

National Centre for Genetic Resources and Biotechnology, Nigeria



Genebank at a Glance

Full name	National Centre for Genetic Resources and Biotechnology
Acronym	NACGRAB
Country	Nigeria
Year established	1987
Conservation methods and facilities	Seed, <i>in vitro</i> , field collection
Number of staff	67
Total number of accessions	11,050
Number of accessions distributed annually	1,093

Recent Highlights

- The Seeds for Resilience project has enhanced the capacity of NACGRAB to distribute genebank materials to over 600 farmers across the nation through the creation of germplasm user groups.
- Accessions of Nigeria's key crops – sorghum, pearl millet and cowpea – have been safety duplicated in other locations, including at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. The BOLD project has also identified NACGRAB as first level safety duplication in Nigeria for the three sub-grantee projects in Nigeria handling various underutilized crops and rice regeneration.
- BOLD and Seeds for Resilience projects provided the opportunity to regenerate and characterize hundreds of accessions of sorghum, cowpea, rice, okra, pearl millet and other underutilized crops.
- Selected accessions of cowpea and yam are being genotyped to enhance their use through breeding and further distribution to users.
- Pre-breeding of eggplant, sorghum, cowpea and Bambara groundnut has started to generate data on nutritional content and ability to mitigate erratic climatic changes. One hundred accessions of sorghum and 60 accessions of cowpea are being screened for drought tolerance, while 50 eggplant accessions are being organized for nutritional assessment through the support of the CGIAR Initiative on Genebanks.
- Establishment of 49 gender responsive germplasm user groups in the Oyo, Niger and Kano states of Nigeria. Twenty accessions of sorghum and 16 of cowpea that were selected are currently being grown for seed multiplication. To serve as an advisory group for the continued functioning of the germplasm user groups, the genebank established a technical working group of experts.
- Uploading of over 8,000 accessions data on Genesys.
- Development of communication strategy and materials towards different user groups, such as brochures, animated videos, posters, websites etc. and awareness-raising activities of the genebank among stakeholders.

