

The Global Crop Diversity Trust:

A Foundation for Food Security

The fight against hunger is one of the greatest challenges facing the world today. Climate change and a growing world population-expected to reach 9 billion by 2050-are placing unprecedented pressure on agriculture, compromising our ability to produce enough food to feed the world now and into the future.

Crop diversity is fundamental to defeating hunger and achieving food security. The vast diversity of crop varieties provide farmers and plant breeders with the raw materials they need to improve and adapt their crops to meet future challenges. But this diversity is at risk.

Around 1500 collections of crop diversity exist around the world but the lack of sustained funding means that most of them are struggling to maintain even the most basic operations.

The response was to raise a \$260m endowment, the interest income from which will guarantee the effective conservation of the world's most important collections of crop diversity.

The Global Crop Diversity Trust, which manages the endowment, was established by Bioversity International, representing the CGIAR Centres, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

M. Tefre/Global Crop Diversity Trust



The Seed Vault at Svalbard will secure for centuries, or even longer, hundreds of millions of seeds representing every available crop variety conserved in the world's genebanks.