



Svalbard  
**Global Seed Vault**

**10 YEARS** 2008–2018

Safeguarding seeds for the future

## Seed Vault Summit

"Towards rational conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources"

Monday 26th of February 2018

09.00 - 15.00

University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS),  
Longyearbyen

Follow the Seed Vault!



[www.seedvault.no](http://www.seedvault.no)

*While the Svalbard Global Seed Vault offers facilities for security copies of seeds conserved in gene banks, this ex situ conservation is only one of several methods for conserving plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.*

*The Seed Vault Summit invites different players involved in the different methods for conservation and sustainable use of crop germplasm to discuss how to strengthen the links and the complementarity of these conservation strategies – in order to optimize the conservation efforts and, at the same time, encourage sustainable use of these resources.*

**09.00:** Welcome by the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food

**09.10:** Foundation Stone Ceremony

*Gene banks are invited to add seeds to the Seed Vault Foundation Stone, a glass cylinder that was filled with seeds to commemorate the 2006 decision to build the Seed Vault and is now housed at the Svalbard Museum.*

**09.30:** Introduction

Moderators **Lise Lykke Steffensen**, NordGen and **Jonathan Drori**, The Eden Project

**I: Interactions between conservation methods and systems**

**09.40:** Which steps will FAO take to strengthen the links and complementarity between ex situ and in situ conservation?

**Irene Hoffman**

FAO, Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

**10.00:** Snapshots of farmers' biodiverse seed systems: re-visioning in situ and ex situ conservation strategies in the framework of food sovereignty.

**Patrick Mulvany**

Practical Action

**10.20:** How can ex situ seed conservation benefit from and interact with in situ and on farm conservation of PGR.

**Ahmed Amri**

ICARDA

**10.40:** Break, refreshments

**11.10:** The state of cryo conservation and possible interactions with programs using other PGR conservation methods.

**Ann Tutwiler**

Bioversity

**11.30:** How Embrapa combines different conservation approaches to optimize conservation and use of PGR in Brazil.

**Arthur da Silva Mariante**

Embrapa

## **II: How to adapt conservation systems to users' preferences**

**11.50:** Steps the Treaty's Governing Body wishes to take in supporting countries' efforts to provide access to PGRFA for researchers, plant breeders and farmers.

**Kent Nnadozie**

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO

**12.10:** PGR material used by plant breeders and researchers, and how conservation systems can facilitate increased use.

**Kristin Børresen**

Graminor

**12.30:** Lunch at UNIS Canteen

**13.30:** Conservation and utilization of agricultural biodiversity by farmer communities in Nepal: lessons learned.

**Pitambar Shrestha**

Livelihood and Resilience Enhancement Project

**13.45** Interaction of farmers and genebanks, example of aromatic and medicinal plants in Switzerland.

**Jean-Marc Genevay**

Distillery, Bassins

## **III: Discussion and summing up**

**14.00:** Panel: How to feed a growing population in a changing climate by improving plant genetic resource conservation and use. Moderated by **Jonathan Drori**, The Eden Project

**14.45–15.00:** Summing up and presentation of findings.