



The Global Crop Diversity Trust (<https://www.croptrust.org/>) is an international organization with Headquarters in Bonn, Germany whose mission is to ensure the conservation and availability of crop diversity for food security worldwide.

CALL FOR APPLICATION

Genebank Impacts Research Fellowship

The Global Crop Diversity Trust (Crop Trust), through the “Seeds for Resilience Project”, aims to empower national seed collections, by safeguarding them in perpetuity through an endowment fund, while documenting and managing them appropriately for conservation, and promoting their use, as a contribution for climate adaptation of vulnerable African cropping systems. The project is supported by the Federal Republic of Germany through KfW and is conducted in **Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Ghana and Nigeria**. This call for ‘**Genebank Impacts Fellowship**’ aims to support the documentation of impacts of the work of the National Genebanks and their local partners promoting local use of germplasm accessions of unique seed collections in targeted agro-ecologies. An overview of the project’s objectives is presented below:

Project goals	Safeguarding selected national seed collections in Africa
Project Impact	Enhanced resilience of crop and food production systems in risk-prone environments in Africa
Project Outcome	Use of crop diversity from 5 NSCs enhanced as a basis for climate change adaptation of vulnerable African cropping systems
Outputs	Essential operations of national seed collections in 5 African countries safeguarded in perpetuity through an endowment fund.
	National seed collections are managed and documented appropriately for conservation and use.
	Use of national seed collections for increasing the diversity of varietal options with which farmers can respond to climate change.

We are seeking five (5) fellows to help us document the outcomes and impact of the work in the targeted agro-ecologies in our partner countries. The fellows are expected to gain practice-based experience in evaluating the impacts of national genebanks, complemented by mentorship from impact assessment specialists and conservation scientists in the plant genetic resources community. The Fellowship contributes to ensuring the availability of crop diversity options for future plant breeders, scientists, and farmers, in view of increasing food demand from a growing world population in a changing climate.

Eligibility

Applicants are required to:

- Hold a Masters degree (or currently enrolled in a graduate degree program) in agricultural economics, social sciences, agriculture, or related discipline;
- Knowledge in the functioning of seed systems in developing countries;
- Demonstrate the relevance of the Fellowship to their career goals in the application;
- Commence fellowship work no later than April 2024.

Preference will be given to applicants from developing countries and/or nationals (or residents) of host country genebanks and those with training and/or experience in the areas of evaluation theory or practice, applied agricultural research, crop science, and/or familiarity with the work of the genebanks.



Terms and Conditions

Deliverables

1. Research workplan, including budget estimates and travel itinerary
2. Progress update and travel report
3. Research paper

Compensation

The Crop Trust will offer each fellow a consultancy contract to a maximum of USD 10,000 in the six-month period. 50% of the amount will be disbursed upon approval of the deliverable (1), 20% upon submission of the deliverable (2), and 30% upon approval of deliverable (3).

As a consultant, fellows are responsible for their own medical or any other type of insurance coverage and for complying with all national tax laws. Relocation and housing allowance will not be provided.

Travel

This is a home-based assignment, but applicants should be willing to travel for at least two weeks to one of the partner countries during the fellowship period. Any work-related travel should be arranged by the fellow, in consultation with the Seeds for Resilience Project Manager. There is no separate budget for travel. The fellows are expected to be able to manage their research and travel expenses from their fellowship budget.

Timing

The fellow is expected to complete the work within 6 months from the start of the contract.

How to apply

Requirements

1. *Curriculum vitae* in English (please include your current residence address, telephone and email address)
2. Cover letter, 1 page
3. Concept note, 1-2 pages

The cover letter should discuss your country preference (Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Ghana, or Nigeria), motivation for applying, your career aspirations, and research interests. The concept note should discuss ideas and methodological approach to help address one of the following **research questions** in one of the project countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Ghana, or Nigeria):

1. From small-scale farmers' perspectives, what types of benefits can be accrued from facilitated access to crop diversity held by genebanks?
2. Based on small-scale farmers' experiences with accessing diversity held in genebanks, how can diversity on-farms be increased more widely?

Other related research topics may be included, if well justified.

Merge all documents in one PDF portfolio and Name file as "yourlastname_countrypreference_impacts.pdf"

Send file to: trustvacancy@croptrust.org using Subject: S4R Impacts Fellowship Application - "country preference"

The deadline for applications is 25 February 2024.



By submitting your application, you agree to the Crop Trust processing your personal data as described [here](#).

The Trust is an equal-opportunity employer and strives for staff diversity in gender and nationality.