



Crop wild relative descriptors developed within the UNEP/GEF CWR project

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Outline

- The UNEP/GEF CWR project
- Information management challenge
- Process of descriptor development
- Results





The UNEP/GEF CWR project

- ***In situ* conservation of crop wild relatives through enhanced information management and field application**
- Supported by UNEP/GEF
- Implemented by Bioversity International
- April 2004 – December 2010
- Partner countries
 - Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan
- Partner organizations
 - BGCI, BLE, FAO, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC
- Co-financing: BMZ, Germany





Information management challenge

Develop CWR information management systems and capacity when:

In general

- very few CWR information activities to build upon
- information was very scattered and difficult to access
- no global resources dedicated to CWR

In partner countries

- only one targeted information activity (CWR atlas in BOL)
- data were dispersed within and among institutions
- little data were digitized, in particular location data
- data formats were different in institutes within one country
- very different national settings regarding in-country collaboration, IT infrastructure and capacities





Activities to address challenge

- Digitization and aggregation of existing but dispersed information in national or institutional databases based on descriptors
- Development of CWR descriptors for data types and fields necessary to capture all relevant information about CWR at a national level
- Collection of new occurrence data from numerous field surveys
- Use of and integration into existing IT structure
- New collaborations between different institutions within a country
- Training on GIS and national CWR information systems within the countries





Process of descriptor development

- Definition of information categories relevant for CWR description.
- Identification of units that need to be described → two main groups:
 - Population, accession, specimen: main units to be described
 - Taxon, site, contact, resources: stand-alone categories and components used by the other units and representing additional entry points into the CWR data.
- Development of detailed lists for each of these 7 entities.
- Development of a core set of descriptors for data exchange.





Process cont'd

- Relevant sources taken into consideration during the development
 - ABCD schema (Access to Biological Collection Data)
 - Multi-crop passport descriptors (MCPD)
 - PGR forum draft descriptor list
 - TDWG standards
- Series of revisions among the national and international project partners, including the technical advisory group to the project (composed of external experts).
- Inputs from outside the project community
 - PGR forum members
 - Bioversity scientists
 - ECPGR





Information categories schema

TAXON INFORMATION	LOCATION	ACTIVITY	INFORMATION RESOURCES	CONTACT RESOURCES	POLICY
Scientific name and Synonyms	Site Information	Use	Publications	Institutions	National Legislation
Common name and language	Observation Data	Conservation Measures	Media	Experts (National & International)	Strategies
Biological Information	Protected Areas	PPP	Web-sites	Forums & Discussion Groups	International Legislation and Agreements
Status		Management			
Ecological Data					





Detailed descriptor lists

Population V1.5.pdf - Adobe Reader

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A **Population – Population information**
Information regarding a population monitored in the field.

A1 *** PopulationID – Population identifier (Core)**
Unique population identifier.

A2 *** Taxon – Taxonomy information**
Information regarding the taxonomy of the population.
(see B. Taxon)

A3 **Invasiveness – Invasiveness of taxon**
Indicate whether or not the taxon behaves as invasive species in the observed site.
0 No
1 Yes

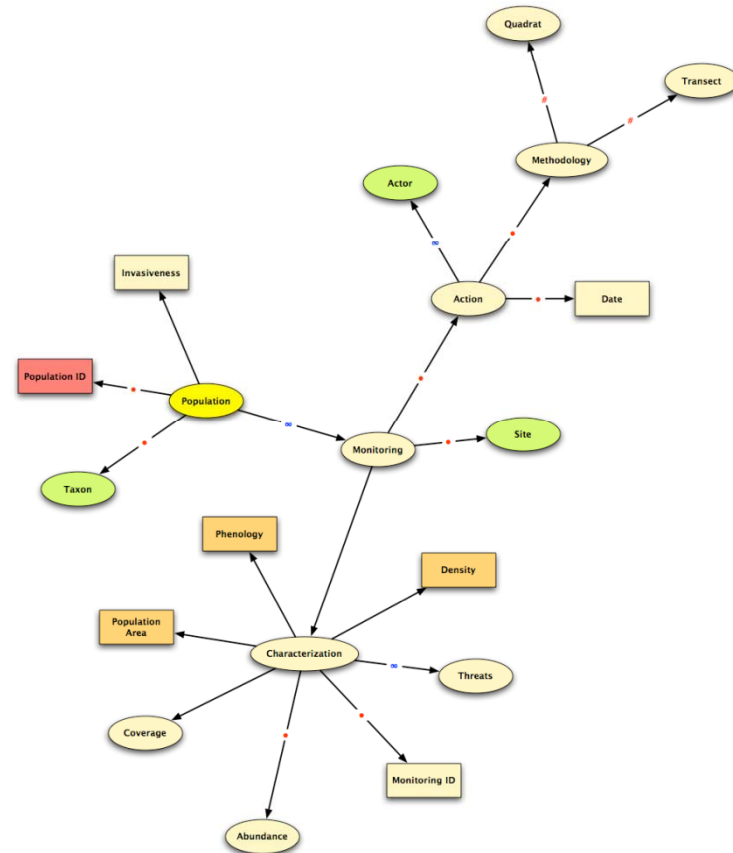
A4 **Monitoring ∞ Population monitoring**
Information regarding the monitoring of the population.

A41 *** Action – Monitoring action**
Information about a monitoring action.
(see F. Action)

A42 *** Site – Monitoring location**
Information about the location where the monitoring occurs.
(see C. Site)

A43 *** Characterization – Population characterization**
Characteristics of the population observed during a single monitoring event.

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Core descriptor list for data exchange

UNEP/GEF Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) Project
CORE DESCRIPTORS
for exchanging information on distribution and conservation
of crop wild relatives

This descriptor list is part of a set of CWR descriptor lists that were developed and used within the framework of the UNEP/GEF funded project "In situ conservation of crop wild relatives through enhanced information management and field application" (2004 – 2010). All national and international project partners (Armenia, Bolivia, Madagascar, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, BLE – Germany, Bioversity International, FAO, IUCN, UNEP/WCMC) and several external experts collaborated in the development of these lists.

1. IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Monitoring/collecting date [YYYYMMDD]
Date when population was monitored and/or accession/specimen collected, where YYYY is the year, MM is the month and DD is the day. Missing data (MM or DD) should be indicated with hyphens. Leading zeros are required

1.2 Population identifier
Unique population identifier

1.2.1 Monitoring institute/person
Name of person or institute code of the institute that observed the population in the

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Results

- National CWR information systems built based on the detailed descriptor lists.
- 7 detailed descriptor lists are available as hierarchical structured lists in PDF and as Word documents
- Core descriptor list is available as a Word document

