



The 25th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

## Seeding Resilience: Nourishing the Future through Agrobiodiversity and Local Food Systems

<b>Date</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
<b>Time</b>	13:15-14:45 (Nairobi, GMT +3)
<b>Location</b>	United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), United Nations Avenue, Gigiri Room CR-8 – CEE (First Floor) – max. capacity <b>40 attendees</b>
<b>Hosts</b>	IFAD   Alliance Bioversity-CIAT
<b>GBF Targets</b>	Target 10   Target 4   Target 8   Target 9   Target 11   Target 13

**Agrobiodiversity** challenges conventional food systems, by changing how food is produced, what it emits, and how resilient it is to climate shocks. Instead of relying on a limited number of crop and animal species, genetic diversity in food systems allows producers and consumers to better withstand extreme weather and slow-onset changes, reduce polluting inputs and energy-use, and restore ecosystem services, including carbon-capture. Local food systems play a critical role in safeguarding agrobiodiversity, by maintaining and cultivating underutilized and indigenous species and promoting traditional practices tailored to agroecological and climate conditions. These systems challenge the dominance of globalized food production and distribution methods.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework calls for such transformation. Achieving Target 10 requires a change in agricultural practices, through agroecology and biodiversity-friendly practices, to preserve the long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems and food security, and to conserve and restore biodiversity and maintain nature's



contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and service. Agrobiodiversity responds to this call.

This transformation demands a shift in mindsets, from production to consumption. During the event, keynote speeches will provide evidence to justify the need for this shift, and expert panels will discuss concrete solutions and ways to protect and use genetic diversity for climate resilience, mitigation and nutrition.

The event will bring together the perspectives of actors working on promoting agrobiodiversity for sustainable food systems from international finance and technical organisations and farmers and indigenous people's representatives.

Expected take-aways:

1. Evidence on the benefits and scalability of agrobiodiversity for climate and nutrition
2. Need to increase finance for community-led agrobiodiversity solutions within climate financing strategy
3. Concrete tools and examples of how to capture and conserve genetic diversity in food production systems to achieve climate resilience and improve nutrition
4. Pathways to increase representation, participation and valorisation of local communities and indigenous people (IPLCs) knowledge and practices in preserving, managing and use genetic diversity
5. Overview of who can provide/where to find solutions and resources to implement agrobiodiversity in own projects, with contact details for future collaboration and implementation

## Agenda

<b>13:15-13:20</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of panelists and topics</li> <li>• Opening remarks from CBD Programme Management Officer for Agricultural Biodiversity</li> </ul>
<b>13:20-13:30</b>	<p><b>Overview of topic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction, definitions and benefits of agrobiodiversity</li> </ul>
<b>13:30-14:00</b>	<p><b>Knowledge and Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video intervention on approaches from indigenous communities (<b>Samburu Women Trust</b>)</li> <li>• Showcase of solutions and best practices from farmer organisations (<b>Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO)</b>)</li> <li>• Agrobiodiversity index (<b>Alliance Bioversity International/CIAT</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>14:00-14:40</b>	<p><b>Enabling Environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seed systems' role and reform needed to increase agrobiodiversity (<b>International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)   Inter-sectoral Forum on Agroecology &amp; Agrobiodiversity (IFSAA)</b>)</li> <li>• Accelerating agroecology through NBSAPs, other Conventions' commitments and national policy instruments (<b>Biovision Foundation</b>)</li> <li>• Market approaches and instruments to increase agrobiodiversity (<b>Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa</b>)</li> </ul>
<b>14:40-14:45</b>	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p>

Refreshments and light bites will be provided