



Side event

Mainstreaming biodiversity for improved human nutrition and wellbeing: moving from global initiatives to local action

Genetic Diversity, Food, Agriculture and Nutrition

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Biodiversity and nutrition in the Commission

2004 – Tenth Regular Session

- Need to generate, compile and disseminate cultivar-specific nutrient composition data to demonstrate the role of biodiversity in nutrition and food security

2007 – Eleventh Regular Session

- Biodiversity and Nutrition integrated into the Multi-year Programme of Work, as a cross-cutting issue



2013 – Fourteenth Regular Session

- Considered the document key issues on biodiversity and nutrition
- Requested FAO to continue to incorporate biodiversity into relevant nutrition activities and to further mainstream nutrition within its work on biodiversity
- Requested draft *guidelines for mainstreaming biodiversity into policies, programmes and national and regional plans of action on nutrition*



Cross sectoral matters



**Plant
Genetic
Resources**



**Animal
Genetic
Resources**



**Aquatic
Genetic
Resources**



**Forest
Genetic
Resources**



**Micro-
organisms &
Invertebrates**

Nutrition, Climate Change, Targets and Indicators...



Biodiversity and nutrition



GRFA contribution to nutrition

- **Micronutrients contents**
- **Local production** (less energy intense, fresh products, etc.)
- **Cultural aspects** (use of traditional species/varieties)

Contribution to food security (4 dimensions)

- **Increase productivity – AVAILABILITY, ACCESS**
- **Adaptation to different conditions – ACCESS**
- **Improve quality** (nutrition, taste, shape,...) – **UTILIZATION**
- **Sustainability - availability in the long term - STABILITY**



Other fora

International Rice Commission (20th Session, 2002):

- Existing biodiversity of rice varieties and their nutritional composition need to be explored before developing transgenic varieties of rice.
- Cultivar-specific nutrient analysis and data dissemination should be systematically undertaken.
- The evaluation of the composition and consumption of rice cultivars should continue for the development of biodiversity indicators to guide agro-biodiversity conservation and human nutrition.

Second International Conference on Nutrition (Framework for Action, 2014):

- Enhance nutrition sensitive agriculture (Recommendation 8)
- Promote the diversification of crops (Recommendation 10)
- Improve intake of micronutrients through consumption of nutrient-dense foods (Recommendation 42)



Role of genetic resources

Cross-cutting Initiative on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition

- Established by CBD (Dec. VIII/23 A)
- Aim: promote and improve the sustainable use of biodiversity in programmes contributing to food security and human nutrition

GRFA conservation and characterization

- Increase understanding and knowledge of nutrient contents
- Nutrient contents to contribute to prioritize promotion of use

Guidelines for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Policies, Programmes and National and Regional Plans of Action on Nutrition

- Research – Implementation - Awareness





Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

COMMISSION ON
GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE



Way forward

Strengthen links between GRFA and nutrition

- Mainstreaming biodiversity into nutrition (Guidelines, ICN2)
- Foster nutrition-sensitive agriculture (e.g. integrate nutrition elements in GRFA conservation, characterization, development,...)
- Increase conservation, development and use of genetic diversity
- Stimulate dialogue between actors and stakeholders





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Thank you

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