

## **CBD Notification 2011-089 - Decision X/18 on Communication, Education and Public Awareness: Report on activities held during the International Year of Biodiversity - Report from Bioversity International**

### **Major events**

#### **“Diversity for Life” Awareness Campaign Launched by Bioversity International, Rome, Italy.**

The flagship event for the launching of the International Year of Biodiversity by Bioversity International was the organization of the “Settimana della Biodiversita” in Rome, in May 2010, as a weeklong celebration of biodiversity and its special links with agriculture. The celebration was in lectures, music, video and poetry. Some elements of this event and associated events are provided below. Some regional dimensions of the celebration are also provided in latter sections of this report.

- The Guardians of Diversity in the Mediterranean were awarded during a high profile event in Rome for the International Day of Biodiversity on 22 May 2010;
- Four “Food for Thought” lecture series took place;
- The “Teaching the teachers” modules were developed and distributed to schools across Lazio: four teacher guides and four student workbooks on agricultural biodiversity for science classes and art classes were developed and distributed to 5000 students and 200 teachers in Lazio. Ten schools in Rome were involved in testing the modules.
- 12 schools in Lazio, 1 in Veneto, 1 in Marche, 1 in Tuscany, 1 in Umbria, were involved in the Oral history project.
- An exhibition was mounted for COP 10 on behalf of the research Centres of the CGIAR to raise awareness of the particular significance of agricultural biodiversity. This Interactive Fair explored the links between people and plants, culture and agriculture, challenging visitors to reflect on the importance of agrobiodiversity conservation for better nutrition, increased sustainability and improved livelihoods for small-scale farmers in the developing world. The exhibition displayed 11 posters and 11 related factsheets to provide participants and visitors with background information on some key topics. A Japanese version of GeneFlow 2009 was realized with the support and partnership of Prof. Nishikawa, the University of Nagoya, and Peace Seed, a Japanese NGO from the Japan Civil Network for the CBD. Two wide-screen TV were screening the TVE documentary “*Last plant standing*” (English and Japanese version) and the video “*Guardians of Biodiversity in Kenya*”. Finally, some Bioversity scientists were invited to make presentations at COP10 side events and COP10 associated public seminars and symposiums. Other Bioversity general publications and crop products were displayed at the exhibit.
- Stage event at COP 10: The event “*Art for a sustainable future – A conversation with the renowned sculptor Mitsuaki Tanabe*” was presented on 25 October 2010 in the Special Stage Programme. Bioversity staff members Nora Capozio and Yasuyuki Morimoto interviewed the renowned Japanese artist Mr. Tanabe to explore the links between art, conservation and sustainable futures. Mr. Tanabe talked about his sculptures of crop wild relatives with which he intends to make a strong visual impact on people and inspire them to learn about the importance of biodiversity.
- Public awareness activities and events were also organized around World Food Day (16 October 2010).

## IYB Celebrations in Bioversity Regional Offices

### Sub-Saharan Africa region

#### **“Agricultural Biodiversity in Africa” Conference and “Agricultural Biodiversity Initiative for Africa” (ABIA) launch**

Bioversity International in collaboration with the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) organized an international conference on *“Agricultural biodiversity in Africa”*, 19-20 July 2010, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, during the 5th African Agriculture Science Week and FARA General Assembly. In addition to two keynote addresses, the conference examined the status, trends and outlook for six dimensions of agricultural biodiversity (crop genetic resources, livestock genetic resources, fish genetic resources, domesticated trees, below-ground biodiversity, pollinators) as well as issues and priorities for research and development. Furthermore, the conference delved into agrobiodiversity-related thematic and cross-cutting issues covering climate change, knowledge management, international policy and legal framework, and role of tertiary education for diversifying Africa’s agriculture. Bioversity staff Ehsan Dulloo was invited and delivered a talk on *“Crop Plants Biodiversity and Food Security”*. Bioversity’s Capacity and Development Unit contributed to a paper on higher education, entitled *‘The role of tertiary education in diversifying Africa’s agriculture’*, which was presented by Dr. Kiarie Njoroge, University of Nairobi. This paper was a joint collaboration between ANAFE (African Network for Agriculture, Agroforestry and Natural Resources Education), the University of Nairobi and Bioversity International.

At the end of the conference, on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010, a press briefing to mark Africa’s celebration of 2010 as International Year of Biodiversity was organized and provided a forum for the launching of the FARA-led *“Agricultural Biodiversity Initiative for Africa”* (ABIA).

The following documents were produced:

1. Book of abstracts of invited papers for the conference, containing the programme for the launching of ABIA;
2. Conference posters submitted by African scientists;
3. Agreements by editors-in-chief (*Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment; International Journal of Agriculture Sustainability*) for post-conference publication of special issues focusing on agricultural biodiversity in Africa.

#### **Nairobi Agrobiodiversity Debates<sup>1</sup>**

The Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research (PAR - which is hosted by Bioversity International) organized on 22 May 2010 its first public discussion: *“Nairobi Agrobiodiversity Debates”*, to celebrate the United Nations International Day for Biological Diversity. The event, attended by more than 50 participants, was held at the National Museum of Kenya’s Louis Leakey Auditorium in Nairobi, Kenya, which was the venue for the CBD’s International Day for Biological Diversity celebrations. The main aim of the seminar was to increase the public’s understanding and awareness of agricultural biodiversity and the important role it plays within ecosystems.

A presentation was given by keynote speaker Dr Hans Herren, current president of the Millennium Institute and 1995 World Food Prize Laureate. His presentation titled *“Multifunctionality: The Unexplored Positive Side of Agriculture”* focused on the importance and relevance of sustainable agriculture. He gave examples on how agricultural systems can be managed to benefit people and biodiversity. His presentation was supported by the panelists Dr Bala Pisupati from UNEP who spoke about sustainable agriculture in India and Patrick Maundu from National Museums of Kenya/Bioversity International who gave a brief presentation on the important role of agricultural biodiversity in strengthening adaptability and resilience to climate change. In conclusion, Herren emphasized the need for changes in production and consumption patterns to reduce impacts and contribute to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://agrobiodiversityplatform.org/par/2010/06/09/nairobi-agrobiodiversity-debates-2/>

## Asia, Pacific and Oceania region

### **International Symposium on “Sustainable Agricultural Development and Use of Agrobiodiversity in the Asia-Pacific Region”**

The International Symposium on “*Sustainable Agricultural Development and Use of Agrobiodiversity in the Asia-Pacific Region*” which was held on 13-15 October, Suwon, Republic of Korea, was organised by the Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research (APAARI) in partnership with the Rural Development Administration (RDA) of the Republic of Korea, Bioversity International, GFAR and other international organisations such as AVRDC, CIMMYT, FAO, ICARDA, ICRISAT, ILRI and IRRI. The symposium was attended by about 100 delegates by the following staff from Bioversity International: Kwesi Attah-Krah, Leocadio Sebastian, Ehsan Dulloo, Prem Mathur, Michael Mackay, Lim Eng Siang, Zongwen Zhang, Dorothy Chandrabalan, Paul Quek and Taek-Ryoun Kwon.

The presence of Bioversity’s key NARS partners in the symposium, including CAAS of China, ICAR of India and Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) of Malaysia reflected on their strong commitment towards actively working together in moving the agrobiodiversity conservation agenda in the region, and their willing participation in embracing the changes brought upon by the various demands of the global society. A final draft of the “*Suwon Agrobiodiversity Framework: A way forward for managing agrobiodiversity in the Asia Pacific region*” was discussed and adopted. This framework is intended to provide a basis for strengthening research and development on key aspects of agricultural biodiversity conservation, management and use in the region. It aims to provide guidance to the member countries and partners in the region on the possible strategic approaches, possible areas of research, development and management, and regional collaboration so that agrobiodiversity can support the sustainable agricultural development of the region.

### **2nd National Conference on “Agrobiodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Utilization” (NAC-2)**

The Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) together with Bioversity International, University Malaysia Sabah, Department of Agriculture Sabah, Department of Fisheries, Malaysian Cocoa Board and Department of Veterinary Services successfully organized the 2nd National Conference on “*Agrobiodiversity, Conservation and Sustainable Utilization*” (NAC-2) at Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia, on 11-13 May 2010. Over 300 participants were present to discuss the emerging trends, issues and concerns on agrobiodiversity conservation, management and sustainable utilization. Dr. Kwesi Attah-Krah, Bioversity’s Deputy Director General touched upon the dynamics of managing agrobiodiversity and its importance through his presentation titled ‘*Managing Agricultural Biodiversity for Sustainable Development*’.

## Europe region

### **IAALD XIIIth World Congress on “Scientific and Technical Information and Rural Development” – Parallel Session on “Innovations in Biodiversity Information”**

A parallel session on “*Innovations in biodiversity information*” was organized and co-chaired by Bioversity International at the International Association of Agricultural Information Specialist (IAALD) XIIIth World Congress, “*Scientific and Technical Information and Rural Development*”, held at Agropolis International, Montpellier, France, 26-29 April 2010. The parallel session, organized to recognize the International Year of Bioversity, featured nine presented case studies and a round table discussion on innovations in biodiversity information at local, national, regional and global levels.

Twenty-nine Bioversity International scientists were authors or co-authors for 7 papers and 2 posters which were presented at the Congress and at the parallel session; and highlights of the parallel session were contributed to the final plenary and papers were published on the IAALD conference site<sup>2</sup>. Other Bioversity papers and posters were published online on the IAALD Conference Proceedings site<sup>3</sup>. One of the papers on the Crop Genebank Knowledge Base was also selected for publication in IAALD’s online journal Agriculture

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<sup>2</sup> <http://iaald2010.agropolis.fr/proceedings/innovations-biodiversity-information.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://iaald2010.agropolis.fr/proceedings/>

Information Worldwide, Volume 3, No 2<sup>4</sup>. Bioversity was also a guest editor for this special conference issue.

## Americas region

### **Forum on Agricultural Biodiversity in Peru “Using Agricultural Biodiversity to Improve the Livelihoods of Peruvians”**

The Forum on Agricultural Biodiversity “*Using Agricultural Biodiversity to Improve the Livelihoods of Peruvians*”, was held in Lima, Peru, in April 2010 and was co-convened by Bioversity International, the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture and the Peruvian Ministry of the Environment, and organized by the Instituto Nacional de Innovación Agraria (INIA). It brought together 200 professionals, including policy makers, from 70 organizations, to discuss how the Peruvian agricultural biodiversity could be used to solve problems such as poverty and malnutrition, and improve the livelihoods of Peruvians. Ten topics were discussed and conclusions presented in plenary. The forum concluded with a declaration of the Ministers of Agriculture and the Environment committing themselves to support agricultural biodiversity and work together in a common national agenda. Projects on the ten topics discussed are being proposed and negotiated as a follow up to the forum. An electronic forum was also created<sup>5</sup> to invite participation from all over the country and has been maintained. The forum also catalyzed the signature of a national decree declaring agricultural biodiversity areas of the country as protected areas. More information is available on Bioversity’s Website<sup>6</sup>.

### **The VI Henry A. Wallace/CATIE Inter-American Scientific Conference “Agrobiodiversity in Mesoamerica: From Genes to Landscapes”**

The VI Henry A. Wallace/CATIE Inter-American Scientific Conference “*Agrobiodiversity in Mesoamerica: From Genes to Landscapes*” was held in Turrialba, Costa Rica, on 20-24 September 2010. The Conference was co-convened by the Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), Bioversity International, the Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD) and EcoAgriculture Partners. The conference aimed at strengthening the use and management of agrobiodiversity and promoting sustainable land management in Mesoamerica. About a hundred participants discussed what should and could be done to ensure that agricultural biodiversity becomes a driver of progress and wellbeing in Mesoamerica, home to crops such as maize, beans, squashes and many fruit species that are vital to food and nutrition security.

Bioversity International staffs presentations included two case studies on Mesoamerican plant genetic resources; one case study on plant genetic resources and climate change; results of the pre-conference study on best practices of teaching and learning agrobiodiversity in Mesoamerican universities; and a presentation about the Global System for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Results of the working group discussions on priorities for Mesoamerican plant genetic resources and priorities for higher education in agrobiodiversity in Mesoamerica are available and contributed to a draft policy brief to be developed by CATIE. More information can be found on Bioversity’s Website<sup>7</sup> and on CATIE’s Website<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://journals.sfu.ca/iaald/index.php/aginfo/issue/view/9>

<sup>5</sup> <http://groups.google.com/group/foro-agrobiodiversidad-peru?pli=1>

<sup>6</sup>

[http://www.bioversityinternational.org/announcements/peru\\_moves\\_to\\_mainstream\\_agricultural\\_biodiversity.html](http://www.bioversityinternational.org/announcements/peru_moves_to_mainstream_agricultural_biodiversity.html)

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[http://www.bioversityinternational.org/announcements/agrobiodiversity\\_in\\_mesoamerica\\_from\\_genes\\_to\\_landscapes\\_conference\\_report.html](http://www.bioversityinternational.org/announcements/agrobiodiversity_in_mesoamerica_from_genes_to_landscapes_conference_report.html)

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[http://www.catie.ac.cr/BancoConocimiento/N/noticias\\_sede\\_2010\\_wallace\\_destaca\\_papel\\_agrobiodiversidad/noticias\\_sede\\_2010\\_wallace\\_destaca\\_papel\\_agrobiodiversidad.asp?CodIdioma=ESP](http://www.catie.ac.cr/BancoConocimiento/N/noticias_sede_2010_wallace_destaca_papel_agrobiodiversidad/noticias_sede_2010_wallace_destaca_papel_agrobiodiversidad.asp?CodIdioma=ESP)

### **Special symposium on “Plant domestication as an ongoing process: Implications and applications for conservation and resilience”**

A one-day Special Symposium on “Plant Domestication as an Ongoing Process: Implications and applications for conservation and resilience” was organized by Bioversity International (David Williams and Marleni Ramirez) and held during the 51st Annual Meeting of the Society for Economic Botany in Mexico, in June 2010. Abstracts of the papers presented were published in the meeting proceedings. A book based on the papers presented will be published by Earthscan as part of the “Issues in Agrobiodiversity” series. Over 150 scientists were attended the Special Symposium and many favorable comments were made on the timeliness of the topics developed.

Through a series of case studies, the symposium aimed to highlight how the dynamic and recurring processes of local selection, introgression, intercontinental diffusion, adoption and re-adaptation continue to give rise to novel varieties. The speakers illustrated how a better understanding of these processes can be incorporated into more effective strategies for the conservation and use of genetic resources, and provide farmers, breeders and consumers with increased options for responding to social, economic and climatic change. The invited speakers were selected to reflect a global perspective and the scope of their presentations encompassed crop diversity at the gene pool level, including cultivated varieties as well as closely related wild species. The symposium presented some novel approaches to promoting the conservation of agrobiodiversity, and its uses to improve food security and reduce poverty in farming communities. Building upon public awareness opportunities associated with the International Year of Biodiversity, a symposium on crop evolution, and its application towards the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity, served to highlight the importance of this most important subset of biodiversity.

### **Supportive events**

#### **Diversity for Life awareness campaign**

“Diversity for Life” was a campaign aiming at inspiring people to use agricultural biodiversity to improve their nutrition, their livelihoods, and the health of the planet. The campaign undertook and supported projects and activities all around the world, as reported below. The key target audiences were policymakers, schools and the media. Diversity for Life was hosted by Bioversity International. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity had endorsed the Diversity for Life campaign, which it saw as a major contribution towards meeting the goals of the Convention’s programme on Communications, Education and Public Awareness.

#### ***Diversity for Life awareness campaign in Sub-Saharan Africa region***

##### **Kenya**

#### ***Community radio programmes publicized the importance of traditional foods, involving school children and their families***

A model awareness campaign was carried out in Kenya, using participatory communications methodologies to help school children and their families understand and value agricultural biodiversity, especially of traditional plants, and to appreciate the links between culture and agriculture, people and food. Four rural schools from Kitui, Eastern Kenya and four from Rarieda, western Kenya were involved in the Diversity for Life campaign mainly through participation in a series of community-based activities. Syokimau FM radio station which has 1.2 million listeners in four districts (Kitui, Machakos, Makueni and Kajiado) interviewed children in the four Kitui schools about:

- The foods eaten during various ceremonies in the past. They gathered this information from elderly relatives in the course of conducting oral histories
- What is eaten today on special occasions
- Lack of or acceptability of some traditional foods.

A series of eight interviews was aired on the radio over a period of six Saturday mornings over two months. Each school was visited twice for preparation and then recording of the interviews. The radio programmes were very popular among school children and proved to be an effective tool in getting the attention of not only the children but also their parents and by extension the larger community. Subsequent calls to the radio station on the progress of the project served as an assurance that the project reception was good. An event (Mukamba Night) showcasing traditional Kamba foods served as the launch of the oral history project. The event, held at Parkside Villa in Kitui, drew performances, participants, and over 750 spectators. The event was aired live on Syokimau FM and was attended by the Kenyan Minister for Water and Irrigation together with departmental staff of line ministries within the district. Some people tasted the traditional foods for the first time during the event.

The Diversity for Life campaign and Mukamba Night were heavily promoted by Syokimau FM radio, under a partnership set up by Kitui Central Development Association and Bioversity. The project officer participated in a talk show where he explained the ideals of the campaign. Visiting Bioversity staff members from Rome and Nairobi were interviewed about agricultural biodiversity on the radio station. There were five classified mentions of the Mukamba event every day for a period of two weeks. About 70% of the participants were reached through the airwaves. There were five interactive radio programmes with a wide range of listeners who participated through calling and texting. A total of 450 call and 868 text messages were received during the events.

### ***Oral history project***

225 children from 4 schools in Kitui, Kenya, and 200 from four schools in Rarieda, Kenya, collected stories from their parents and grandparents on the food customs in their villages in the old days. These were videotaped, compiled and documented, and made available on the Diversity for Life website.

### ***School gardens***

School gardens were established in the eight schools in both Rarieda and Kitui by the pupils of standard five (upper primary school) with the help of their teachers, project coordinators and government extension staff. Indigenous crops and vegetables were planted, as identified in the oral history interviews. The students were involved in the identification of what to plant and the actual planting. Eventually these were incorporated into school meal programmes to address the often critical food insecurity in these districts. Water tanks were procured for irrigation during the dry season and the schools were assisted with farm implements and fencing wire to keep away the animals. Collaboration with the local agricultural extension staff has proved effective especially in cases of pest control and management of some of the traditional varieties of vegetables. Food fairs were held in the four Kitui schools and one community food fair was held in Rarieda to showcase and promote different skills on food preparation, processing, preservation and food variety in the community. The presentations were video-filmed for future reference. Food recipes and their preparation, preservation, and serving processes were recorded, too.

### ***Guardians of biodiversity***

A photo exhibition "The Guardians of Biodiversity" featuring ten guardians of biodiversity from 3 regions of Kenya was mounted, in collaboration with partners, and launched at Nairobi National Museum, Kenya, on 22 May 2010, during celebrations for the International Day of Biodiversity. These guardians had also been video-taped on their traditional knowledge and reasons for using and promoting particular traditional crops. This video was aired at the National Museums and at the CBD COP-10 in Nagoya, Japan.

### ***Publications***

Two posters summarizing the Rarieda and Kitui projects, a poster and leaflet on recipes and nutritional benefits of African leafy vegetables, and a booklet/workbook for the students have been published.

## ***Diversity for Life awareness campaign in Asia, Pacific and Oceania region***

### **Malaysia**

#### ***Art competition***

Bioversity International in collaboration with Malaysian Agricultural Research Development Institute (MARDI) with the support from the Malaysian Ministry of Education and Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based industry organised an art competition for secondary schools in conjunction with International Year of Biodiversity 2010. The theme for the competition was "Inspiring the younger generation through improving their nutrition, livelihoods and health through agricultural biodiversity". The event was attended by the winning students, the principals of participating schools, MARDI and Bioversity International staff members. In conjunction with the event, Bioversity International presented a seminar on Diversity for Life in Malaysia local language Bahasa Malaysia.

#### ***Tree Planting***

Bioversity International launched a tree planting project under the Cyber Plant Conservation Network (CPCN) on 12 March 2010 in collaboration with a local secondary school in Selangor, Malaysia. The ceremony was attended by the Director of Education Department for the state of Selangor and other distinguished guests.

### **Nepal**

#### ***2010 International Day of Biodiversity celebrations***

On 22 and 23 May 2010, Bioversity International and LI-BIRD (a Nepal based NGO) celebrated the International Day of Biodiversity by organizing a forum theatre, t-shirt printing and other side events simultaneously in different municipalities in Pokhara, Nepal. The events were attended by a crowd of nearly 200 people.

### **Philippines**

#### ***Traveling posters***

In collaboration with Bioversity International-APO office, Bioversity-Philippines Office developed six "traveling posters" in relation to the celebrations of the International Year of Biodiversity. The posters were displayed during scientific symposia and workshops (41<sup>st</sup> Pest Management Council of the Philippines, 40<sup>th</sup> Crop Science Society of the Philippines (CSSP), 7<sup>th</sup> Banana Asia-Pacific Network (BAPNET) Steering Committee Meeting, Global Conference on *Meeting the Challenges in Banana and Plantain for Emerging Biotic and Abiotic Stresses*, 18<sup>th</sup> Philippine Fruits Association (PFA) National Fruit Symposium, National Seminar-Workshop on the State of Philippines Plant Diversity, Celebration of the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Institute of Plant Breeding). Throughout the year, the posters were also displayed at the entrance of the IRRRI office building in Los Banos (Bioversity-Philippines hosting Centre). The themes of the poster were: "Biodiversity and Climate change"; "Biodiversity and Household Food Security"; "Biodiversity and Livelihoods"; "Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture"; "Biodiversity and Nutrition and Health"; "Biodiversity and Culture, Identity and Tradition".

#### ***Press releases***

Four press releases were published to highlight the International Year of Biodiversity celebrations in the Philippines:

- *DA-BAR Chronicle* (Bioversity national partner's Newsletter): "Bioversity International leads International Year of Biodiversity awareness campaign"<sup>9</sup>
- *BAPNET Bulletin*: "Bioversity Kicks off IYB Agro-Biodiversity Campaign"<sup>10</sup>
- *Manila Bulletin* (one of major Philippines dailies): "Agri scientists promote 2010 as biodiversity year"<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.bar.gov.ph/news/intlbiodiversity.asp>

<sup>10</sup> [http://bananas.bioversityinternational.org/files/files/pdf/publications/bapnet\\_03\\_10.pdf](http://bananas.bioversityinternational.org/files/files/pdf/publications/bapnet_03_10.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/247408/agri-scientists-promote-2010-biodiversity-year>

- *Philippine Star* (one of major Philippines dailies): “Global awareness on biodiversity campaign”<sup>12</sup>

### ***Diversity for Life awareness campaign in the Americas region***

#### **Peru and Bolivia**

##### **Art contests**

Art contests were also organized in celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity. The Ministry of the Environment in Peru organized a national drawing contest among children and selected agricultural biodiversity as one of the major topics. Bioversity provided the background information and materials to motivate students to draw on the importance of agricultural biodiversity products in their lives.

Within the Peru and Bolivia component of the project on neglected and underutilized species, two contests were held to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity. One on Guardians of Agricultural Biodiversity and one on drawings of Andean agricultural biodiversity, held among schools of the communities participating in the project. More information can be found and the drawings can be seen online at: <https://sites.google.com/site/proyectonusiiconcursodepintura/home>

#### **Other activities**

##### **Meetings organized in collaboration with Bioversity International**

#### **India**

The “*National Conference on Horticultural Biodiversity for Livelihood, Economic Development and Health care*” was organised by Lt. Amit Singh Memorial Foundation jointly with Bioversity International and held from 29-31 May, 2010, at the University of Horticultural Sciences, Doddabettahalli, Vidyanarayapura, Bangalore, India. Bioversity participant: Prem Mathur.

The International Seminar on “*Mango Biodiversity for Livelihood*” was organised jointly by CISH, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Bioversity International and took place from June 25-28, 2010, at the Central Institute of Sub-Tropical Horticulture (CISH), Lucknow, India. Bioversity participant: Prem Mathur.

#### **Malaysia**

More than 150 participants attended the 6<sup>th</sup> National Seed Symposium entitled “*Seeds: The source of life and biodiversity*” which was organised by the National Seed Association of Malaysia (NSAM), University Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) and Bioversity International. The symposium served as a catalyst for pushing forth the seed industry in Malaysia.

##### **Bioversity staff members as invited speakers**

#### **China**

Bioversity staff member Ehsan Dulloo was invited speaker to the *2010 International Symposium on Forage, Turfgrass, and Biofuel Germplasm Research (ISFTBGR)*, October, 2010, in Xian, Yangling, China.

#### **Romania**

Bioversity staff member Ehsan Dulloo was invited speaker to the « *XIIèmes Journées Scientifiques du réseau Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie sur Biodiversité végétale et Diversification alimentaire* » which was held from 27-29 September 2010, in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Ehsan delivered a talk on “*Ex Situ and In Situ Conservation of Agricultural Biodiversity: Major Advances and Research Needs*”.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleId=555568&publicationSubCategoryId=77>



## **Colombia**

### ***Bioversity participation in CIAT seminar on Biodiversity, Biotrade and Sustainable Development***

On May 21, 2010, CIAT, the host center of Bioversity Regional Office for the Americas, convened a seminar on “*Biodiversity, Biotrade and Sustainable Development*” to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity. Bioversity and other members of science park Agronatura were invited to contribute key note speeches. Bioversity contributed a lecture given by Matthias Jager, on “*Opportunities, challenges and success factors to link agricultural biodiversity with high value markets*” which was very well received. About 100 people from the agricultural sector of Colombia, particularly of Valle del Cauca, attended. These include representatives of ministries, national organizations working on agriculture and research in agriculture, the private sector, producers associations, policy makers, civil society organizations, and local authorities. The purpose of the seminar was to provide a vision of agricultural biodiversity as an opportunity to invest without deteriorating the natural resource base. These options were given in the context of strong investment in mining in the country, at the expense of natural resources.

## **Bioversity International staff members' attendance at national and international meetings**

### **India**

The “*National Consultation on Conservation of Genetic Resources*” was organised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and was held from 26-27 May, 2010, in New Delhi, India. Bioversity participant: Prem Mathur.

National Symposium on “*Garcinia Genetic Resources: Linking Diversity, Livelihood and Management*” was held from May 8-9, 2010, at College of Forestry, Sirsi, Karnataka, India. Bioversity participants: Bhuwon Sthapit and Ramanatha Rao.

National Conference on “*Horticultural Biodiversity for Livelihood, Economic Development and Health care*” was jointly organised by Lt. Amit Singh Memorial Foundation and University of Horticulture Sciences, Bagalkot and was held from 28-31 May, 2010, at Bangalore, Karnataka, India. Bioversity participants: Prem Mathur, Bhuwon Sthapit and Ramanatha Rao.

National Seminar on “*Mango Biodiversity for Livelihood*” was held from June 25-28, 2010, at Central Institute for Sub-Tropical Horticulture, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India. Bioversity participants: Curan Bonham.

National Seminar on “*Citrus Biodiversity for Livelihood and Nutritional Security*” was held from October 4-5, 2010, at National Research Center for Citrus, Nagpur, Maharashtra, India. Bioversity participants: Bhuwon Sthapit and Ramanatha Rao.

Global Conference on “*Meeting the Challenges in Banana and Plantain for Emerging Biotic and Abiotic Stresses*” was held from December 10-13, 2010, at National Research Center for Banana, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu, India. Bioversity participants: Prem Mathur and Stephen Weise.

The 4th Indian Horticulture Congress - 2010 on “*Horticulture, Horti Business and Economic Prosperity*” was held from 18-21 November, 2010, New Delhi, India. Bioversity participants: Ramanatha Rao.