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In situ Conservation and Use of Crop Wild Relatives in three ACP countries of SADC Region

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**2016 - Joint Stakeholders' Conference
of the ACP-EU Co-operation Programmes**



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In situ Conservation and use of Crop Wild Relatives in three ACP countries of SADC Region

- Project leader: Bioversity International
 - University of Birmingham, UK
 - University of Mauritius
 - Directorate of Genetic Resources, Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), South Africa
 - Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Zambia Agriculture Research Institute (ZARI)
- **Location:** Mauritius, South Africa and Zambia
- **Sector:** Agriculture & Food Security
- **Keywords:** Crop wild relatives, Food security, Climate change, Capacity building, in situ conservation, National Strategic Action Plans.



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Researching Soils, Crops and
Water in Zambia



agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

'In situ conservation and use of crop wild relatives in three ACP countries of the SADC region' (short name - SADC Crop Wild Relatives) is a three-year project (2014-2016) co-funded by the European Union and implemented through the ACP-EU Co-operation Programme in Science and Technology (S&T II) by the ACP Group of States. Grant agreement no. FED/2013/330-210.



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Specific objectives

- Enhance **scientific capacities** in the SADC region to conserve crop wild relatives (CWR) **in situ** and identify **potential traits** to adapt crops to climate change.
- Develop National Strategic Action Plans (**NSAPs**) for the conservation and sustainable use of CWR in partner countries

Results achieved Main deliverables

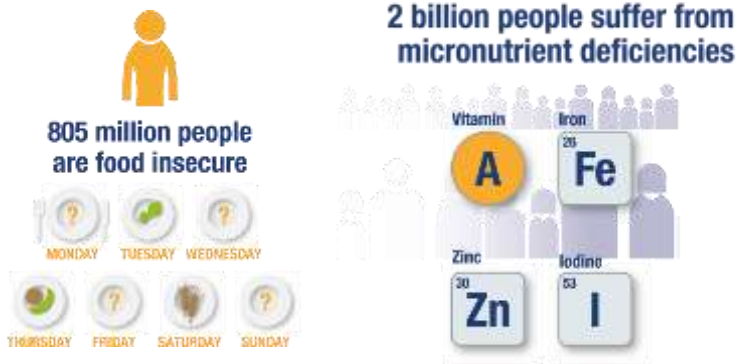
- 50 people from 14 countries in SADC region trained
- CWR diversity assessment and NSAP development
- Regional CWR diversity analysis
- Applications of incentive mechanisms for on farm and *in situ* conservation of CWR

Target Groups Final Beneficiaries (type and number)

Beneficiaries	Female	Male
Scientists	63	120
Breeders	4	12
Policy Makers	41	93
Comm. Specialist	2	3
Farmers	202	309

Challenges and opportunities in agriculture and food security

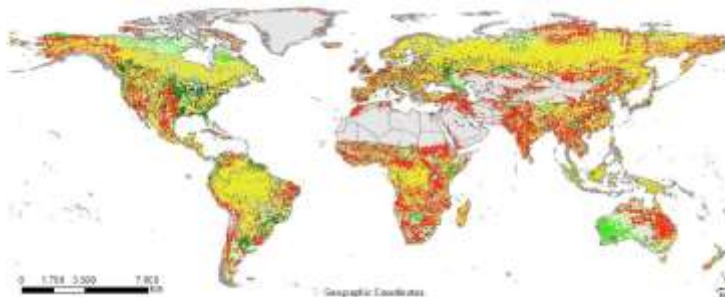
Global malnutrition



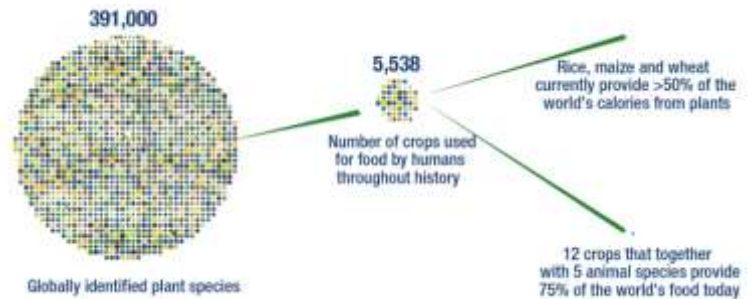
Climate change



Land degradation



Shrinking Biodiversity





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Crop wild relatives are part of the solution

50 participants from 14 SADC member states trained



Foundation of agriculture

Worth 120 Billion US\$ annually

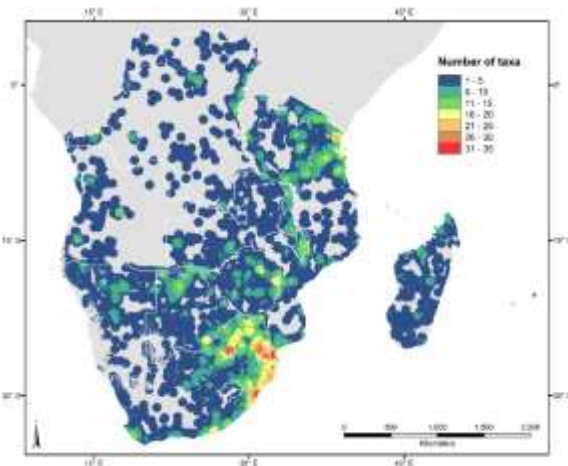


Online toolkit

Fight pests and diseases



Regional assessment of CWR diversity



Mitigate climate risks



Sustainability and Involvement of Stakeholders

- Strong advocacy at policy level
- Strong national stakeholder involvement in NSAP development in all three countries
- Endorsement of the National Strategic Action Plans at Government levels
- Five side events; presentations at 15th FAO CGRFA regular session and 5th GB of International Treaty on PGRFA
- Publication of project results – online, in scientific papers, leaflets and blogs
- Surveys of CWR on farm and on communal lands carried out in 26 local communities
- Links to global initiatives – CBD and FAO.





Conclusion Key outputs

- **Capacities** on *in situ* conservation and use of CWR in the SADC region built and strengthened
- **Technology transfer** between Bioversity /UoB and three ACP countries has helped to reduce the science and technology divide between them
 - Methodologies for developing checklists and inventories of CWR;
 - Use of geographic information system tools for diversity assessment
 - Methodologies for identification of hotspots of priority CWR sites
 - Predictive methods for identification of useful traits from CWRs.
- Three **Exemplar** National Strategic Actions Plans (NSAP) for CWR conservation and use – Republic of Mauritius, South Africa and Zambia.
- **Exit strategy** to upscale the project



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