A global community seed bank platform
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30 years of experience

- Many diverse experiences from around the world
- Community seed banking champions from community to the international levels
- But: successes (and challenges) not well known
- Networking in the global north
- National and regional networking in the global south very limited
- Global sharing still very limited
Renewed strong interest in community seed banking

- Farmers are getting organized (with support from others)
- Agroecology, organic agriculture, healthy food movements
- Food safety and nutrition (consumer demands)
- Conservation and crop improvement researchers are joining forces
- Some governments are taking leadership (Brazil, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Nepal, Uganda, South Africa)
- Climate change and the need for novel diversity
- New project initiatives
How to strengthen community seed banking at all levels?
Sustainability

- Farmers’ interest and leadership
- Local facilitator and network builder
- Technical and financial support
- Crop improvement efforts
- Responsive to climate change stress
- Potential to evolve to broader local organization
- Policy and legal support
A multi-functional platform
Documentation and analysis
Supporting action research
Technical and organizational support
Recognition, policy and legal support
Data management and sharing
Platform governance and management

- Demand driven
- Participatory
- Membership based
- Fair representation
- Diverse representation
- Initially as a project with donor support
For more information

www.bioversityinternational.org/research-portfolio/conservation-of-crop-diversity/community-seedbanks
Thank you

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