The Convention on Biological Diversity and Food Security, Nutrition and Genetic Resources

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Convention on Biological Diversity
History of attention to genetic resources

• **1996 COP-3 (Buenos Aires)**
  - established a multi-year programme of work on agricultural biodiversity

• **2000 COP-5 (Nairobi)**
  - adopted the more detailed programme of work on agricultural biodiversity
    - with four mutually supporting elements:
      - assessments
      - adaptive management
      - capacity building
      - mainstreaming

• Subsequently several gaps were identified in the PoW and filled through adoption of initiatives on:
  - Pollinators (COP-6, 2002)
  - Soil biodiversity (COP-8, 2006)
  - Biodiversity for food and nutrition (COP-8, 2006)
The cross-cutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition

• **Key issues addressed:**
  - Biodiversity supplies the basic components of human diet and nutrition
  - Biodiversity contributes to food security
  - Biodiversity links to dietary diversity, nutrition and health
  - Biodiversity sustains agricultural ecosystems
  - Biodiversity supports rural livelihoods
  - Biodiversity is an element of traditional food knowledge systems
  - Biodiversity, food and nutrition links promote environmental conservation

• **Key elements:**
  - Developing and documenting knowledge
  - Integration of biodiversity, food and nutrition issues into research and policy instruments
  - Conserving and promoting wider use of biodiversity for food and nutrition
  - Public awareness
Other linkages

- **Updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020 (COP-10, 2010)**
  - to achieve the three objectives of the Convention, particularly for Plant diversity
    - Has **16 targets** to meet **five objectives**:
      - Plant diversity is well understood, documented and recognized
      - Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved
      - Plant diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner
      - The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy have been developed
Other linkages (cont.)

Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing

- **The protocol entered into force on 12 October 2014.**
- **Access - users seeking access to genetic resources must:**
  - Get **permission** from the provider country (known as prior informed consent or PIC)  
    Article 6
- **Benefit-sharing - provider and user must:**
  - Negotiate an agreement to share benefits resulting from the use of a genetic resource  
    (known as mutually agreed terms or MAT) Article 5
- **Compliance – Nagoya Protocol creates obligations to:**
  - Comply with national ABS legislation and mutually agreed terms
  - Monitor the utilization of genetic resources
    - Checkpoints
    - Internationally recognized certificate of compliance
- Provides for collaboration to promote the Nagoya Protocol and eventually, if desirable, the  
  development of specialized instruments for the food and agriculture sector
Other linkages (human health)

- **Biodiversity and human health COP-12 (2014)**
  - Emphasizes links between biodiversity and human health for the SPfB, SDGs and post-2015 development
  - Recognizes of the relevance of the cross cutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition
  - Consider the implications of the findings of the *State of Knowledge Review on biodiversity and human health*:
    - Agricultural biodiversity is central to achieving global food security and nutrition.
    - Changes in ecosystems and loss of biodiversity affect pest and disease occurrence with consequences for human health.
    - Biodiversity supports the effective regulation of pests and disease in agricultural production
    - Biological control methods such as IPM provide more sustainable alternatives to chemical pesticides which minimize unintended impacts of chemical pesticides

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- some Aichi targets relevant to food and nutrition

- Target 7: Areas under agriculture, forestry and aquaculture are managed sustainably
- Target 13: Genetic diversity maintained and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding genetic diversity
- Target 14: Ecosystems that provide essential services restored and safeguarded
- Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.
- Target 18: Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and customary use of biological resources, respected and fully integrated and reflected in implementation
Strategies to address challenges facing food security, nutrition and genetic resources

• Recognizing biodiversity as a resource to help achieve sustainable food and nutrition security objectives
  • Food and nutrition security remains the primary goal
    – But with increased emphasis on sustainability
  • Recognize the full dimensions of food and nutrition security
    Beyond “gross production” and includes:
    » resilient production
    » diverse production systems
    » resilient and equitable local farming economies
    » Nutritious food
• Improve farming efficiency
  » at all scales
  » growing more (and more diverse/nutritious) food with less consumption of resources and impact
• Creating resilient and diverse landscapes and seascapes
• Conserve and enhance ecosystem services
• Seeking and mainstreaming “win-win” solutions
Obrigado
-thankyou