

## **Call for application**

### **2018 Genebank Impacts Fellowship Program**

The Global Crop Diversity Trust (Crop Trust), through the Genebank Platform of the CGIAR, is supporting the establishment of a ‘**Genebank Impacts Fellowship Program**’ to systematically evaluate the impacts of the international genebanks managed by the CGIAR Centers, including the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) of the Pacific Community. These genebanks hold some of the largest and most widely used collections of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) in the world. The Genebank Platform ensures that they meet international standards, work to improve efficiency, and ensure more effective use within an enabling policy environment.

The Genebank Impacts (Gen-I) Fellowship Program will provide the evidence base for continued support to genebanks to ensure the availability of options for future plant breeders, scientists, and farmers, in view of increasing food demand from a growing world population in a changing climate.

#### **1. What is the Gen-I Fellowship?**

The Gen-I Fellowship is a six-month program that provides an opportunity for the successful recipients to gain practice-based experience in evaluating the impacts of the international genebanks. This experience will be complemented by mentorship from impact assessment specialists and conservation scientists in the global CGIAR community. This Fellowship is supported by the Global Crop Diversity Trust, through the Genebank Impacts (Gen-I) Community of Practice of the Genebank Platform.

For information on the CGIAR genebanks, visit: <https://www.genebanks.org>.

For information on SPC CePaCT, visit: <https://lrd.spc.int/the-centre-for-pacific-crops-and-trees-cepact>

#### **2. Who is eligible to apply?**

Applicants are required to:

- Hold a Masters degree (or close to finishing) in agricultural economics, economics, agriculture, or related discipline;
- Demonstrate the relevance of the Fellowship to their career goals in the application;
- Commence work no later than June 2018.

Applicants should be willing to be based in the host country genebank for at least three months during the fellowship period. Preference will be given to applicants from developing countries and/or nationals (or residents) of host country genebanks and those with training and/or experience in the areas of evaluation theory or practice, applied agricultural research, crop science, and/or familiarity with the work of the CGIAR genebanks.

#### **3. What opportunities does the Gen-I Fellowship provide?**

The Fellowship will:

- Support the Fellow in developing research skills to build advanced capacity in evaluating the impacts of the international genebanks;

- Allow the Fellow to engage in broad practice-based experiences and professional development opportunities;
- Enhance the impact profile of the international genebanks;
- Advance knowledge in genebank and PGRFA research and assessment through publications and presentations.

a. Advisory support and mentorship

Fellows will be members of Gen-I Community of Practice. Advisory support and mentorship to Fellows will be provided by the coordination team, including the following experts in PGRFA research and impact evaluation:

- Melinda Smale, Professor of International Development, Michigan State University, Impact evaluation study lead
- Nelissa Jamora, Evaluation Specialist, Crop Trust
- Charlotte Lusty, Coordinator, Genebank Platform
- CGIAR genebank managers

b. Practice-based experience

Fellows will have the opportunity to develop and work on a specific evaluation project, in collaboration with one of the international genebanks. They will learn first-hand about the activities of the genebanks, as well as tools, frameworks, and methods that support PGRFA research and impact evaluation.

c. Professional development

Fellows will be invited to participate in a “bootcamp” workshop to formally launch the Genebank Impacts Fellowship Program and brainstorm on research questions and their respective workplans. We plan to invite genetic resources experts to talk about genebank operations and crop diversity conservation. Core topics will also include principles of economic valuation and selected examples of previously published work.

Fellows will also have the opportunity to participate in professional development activities organized by the Genebank Platform and their respective host genebanks, as appropriate and depending on funds.

d. Compensation

The Crop Trust will offer each fellow a consultancy contract to a maximum of US\$12,000 in the six-month period. The contract will follow the salary structure of the host Center for nationally recruited staff (NRS). The amount can be supplemented by the host genebank, depending on the availability of funds.

As a consultant, fellows are responsible for their own medical or any other type of insurance coverage and for complying with all national tax laws. Relocation and housing allowance will not be provided.

#### 4. How do I apply?

##### Requirements

1. CV
2. Cover letter, 1 page
3. Concept note, 1 page

The cover letter should discuss your motivation for applying, your career aspirations, and your host genebank preference. The concept note should discuss ideas or suggestions you may have on how to evaluate the impact of genebanks.

Merge all documents in 1 pdf portfolio.

Name file as “yourlastname\_Gen-I.pdf”

Send file to: [impacts@genebanks.org](mailto:impacts@genebanks.org) using Subject: Gen-I Fellowship Application

#### 5. What is the application process?

**Deadline of application: 23 February 2018**

All applications will undergo a review process by a committee within the Genebank Platform. Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Relevance and quality of work, research, and/or evaluation experience
- Motivation to develop knowledge and practice in PGRFA research and impact evaluation
- Alignment of the applicants’ skills and career aspirations to the objectives of the objectives of the Gen-I Fellowship

Short-listed applicants will be invited to a virtual interview in **March 2018**.

#### 6. Questions and inquiries regarding this opportunity should be directed to:

**Nelissa Jamora**

Coordinator, Genebank Impacts Fellowship Program

[impacts@genebanks.org](mailto:impacts@genebanks.org)

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