

THE ROLE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



in cooperation with



Agriculture is facing its biggest challenge ever in its 13000 years of history. We need to feed more people on less arable land, with less water and less energy, and under more unpredictable weather conditions. We must go back to the basic building blocs of agriculture and work systematically on adaptability and increased nutritional value.

The Information Event on 11 June will discuss the role of plant genetic resources in attaining global food security and in enabling a sustainable, climate-smart agriculture sector. The event follows a morning presentation on 11 June 2014 of IFPRI's 2013 report on "Global Food and Development Policy", calling for an end to hunger and malnutrition by 2025.

2014 marks the 10-year Anniversary of the establishment of the Global Crop Diversity Trust. The Crop Trust works to conserve and make available the world's variety of crop seeds, so that farmers and breeders have the means to feed a growing world population despite climate change. In 2013, the Crop Trust relocated from Rome to Bonn, Germany.

Purpose

1. To consider how plant genetic resources and crop breeding activities contribute to increasing agricultural productivity, providing more nutritious food, helping to ensure world food security, and furthering economic development.
2. To discuss how global agriculture can adapt to rising challenges resulting from climate change, thus increasing sustainability and resilience of the food and agriculture system world-wide, by drawing on available crop diversity.
3. To inform about the work of the Global Crop Diversity Trust in supporting global crop collections, representing an essential element of the funding strategy of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

The event will be attended by representatives from public institutions and diplomatic missions, international organizations, foundations and associations, private companies and the media, with participants from Germany and across Europe.

* Interpretation will be provided into English and German.

** Discusants will review the topics of food security, adaptation of agriculture to climate change, biodiversity and rural economic development as they relate to crop diversity.



The most important and effective tool to develop a resilient agricultural system is found in the natural diversity of crops and within crops.

14:00	Welcome	Ms. Marie Haga, Executive Director Global Crop Diversity Trust Dr. Thomas Meier, Deputy Head of Unit Biological Diversity and Biopatents, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture
14:15	Keynote presentation "Climate Change, Food Security and Diversity"	Dr. Bruce Campbell, Program Director CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)
14:45	Introduction to the Crop Trust	Mr. Luigi Guarino, Senior Scientist Global Crop Diversity Trust
15:10	Roundtable discussion** with the following guest panelists:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Shakeel Bhatti - Secretary, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) • Prof. Andreas Graner - Managing Director, Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK) • Helmut Gumpert - President, Thuringia Farmers' Association • Dr. C. David Nicholson - Head of Research & Development, Bayer CropScience • Dr. Stefan Schmitz, Head of Division – Special Unit "One World – No Hunger", Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development • Dr. Michael Koch - Director of Finance, Global Crop Diversity Trust – Moderator
16:00	Questions and Answers with the audience	

11 June 2014, 14:00-16:30 hrs GIZ-Haus, Reichpietschufer 20, 10785 Berlin