Mainstreaming of Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation and Use

UNEP-GEF Experience
Working with Partners Around the World

- 47 countries participate in UNEP GEF Agrobiodiversity Projects
Budget Invested

Total investment
$159,356,525

Global/regional multi-countries
$127,783,353

Single Countries
$31,573,172
Mainstreaming Barriers

- Lack of supportive policies;
- Lack of legislation or ineffective enforcement of legislation;
- Weak capacity (institutional, community, etc.);
- Traditionally weak links between sectors (environment, agriculture, finance, etc.);
- Public and private sector do not work together.
Mainstreaming Approach

To internalize agrobiodiversity into:

- agriculture production system practices;
- policies and programmes;
- education;
- nutrition and food security strategies and programmes.
"In Situ -on Farm Conservation and Use of Agrobiodiversity in Central Asia"
Environment Degradation and Development Constraints

- Loss of traditional diversity-based farming systems and loss of biodiversity
- Arable lands degradation and soil erosion
- Pollution
- Genetic erosion
- Deforestation
Strengthened Capacity

- 5 Regional Training Centers and 8 National Training Centers are established
- Over 500 farmers gained knowledge and skills on local fruit crops varieties diversity, grafting techniques, agronomy practices, processing and adding value to fruit products
- Over 300 scientists were trained on socio-economic aspects, participatory approach, molecular markers, international descriptors, communication with farmers
- 30 policy makers
Strengthened Capacity

58 nurseries (1,500,000 saplings in 2012)

72 demonstration plots in farmers’ orchards (430 local varieties)

Kazakhstan – 14, 14
Kyrgyzstan – 7, 7
Tajikistan – 11, 18
Turkmenistan – 10, 11
Uzbekistan – 16, 22
Improved Policy and Regulations

- Proposals on establishment of new and extension of existing PA to cover wild relatives of fruit and nut-bearing crops in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

- Wild fruit and nut-bearing species are included in the List of Valuable Wood Species of national Forest Codes in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

- The legislation on PGRC Conservation and sustainable use revised to include of wild relatives of fruit crops in in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.
Improved Policy and Regulations

- Governments Programmes on Horticulture and Viticulture Development in Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan prioritize fruit tree diversity;
- Government’s subsidies for establishment of orchards and fruit tree nurseries development in Kazakhstan (Local varieties of apple);
- Revised legislation to make provisions for long-term land lease for cultivation of local varieties of fruit crops;
- Land tax exemptions and subsidies for cultivation of local varieties of fruit crops.
Changing the landscape in Kyrgyzstan with locally adapted traditional temperate fruit tree varieties

• More than 1.5 million saplings of local varieties or fruit trees produced annually
• Legal advise to farmers to ensure land tenure rights
• The wellbeing of farmers growing traditional fruit tree varieties has improved. Many farmers have improved their houses from clay mud to brick ones
Figure 1: Impact Pathway for Enhanced Well-being and Conservation of Tropical Fruit Tree Diversity
Value addition of *Garcinia cowa* through commodity chain approach
Lessons: Mobilizing resources by bringing together scattered public funds

Leveraging on going ICAR funds

• Broaden base of partnership

• Strategic partnership with Eosta
Mainstreaming CWR conservation

PA management

• National strategies and action plans for conservation and sustainable utilization of CWR
• CWR Species management and monitoring plans developed
• 310 species were red-listed according to IUCN guidelines
• Driving force for the creation of the Crop Wild Relatives Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the World Conservation Union.
Mainstreaming CWR conservation

- Received credit in the Second State of the World’s Report on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOW---2).
- CWR included in the CBD Programme of work on Agricultural Biodiversity
- CWR included in the Home gardens programme in Sri Lanka
- CWR included in the 2 information parks the Sri Lankan Department of Agriculture established in Peradeniya and Bataata,
Key for Success

• Effective Policy and regulatory frameworks
• Strong and sustainable partnerships
• Institutional capacities
• Leadership
• Land ownership
• Mainstreaming approaches respond to specific country/regional context
Thank you