

**Genebank CRP Management Team Meeting**  
**10/10/2012**

**Present:**

- Paula Bramel
- Anne Clyne
- Luigi Guarino
- Charlotte Lusty
- Jane Toll

**Agenda:**1. Feedback from September minutes

A proposal for Crop Genebank Knowledge Base has been submitted from Bioversity for maintaining the website for one year including uploading a Spanish version. MT suggests that some funding is provided to ensure the functioning of the site and to present it at the AGM for the community to decide about the web sites on-going maintenance and how they will contribute to it.

As requested by the GeneSys Taskforce, a proposal was received from Bioversity to host and maintain GeneSys, including the Help Desk, for 2012. Luigi will follow-up with Bioversity for clarification on some of the activities and budget items for 2012 and a 2013 bid explored.

Daniel Debouck has asked for clarification on the use of funds for capital depreciation. As mentioned in the previous MT meeting minutes, there is now only one budget line for capital purchase. Capital depreciation will be removed. The funds allocated to capital depreciation in the Costing Study represented an economic cost for the equipment and infrastructure dedicated to the genebank alone. It is not necessarily a budget for annual capital purchase or for a general institutional depreciation fund. We have suggested in the development of MYBs that a budget is estimated for equipment purchase over the 5-year period and that genebank managers consider any needs or plans for more significant purchases or refurbishments in the proximate future. You may plan for a higher capital budget in any one year. The Trust will safeguard the capital funds allocated in the costing study for each Centre so that they may be used for this purpose.

Daniel also brings up the need to add value to the GeneSys II project by improving data quality and analysing the compiled datasets to see where quality or data are lacking. He also emphasizes the complexity of looking at partnerships and outreach and expresses a concern to identify the actual problem we are trying to address here. He cites Brazil as an important partner with whom CIAT would like to develop a closer relationship. The MT thought Daniel's points can be expanded in the November meeting and that the proposal for a "liaison" staff to be supported through the Genebanks CRP could be usefully directed at a secondment between a Centre and an important partner such as EMBRAPA.

## 2. Multi-year budgets

Several issues prompted by the submission of MYBs were discussed. The discussions resulted in the following points:

- The Financial Management cannot “approve” the MYB when the budgets are so different from the Costing Study and, in effect, the present MYB template gives little information on the costs of the genebank and the service charges of the Centre. In accepting the budgets the MT is only agreeing that the Costing Study limit is not exceeded. Little judgement can be made as to whether the operation costs are appropriate. There are two options to deal with this situation. We may be able to modify the MYB template so that the costs of the genebank and the charges of the Centre services can be clearly identified. We also plan to bring in a financial review into the genebank review. Anne Clyne will commence this in the review of the ILRI genebank in November. The MT believes that it is only by examining these annual costs will we be able to improve the Costing Study figures in a satisfactory way. These suggestions will be shared with the Consortium.
- Submitted MYBs that are within the limits of the Costing Study budget, with consistent overheads, annual increase and capital purchase may be accepted for 2012. The MYB will be renegotiated for subsequent years, and for the coming year the costs can be examined in the context of work reported and planned. The MT discussed the possibility of proposing a standard overhead rate but it was considered important that the Centres have the flexibility to apply an audited overhead rate. In general, the overhead rate has reduced and converged to between 15 and 18% since the costing study.
- Given the above the following MYBs are finalized: CIMMYT and ILRI. Some changes or additional information still need to be provided for the MYBs of AfricaRice, ICRAF and CIP. Revisions are requested for MYBs from IITA, CIAT, ICRISAT and Bioversity. No submission has been received from ICARDA and IRRI.

## 3. Allocation of non-recurring funds

Table 1 provides the submitted requests for one-off funds.

Table 1. Requests for One-off funds under budget line 'Rationalization &amp; Optimization'

	<b>Additional funds requested</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>MT comments</b>
Bioversity requested additional funds under 'Developing partnerships'	\$100,000	Priority actions "involving national partners in gap filling, characterization and evaluation of germplasm, to contribute in improving documentation of germplasm and conservation and safe movement of germplasm NARS"	Use of funds for this area should be discussed in November
CIAT –proposal is still to be submitted	c. \$500,000	Seed increase and other activities	Discussion scheduled with CIAT 19/10
ICRAF	\$117,000	Recruitment of genebank manager to bring about changes in collection management 2012 & 2013	What will happen after 2013 without a GB manager? Why was this not costed in the CS?
ILRI	\$82,880	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Backlogs in characterization.</li> <li>Backlogs in germination testing because species seed physiology is still poorly known. Increased monitoring intervals as a result will improve efficiency.</li> <li>Improving health diagnostics.</li> </ul>	MT agrees this is appropriate use of Optimization funds. MT recognized ILRI's need to work on germination monitoring and hopes some literature research will help too.
IITA may submit a proposal	No info	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conversion of materials and supplies for the adoption of CIAT protocol for in vitro (i.e. larger test tubes, different media) which will prolong subculture period</li> <li>Transfer some of the yam accessions in the field to the screen house adopting techniques used by the breeders. Also improve yam barn.</li> </ul>	MT agrees this is appropriate use of funds and awaits costed submission.
No submissions yet from ICARDA, ICRISAT and IRRI. No requests for one-off funds from AfricaRice, CIMMYT and CIP.			

Table 2 presents the current estimated allocations for 2012.

Table 2. Current estimated allocations for 2012-10-12

<b>Allocations</b>	<b>Annual funds available (millions)</b>	<b>Requests</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>
Routine operations	15.2	\$14,291,892	\$2,088,660
ICRAF	1.0	\$973,562	One-off costs questioned
Collecting and acquisition	0.2	1 proposal received	Allocations to be decided in November meeting
Cryobanking	0.6	Strategies with proposals to be submitted end 2012	No 2012 allocation
Rationalization & optimization	0.8	\$82,880 + IITA, CIAT & others who haven't submitted	\$82,880
Global Outreach & capacity building	0.8	Travel \$200,000	\$40,000
		(Bioversity \$100,000)	More submissions needed

		Bioversity liaison staff \$69,500 IITA & ILRI to submit TOR for liaison staff Bioversity concept note for CGKB	Bioversity requested to submit proposal in standard format for hosting CGKB
Genesys/GRIN-global	0.67	Bid from Bioversity to host GeneSys for 2012 and 2013	Request made for further clarifications

Luigi reminded MT that there is a need to digitise legacy evaluation data on genebank accessions. Some GeneSys funds might be used for this or for working on data quality if genebanks can work on this.

#### 4. Baseline and Target data

Genebank managers have been working hard inputting baseline data and 5-year targets. We have made some useful changes to the software of the online tool – providing more downloadable tables and lists. The review of the data is commencing. We need to be able to print reports for the review process. Marco is working on developing excel file outputs. We would like to work on providing feedback on the submitted baseline data in time for the November meeting.

#### Annual Meeting Update

So far, no DDGs will be able to come to the meeting. However most Centres are now sending 2 staff from the genebank. We have a participant list of around 25 people including Theo van Hintum from CGN, Andreas Boerner from IPK, Bart Panis from KUL and Graham McClaren from GCP. The Consortium will be represented as will SPIA, the Treaty, Bioversity policy group and FAO. We have yet to hear from Wheat and Maize CRP leaders. The new wheat CRP leader is Victor Kommerell who some genebank managers will remember from GPG2 days.

A member of the Trust staff will be allocated to each session of the meeting and, if necessary, will follow up with designated participants who are involved with the sessions to make preparations. Tom and Alexandra are organizing Day 3 already. For the Global outreach session we will extract elements on partnership that have been reported in the long term grants.

#### 6. Next Management Team meeting

It was agreed that it would be useful to have one more MT meeting before the Annual meeting. It will be held on Nov 6 or 14 and the key focal areas will be:

- MYB
- Other non-recurring allocations
- Update on baseline and targets
- Update on Annual meeting