Finger millet is one of six major ICRISAT mandate crops, and a large number of varieties are grown each year for characterization, seed production and in different research projects. From the left LLR, ICRISAT gene bank manager Vania Azevedo, Senior scientist M. Vetriventhan and Scientific officer P. Naresh.

After last week's Thailand visit, NordGen is this week visiting gene banks in India. Our representatives have been at the national NBPGR in Dehli and the international ICRISAT in Hyderabad. These are centers with advanced capacities within conservation of seeds, in vitro and cryo conservation of genetic material and also laboratories for genomics and other investigations of the material.

“We see many fields of common interest among the genebanks. I am also very pleased that both institutions are planning to deposit more seeds in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in the near future” said Lise Lykke Steeffensen, NordGen director and Secretary of the International of the Advisory Panel for the Svalbard Global Seed.

“Both institutes have well maintained collections and well developed methods and advanced equipment. Experience within in vitro conservation, and in particular knowledge about crops as pea, medicinal and aromatic plants is in particular of interest to NordGen, and we l