

Factors to consider and  
process in developing a  
roadmap for conservation  
and exchange of cassava and  
its indigenous knowledge in  
SEC Africa

# Key Considerations

- Current Collections
  - Conservation Status
  - Documentation Status
  - Rationalization
  - Accessibility
  - Value

# Key Considerations

- Gaps in current collections
  - Distribution of crop production
  - Distribution of current or past collections
  - Distribution of significant threats to crop production, biotic/abiotic or climate change prediction, land use changes, etc
  - Distribution of crop use or crop types
  - Distribution of any other significant factor that would predict genetic diversity



# Key Consideration

- Collection Strategy
  - Significant gaps
  - Participatory Approach to identification of collection sites with local experts
  - Participatory Approach to collection of germplasm and farmer knowledge



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# Key consideration

- Information systems
- Link to users
  - Characterization
  - Evaluation
  - Farmers

# Rational Conservation Strategy

- Conserve Diversity for the long term
- Meet agreed standards for conservation
- Have minimum unplanned duplication
- Have safety backup arrangements
- Ensure availability and access to the material
- Have comprehensive and easily accessible common or linked information systems
- Be cost effective
- Meets national, regional, and global needs



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# Developing a crop conservation strategy

- Which are the most important current collections for cassava of ESA?
- How will does the existing collection provide optimum coverage of the ESA genepool?
- What Institutions might provide conservation support services?
- How can the conservation of the genepool be made most efficient and effective?

# Developing a crop conservation strategy

- What partnership and other mechanisms must be in place?
- How can the strategy promote strong links to farmers, breeders, and other users?
- What are the highest priority current collections?
- What are the significant capacity building or upgrading needs?
- What standards of conservation and management are most appropriate for the genepool?
- What mechanism and systems need to be in place for exchange and access to germplasm and data?





# System to work

- Credibility and trust amongst collection holders
- Willingness to collaborate nationally, regionally, and internationally
- Links with existing collaborative networks
- Adequate funding for the system
- Agreed conservation standards
- Sharing of conservation responsibilities amongst partners
- Strong links to users
- Effective mechanism for monitoring and evaluation