



THE CRAWFORD FUND

Master Class report

1	<p>Title of Master Class</p> <p>Genebank Operations and Advanced Learning (GOAL) Master Class</p>
2	<p>Goal/ Aim of Master Class</p> <p>To introduce national and/or regional genebank personnel to the concepts of quality management systems (QMS) and standard operating procedures (SOPs) to facilitate the introduction of common, globally acceptable, standards for genebank management thereby allowing them to fully engage as part of the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) Multi-lateral System for access and benefit sharing.</p>
3	<p>When and where was the Master Class conducted?</p> <p>16-20 November 2015 at: Venue was in the National Agricultural Science Centre (NASC) Complex in the Pusa Campus of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, India.</p>
4	<p>No of participants and countries represented</p> <p>24 participants representing India, Tajikistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Mongolia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Laos, Vietnam, Fiji, Philippines, Malaysia and Australia.</p>
5	<p>Presenters (Names and Institutions)</p> <p>Dr Michael Mackay, QAAFI, University of Queensland Dr Janny van Beem, Global Crop Diversity Trust Dr Matija Obreza, Global Crop Diversity Trust Dr Ruaraidh Sackville Hamilton, International Rice Research Institute Dr Sunil Archak, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources Dr K C Bansal, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources</p>
6	<p>Co-Sponsors and organisations providing (in-kind) support</p> <p>Global Crop Diversity Trust Bioversity International Delhi Office Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) / National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR)</p>
7	<p>Expected outcomes and potential benefits to Australia</p>

	<p>Outcomes: National genebanks in Asia-Pacific region implement quality management systems (QMS) that encompass high standards of genebank and information management; develop, document and maintain standard operating procedures SOPs; integrate information management with SOPs.</p> <p>Expected benefits: Australian genebank personnel participated in the Master Class and are expected to implement the QMS, SOP and information management guideline skills demonstrated. Additionally, Australian genebanks are given the opportunity to become part of a community of regional and/or global genebanks operating at globally acceptable standards under the ITPGRFA, of which Australia is an active signatory.</p>
7	<p>Participant's feedback (Please provide information on the outcomes of the course from the participants point of view and the likelihood of application of skills, including learning in the workplace and transfer of skills, including barriers such as lack of equipment or research facilities)</p> <p>The majority of participants gave verbal expressions of thanks and indicated they had acquired skills they would deploy (or train others to do so) in their genebank.</p> <p>Both Australian participants provided positive verbal feedback indicating they had acquired significant knowledge to instigate 'quality management systems' (QMS) in their genebanks, including formal operational manuals that included 'standard operating procedures' (SOPs). One, in an email, wrote <i>"The Master Class was a great experience, and I think there will be some great outcomes from this"</i>.</p> <p>An Indian participant thanked us for having <i>"... the opportunity to learn so many new things existing and happening around the world in genebanks"</i>.</p> <p>Another from South Asia wrote <i>"This GOAL master class I gained lot of knowledge and now I have planned how to do further improvements in our genebank management with giving more attention to the quality. Goal was tired less master class. I am sure every participants enjoy with gaining knowledge"</i>.</p> <p>One South East Asian participant wrote <i>"I found many new information for our gene bank. I hope in the future I could participate in more very important training. Thank you very much"</i>. Another wrote <i>"Thank you very much for your support in participating in the GOAL Master Class"</i>.</p> <p>A regional genebank participant wrote <i>"Thank you for an enjoyable week of learning last week and for everything else. Much appreciated"</i>.</p> <p>While the NBPGR in India has the resources to implement state of the art genebank and information management strategies, most national genebanks lack resources to do so quickly. However, the training given was intended to facilitate efficiencies that will help even the most resource restricted genebank to improve its service delivery, both nationally and as a global player.</p>