

Mission statement

The vision of the Crop Wild Relative Specialist Group (CWRSG) is the effective conservation and use of crop wild relatives (CWR) and their

ii. The Darwin Initiative-funded project 'Bridging Agriculture and Environment: Southern African Crop Wild Relative Regional Network' (SADC CWR Network for short; www.cropwildrelatives.org/sadc-cwr-net) made several advances towards the establishment of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) network for conservation of CWR: (i) a white paper on the governance structure, functions and funding mechanism of the regional SADC CWR network was prepared, discussed with the SADC Secretariat, endorsed by the SADC Technical Committee, and tabled at the SADC Director Committee who endorsed the documents for submission to the SADC Council of Ministers. (KSR #42)

iii. Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia have worked closely with national parks, wildlife and forestry departments to revise the management plans of the protected areas identified in their conservation planning towards the establishment of the national network of CWR conservation (SADC CWR Network). (KSR #42)

iv. Advances on the establishment of a national network of genetic sites of CWR together with medicinal and aromatic plants were made in Lithuania (Labokas, J. and Karpavičienė, B. (2020). National network of genetic reserve sites for medicinal, aromatic plants and CWR conservation in Lithuania. *Conservation Biology* 34:12:17–22.). (KSR #42)

v. In Finland, a second phase of the Finnish CWR conservation project (funded by the

Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry) is ongoing. (KSR #42)

ii. The project 'Vegetation, Culture, and Cultivation: Crop Wild Relatives in Israel' kick-started in 2020 to ensure

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