

A stylized green and yellow globe is centered in the background. On top of the globe, three farmers are depicted using tools like hoes and axes. A single farmer is also shown at the bottom of the globe, appearing to be working the soil. The entire scene is set against a solid green background.

WORLD FARMERS' ORGANISATION WFO

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WFO Main Pillars

Food
Security

Value
Chain

Climate
Change



Road Map

Knowledge
and
Innovation

Access to
Markets

Partnerships



Genetic Diversity and Food Security: farmers' perspective

- Without a strong base of diverse seeds, food production is threatened by disease and climate change.
- Promoting the use of diverse seed types enhances food security and promotes the preservation of traditional cultural practices and values.
- Seed security can come from seed sovereignty and the right to use and exchange seeds freely within a community

Impact on Markets

A stylized green graphic of a plant with three leaves and a winding path, positioned behind the text.

- Farmers choose varieties best suited to their conditions
- Farmers grow crops that their community or their local markets need
- History, Culture, market demands dictate and family farms and SHF respond to these demands (availability, price, taste, color, nutrition & texture are main factors)
- Example: Teff in Ethiopia

Teff in Ethiopia

- Slightly less than the total population of 93million depend on this grain
- Value of over \$500million in the national economy with possibly over 6.8million farmers producing Teff
- 3 varieties from traditional farmers seed is preserving genetic diversity
- Modern preferences have changed and farmers have responded
 - Gluten free
 - High in fiber, iron & protein
 - Straw of Tef in demand for traditional housing
 - In demand for animal feed (Love grass variety)

Teff in Ethiopia

- Farmers are producing distinguishable qualities based on genetics
 - Magna white teff targeted at the growing upper income urban markets and now possibly the export markets
 - Higher prices for top quality white teff is having a positive impact on farmers earnings
- Impacting policy & agriculture development strategy by demanding more access to better blended fertilizers (targeting soil & variety needs)
- Diversity of seeds is showing up in new urban centers where predominantly women owned Injera producing SME's are using the seeds to produce finished products for domestic & export markets
- Growing in new locations
- Production is at an all time high and expected to grow as results from the genetic diversity are showing remarkable impacts on both domestic food security as well as availability to new international markets!!!!

Concluding Points

A stylized green graphic of a plant with three leaves and a curved stem, positioned behind the text.

- We must continue to encourage on farm conservation efforts and seed multiplication by farmers even as we introduce new improved cropping strategies, irrigation, right fertilizer regimens
- Market demands for crops produced from traditional seeds is a testament to the longevity of this approach (quinoa, teff, barley, maize, chickpeas)
- Resilience and sustainability are key factors in the contribution of genetic diversity



Thank you!