

**The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is a global resource for plant and fungal knowledge.**

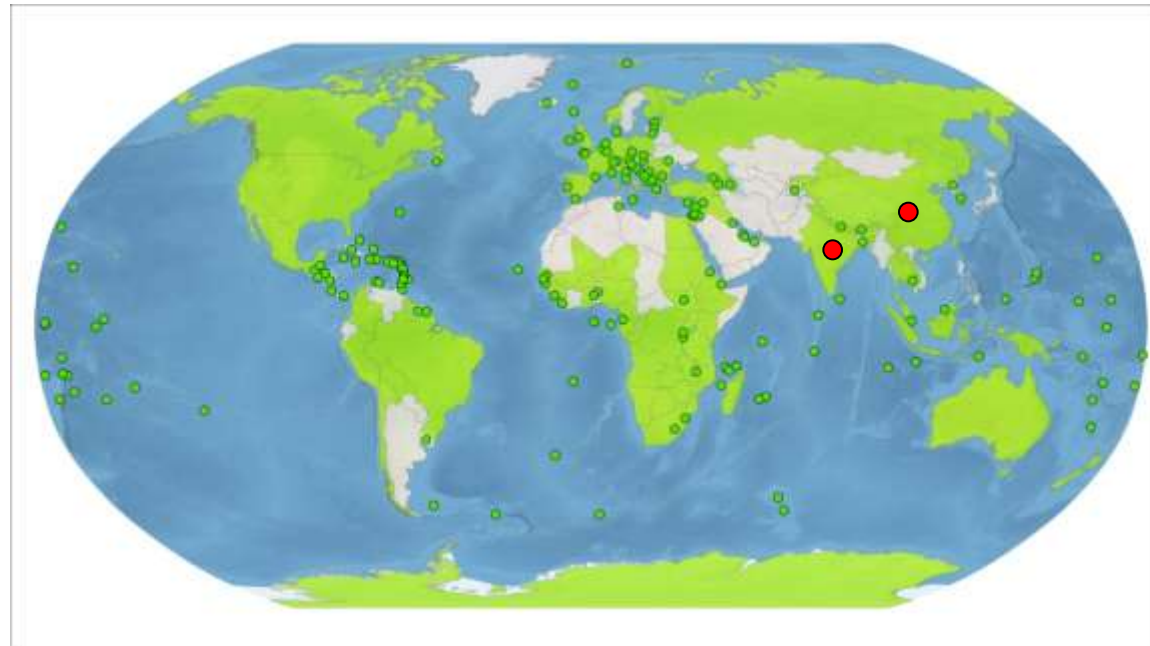
One of the largest and most diverse collections of plant and fungal specimens (living and preserved) in the world, e.g.

- >7 million herbarium vouchers,
- 35,000 species conserved *ex situ* as seeds,
- >30,000 *taxa* in the living collection,
- Library, art, archive.

Unique combination of collections, databases, scientific expertise and **global partnerships** gives Kew a leading role in facilitating access to fundamental plant and fungal information.



Partnerships with 1,000 collaborators in > 100 countries provides the focus for developing plant-based solutions to global challenges such as biodiversity loss, food and water security, poverty, disease and climate change.

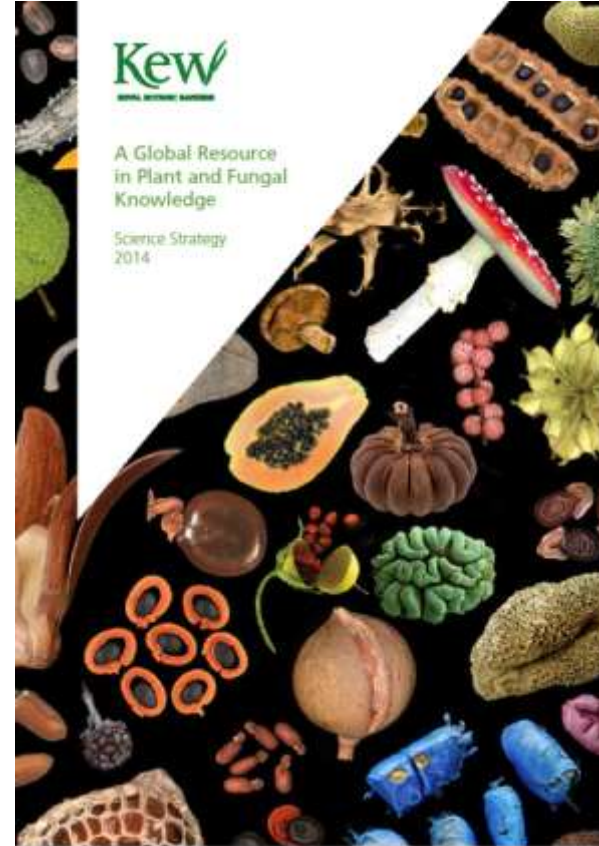


Kew scientists are active in over 113 countries worldwide; new agreements in 2014 with India and China ( ● ).

# Kew's Science Strategy (2015-2020)

## Strategic priorities

1. To document and conduct research into global plant and fungal diversity and its uses for humanity.
2. To curate and provide data-rich evidence from Kew's unrivalled collections as a global asset for scientific research.
3. To disseminate our scientific knowledge of plants and fungi, maximising its impact in science, education, conservation policy and management.



The **Millennium Seed Bank Partnership** (MSBP) in West Africa seeks to collect, conserve and sustainably use seeds of wild species, focusing on endangered, endemic and economically important plants.



## Main partners and collaborators

### Burkina Faso

- The Centre National de Semences Forestières (CNSF)
- University of Ouagadougou

### Ghana

- The Forest Research Institute Ghana (FORIG)
- Community groups from the East, West and Kumasi regions

### Mali

- Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER) Regional Centre in Sikasso
- Cantonnement Forestier de Sikasso
- Communities of Sikasso region

### Niger

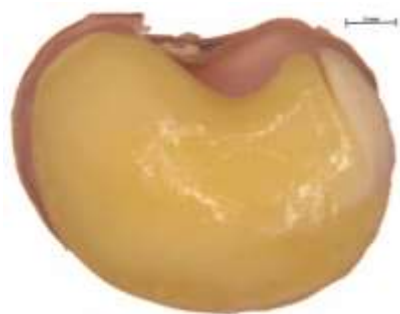
- Centre National de Semences Forestières (CNSF)
- Communities of Tillabery Region

## Main Projects

1. The Millennium Seed Bank Project (MSBP) in West Africa (2006-2011): **Mali** and **Burkina Faso**
2. Useful Plants Project (Botswana, Kenya, **Mali**, Mexico and South Africa) - Phase 1 (June 2007-May 2011) Phase 2 (June 2011-May 2016) - MGU + Wiet Pot Foundation
3. The Great Green Wall project in **Burkina Faso, Mali** and **Niger**, Sackler Foundation (FAO and Kew)



*Bauhinia petersiana*



*Philenoptera violacea*



*Kigelia africana*



*Trichilia emetica*

## Main Projects

1. Pesticide Plants for Organic Cotton in **Mali**, Darwin Initiative
2. Cotton project in **Mali**, TRAIID foundation
3. Conservation research, storage and restoration of Sahelian community species (PhD thesis)



*Carapa procera* (African crabwood) fruit, known to be able to protect against pests.

## Proposed Research activities

- Resolving the Taxonomy of *Digitaria* (*Poaceae*)– *Revision of the genus and species varieties*
- Seed production and germination of *Digitaria* - *Seed Quality and Ecophysiology of Digitaria*
- Actual and potential distribution of *Digitaria* – *Drought tolerance and impact of climate change*





## Training & Dissemination

- Poaceae species identification training from local botanists and building up local herbarium collections
- Training on seed research laboratory approaches
- Training on farm conservation of *Digitaria*
- Six peer review papers and a series of leaflets on seed handling, species identification, etc.



## Conservation activities

- Seed conservation of *Digitaria* and building up local seed collections
- On farm Conservation of *Digitaria*

