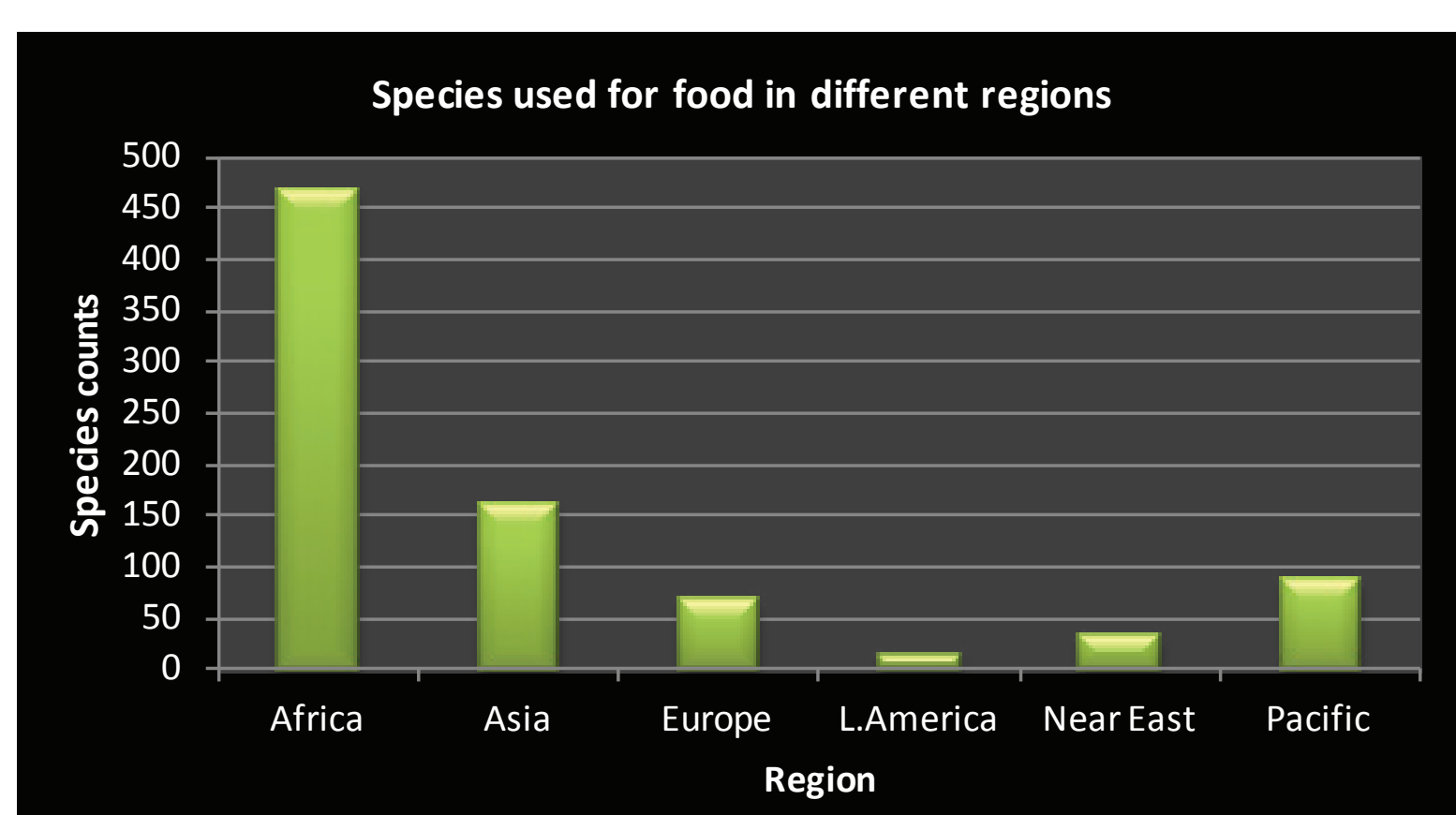


# The contribution of forest genetic resources to sustainability and diversity of food

## Scope and main objectives

The first-ever report on the state of the world's forest genetic resources will be published in 2013. The aim of the report is to provide a consolidated global picture on the status and trends of forest genetic resources (FGR).



## Innovative approach/Results

- The estimated total number of tree species worldwide is over 80 000
- Over 7 500 forest plant species are of interest for various goods and services
- Over 2 500 forest plant species are reported to be actively managed
- 42% of actively managed species are for timber/roundwood
- 41% of actively managed species are for non-wood forest products
- Only 20% of actively managed species are subject to genetic evaluation and improvement
- 9% of the total species are managed for food, of which 75% are managed in-situ, 50% being threatened

Species for food commonly mentioned in national reports are *Junglans regia*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Adansonia digitata* and *Ziziphus mauritiana*

## Conclusions/ Lessons learned

The global plan of action on FGR has 3 strategic priorities (SPs) relevant to the enhancement of forest food.

SP10: Identify priority species for action focuses on promoting research networks; updating priority species lists; and providing international support for the development of guidelines for species prioritization and the identification of priority areas of research.

SP16: Develop and reinforce research programmes on tree breeding, domestication and bioprospection in order to unlock the full potential of FGR focuses on assessing and evaluating the contributions of forests and priority species to products and services, developing programme-based multi-purpose tree breeding and promoting participatory approaches.

SP26: Promote public and international awareness of the roles and values of FGR focuses on developing advocacy measures and tools for effective communication and information sharing to raise awareness on FGR and its contribution to the MDGs, including food and nutrition security.