

CHAPTER 3

Results of the BDGR Project

The programme has undertaken a number of activities that have achieved the following results (Figure 4):

A. Indigenous Capacity Building (training, workshops, network development, document preparation)

- More than 1,100 professional scientists and technicians have been given training in the following six areas:
 - Conservation biology
 - Germplasm collection
 - Tissue culture
 - Ethnobotany
 - Herbarium techniques
 - Database and documentation
- Four global networks established for:
 - Biodiversity and genetic resources
 - Conservation biology
 - Tropical forest ecology
 - Key species
- Regional networks established for the following subject areas within the three themes and their components:
 - Tissue culture – Asia-Pacific
 - Life support species – Asia-Pacific
 - Medicinal plants – Africa, Caribbean, Asia-Pacific
 - Ethnobotany – Pacific
 - Conservation biology – Africa, Asia-Pacific
 - Herbarium techniques – Pan-Commonwealth countries
 - Documentation and databases – Africa
 - Tropical forest ecology – South Pacific and Asia
- 17 training workshops and courses were held between 1986-1992 on the following subjects:
 - 2 workshops on Tissue Culture for the Asia-Pacific (Malaysia)

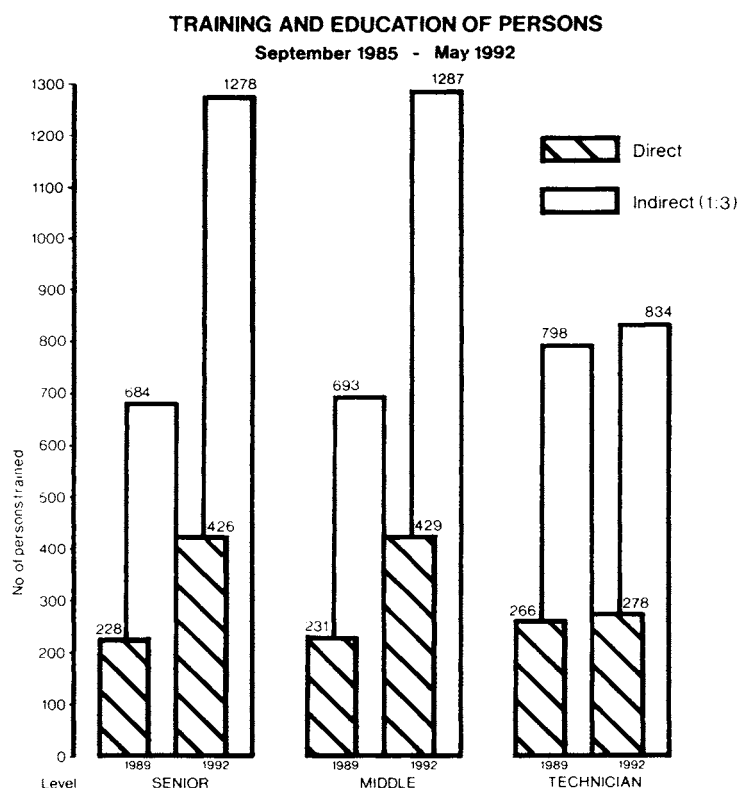
- 4 diploma courses on Herbarium Techniques for the Commonwealth (Britain)
 - 3 workshops on Conservation Biology for Africa and Asia (Zambia, Sri Lanka)
 - 1 workshop on Ethnobotany for the Commonwealth (New Zealand)
 - 1 workshop on Documentation and Databases (Nigeria)
 - 3 workshops on Tropical Forest Ecology and Management (Papua New Guinea and Thailand)
 - 3 workshops on Pharmacognostic Authentication and Standardisation of Crude Drugs (Guyana, St Lucia and Sri Lanka)
 - Four International workshops/symposia and review conferences were held on various components of the BDGR project
- Country Reports Prepared
- Seven countries have prepared detailed country reports on work done on some elements of the BDGR programme
 - Seven countries have prepared reports on key species of ecological and socio-economic importance
- Project Proposals
- Thirty-two specific project proposals were developed

B. Programme Development

- Commonwealth–Government of Guyana Programme on Sustainable Tropical Forestry

C. International collaboration/co-operation initiated – with eleven organisations:

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| ■ CABI | Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International |
| ■ IBRD | World Bank |
| ■ UNESCO | United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation |
| ■ IUCN | World Conservation Union |
| ■ ICSU | International Council of Scientific Unions |
| ■ IBPGR | International Board for Plant Genetic Resources |
| ■ UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| ■ FAO | Food and Agriculture Organisation |
| ■ HIID | Harvard Institute for International Development |
| ■ BGCSI | Botanic Gardens Conservation Secretariat International |
| ■ TWAS | Third World Academy of Sciences |



TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS TRAINED DIRECTLY: 1133 (1989-725)

TRAINING AREAS:

- Conservation Biology
- Taxonomy
- Tissue Culture
- Ethnobotany
- Germplasm Collection
- Documentation
- Data Bases
- Herbarium Techniques

GLOBAL NETWORKS ESTABLISHED: THREE • BDGR • Conservation Biology • Tropical Forest Ecology
(Commonwealth-wide)

REGIONAL NETWORKS ESTABLISHED: NINE (1989 SEVEN)

- Tissue Culture (Asia-Pacific)
- Life Support Species (Asia-Pacific)
- Medicinal Plant (Caribbean, Asia-Pacific)
- Ethnobotany (Pacific)
- Conservation Biology (SADCC, Africa, Asia-Pacific)
- Tropical Forest Ecology (Asia-Pacific)
- Documentation & Data Bases (Africa)

COUNTRY REPORTS PREPARED: SEVEN on some elements of the project; **SEVEN** on KEY SPECIES

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS/COOPERATIONS INITIATED: EIGHT (1989 SEVEN)

- International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU)
- International Council for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)
- International Board of Plant Genetic Resources (IBPGR)
- UNESCO • World Bank • FAO • UNEP
- Harvard Institute for International Development (HIID)

NUMBER OF TRAINING WORKSHOPS HELD: TWENTY SIX (1989 FIFTEEN)
(Including Review Conferences/Symposia)

PROJECT PROPOSALS PREPARED: THIRTY TWO (1989 TWENTY EIGHT)

NUMBER OF CURRICULA DEVELOPED FOR TRAINING COURSES: SIX (1989 FIVE)

TRAINING MANUALS PREPARED: FOUR (1989 TWO)

Figure 4
Results of the BDGR Project

D. Curricula developed – for three courses:

- Herbarium Techniques
- Conservation biology
 - (1) Core-general curricula for senior scientists
 - (2) Regional curricula for SADCC Africa
 - (3) Regional curricula for humid tropics
 - (4) Regional curricula for field extension workers
- Taxonomy

E. Implementation of models developed in the BDGR workshops

- One relating to medicinal plants, and another relating to the use of tissue culture (both in Brunei)
- South-East Asian database developed for legumes at NBRI, Lucknow, India, in collaboration with the International Legume Database Service (ILDIS), Britain

F. Training manuals prepared – for three subject areas:

- Conservation Biology
- Investigation of traditional herbal medicine: (i) Botanical aspects, (ii) Pharmacological aspects
- Ethnobotany

G. Guidebooks – for one subject:

- Medicinal Plants of Coastal Guyana

H. Financial Resources Used and Generated

- Financial inputs provided by the CSC (drawn from CFTC) for the BDGR project were £350,000 over five years. This money was used catalytically to raise funds amounting to £1.2 million from external sources (e.g. international organisations and funding agencies) for supporting the activities of the project
- UNDP has provided US\$3 million for the implementation of the Commonwealth –Guyana Programme on Sustainable Tropical Forestry.