the significant milestone of \$150m in total funds raised.

## Communications update

### Recent activity

An event was organized in Svalbard in partnership with the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture to celebrate the first anniversary of the opening of the Seed Vault. A group of guests drawn not just from agriculture but also environment, climate change and development was assembled, and a day and half-seminar held. The purpose was to hold discussions about the importance of crop diversity particularly in the context of climate change, exposing influential people whose work relates to crop diversity but who are generally unaware of its importance or the poor state of its conservation. Among those attending were the Chief Scientific Advisers to the US State Department and the UK's Department for International Development, as well as Amy Goldman, a major new donor to the Trust. A further consignment of seeds was placed in the Vault during the event. One positive concrete outcome is a statement to be used by the Norwegian government in preparing for the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. This is attached as Annex E and is notable because it positions crop diversity as a fundamental component of any successful adaptation to climate change.

Two press releases were put out during this period:

- One of History's Biggest Biological Rescue Efforts Poised to Save 100,000 Critical

- Crop Varieties from Certain Extinction
- Global Seed Vault Marks One-Year Anniversary with Four-Ton Shipment of Critical Food Crops from Countries around the World

The first release coincided with the Executive Director's presentation at the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and was widely picked up. Highlights of press coverage achieved during the period are in [Annex F](#).

### **Action**

That Members note the progress made during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009.

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<a href="#">Annex A</a>	Trust Report Card March 2009 and Individual Crop Report Cards (4 pages)
<a href="#">Annex B</a>	Dashboard (1page)
<a href="#">Annex C</a>	ToRs for the Mid-term External Evaluation of Trust/UN Foundation project (4 pages)
<a href="#">Annex D</a>	Global Crop Diversity Trust Pledges (1 page)
<a href="#">Annex E</a>	Summary Statement from Svalbard Global Seed Vault Anniversary (2 pages)
<a href="#">Annex F</a>	Media Coverage Winter 2009 (4 pages)

## Report Card

To ensure the long term conservation and availability of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, ensuring global food security and sustainable agriculture  
Indicators of progress 2008 - 2013

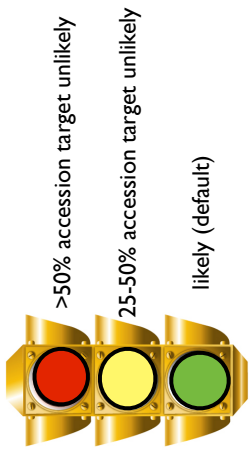
Aim of Activity	PI no.	Indicator	Outcomes		
			Mar-08	Oct-08	Mar-09
<b>1. Collecting</b>					
<b>PGR collecting:</b> Gaps in collections filled (also by crop)	1a	Percentage completion of gap analysis and development of strategy for wild relative collecting	new indicator	0%	50%
	1b	Number or proportion of accessions/priority collecting areas covered by grant agreements for collection against target (determined by strategy)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	1c	Number or proportion of accessions/priority collecting areas collected against target (determined by strategy)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<b>2. Securing</b>					
<b>Regeneration and Characterization:</b> Material regenerated to acceptable levels of viability (also by crop)	2a	Proportion of total accessions (across 22 crops + vegetables + forages) initiated for regeneration and characterization against target (145,000 accessions)	20,512 (14%)	61,169 (42%)	70,347 (48.5%)
	2b	Proportion of total accessions (across 22 crops) regenerated and characterized against target (145,000 accessions)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	9,426 (6.5%)
<b>Duplication:</b> Material appropriately safety duplicated and available under SMTA (also by crop)	2c	Proportion of total accessions (across 22 crops) safety duplicated against target (145,000 accessions)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	161 (0.1%)
<b>Global Back Up:</b> Unique collections safety duplicated at SGSV (also by crop)	2d	Total number of accessions deposited in Svalbard against target (775,000 accessions)	217,838 (28%)*	241,490 (31%)	299,733 (39%)
<b>Sustainable long-term funding:</b> Unsecured in-trust collections of global significance secured (also by crop)	2e	Total funding for priority collections under long-term grant partnership agreements against agreed proposals (2007 & 08 - 1.95 million/ 2009 - 2.15 mill)	1,800,000 (92%)	1,800,000 (92%)	1,800,000 (92%)
	2f	Portion of total funding required for securing priority collections entirely, provided by Trust (USD 6.049 million) (%)	new indicator	1,650,000 (27%)	1,650,000 (27%)
	2g	Number of accessions (by crop) secured (in part) with Trust funds (across 22 crops + vegetables + forages) (825,000 accession) (%)	new indicator	402,639 (49%) across 13 crops	402,639 (49%) across 13 crops
<b>3. Understanding</b>					
<b>Evaluation:</b> Material in collections evaluated for key traits of critical importance	3a	Number (and proportion) of key crop collections initiated to evaluate against target (50 collections)	20 (40%)	20 (40%)	20 (40%)
	3b	Number (and proportion) of key characteristics by crop collections initiated for evaluation against target (50 collections against a subset of 100 relevant characteristics)	new indicator	41 (41%)	41 (41%)
	3c	Number of key characteristics by crop collections evaluated and documented for key characteristics against target (100 relevant characteristics)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<b>Information Systems:</b> Genebanks have strengthened capacity for documentation Information on accessions easily available and searchable	3d	Number of genebanks adopting GRIN-Global, against target (25 genebanks)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
	3e	Number of genebanks agreeing to be data providers to ALIS against target (65 genebanks)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<b>4. Using</b>					
<b>Plant pre-breeding/ breeding:</b> Successful national plant breeding strategies and improved plant breeding capacity	4a	Number (and proportion) of plant breeders trained in pre-breeding under GIPB against target (150 plant breeders from 20 developing countries)	new indicator	93 (62%)	108 (72%)
	4b	Number of pre-breeding activities initiated in all 5 target countries on priority crops	new indicator	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
<b>5. Fundraising</b>					
<b>Fundraising</b>	5a	Funds received since last report (USD)	28,664,418	6,210,601	13,118,588
	5b	New pledges received since last report (USD)	4,621,920	0	10,295,337
<b>Fundraising for Endowment:</b> Consistent momentum towards endowment target	5c	Funds received for the endowment fund since last report against target (USD 260 million)	28,664,418 (+11%)	3,397,383 (+1.3%)	5,005,607 (+1.9%)
	5d	New pledges to the endowment fund as a percentage of total pledges to the fund	4,621,920 (4.7%)	0%	8,295,337 (7.8%)
	5e	Current payment against endowment pledges (%)	87%	90%	89%
	5f	Endowment (pledged) portion of total donations (%)	69%	69%	70%
<b>Investment:</b> Investment performance	5g	Investment performance as an annualised return since inception against benchmark (managed fund)	+12.9% (+10.8%)	+5.46% (+5.07%)	+5.63% (+6.46%)
	5h	Exchange Traded Fund performance since inception (January 2008)	-1.4% (Mar 2008)	-10.8% (Sep 2008)	-26.8% (Feb 2009)
	5i	Rate of return to date against benchmark of 5.5% (4.5% + inflation)		-19.41% (Dec 2008)	-4.29%
<b>6. Communication</b>					
<b>Communications:</b> Awareness and website	6a	Website hits (average daily hits over last 6 months) compared to previous period (average daily hits over previous 6 months)	591 (+ 108%)	465 (- 21%)	503 (+8%)
<b>7. Partnerships</b>					
	7a	Number of Institutes with signed partnership agreements with the Trust	new indicator	70	89
	7b	Number of countries with Trust funded PGR activities underway	new indicator	49	65

\* Figure reported in March 2008 was greater, as this figure included deposits from OECD countries which are not routinely covered by the Trust



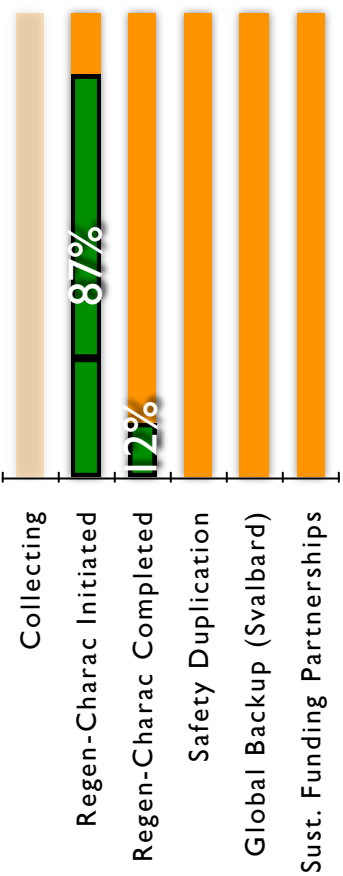


# Crop Report Card March 2009

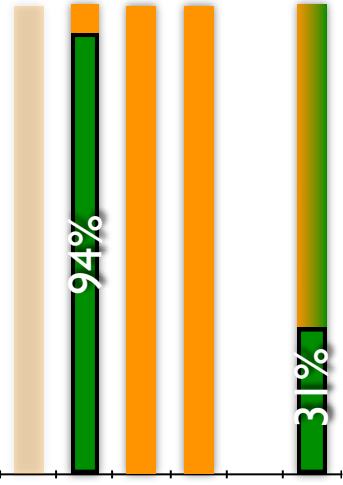


■ To date ■ Remaining to reach target ■ Future target ■ Following regeneration

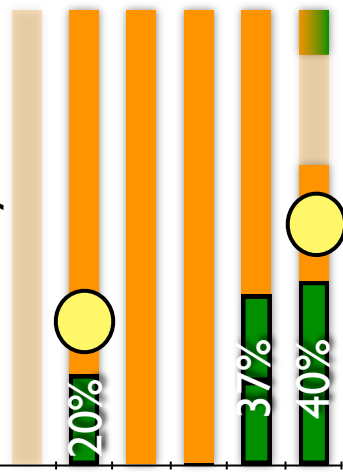
## Aroids



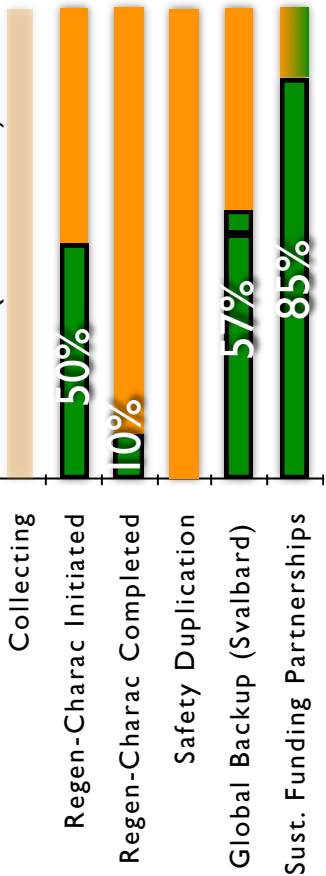
## Banana/Plantain



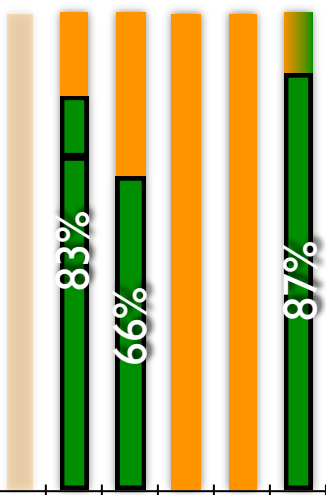
## Barley



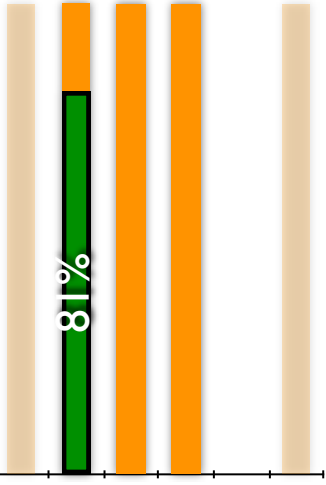
## Bean (Phaseolus)



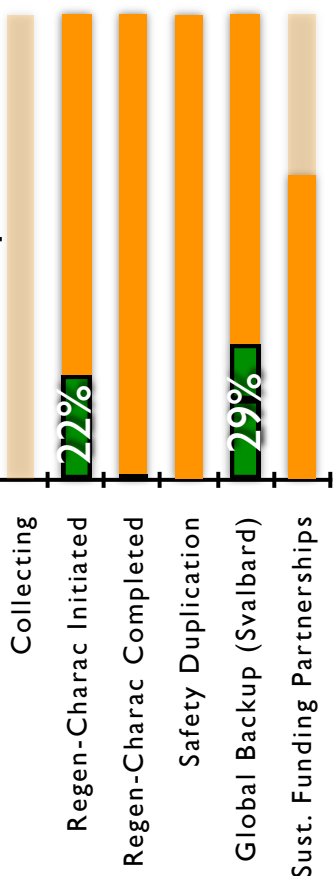
## Cassava



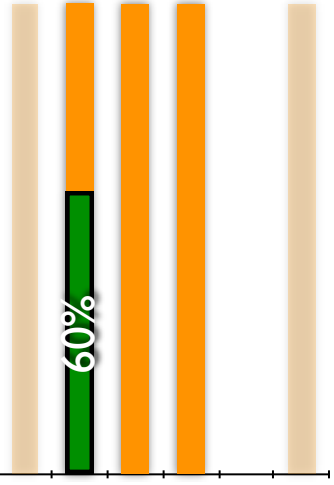
## Breadfruit



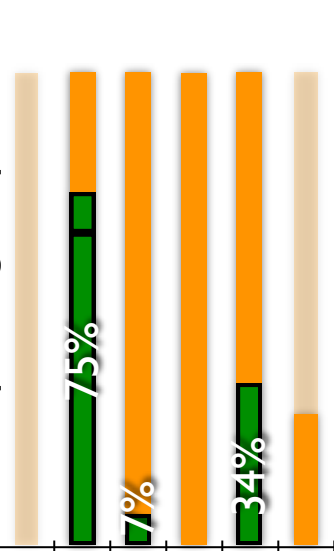
## Chickpea



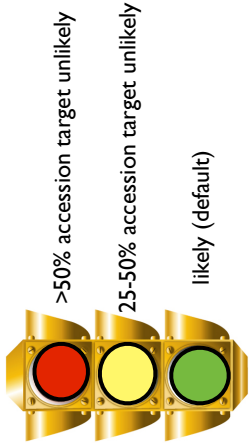
## Coconut



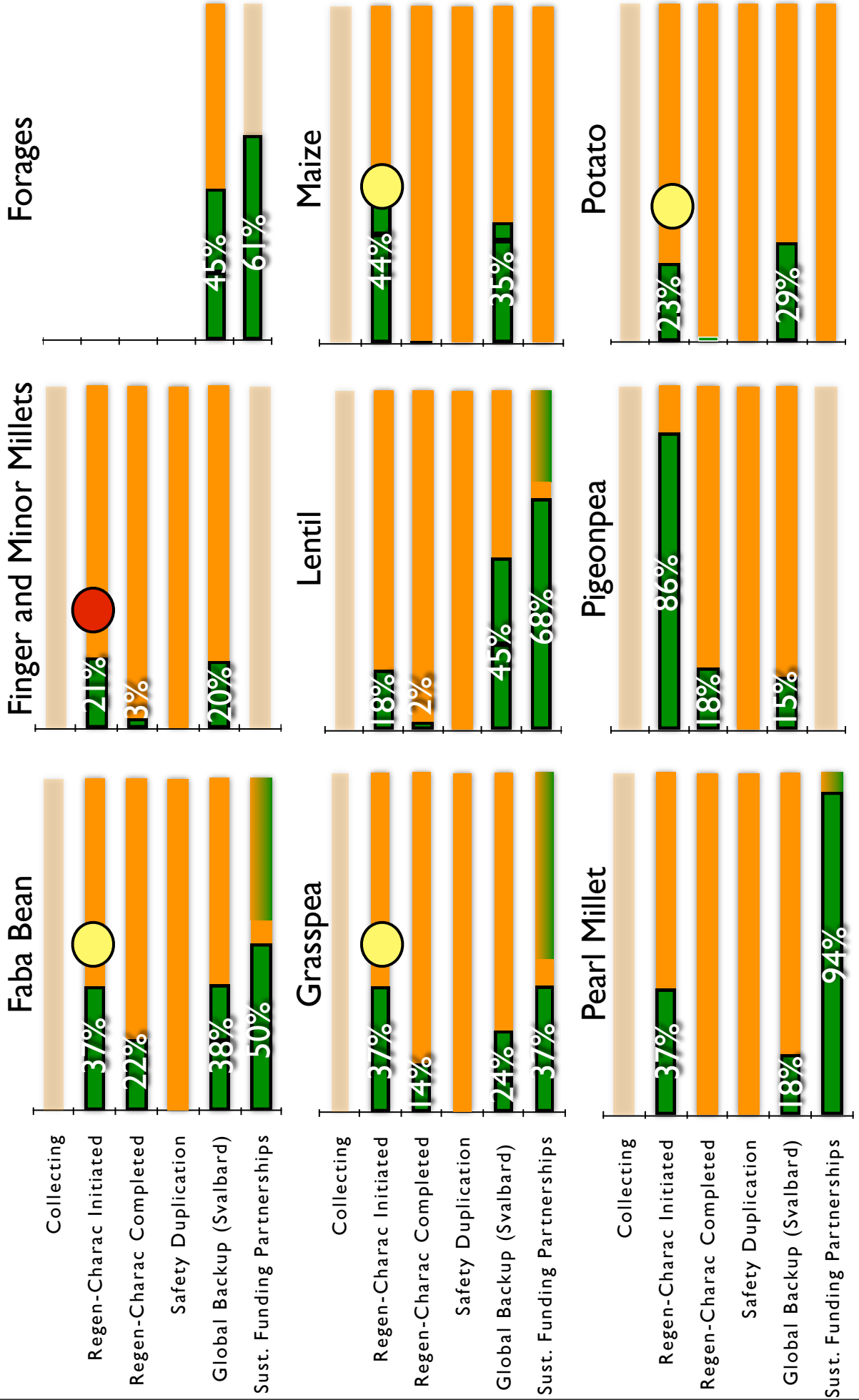
## Cowpea; Vigna species



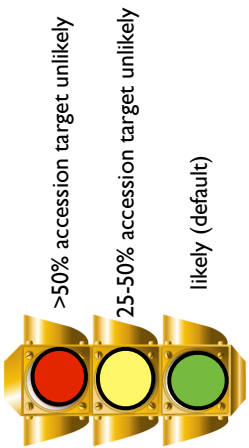
# Crop Report Card March 2009



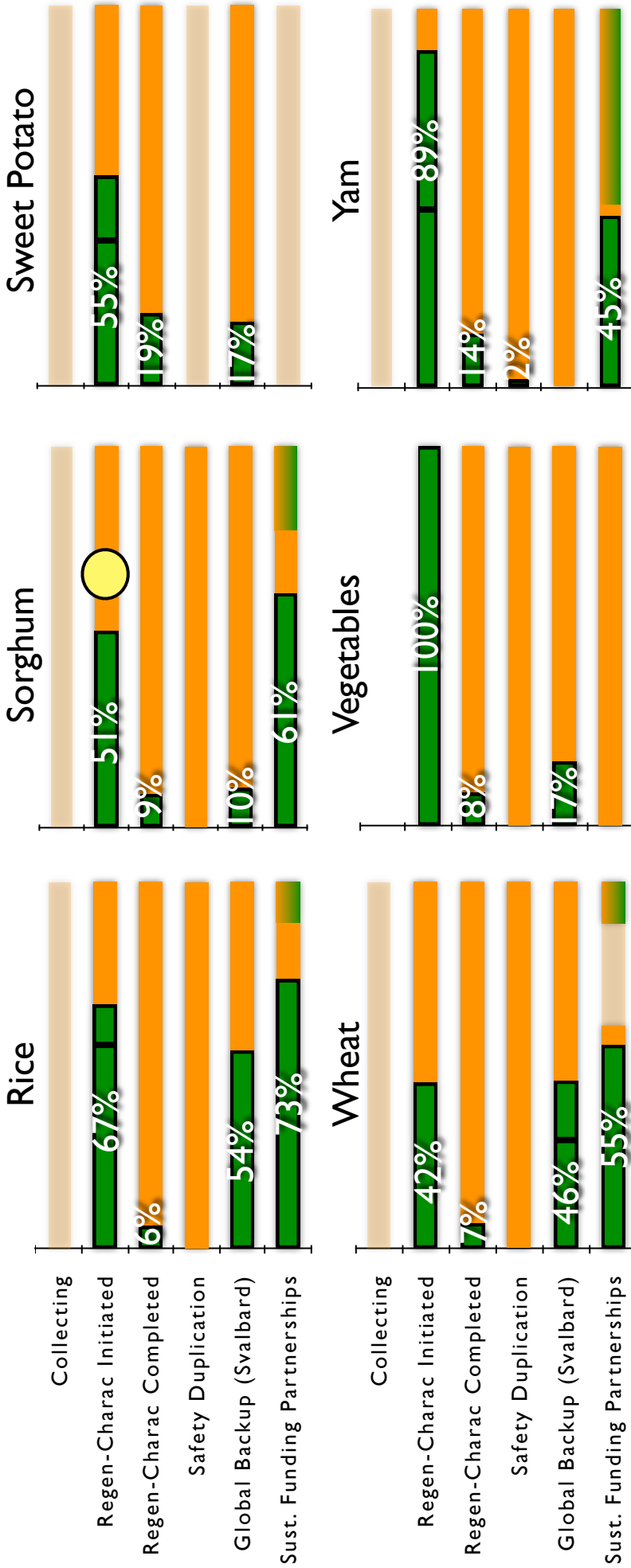
■ To date ■ Remaining to reach target ■ Future target ■ Following regeneration



# Crop Report Card March 2009



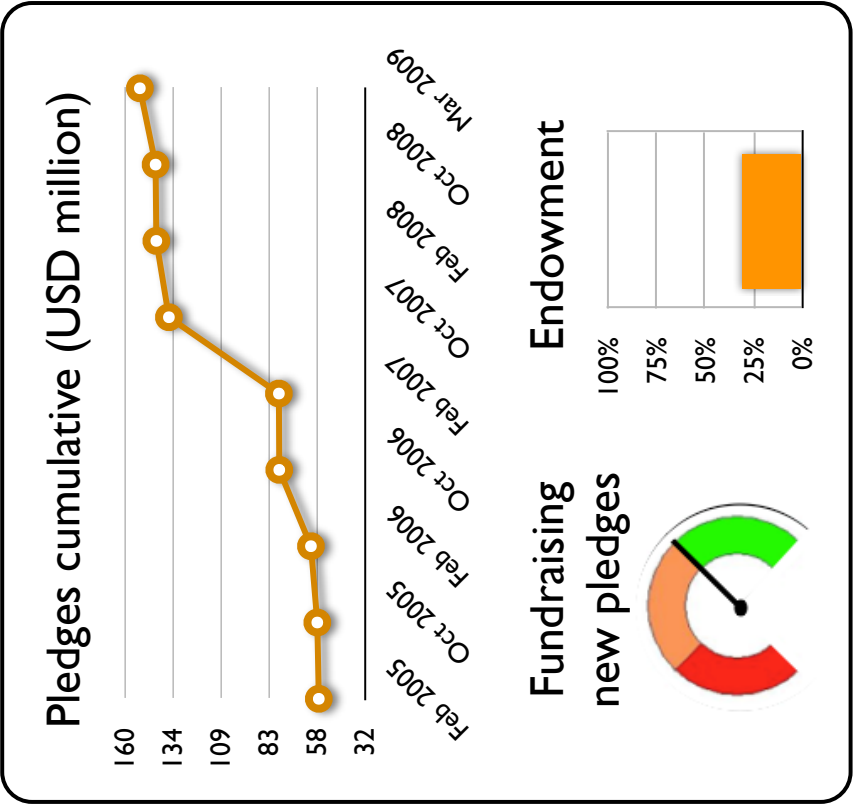
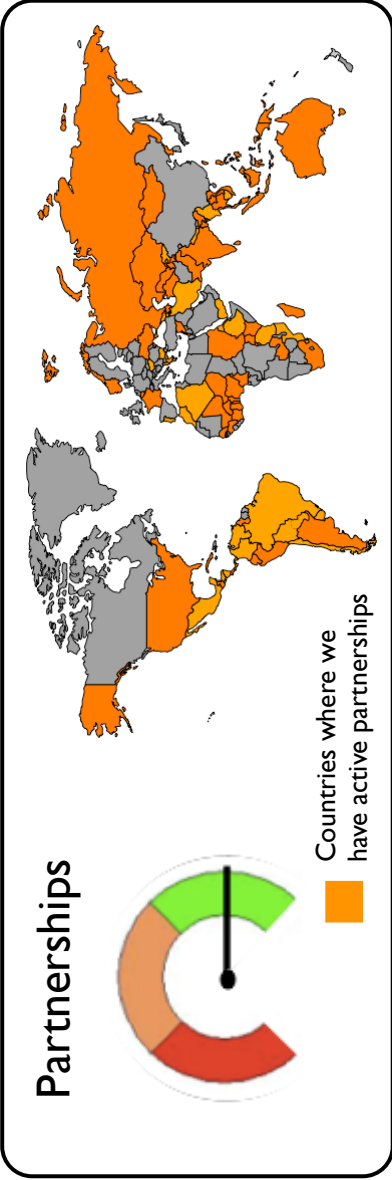
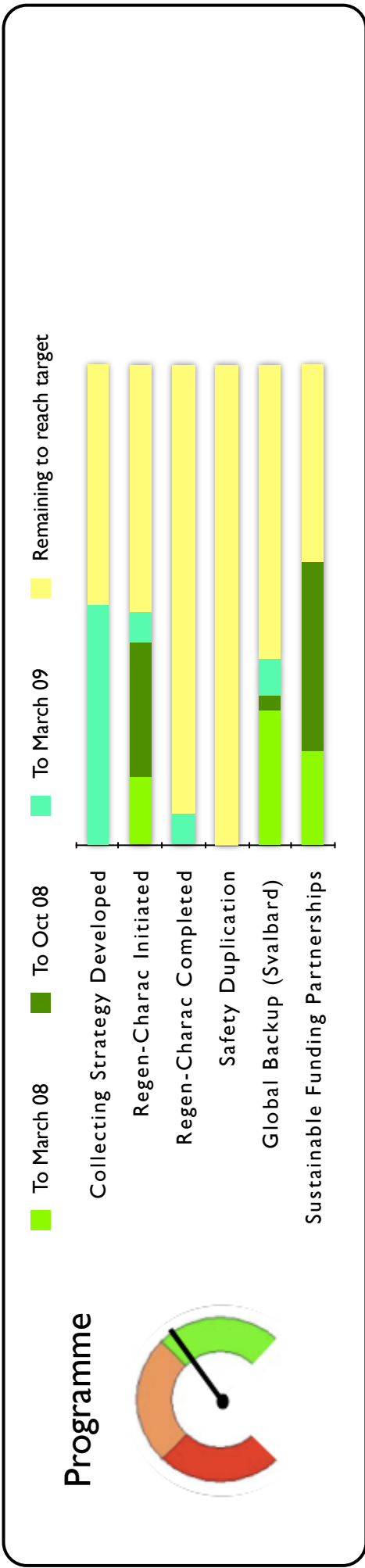
■ To date ■ Remaining to reach target ■ Future target ■ Following regeneration







# Dashboard - March 2009





***Securing the biological basis of agriculture and promoting new and fuller use of crop genetic resources***

**Project FAO-GLO-06-424 mid-term evaluation**

The Trust, in collaboration with UN Foundation (UNF), is contractually obligated to undertake a mid-term external evaluation of the project *Securing the biological basis of agriculture and promoting new and fuller use of crop genetic resources* (hereafter referred to as 'the project') after two years.

***Review conditions***

To ensure the necessary independence for external evaluations, the Trust Grant Agreement states that the UNF and Trust will suggest potential reviewers for consideration/nomination by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). Similarly, terms of reference for reviews will be suggested by the UNF and the Trust and discussed with the review panel for approval by the BMGF.

In addition, the Trust has agreed to assist the UNF by collaborating with evaluation contractor(s) that may be engaged by the UNF, by providing documents, participating in interviews, and generally communicating support of the evaluation efforts in working with project partners and the general public. The Trust will have the opportunity to review for factual accuracy and provide feedback regarding any reports written about its organization. The external evaluators' reports will be provided within three months of completion of the respective evaluation and will include a response from the Trust management team.

***Timing***

The project completes two years on 31 March 2009, with the submission of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year progress report by 31 May 2009. Our proposal is that the mid-term evaluation takes place after reporting progress for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, starting in June 2009 and ending by August 2009. A more detailed timeline is presented in Attachment A.

***Panel Composition***

Evaluation costs are included in the project budget. A budget of USD 37,638 is available for the mid-term external evaluation and provides for 3 consultants (including Chair), working for 10 days in Rome. Suggestions for consideration for the panel composition are:

- Expertise in the following areas:
  - Technical – ex situ crop conservation; agricultural biodiversity; international agricultural research and development
  - Programmatic – project management; monitoring and evaluation; partnerships requirements; donor expectations
  - Administrative – grant management; financial management
- Representation of different regions and both genders
- A list of suggested names is given in Attachment B

## ***Terms of Reference***

The mid-term evaluation of the project will aim to measure progress towards impact and inform the BMGF and UNF on the how well the project is being implemented and to what extent it is accomplishing objectives. It should report on whether the investment is sound or recommend measures to make it so. Components that should be addressed are:

1. The project's effectiveness to date in reaching its objectives
  - Progress towards milestones and output targets as stated in the project documentation
  - Appropriateness of choice of project partners and grantees
  - Effectiveness of Trust processes for planning, priority setting and grant allocation within the project
  - Key barriers to success and management actions taken to ameliorate these
  - Lessons learned regarding original aims relative to expected outcomes and approach
  - Documenting any changes in the landscape since project inception and impact on achieving project objectives
    - New opportunities arising
  - What work remains to be done following achievement of objectives
    - Gaps in building an effective, efficient global crop conservation system oriented to promote use and how to address them
  
2. The appropriateness of project management and governance
  - Effectiveness in partnering and leveraging funds
  - Effectiveness of Trust systems and processes for grant management
  - Adequacy of Trust systems and processes in monitoring and ensuring the quality of work being undertaken by grantees and partners
  - Adequacy of resources (financial, human and information) available to the project and effectiveness of their management
  - Effectiveness of Trust relationships with relevant partners and stakeholders in the project (i.e. backstopping partners)
  - Lessons learned regarding project management
  
3. Any strategic issues identified during the evaluation

## ***Consultation***

The project evaluation requires consultation with the UNF and Trust before final approval is provided by the BMGF on the panel composition and terms of reference.

## Attachment A to Item 7 Annex C

### Proposed Evaluation Schedule and Budget

Schedule	
Mar-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize panel selection (through approval with UNF, BMGF)</li> <li>• Invite and appoint panel members</li> </ul>
April-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All supporting documentation prepared, except 2<sup>nd</sup> annual project report</li> </ul>
May-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive technical and financial progress reports from grantees</li> <li>• Submit 2<sup>nd</sup> annual project report and make available</li> </ul>
Jun-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation begins – documentation made available to panel members</li> <li>• Visit to Rome by panel members</li> </ul>
Jul-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation cont. – report finalized</li> <li>• Trust review for factual accuracy</li> </ul>
Aug-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report submitted by review team</li> </ul>

Budget		
Expense	Amount (USD)	Description
<b>Estimated costs from project budget:</b>		
Honorarium	16,850	(\$550/day x 10 days x 3)
Air tickets	11,628	(3 x \$3800)
DSA (hotel and meals)	9,180	(10 days @ \$300/day x 3)
		(includes 2% inflation adjustment)
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,638</b>	

## Attachment B to Item 7 Annex C

### Review Panel Members

#### Panel chair

Bob Clements	Australia	Recent Executive Director of the Crawford Foundation; former CSIRO Director of Tropical Crops & Pastures
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#### Panel members

Maria José Sampaio	Brazil	Genetic resources and biotechnology specialist with EMBRAPA; member of Brazilian delegation in negotiations of International Treaty and in COP of the CBD
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Regassa Feyissa	Ethiopia	Former head of the Ethiopian genebank, now head of NGO working with on-farm management of crop diversity
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GLOBAL CROP DIVERSITY TRUST  
PLEDGES

DONOR	TOTAL PLEDGES AS AT MARCH 26, 2009			TOTAL PAID 26-Mar-09 USD
	AMOUNT PLEGGED	USD EQUIVALENT*	PERIOD OF PLEDGE	
<b>Countries</b>				
Australia	AUD 16,500,000	12,078,733		11,370,461
Brazil	USD 30,000	30,000	2002	30,000
Canada	CAD 10,000,000	8,520,640	2003-2012	6,041,449
Colombia	USD 35,802	35,802	2002	35,802
Egypt	USD 166,657	166,657		25,000
Ethiopia	USD 50,000	50,000		25,000
Germany	EUR 7,500,000	10,227,753	2006-2010	6,044,550
India	USD 50,000	50,000	2006	50,000
Ireland	EUR 3,000,000	4,144,250	2007-2009	4,144,250
Italy	USD 300,000	300,000	2005	300,000
Italy	EUR 500,000	689,096	2007	689,096
New Zealand	USD 50,000	50,000	2005	50,000
Norway	NOK 50,000,000	7,676,617	2004-2006	7,676,617
Norway	USD 7,944,708	7,944,708	2006-2008	7,944,708
Spain	EUR 1,000,000	1,295,337	2008	1,295,337
Sweden	SEK 80,000,000	11,886,620	2005-2007	11,886,620
Sweden	USD 287,626	287,626	2007-2009	101,999
Switzerland	USD 10,817,704	10,817,704	2001-2009	10,717,704
Switzerland	CHF 150,000	118,478	2004-2005	118,478
United Kingdom	GBP 10,000,000	19,468,582	2007-2008	19,468,582
United States	USD 14,500,000	14,500,000	2001-2009	6,500,000
<b>Foundations</b>				
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation/UN Foundation	USD 29,923,940	29,923,940	2007-2011	20,093,482
Gatsby Charitable Foundation	GBP 605,000	1,057,573	2003-2007	1,057,573
The Gordon J. Hammersley Foundation	USD 20,000	20,000	2008	20,000
Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation	USD 200,000	200,000	2006-2007	200,000
Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust	USD 1,000,000	1,000,000	2008-2010	200,000
Rockefeller Foundation	USD 305,000	305,000	2003-2007	305,000
Sam Spiegel Foundation	USD 5,000	5,000	2008	5,000
Syngenta Foundation	USD 246,732	246,732	2003-2007	246,732
United Nations Foundation	USD 775,000	775,000	2003-2007	775,000
<b>Corporations</b>				
Dupont/Pioneer Hi-bred	USD 1,000,000	1,000,000	2004-2007	1,000,000
Grains Research & Development Corporation	USD 5,000,000	5,000,000	2004-2011	3,252,450
Syngenta AG	USD 1,000,000	1,000,000	2004	1,000,000
<b>Other</b>				
CGIAR Centres	USD 210,000	210,000	2001-2002	210,000
International Seed Federation	USD 30,000	30,000	2007	30,000
Systemwide Genetic Resources Programme	USD 255,000	255,000	2001-2002	255,000
World Bank - CGIAR	USD 200,000	200,000	2002	200,000
Individual Donations	USD 64,910	64,910		64,910
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$151,631,759</b>		<b>\$123,430,801</b>

\* Where amounts have not yet been received the rate of exchange as at Jan 2, 2009 has been applied



**Svalbard Global Seed Vault  
Anniversary Seminar**

**Frozen Seeds in a Frozen Mountain - Feeding a Warming World**

**Summary statement**

**Food security is threatened. Forecasts for declines in the yields of staple crops show that climate change will place unprecedented pressures on our ability to grow the food we require, particularly in developing countries. All IPCC scenarios show warming over the next several decades will take place irrespective of any action taken today. The same models show conditions for agriculture will be dramatically different from those which dominate today. Adapting agriculture to these future conditions is therefore essential.**

**The need for new crop varieties that can withstand these challenges is now widely recognized and is frequently cited in climate change discussions. This statement draws the world's attention to the following:**

- **the development of crops that can cope with heat, drought, flood and other extremes will likely be the single most important action we can take to adapt to climate change;**
- **this is an urgent need requiring action now, given both the serious threat to food security and the time required to breed new crop varieties;**
- **our ability to breed these new varieties cannot be taken for granted, as it is undermined by the loss of the biological basis of our food supply – the genetic diversity of crops.**

**At the Copenhagen Climate Conference in December 2009, the need to conserve and make available crop diversity, as the bedrock of all plant breeding efforts, must be recognised as a fundamental component of climate change adaptation.**

Agriculture is founded on the diversity of plant and animal genetic diversity. The ability of agriculture to adapt draws on this diversity: it is therefore the foundation of the world's food security. There is a global need for crop varieties adapted to climate change, in order not only to reach the UN Millennium Development goals to reduce hunger but strengthening global food security in the medium- and long term. It is increasingly important, and acknowledged, that all countries should recognise their responsibility for food production and the need for international collaboration in this regard. All countries should make sustainable use of their natural resources. To achieve this, national and international development programs need an increased focus on agriculture.

Yet the breeding of new varieties cannot be taken for granted – it is vital to have as much as possible of the genetic diversity of our crops available for the task, but this diversity is being lost. Global interdependence in this area is total. No country in the world is self-sufficient in the genetic diversity of the crops that feed its people. It is therefore in the interests of

every nation to ensure that this diversity is conserved and is available to all. Many actions are required to adapt agriculture, but underlying all is the single prerequisite that the genetic diversity of our crops be conserved and available to plant breeders: conserving crop diversity is therefore one of the most cost-effective measures possible to increase food.

Increased international resources are needed to ensure the conservation of crop genetic diversity, and in particular. It should be recognized that conserving the world's crop diversity requires a partnership between the agriculture, environment and development communities. The framework for this exists: for example, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Convention on Biological Diversity both call for its conservation. A more effective worldwide network of genebanks is required, to which the Svalbard Global Seed Vault is a vital contribution, providing long term secure storage of seed diversity for future generations. The Global Crop Diversity Trust should be further strengthened to maintain its role as a key element in the support and coordination of this global conservation network.

Breeding new varieties takes time, often about 10 years to produce a new variety, meaning the dramatically different conditions predicted for 2030 are a mere two crop breeding cycles away. There is therefore a need to accelerate the breeding of climate ready varieties. Bearing in mind that many crops of importance to food security will not be of interest for commercial breeding companies, there is a need for adequate support of breeding activities at both national and global levels. It will be of special importance to increase breeding capacity, technology transfer and breeding efforts in developing countries, e.g. in close cooperation with the CGIAR institutes.

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture provides the international framework and international mechanisms for the conservation and use of crop diversity. Developed countries in particular should ensure the adequate financing to implement the Treaty and creative financing mechanisms should also be examined, such as a payment based on the sale of seeds in developed countries. In keeping with the fact that the genetic diversity of our crops has become a critical issue in climate change adaptation, governments, private sector and farmers' organizations must cooperate in these matters to meet a common threat.

At the Copenhagen Climate Conference in December 2009, the need to conserve and make available crop diversity, as the bedrock of all plant breeding efforts, must be recognised as a fundamental component of climate change adaptation. The Svalbard Global Seed Vault bears witness to the importance of crop genetic diversity for the world, and to the potential of concerted international action. At Copenhagen, we ask the nations of the world to recognise the urgency of adapting agriculture to climate change, that crop diversity is a prerequisite for this adaptation, and therefore that the importance of ensuring that the genetic diversity of our crops is properly conserved and available is a basic prerequisite for feeding a warming world.

## Media Coverage Winter 2009

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9 March 2009

Frozen seeds and food security,

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Dette har du ikke sett før,

**Deutsche Welle** (Germany)

4 March 2009

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault Marks First Year Anniversary

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La cripta global de semillas ya atesora 200 millones de simientes

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"Doomsday Vault" aims to save the world's crops from extinction

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Doomsday Vault Celebrates First Anniversary

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Global Trust set up to save crops

**La tribune de Geneve** (Switzerland)

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La Suisse duplique ses semences dans l'Arche de Noé de l'Arctique

**United Press International**

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Global Seed Vault marks first anniversary

**BBC News**

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'More seeds for 'doomsday vault'

**24 Heures** (Switzerland)  
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Changins envoie ses graines dans l'Arctique

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Global Seed Vault Marks One-Year Anniversary

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Happy Birthday, Doomsday Seed Vault!

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Le monde pourra-t-il faire face aux pénuries alimentaires liées au changement climatique?

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Global Seed Vault Marks First Anniversary; 20 Million Seeds From One-Third Of Earth's Food Crops Now Stored In Case Of Disaster

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Åpnet hvelvet for gjester

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1st anniversary of global seed vault marked with four-ton shipment of critical food crops

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First anniversary of Svalbard 'Doomsday Vault'

**Reuters** (UK)  
25 February 2009  
World lags in breeding climate-proof crops: experts

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ARS Ships More Seeds to Genebank Facility in Norway

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Trust to save food crops from extinction

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"100 000 variétés de plantes menacées seront protégées d'ici deux ans"

**Guardian (UK)**  
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The seeds of evolution

**Irish Times (17)**  
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Global rescue move under way to save 100,000 crop varieties

**O Globo (Brasil)**  
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Brasil amplia presença na Arca de Noé vegetal

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挪威扩建世界末日种子库(组图)

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**derStandard (Austria)**  
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Consiguen preservar miles de tipos de cereales y verduras amenazados

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Rescue efforts to save 100,000 crop varieties from extinction

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Experts preserve seeds in Doomsday vault

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Doomsday seed vault's stores are growing

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