



SIDE EVENTS

Fifteenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

<i>Day</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Venue & time</i>
Monday 19 January	▪ The role of agricultural biodiversity in national climate change adaptation planning: analysing NAPAs completed to date	<i>Iran room, B-116</i> 13:15 – 14:45
	▪ Scaling up support for farmers’ seeds systems: implications of national seed laws	<i>Austria room, C-237</i> 13:15 – 14:45
Tuesday 20 January	▪ Mainstreaming biodiversity for improved human nutrition and well-being: moving from global initiatives to local action	<i>Iran room, B-116</i> 13:15 – 14:45
	▪ Farmers’ seeds systems in national seed policy	<i>Austria room, C-237</i> 13:15 – 14:45
Wednesday 21 January	▪ Safeguard our options for tomorrow: the case of <i>in situ</i> conservation of crop wild relatives	<i>Iran room, B-116</i> 13:15 – 14:45
	▪ Towards the implementation of the <i>Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources</i>	<i>Austria room, C-237</i> 13:15 – 14:45
Thursday 22 January	▪ The role of genetic resources and traditional knowledge-based innovations in climate adaptation	<i>Iran room, B-116</i> 13:15 – 14:45
	▪ Agricultural heritage system: conserving biodiversity for food security	<i>Austria room, C-237</i> 13:15 – 14:45
Friday 23 January	▪ FAO’s common vision for sustainable food and agriculture: what is in there for genetic resources?	<i>Iran room, B-116</i> 11:00 – 12:00



Monday, 19 January 2015

The role of agricultural biodiversity in national climate change adaptation planning: analysing NAPAs completed to date

Venue and time: Iran room (B-116); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: Bioversity International on behalf of CCAFS

The side event will address the potential role of agricultural biological diversity to contribute to climate resilient agricultural systems. There will be an introductory, overview presentation highlighting the current state of knowledge concerning the contributions that biological diversity can make to agricultural system resilience in the face of climatic changes. This will be followed by a presentation of the results of a research project concerning the extent to which increasing biodiversity in agricultural systems is included as part of national adaptation planning in the 50 National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) developed to date. There will be presentations by representatives of two countries whose NAPAs included significant reliance on biological diversity, focussing on factors that contributed to the prominence of biodiversity in their respective NAPAs. And a final presentation concerning the linkages between the proposed guidelines for including GRFA in national adaptation planning and the National Adaptation Plan development process and technical guidelines.

Speakers:

- Linda Collette, Secretary of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the FAO: *“The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and climate change”*
- Alexandre Meybeck, Senior Policy Officer on Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change, FAO: *“Contributions of biological diversity to agricultural systems’ resilience in the face of climate change”*
- Ana Bedmar Villanueva and Isabel Lopez-Noriega, Bioversity International: *“Agricultural biodiversity in climate change adaptation planning: An analysis of the National Adaptation Programmes of Action”*
- Ty Channa, Deputy Director, Cambodian Agricultural Research and Development Institute Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries: *“Factors contributing to the prominence of biodiversity in the Cambodian NAPA”*.
- Bounthong Bouahom, National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Laos: *“Factors contributing to the prominence of biodiversity in the NAPA of Lao PDR”*.
- Amadou Sidibé, Institut d’Economie Rurale, Mali: *“Factors contributing to the prominence of biodiversity in the NAPA of Mali”*

Chair/Facilitator: Michael Halewood, Head of the Policy Unit, Bioversity International

Documentation of the side event: <http://ccafs.cgiar.org/blog/new-guidelines-use-agrobiodiversity-climate-change-adaptation-planning#.VPgi7SmXqFK>

Scaling up support for farmers’ seeds systems: implications of national seed laws

Venue and time: Austria room (C-237); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: Oxfam, IFAD and Sida

The Sowing Diversity = Harvesting Security (SDHS) programme aims strengthen farmers’ seed systems for food and nutrition security. Funded by IFAD and the governments of Sweden and the Netherlands, we aim to reach about 300,000 households, at least 50% women. We work with about 60 organisations from various sectors in 8 countries. Aside from Participatory Plant Breeding through Farmer Field Schools, as part of our strategy for scaling up, SDHS aims to inspire development of national (and regional) seed laws and policies supportive of farmers’ rights. This side event presents results of our scaling up programme and initial findings of our comparative

study to: comprehend how international obligations are translated into national laws and regulations governing seed systems in 8 countries and how they are being implemented and their impacts on farmers' use of seeds for production, breeding, multiplication, exchange, and sales.

Speakers:

- Gerda Verburg, Chair, Committee on World Food Security: "*Seeds for Food and Nutrition Security*"
- Gigi Manicad, Senior Programme Manager, Oxfam: "*SDHS, Scaling Up Framework and baselines*"
- Bert Visser, Director, Centre for Genetic Resources the Netherlands: "*Securing Seeds: Seeds laws in 8 countries*"
- Andrew Mushita, Executive Director, Community Technology Development Trust: "*Implication of Seeds Laws in Africa*"
- Nori Ignacio, Executive Director, Searice: "*Implications of Seed Laws in Asia*"

Chair/Facilitator: Tom van der Lee, Director of Campaigns and Communication, Oxfam

Tuesday, 20 January 2015

Mainstreaming biodiversity for improved human nutrition and well-being: moving from global initiatives to local action

Venue and time: Iran room (B-116); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: FAO, Bioversity International

The objective of the side event is to show case country experiences in mainstreaming biodiversity into policies and programmes at national and international level with the perspective to reduce malnutrition and enhance food security. It will demonstrate the crucial role of agriculture in its wider sense in this mainstreaming effort. It will also illustrate how links with other ongoing initiatives are important, all trying to enhance nutrition and health at the national and international agenda. Examples used to demonstrate these links are the Convention on Biological Diversity (*Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health, A State of Knowledge Review. Connecting Global Priorities*) or the Second International Conference on Nutrition, ICN2 (Rome Declaration, Framework for Action).

Speakers:

- Linda Collette, Secretary, Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO: "*Importance of genetic diversity for food, agriculture and nutrition*" ([presentation](#))
- Bráulio Dias, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): "*CDB's perspective on biodiversity, nutrition and health*" ([presentation](#))
- Anna Lartey, Director, Nutrition Division, FAO: "*Linkages between ICN2 outcomes and mainstreaming biodiversity*" ([presentation](#))
- Matthias Halwart, Senior Aquaculture Officer, Delivery Manager MAW Sustainable Intensification through Efficient Use of Resources, FAO: "*Biodiversity and nutrition consideration in efficient resources utilization*" ([presentation](#))
- Danny Hunter, Senior Scientist, Bioversity International: "*Contribution of GEF project to Biodiversity and Nutrition Mainstreaming*" ([presentation](#))
- Henry-Philippe Ibanez de Novion, Head of the Benefit Sharing Division, Department of Genetic Heritage, Brazil: "*Country experience Brazil*" ([presentation](#))
- Isa Ozkan, Head of the Field Crops Research Department, General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policy, Turkey: "*Country experience Turkey*" ([presentation](#))

Chair:

- Ruth Charrondiere, Nutrition Officer, FAO ([presentation](#))
- Danny Hunter, Senior Scientist, Bioversity International

Farmers' seeds systems in national seed policy

Venue and time: Austria room (C-237); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: Berne Declaration, Ecoropa, Third World Network, Searice, etcGroup

The “Draft Guide for National Seed Policy Formulation” if adopted is likely to have far-reaching implications defining governmental action and interventions and setting the norms in relating to access, control, use, management, and conservation of seeds in various country context. National seed policy should protect and enhance farmers' seeds systems, essential for food security, while recognising human rights, Farmers' Rights and other obligations under the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Convention on Biological Diversity. The event will be an opportunity to examine the “Draft Guide for National Seed Policy Formulation” and what it means for farmers' seed system, and the conservation and management of plant genetic resources. It will also discuss elements necessary in a national seed policy to defend farmers' seed systems and be coherent with other national obligations related to genetic resources for food and agriculture. It will include presentations of concrete proposals to improve the framework and an analysis of context and content of the draft.

Speakers:

- Sangeeta Shashikant, Legal Advisor, Third World Network, (based in UK): “*A National Seed Policy that respects Farmers' Seed Systems*”
- François Meienberg, Campaign Director, Berne Declaration, Switzerland: “*A Human Rights Impact Assessment of UPOV*”
- Nori Ignacio, Director, Searice, Philippines: “*Seeds of Innovations and Resiliency from the Margins*”
- ‘Responses’ from participants (tbc)

Chair/Facilitator: Patrick Mulvany, Member from UK, Ecoropa

Wednesday, 21 January 2015

Safeguard our options for tomorrow: the case of *in situ* conservation of crop wild relatives

Venue and time: Iran room (B-116); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: Bioversity International

The objective of the side event is to raise awareness among the participants of the CGRFA-15 about the importance of Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) in relation to food security, inform them about the ongoing projects on CWR, in particular the Global Trust project on CWR, the EU ACP funded project on *in situ* conservation of crop wild relatives in Southern Africa region. The aim is to motivate them to pay greater attention to CWR conservation and use in the development of any national conservation plans. The side event will also include an update of the discussions around the global network for on *in situ* conservation of CWR as well as a presentation of the opportunities for funding CWR projects under the GEF-6 framework.

Speaker:

- Chike Mba, Agricultural Officer , Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO, Rome, Italy- “*Using CWR in crop improvement*”
- Charlotte Lusty, Genebanks Programme Coordinator, Global Crop Diversity Trust, Bonn, Germany: “*Adapting agriculture to climate change: collecting, protecting and preparing crop wild relatives*”
- Ehsan Dulloo, Programme Leader, Bioversity International, Rome Italy: “*In situ conservation of CWR in SADC Region funded by EU-ACP Science & Technology II Programme*”
- Moshibudi Rampedi, Counsellor, Agricultural Affairs, South African Embassy: “*Safeguarding CWR in South Africa*”

- Marieta Sakalian, Senior Programme Management /Liaison Officer (CGIAR/FAO), Biodiversity, GEF Regional Programme Coordinator Europe and CIS/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): *“Funding opportunities for CWR under GEF6”*

Chair/Facilitator: Ehsan Dulloo, Programme Leader, Bioversity International, Rome, Italy

Towards the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources*

Venue and time: Austria room (C-237); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: FAO, Bioversity International

The Global Plan of Action (GPA) for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources was adopted by the FAO Conference to follow up on the first edition of *The State of the World Forest Genetic Resources* adopted by the FAO Conference in June 2013. Addressing the twenty seven strategic priorities, of the GPA is a framework that requires strong collaboration and partnership at national, regional and international levels. International research organizations, regional networks and centres of excellence on forest genetic resources related topics are all called upon to contribute and play a catalytic role in the implementation of one or more strategic priorities. Good examples are already taking place in some countries and regions. The side event will be an opportunity to learn from ongoing activities in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America.

Speaker:

- Pierre Bouillon, National Focal Point and Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Forest Genetic Resources of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries; France: *“The role of the European National Focal Points in the Implementation of the GPA”*
- Judy Loo, Theme Leader, Conservation and Use of Forest and Tree Genetic Diversity, Bioversity International: *“How Bioversity’s forest research and knowledge products can support implementation of the GPA”*
- Michele Bozzano, Scientist, Bioversity International: *“Defining successful ecosystem restoration”*
- Judy Loo, Theme Leader, Conservation and Use of Forest and Tree Genetic Diversity, Bioversity International: *“Regional initiatives towards implementation of the GPA”*
- Fulvio Ducci, Senior Research Officer, Centro di Ricerca per la Selvicoltura, Lab. Risorse Genetiche Forestali (CRA - Consiglio per la Ricerca e la Sperimentazione in Agricoltura, Italy: *“COST Action MaP FGR: An example of contribution to the Implementation of the Strategic Priority 7 of GPA”*

Chair/Facilitator: Laura Snook, Programme Leader, Forest Genetic Resources Conservation and Use, Bioversity International

Thursday, 22 January 2015

The role of genetic resources and traditional knowledge-based innovations in climate adaptation

Venue and time: Iran room (B-116); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Key findings from a comprehensive baseline study on trends in crop diversity in the last 30 years, climatic changes and traditional knowledge-based innovations will be presented. The study was conducted in 64 communities in Southwest China, the Potato Park, Peru, coastal Kenya and the Indian Himalayas. It explored the role of traditional farming systems, crops and ‘biocultural’ innovations in adaptation, including approaches that link traditional knowledge and science such as

Participatory Plant Breeding, and repatriation of genetic resources to create *in situ* gene banks. The study was conducted as part of a five year project “Smallholder Innovation for Resilience” funded by the European Union and UK Aid, and implemented by IIED, ANDES (Peru), Centre for Chinese Agricultural Policy (CCAP), Lok Chetna Manch (LCM, India) and Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI).

Speakers:

- Krystyna Swiderska, Principal Researcher, IIED (UK): “*SIFOR Baseline study: methodology and key findings*”
- Alejandro Argumedo, co-Director ANDES (Peru): “*Biocultural innovation and repatriation in the Potato Park*”
- Yiching Song, Programme Head, CCAP (China): “*Biocultural innovation and PPB in Guangxi and Yunan*”
- Ajay Rastogi, SIFOR Coordinator, LCM (India): “*Biocultural innovation in the central and eastern Himalayas*”
- Chemuku Wekesa, Research Scientist, KEFRI (Kenya): “*Biocultural innovation in Mijikenda communities, Kenya coast*”

Chair: Janice Jiggins, Social Scientist, Communication and Innovation Studies, Wageningen University (Netherlands)

Facilitator: Krystyna Swiderska (IIED)

Documentation of the side event: <https://geofftansey.wordpress.com/2015/02/06/smallholder-innovation-for-resilience-in-the-face-of-climate-change-reports-from-china-india-kenya-and-peru/>

Agricultural heritage systems: conserving biodiversity for food security

Venue and time: Austria room (C-237); 13:15 – 14:45

Organizer: FAO

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) are defined as “Remarkable land use systems and landscapes which are rich in globally significant biological diversity evolving from the co-adaptation of a community with its environment and its needs and aspirations for sustainable development”.

The GIAHS Initiative integrates the *in situ* conservation of genetic resources with traditional knowledge, as a way to ensure continuous co-adaptation to a changing environment, by strengthening the resilience and co-evolutionary balance of agricultural systems.

The biggest challenge in our days is to ensure continuous provision of food and nutrition for these family farming communities, which are the guardians of agricultural heritage systems.

Speakers:

- Moujahed Achouri, Director, Land and Water Division, FAO: “*Opening remarks*”
- Mary Jane Dela Cruz, Technical Officer, Land and Water Division, FAO: “*Introducing the GIAHS Initiative*”
- Salah Chouaki, Deputy Director, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique d'Algerie (INRAA), Algeria: “*Ghout System in Algeria*”
- Matthias Halwart, Senior Aquaculture Officer, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, FAO: “*Rice-Fish systems and GIAHS*”
- Cesar Sabogal, Forestry Officer, Forestry Department, FAO: “*GIAHS and Forestry. Promoting Forest Heritage Systems*”

Chair: Thomas Price, Senior Officer, Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

Friday, 23 January 2015

FAO's common vision for sustainable food and agriculture: what is in there for genetic resources?

Venue and time: Iran room (B-116); 11:00 – 12:00

Organizer: FAO

FAO's common vision for Sustainable Food and Agriculture (SFA) calls for a new, strategic and integrated way to engage with Member Countries in their efforts to move towards making their agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and more sustainable.

This side event will present current efforts and achievements by FAO towards building and implementing a common vision for Sustainable Food and Agriculture and will discuss the role of genetic resources in the SFA framework.

Speaker:

- Jean-Marc Faurès, Senior Officer, FAO ([presentation](#))
- Maryam Rahmanian, Vice-Chairperson of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition Steering Committee, Iran
- François Pythoud, Head of Unit Sustainable International Agriculture, Federal Office of Agriculture, Switzerland (presentation)

Chair: Clayton Campanhola, Director, Plant Production and Protection Division, Strategic Objective 2 Coordinator, FAO