Call for a technical consultant to develop a proposal and work plan for a new Genebank Knowledge Resources Hub

The Crop Trust is seeking to build a new online ‘Genebank Knowledge Resources Hub’ that will bring together tools and resources developed by and for the global genebank community with the goal of ensuring that the growing number of knowledge resources are easily accessible and actively curated. This is particularly relevant as the CGIAR Genebank Platform will be replaced by a new initiative in 2022 and its website will be archived, but all the resources developed over the past 10 years will continue to be relevant going forward and in need of continuing curation.

The Genebank Knowledge Resources Hub will include many of the resources that have been developed over the years through the partnership of the Crop Trust with the CGIAR and are presently available on the CGIAR Genebank Platform website (Genebanks.org). It will serve as a ‘one-stop’ platform for resources to support the global system of ex situ conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) at all levels; such resources include technical reports, templates, guidelines, protocols, standard operating procedures, tools, conservation strategies, e-learning modules, searchable databases, and more.

The selected consultant will provide support in the following areas:

● Review existing Genebanks.org and Crop Trust resources to consider the range of resources, application, current relevance and whether they are up-to-date, etc.
● Draft a brief (<5-page) concept statement to describe the new Genebank Knowledge Resources Hub in consultation with Crop Trust staff and potentially some CGIAR partners.
● Using the finalized concept statement as a foundation, guide internal and external stakeholders through the initial phases of project mapping, including consultations to gather requirements.
● Conduct initial user research, including generative and evaluative methods, to further develop a conceptual overview of content structure as well as a controlled vocabulary for the project.
● Develop a full proposal for the new Global Genebank Resources Hub based on the above to include:
  o Full results of stakeholder consultations and user research
  o A content strategy, including content curation plan
Propose a site map, including initial prototyping with wireframes.

Technical and logistical recommendations, including work plan, timeline, budget and recommended resources for long-term (10-year-plus) site maintenance

Required skills and experience

- At least 5 years of professional experience as a knowledge manager, information architect, concept developer or similar role
- Experience developing multi-national or global websites, databases, software or other knowledge management systems
- Solid understanding of knowledge modeling and management
- Comprehensive knowledge of the methods of user experience design, from user research to information architecture and content strategy
- Good knowledge of general web technologies, standards and trends
- Good communication skills and the ability to explain technical issues to non-technical audiences
- Excellent presentation skills in English
- Ability to work effectively with people of different national and cultural backgrounds

Recommended skills and experience

- Advanced degree in Information Science, Library Science or related discipline
- Experience developing and maintaining taxonomies, metadata models and classification schemas
- Experience working in the fields of international development or agriculture, particularly related to the PGRFA community or a related scientific field

Interested candidates are asked to send a recent CV, links to or samples of recent work (any format), and a detailed cover letter outlining your specific qualifications to trustvacancy@croptrust.org with the subject line “Genebank Resource Hub Technical Consultant” as soon as possible but no later than 30 September 2021. Please include a requested daily rate in EUR, as well as any other expenses anticipated (e.g., software licenses), if applicable.
Please note that applicants *must* be able to sign a contract with the Crop Trust as an individual—consultants incorporated as agencies or employed by consulting companies or other organizations are **not eligible** to apply for this position.

We expect this consultancy to last no longer than **3 months maximum** (end 30 November 2021) and to be conducted 100% virtually, with no travel required.