



Svalbard Global Seed Vault

10 YEARS 2008–2018

Safeguarding seeds for the future

Foundation Stone Ceremony

Invitation to Seed Vault depositors

In June 2006, the then Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg announced the decision for building a Seed Vault in Svalbard.

To commemorate the decision, the heads of governments from the five Nordic countries attending the occasion, poured seeds into a symbolic glass cylinder filled with stones from the area where the Svalbard Global Seed Vault was going to be constructed.

The "*Seed Vault Foundation Stone*" is now housed at the Svalbard Museum.

As a symbolic act at the 10-year anniversary events on the 26th of February, depositor gene banks taking part in the celebration and the Seed Vault Summit are invited to bring seed to Svalbard and pour these into the foundation glass cylinder.

The ceremony will take place at the beginning of the Seed Vault Summit, and it will be led by the Norwegian Minister for Agriculture and Food.

You are invited to bring seeds from surplus seeds from your gene bank work, preferably of one, or a mix of two or three, species that are emphasized in your gene bank work.

We recommend to bring approximately 0,2 liters of seeds.
If you accept the invitation, please confirm by providing this information:

- 1) Name of gene bank
- 2) Plant species
- 3) Name and position of the person that will pour the seeds.
- 4) One or two photos from your gene bank that could be used in a slide show at the ceremony; facilities, people working etc.



Photo: Even Bratberg

Submit by email asmund.asdal@nordgen.org before **February the 15th**