



GIAHS

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems



World's Agricultural Heritage: our common heritage for a food secured planet



RIO+20

A Side Event at Rio+20

Venue: Mountain Partnership Pavilion, Athlete's Park

Date: 21 June 2012 / 18:00 – 20:00 hrs

Around the world a myriad of family and community managed agricultural systems that are humanity's common heritage. Over centuries, generations of farmers and herders have developed complex, diverse and locally adapted agricultural systems, managed with time-tested, ingenious combinations of techniques and practices that lead to biodiversity conservation and food security.

PROGRAMME

Opening Remarks

Chair: Mr Alexander Mueller, Asst Director General, NR, FAO

Speakers/Panelists:

Parviz Koohafkan, Director, Land and Water Division, FAO

David Molden, Director General, ICIMOD

Yutaka Sumita, Deputy Dir. Gen for International Affairs, MAFF, Japan

Mary Ann Lucille Sering, Commissioner, Philippine Delegation (tbc)

Representative of China Delegation

Representative of Peru (tbc)

Discussions, Summary and Conclusion

The GIAHS Initiative

Ten years after its initiation by FAO in 2002, during the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the GIAHS Initiative represents a sophisticated framework for the recognition, dynamic conservation and adaptive management of remarkable systems of agriculture with their agricultural biodiversity, associated biodiversity and landscapes, food security and livelihoods. GIAHS Initiative emphasizes balance between conservation, adaptation and socio-economic development, sustaining agriculture development while maintaining the harmony between nature and people - as a major contribution to UNCSO important goals. It seeks to support the present-day resilience of these traditional systems and thus provide a sustainable legacy for the benefit of future generations. It intends to continuously promote and support sustainable evolution of culture and agriculture, building capacity of women and youth and local communities, and to scale up innovative ways to revitalize notable indigenous agricultural systems, to sustain not only food security but also to sustain food systems diversity and sovereignty.

The Side Event will showcase humanity's agricultural heritage and its role in addressing the themes and critical issues at Rio+20. It will address issues, including:

- The role of GIAHS in securing food security, food systems diversity and sovereignty
- The role of family farming communities, indigenous peoples in conserving and managing natural capitals
- Experiences and lessons learned of FAO and national governments in promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development through safeguarding and revitalizing agricultural heritage
- Provide a forum for participants to network with existing national partnerships on sustainable development;
- Create synergies between partnerships and learn from each other's experiences, as well as explore replicability and scaling up opportunities.



More about GIAHS, pls visit: www.giahs.org



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