



## Thematic Actions

### Coordinating Universities for the Proposal: UCM and UPM

<b>Title of Action</b>	<b>Creation of a Joint Unit for ex situ Conservation</b>		
<b>Participating partners</b>	UCM-UPM-INIA	<b>Other participants</b>	
<b>Personnel involved (indicate institution)</b>	UPM, UCM, INIA		
<b>Start date</b>	2010	<b>End date</b>	2012
<b>Cluster</b>	Global Change and New Energies	<b>Other clusters</b>	
<b>Areas of action</b>	Teaching Improvement and EHEA Deployment / Research / Knowledge Transfer / Local and Territorial Interaction.		
<b>Location</b>	UPM-UCM		
<b>Infrastructures involved</b>	Laboratories in the Genetics Department, UCM, Department of Animal Production UPM, Departments of Plant Biology (UPM-UCM) and Greenhouses (UPM and UCM).		
<b>Keywords</b>	Ex situ conservation; Germ plasm; Greenhouses; DNA banks		
<p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <p>Ex situ conservation is a crucial/key/essential activity when faced with a loss of biodiversity in natural habitats. The objective is to encourage the development of cutting-edge technology on the Moncloa Campus, taking advantage of already existing UCM-UPM-INIA groups who are working in collaboration on this topic.</p>			
<p><b>Description of the action:</b></p> <p>Both universities, in collaboration with the INIA, work with specialists and resources with which they carry out high quality research in the ex situ conservation of flora and fauna. Outstanding work is being carried out within the scope of the Department of Plant Biology in the UPM and in its Plant Germ Plasm Bank and in multidisciplinary studies underway in the Genetics Department of the UCM and in the Departments of Animal Production at the INIA and UPM. This interdisciplinary group, already shared between the two universities, can therefore be reinforced to act as an embryo for other possible scientific collaboration of excellence in this field, or in others related with the in situ conservation of species on different scales. To do this, the UPM Plant Germ Plasm Bank and the UCM greenhouse will have to be improved, and a DNA deposit bank created.</p>			
<p><b>Planned key results:</b></p> <p>Increased scientific output in all the departments involved.</p>			
<p><b>Rationale for the action:</b></p> <p>Need to improve and re-equip the UPM Plant Germ Plasm Bank.</p> <p>Need to improve and re-equip the UCM research greenhouse.</p> <p>Need to create the infrastructure to store material for genetic use (DNA).</p>			
<p><b>International aspects:</b></p> <p>The UPM Plant Germ Plasm Bank contains an enormous quantity of Mediterranean plant seeds, c. 10,000 seed accessions of 3,500 different species, including endemic and threatened species from the Iberian Peninsula. It is one of the most important collections of its kind in the world, and is irreplaceable on account of its great importance for conservation.</p>			
<p><b>Planned impact:</b></p> <p>The synergies generated by these infrastructures, supported by the three participating institutions (UCM-UPM-INIA), will lead to increased scientific output, directed theses, etc., currently limited by the lack of infrastructure such as greenhouses shared by both institutions.</p>			