

FOR INFORMATION

**Programme Report – Conservation Strategies and Capacity
Building/Emergency Support**

Purpose

To provide Members with an update on the activities of the Strategies and the Capacity Building/Emergency Support components of the Trust Programme.

Background

At EB1, the Trust's Programme, in particular the Global System project, was described in some detail. This paper provides an overview of two additional, complementary components of the Trust Programme.

Issue

Conservation Strategies

The Trust is supporting the development of conservation strategies. Although these will help in identifying the unique, important collections of crop diversity and guide allocation of Trust support, their value extends beyond this. Driven and owned by the stakeholders themselves, these strategies will be used in the future by the regional networks and crop conservation/use communities to raise complementary funding via projects targeted at specific identified priorities.

Two complementary and mutually reinforcing approaches to strategy development have been promoted:

- a) the identification of key crops and in a number of cases important collections on a region-by-region basis through processes coordinated by the regional plant genetic resources networks, and
- b) the identification of key collections on a crop-by-crop basis at the global level through processes coordinated by the crop genetic resources networks where they exist (i.e. banana, coconut) or bringing together crop experts and holders of collections, facilitated by an independent expert. Strategies are being undertaken for all major food security crops listed in Annex 1 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

The role of the Trust has been to initiate and facilitate the process for each region and target crop from the initial assessment of the existing state of diversity, through expert consultation meetings to development of the strategy document, with back-stopping in most cases from the CGIAR Centres. Refer Annex A for progress on these strategies.

Capacity Building and Emergency Support

Nine capacity building and emergency activities were initiated from the end of 2004 to October 2006. Four are still in progress, the remaining five have been successfully completed. The activities addressed urgent needs to regenerate collections and/or rehabilitate genebank facilities. They were identified as important during early stakeholder discussions on the regional and crop conservation strategies or were a response to an emergency such as the typhoon that damaged the Philippine genebank. In all cases, support was provided contingent on the holders of the collections declaring to abide by the terms and conditions of the International Treaty regarding access and benefit-sharing.

Grants in this category for 2008 are limited. Capacity building is phasing out as a separate component of the Trust Programme over the next four years as significant and targeted capacity building activity associated with priority collections is now included within the Global System Project. It is not anticipated that separate or additional initiatives are required over and above that in the mid-term. One-off emergency support for urgent and unforeseen threats to priority collections will continue to be budgeted for within the Trust Programme and has been included in the 2008 budget.

Action

That Members note the progress made with these components of the Trust Programme.

Progress on Conservation Strategies – August 2007

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGIES		Stakeholder consultation timeframe	Status of strategy document		
			COMPLETED * = on Trust website	ADVANCED -Final drafting	UNDERWAY
1.	Asia - South, Southeast and East Asia	2004 - 2006	√ *		
2.	Pacific	2004 - 2006	√ *		
3.	West Asia & North Africa	2005 -2006	√ *		
4.	Eastern Africa	2004 - 2006	√ *		
5.	Central Asia & Caucasus	2004 - 2007	√		
6.	Southern Africa	2004 - 2007	√		
7.	West & Central Africa	2005 - 2007	√		
8.	Americas	2004 - 2007		√	

CROP CONSERVATIONSTRATEGIES		Stakeholder consultation timeframe	Status of strategy document		
			COMPLETED * = on Trust website	ADVANCED - Final drafting	UNDERWAY
1.	Banana	2005 – 2006	√ *		
2.	Potato	2005 - 2006	√ *		
3.	Maize	2006 – 2007	√		
4.	Wheat, Rye & Triticale	2005 - 2007	√		

	CROP CONSERVATION STRATEGIES	Stakeholder consultation timeframe	Status of strategy document		
			COMPLETED * = on Trust website	ADVANCED - Final drafting	UNDERWAY
5.	Sorghum	2006 - 2007	√		
6.	Pigeon pea	2006 - 2007	√		
7.	Coconut	2004 - 2007	√		
8.	<i>Lathyrus</i> (grasspea)	2006 - 2007	√		
9.	Strawberry	2006 - 2007		√	
10.	Oats	2006 - 2007		√	
11.	Breadfruit	2007		√	
12.	Taro and other edible aroids	2007		√	
13.	Sweet potato	2006 - 2007		√	
14.	Chick pea	2006 - 2007			√
15.	Lentil	2006 - 2007			√
16.	Faba bean	2006 - 2007			√
17.	Barley	2006 - 2007			√
18.	Rice	2006 - 2008			√
19.	Beans	2007 - 2008			√
20.	Cow pea	2007 - 2008			√
21.	Yam	2007 - 2008			√
22.	Finger millet	2007 - 2008			√
23.	Pearl millet	2007 - 2008			√