

# International Center for Biosaline Agriculture

## Developing National Capacities on Biodiversity and the Role of Regional Centers of Excellence



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# 6<sup>th</sup> Mass Extinction

- Average **20% decline in native species** of major land-based habitats, coupled with a rise in invasive alien species.
- Rate loss is **expected to increase** with global warming, expansion of urban areas and agriculture, pollution.



environmental, economic, developmental,  
social, security implications

**THREATENS FOOD SECURITY**





# **Instant action required by ALL countries to safeguard biodiversity**

- ✓ **Genebanks to preserve what we have.**
- ✓ **R&D to improve our knowledge base and managing capacities.**
- ✓ **Responsible usage and management of our natural base.**



# National Gene Banks

- ✓ Establish **National Gene Banks** in OIC member states.
- ✓ Link National Gene Banks to **International Gene Banks**.
  - Operation are within international principles and rules of the International Treaty.
  - Adoption of technical standards, and available tools.
  - Registration of local collections in the Global Information System.



# Why?

- ✓ Conserves biological diversity
- ✓ Advances sustainable use of biodiversity components
- ✓ Protect rights and benefit sharing
- ✓ Streamlines the process
- ✓ Reduces negotiation time

## BUILD NATIONAL CAPACITIES AT MULTIPLE LEVELS

*collection, research, innovation, storage, documentation, use, commercialization*



# Research and Development

- ✓ **Relatively low R&D investment ratio.**
  - deficient data and knowledge of our biodiversity wealth.
  - loss of historical varieties and indigenous knowledge.
  - limited commercialization and earning from our resources

**trend is changing**

# Why?

## Understand the value and potential of native biodiversity:

- ✓ **Agricultural Research - *improve agricultural productivity***
- ✓ **Biomedical Research - *development of medicines, vaccines***
- ✓ **Incentivize protecting ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity**



**enhance the benefits of biodiversity to all sectors of the economy**

*economic gains - advance food security –*

*social benefits - environmental benefits*

# Responsible usage and management



- ✓ Individual level,
- ✓ Institutional level
- ✓ Overarching systemic level



# Thank you!

