



## Power of Diversity Funding Facility

The **Power of Diversity Funding Facility** is a **multi-donor initiative** managed by the **Crop Trust**, dedicated to conserving, cultivating and promoting the consumption of relatively neglected opportunity crops across **Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean**. These crops have immense, but largely unrealized, potential to diversify global food systems, enhance food and nutritional security, and strengthen climate resilience.

### What Are Opportunity Crops?

Opportunity crops are **nutritious and resilient species** traditionally grown by smallholder farmers, often in marginal areas. They are **naturally adapted to challenging environments** and require fewer inputs, while offering significant nutritional benefits. However, **they remain underutilized** due to a lack of research, policy support and market access. Dive into our [Opportunity Crops Knowledge Base](#) to learn more.

### Key Goals and Objectives

- **Unlock the potential of opportunity crops** to contribute to resilient, equitable and sustainable pathways for global food security.
- **Integrate opportunity crops into sustainable food systems** through conservation, production and market development efforts.
- **Address systemic barriers to opportunity crops**, including chronic underinvestment, limited research and weak value chains.



Chayote



Peach palm



Pigeon pea



Sorghum



Minor yams



Pumpkin



Sweetpotato



Fonio



Amaranth



Cowpea



Finger millet



Horse gram



Bambara groundnut

## Activities

The Power of Diversity Funding Facility supports activities in three main areas.

- **Securing opportunity crop diversity in genebanks.** This activity includes safety duplication of seeds and characterization of traits, making sure that these crops are useful to breeders, researchers and farmers.
- **Strengthening opportunity crop value chains** by addressing key barriers and creating favorable conditions for production and consumption. This includes actively engaging farmers and consumers to evaluate crops, carrying out nutritional characterization and enhancing seed systems.
- **Sharing knowledge** and integrating scientific evidence into policy-making and global knowledge systems. This includes partnership building, policy advocacy, and data sharing to strengthen decision-making and promote opportunity crops.

## Funding and Implementation

The Power of Diversity Funding Facility launched with initial funding from key donors.

- **EUR 10 million** from the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** through KfW Development Bank.
- **EUR 2 million** from the **Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ireland.**

At first, the Power of Diversity will focus on seven countries and two crops per country - **Colombia, Kenya, India, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.** Additional funding can extend the project's reach to more countries, driving a shift towards resilient and sustainable agrifood systems worldwide.

The Power of Diversity builds on Crop Trust work on opportunity crops through the BOLD project's **BOLDER initiative** supported by the Government of Norway and will collaborate with the World Vegetable Center's initiative 'Vegetables4Life' (2025–2035).



A street vendor in Cali, Colombia selling freshly harvested peach palms. Photo: Elizabeth James Bishop/ Wikimedia commons

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