



# The Global Cacao Genetic Resources Network (CacaoNet) - An Update

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## Outline of presentation:

### Launch of CacaoNet during COPAL meeting:

- San José Declaration
- Stakeholders meeting

First Steering Committee meeting

Establishment of Working Groups

Global cacao genetic resources collection

Important issues that CacaoNet is facing





# The San José Declaration

## The Establishment of the Cacao Genetic Resources Network (CacaoNet)

**Based on the Panama declaration of 06.03.1998 and the Paris declaration of 28.02.1999, both on cocoa sustainability, and**

***recognizing* that ..... the availability of ... planting materials .... and noting the pivotal role that germplasm plays in developing such materials;**

***recognizing* the need for ..... continued access to diverse genetic materials and information ..... ;**





## The San José Declaration (cont.)

*recognizing that the genetic diversity of cacao and its wild relatives  
..... is under threat .....*; and

*recognizing that the aforementioned issues could be enhanced  
through clearer policies and improved coordination.*

*The following parties ..... with the intention of contributing to the  
sustainability of the global cacao economy, therefore resolve to  
establish and foster a Cacao Genetic Resources Network (CacaoNet)*

*.....*





## The San José Declaration (cont.)

The specific objectives of CacaoNet will be to:

- Assure the long-term conservation .... ;
- .... the safe exchange of germplasm;
- encourage the rationalization of collections .....; and
- facilitate achievement of the above objectives by developing ... the necessary strategies, policies, guidelines and protocols as well as the mechanisms for expert consultation and governance to support these activities.





# Signatories:

 	 <a href="http://www.cabi.org">www.cabi.org</a>





## Related activities during COPAL Research Conference:

### Stakeholder meeting

- Significant turn-out (81 participants)
- Discussion of survey results and Network priorities
- Broad endorsement of Network concept, composition of Steering Committee and its TORs

### First Steering Committee meeting:

- Establishment of Working Groups:
  - Safe movement of germplasm (revision safe movement guidelines)
  - Germplasm information management (system development)
  - Resource mobilization and donor contacts (strategy development)
- Appointment of Network Coordinator





## Global cacao genetic resources collection:

- CATIE placed its collection under the auspices of the Governing Body of the International Treaty
- CRU is in the process of formalizing same
- Visits to Brazil and Ecuador to discuss process of designating germplasm
- Survey of cacao germplasm collections conducted
- Long-term conservation strategy is being developed (canvassing role of INGENIC)
- Some results of work on assessing cacao diversity aspects: next presentation by Nick Cryer





## Some important issues CacaoNet is facing:

**Active participation of genetic diversity rich and cocoa producing countries**

**Resolving so-called access and benefit-sharing issues, especially for the cocoa genetic resources providing countries (awareness; clarifying legal and policies matters; case studies; possible role for CacaoNet?)**

**Establishing a stable funding situation for the long-term secure conservation (strategy being developed; proposal development)**





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