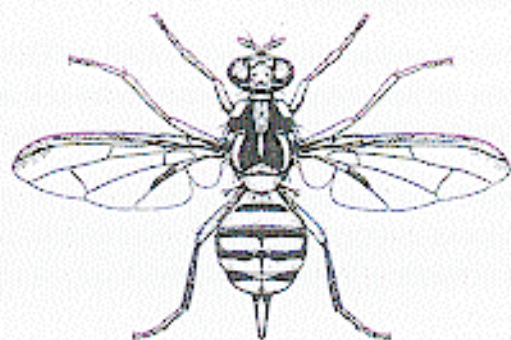


The **BioNET-INTERNATIONAL** *Fund*



*An international co-funding mechanism
to enable the development of a global partnership to
access, develop and share capabilities and resources
for the identification and characterization
of organisms of fundamental
economic and ecological
importance*



Aim and Origin

The BioNET-INTERNATIONAL Fund is an international co-funding mechanism established to provide the financial resources needed to develop BioNET-INTERNATIONAL as a self-sustaining global partnership of sub-regional networks that mobilise, develop and share taxonomic capabilities and resources in support of sustainable development.

The Fund was established in December 1995 with a founding contribution of US \$2.5 million from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and has a target capital sum of US \$7.5 million.

Administration and Management

The Fund is maintained and administered by CAB INTERNATIONAL as an initiative under its Statutory Instrument under U.K law, and is audited for CAB INTERNATIONAL by the U.K National Audit Office.

The Fund is managed by a Supervisory Board, comprising representatives of the Fund Administrator and the Contributors to the Fund, in accordance with the Fund Regulations and the Terms of Reference of the Supervisory Board.



Assets and Investments

The Fund's assets consist of the amounts contributed to the Fund together with all amounts accruing to the Fund by way of income.

The Fund's assets are invested in fixed-term interest-generating bank accounts, primarily in US \$, and may also be invested in other low-risk interest bearing financial instruments such as gilt-edged government-backed bonds as deemed appropriate by the Supervisory Board.

The Fund's assets will be fully drawn down over a 10 year period (1996–2005) to fund the approved annual budgets in accordance with the Regulations of the Fund.

Contributions and Agreements

Contributions to the Fund are invited from any appropriate agency in such amounts and upon such terms consistent with the Fund Regulations and as may be mutually agreed between the Contributor and the Fund Administrator.

Each contribution to the Fund shall be made by means of a Contribution Agreement with the Fund Administrator, specifying the amount of the contribution, the currency and manner of payment, and such other matters as may be required or permitted by the Fund Regulations. Through signing the Contribution Agreement the Contributor shall be deemed to accept the application of the Fund Regulations to the contribution.

Contributions to the Fund may be designated as either 'unrestricted', i.e. can be used for any of the Funds legitimate defined activities, or 'restricted' i.e. are specifically targeted at defined activities and/or geographical regions and/or particular time periods. The specifications regarding any restricted use of the contribution will be detailed in the Contribution Agreement.

Use of Assets

The Fund is used to support capacity building through institutional strengthening and human resource development, and to support the mobilisation and sharing of biosystematics resources, to enable developing countries to work together to identify, conserve and manage biological diversity of fundamental economic and ecological importance.

Except as otherwise provided in the Contribution Agreements and the Fund Regulations, the assets of the Fund may be used for financing the cost of any one or more of the programmes and projects considered suitable by the Supervisory Board, and which would normally be expected to fall under one of the following four categories of activities:

- a) the BioNET-INTERNATIONAL Fellowship Programme, which aims to accelerate the development of the capabilities of key technical and managerial personnel in the participating developing countries;
- b) the operating costs of the Coordinating Institutions for each of the sub-regional partnerships;
- c) the operating costs of the BioNET-INTERNATIONAL Technical Secretariat, which provides technical support and coordinating services to the embryonic and newly formed sub-regional partnerships;
- d) an Information Support Service to facilitate the transfer of knowledge from North to South and the sharing of knowledge among the institutions of the South.

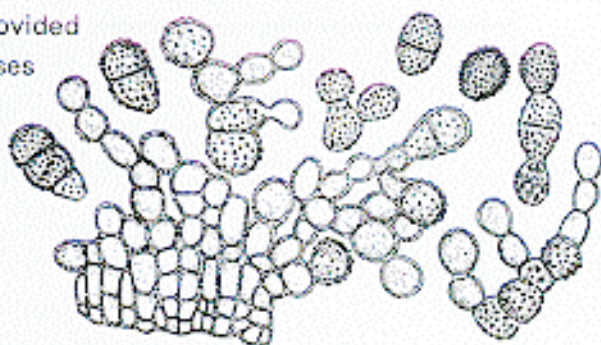
Except as otherwise provided in or permitted by the Regulations of the Fund:

- a) the resources of the Fund are available for use by the Fund Administrator to meet all commitments and liabilities of the Fund;
- b) currencies contributed may be used without restriction for payments in any country and to purchase other currencies as required to best meet the commitments and liabilities of the Fund; and
- c) the resources of the Fund may be used to finance expenditures of any relevant activity in the territories in any country receiving financing through the Fund.

Supervision and Control

The Fund Supervisory Board meets biannually to review funding, investment, budgets, programme proposals and progress, and any other relevant matters, in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Board. The Board produces an Annual Statement on the status of and outlook for the Fund.

The Fund Administrator takes the necessary measures to ensure that the financing provided from the Fund is used only for the purposes for which the financing is intended, and with due attention to considerations of economy and efficiency.



For more information on the
BioNET-INTERNATIONAL FUND

and the

BioNET-INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

please contact...



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