

Evidences

Study #4689

Contributing Projects:

- P2311 - 2021 Alliance Outcome Impact Case Reports

Part I: Description and all information of the outcome/impact reported

Type: OICR: Outcome Impact Case Report

Status: On-going

Year: 2021

Outcome Impact Case Report link: [Study #4689](#)

Title: The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) endorses creation of a regional network for the conservation and use of Crop Wild Relatives

Short outcome/impact statement:

The Alliance led the development of a regional network for the conservation and use of Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. This network was formally endorsed by the SADC Ministers responsible for Agriculture and Food security, Fisheries, and Aquaculture. The network will serve as a platform for CWR stakeholders (researchers, gene bank curators, breeders, conservationists and farmers) to promote effective conservation and use of CWR.

Outcome story for communications use:

"On the 7th May 2021, the Darwin Initiative project 26-023 "Bridging agriculture and environment Southern African crop wild relative network" achieved a historical milestone. The white paper for the creation of a Regional Network for the conservation and use of Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) developed under the project was approved at the Joint Meeting of the SADC ministers responsible for agriculture and food security and Fisheries and aquaculture. This was made possible by the strong partnership with the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre (SPGRC) of the Directorate on Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources of the SADC Secretariat. The SADC CWR Network will be the first regional network for the in situ conservation of crop wild relatives in the world and will hopefully serve as an exemplar for the other regions to follow and progress towards achieving a global network for CWR."

Story as published on the SADC CWR Network website (link below).

Links to any communications materials relating to this outcome:

- <https://tinyurl.com/y2c9yxb>
- <http://www.cropwildrelatives.org/sadc-cwr-net/latest-news/>

Geographic scope:

- Multi-national

Country(ies):

- Botswana
- Mauritius
- Eswatini
- Angola
- The Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Seychelles
- Malawi
- Madagascar
- South Africa
- Mozambique
- Tanzania, United Republic
- Zambia
- Lesotho
- Comoros
- Namibia

Comments: The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is a Regional Economic Community comprising 16 Member States named above.

Stage of maturity of change reported: Stage 2

Key Contributors:

Contributing Levers:

- Lever 4 - Agrobiodiversity

Contributing external partners:

- NPGRC - National Plant Genetic Resources Centre of Tanzania
- UOM - University of Mauritius
- ZARI - Zambia Agriculture Research Institute
- DAFF - Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (South Africa)
- SADC-SPGRC - Southern African Development Community Plant Genetic Resources Centre
- University of Birmingham
- MPGRC - Malawi Plant Genetic Resources Centre

CGIAR innovation(s) or findings that have resulted in this outcome or impact:

The Alliance in partnership with its partners University of Birmingham, SADC Plant Genetic resources Centre and national partners, developed and tested an innovative conservation planning toolkit which helps to identify hotspots of diversity of CWR for in situ conservation and helps in the preparation of National Strategies and Action plans for the conservation and use of CWR
<http://www.cropwildrelatives.org/conservation-toolkit/> [6].

Innovations: <Not Defined>

Link to Common Results Reporting Indicator of Policies : Yes

Policies contribution:

- 908 - Establishment of SADC CWR Network (<https://tinyurl.com/2ffxr7ex>)

Elaboration of Outcome/Impact Statement:

Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) species play a fundamental role in sustaining agricultural development and food security, providing genes resistant against pest and diseases, and adapted traits for coping with climate and other environmental changes. Nevertheless, they are threatened and under-researched. Few have been collected and conserved in gene banks (ex situ facilities), while little is known about the extent of genetic diversity of CWR in natural habitats (in situ). Over the past couple decades, the world community, through the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture [1] and other global assessments [2,3]), have highlighted the need to conserve and facilitate the use of CWR to fight biodiversity loss and sustain agriculture and food security. Motivated by this, the Alliance carried out two projects in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region with key international, regional and national partners on in situ conservation of CWR.

These projects aimed to demonstrate how SADC countries can collaborate to develop and implement a strategy for safeguarding CWR diversity and facilitating their use. The projects carried out national CWR inventories and checklists and identified CWR hotspots at national and regional levels [4,5]. They trained over 50 participants from SADC Member States on techniques for in situ conservation of CWR and helped the partner countries prepare National Strategic Actions Plans. They also examined incentive mechanisms to encourage farmers to conserve CWR. Based on an innovative conservation planning methodology and development of a tool kit [6], 271 priority areas in 13 SADC countries for in situ and ex situ conservation of CWR were identified to form part of the regional network [7].

To establish the right enabling policy environment for such a network to function, the Alliance partnered with the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre (SPGRC), which already has in place a network of national centers for ex situ conservation and is hosted by the SADC secretariat. The idea is to create a more integrated regional conservation strategy. A white paper for the creation of the network was developed as well as a policy brief aimed at policymakers to request that a regional network be established in the region [8]. The paper was approved by the SADC secretariat Technical Committee and SADC Director Committee. At a joint meeting of SADC ministers responsible for agriculture, Food Security, and Fisheries and Aquaculture, the ministers formally approved the establishment of a SADC CWR network. [9].

References cited:

1. FAO. 2019. The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, J. Bélanger & D. Pilling (eds.). FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Assessments. Rome. 572 pp.(<http://www.fao.org/3/CA3129EN/CA3129EN.pdf>)
2. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem services (IPBES)- Summary for policymakers of the Global Assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services (2019)
<https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/biodiversity/pdfs/Summary-for-Policymakers-IPBES-Global-Assessment.pdf>
3. Willis, K.J. (ed.) 2017. State of the World's Plants 2017. Report. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
https://stateoftheworldsplants.org/2017/report/SOTWP_2017.pdf
4. Dulloo M.E. and Maxted N. (2019). Editorial Special Issue Crop wild relative. Plant Genetic Resources: Characterization and Utilization 17(2): 101–102 doi:10.1017/S1479262118000606
5. Allen, E., Gaisberger, H., Magos Brehm, J., Maxted, N., Thormann, I., Lupupa, T., Dulloo M.E., Kell, S. (2019). A crop wild relative inventory for Southern Africa: A first step in linking conservation and use of valuable wild populations for enhancing food security. Plant Genetic Resources: Characterization and Utilization, 1-12. doi:10.1017/S1479262118000515
6. Magos Brehm, J., Kell, S., Thormann, I., Gaisberger, H., Dulloo, M.E. & Maxted, N. (2019). New tools for crop wild relative conservation planning. Plant Genetic Resources: Characterization and Utilization, 1-5. doi:10.1017/S1479262118000527
7. Magos Brehm J. et al (2022). Planning complementary conservation of crop wild relative diversity in southern Africa. Diversity and Distribution. {accepted} DOI: 10.1111/ddi.13512
8. Dulloo M.E, Maxted N., Shava J., Pungulani L., Hamisy W., Munkombwe G., Magos-Brehm J., Bissessur P., (2021). Crop wild relatives in south Africa Development Community. Policy Brief 49. Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT. 8pp. <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/113692>
9. SADC (2021). Record of Joint meeting of SADC ministers responsible for agriculture and food security, and Fisheries and Aquaculture. 07 May 2021. Maputo, Mozambique (video conferencing) SADC/FANR/1/2021/2. shared upon request]

Quantification: <Not Defined>

Gender, Youth, Capacity Development and Climate Change:

Gender relevance: 0 - Not Targeted

Youth relevance: 0 - Not Targeted

CapDev relevance: 1 - Significant

Main achievements with specific **CapDev** relevance: Toolkit is used for train people in conservation planning [6]

Climate Change relevance: 1 - Significant

Describe main achievements with specific **Climate Change** relevance: Innovation can help assess impact of climate change on wild populations of CWR [7]

Other cross-cutting dimensions: No

Other cross-cutting dimensions description: <Not Defined>

Part II: Mapping to Alliance strategy and structure

Does this OICR contribute to Lever Outcomes?: Yes

Lever Outcomes:

- Lever 4.3 - National governments adopt policies and practice recommendations for genetic resource management
- Lever 4.1 - National programs and communities in priority countries characterize and use diverse genebank and local material and crop wild relatives to address resilience, climate change, and nutrition through integrated selection and breeding approaches

Does this OICR contribute to Nexus? : No

Funding Sources:

- **(FS5958) Bilateral** - UK - Darwin (UK - DEFRA) Bridging agriculture and environment: Southern African crop-wild-relative regional network

Does your OICR have a legacy link to work in a CRP/PTF? : No

SDG Targets:

- 15.5 - Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
- 2.5 - By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed
- 15.9 - By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts

Part III: Alignment to the new One CGIAR Research and Innovations Strategy 2030 and organizational structure

Does this OICR contribute to Action Area Outcome Indicators?: No

Does this OICR contribute to Impact Area Indicators?: No

Does this OICR contribute to Initiatives?: No

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Internal Status:

PDF version to be cleared by Ehsan.