



**EXPERT MEETING ON THE TOOLBOX FOR SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT
GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Volterra, Italy, 19–21 July 2016

List of Experts

Dr. Ahmed **Amri**, International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

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Professional capacities: Head, Genetic Resources Unit and Deputy Director, Biodiversity and Integrated Gene Management Programme, ICARDA. Previously Regional Coordinator, West Asia Regional Programme, and Coordinator, Iran-ICARDA collaboration, Jordan; Regional Coordinator, West Asia Agrobiodiversity Project, ICARDA; Head, Cereal Experiment Station, National Cereal Programme Coordinator and cereal breeder, INRA¹, Morocco.

Specific areas of expertise: plant (pre-)breeding; participatory varietal selection; *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation gap analysis; (predictive) characterization and evaluation; promoting *in situ*/on-farm conservation of dryland agrobiodiversity; best practices for conservation of seed genetic resources and management of seed genebanks; technical backstopping for establishment of operational genebanks and genetic resources conservation and management programmes; development of national and regional strategies for agrobiodiversity conservation and utilization; sustainable agricultural development; intellectual property rights.

Prof. Paolo **Bàrberi**, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (SSSA), Italy

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Professional capacities: Professor in Agronomy and Field Crops at the Institute of Life Sciences, SSSA, Pisa, Italy. Coordinator of the International PhD Programme in Agrobiodiversity and Cropping Systems Expert Group for the scientific support on Organic Farming policies (Italian Ministry of Agriculture). Ad hoc expert, Environmental Risk Assessment of GMOs, EFSA². Co-founder of Agroecology Europe.

Specific areas of expertise: agronomy; agroecology; agroecosystem services; cropping systems; functional agrobiodiversity; indicators of agroecosystems sustainability; organic farming; weed ecology and management.

Dr. Riccardo **Bocci**, Rete Semi Rurali (RSR), Italy

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Professional capacities: Managing Director of Rete Semi Rurali; member of the ECPGR³ On-farm Conservation Working Group; on the board of the EU Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity; work package leader of the EU project DIVERSIFOOD. Previously Associazione Italiana per l'Agricoltura Biologica's (AIAB) Coordinator for the EU FP7 projects 'Strategies for Organic and Low-Input Breeding and Management' (SOLIBAM) and 'Farm Seed Opportunities'; advisor at the Overseas Agronomic Institute, Italy for issues related to the ITPGRFA and for the promotion of on-farm biodiversity conservation in southern countries, including a bilateral cooperation project between Italy and Brazil; member of the group that released the national guidelines for the conservation of agricultural genetic resources coordinated by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture.

Specific areas of expertise: participatory and evolutionary plant breeding; access to genetic resources; traditional knowledge; Farmers' Rights; intellectual property rights; farmers' seed networks; sustainable use of PGRFA.

Prof. Salvatore **Ceccarelli**, Independent Consultant; Honorary Fellow, Bioversity International

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Professional capacities: Consultant for Rete Semi Rurali, the CGIAR⁴ and an Iranian NGO, and involved in projects in Ethiopia, Jordan, India, Iran and Europe. Previously Professor of Agricultural Genetics, Institute of Plant Breeding, University of Perugia; Manager, ICARDA⁵ Barley Breeding Programme.

Specific areas of expertise: international plant breeding; participatory and evolutionary plant breeding; crop adaptation to climate change; drought resistance; genotype x environment interactions; genetic resources use.

Dr. Juanita **Chaves**, The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

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Professional capacities: Coordinator, Joint Capacity Building Programme on the Implementation of Farmers' Rights, GFAR – providing support to Contracting Parties, smallholder farmers and other stakeholders in increasing capacity and awareness for the implementation of Farmers' Rights at national and local levels, strengthening on-farm management and *in situ* conservation of PGRFA, protecting traditional knowledge, and promoting participatory plant breeding. Previously Treaty Focal Point for the Benefit-Sharing Fund and Farmers' Rights.

Specific areas of expertise: access to genetic resources; traditional knowledge; Farmers' Rights; intellectual property rights.

Dr. Tashi **Dorji**, National Biodiversity Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, Bhutan

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Professional capacities: Programme Director, National Biodiversity Centre (NBC); national focal point, ITPGRFA and FAO CGRFA; leader, BSF Project PR-35 'Participatory conservation and utilization of rice genetic resources for livelihood and food security'. The NBC implements the agrobiodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization programme housing the National Crop and Animal Genebanks, the botanical collections programme under the National Herbarium and the Royal Botanical Garden, the biodiversity information management programme, and the bioexploration programme. It is the focal agency for access and benefit-sharing (ABS) and traditional knowledge (TK) associated with biological resources.

Specific areas of expertise: Development of policy and a legal framework for ABS and TK associated with biological resources; development of National Biodiversity Action Plans.

Ms. Shelagh **Kell**, Consultant, ITPGRFA Secretariat

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Professional capacities: Consultant, Sustainable Use of PGRFA, ITPGRFA Secretariat; Research Fellow, University of Birmingham, UK; Chair, EUCARPIA⁶ Genetic Resources section; CWR Red List Authority Coordinator; Research Supervisor and Examiner, CeDEP⁷, University of London. Previously Project Manager of two EU-funded collaborative projects on PGRFA conservation and use; consultant for the FAO CGRFA⁸, Bioversity International, UNDP⁹ and IUCN¹⁰ Species Programme; CITES¹¹ Scientific Advisor and Researcher, RBG Kew. Member of the ECPGR Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Reserves Working Group, Task Force on Agrobiodiversity of the ESP¹² and IUCN SSC CWRSG¹³.

Specific areas of expertise: crop wild relative conservation strategy planning; project management; network leadership; PGRFA information management and dissemination; research supervision; capacity building; meeting and training workshop organization/facilitation.

Dr. Benjamin **Kilian**, Global Crop Diversity Trust (Crop Trust)

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Professional capacities: Plant Genetic Resources Scientist at the Crop Trust. Previously Crop Geneticist with Bayer CropScience NV, Breeding & Trait Development, Ghent; Principle Investigator and project leader at Leibniz Institute for Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research (IPK), Genebank Department, Gatersleben; PhD and post-doc at the Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research, Cologne.

Specific areas of expertise: plant genetics; plant domestication and evolution; genomics of genebanks; CWR data management; utilization of PGR (with a focus on CWR and landraces); pre-breeding.

Dr. Lorenzo **Maggioni**, European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources (ECPGR) Secretariat

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Professional capacities: Secretary of ECPGR; PhD Genetics and Plant Breeding at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Alnarp.

Specific areas of expertise: Coordination of PGRFA Working Groups in Europe; support to development of A European Genebank Integrated System (AEGIS) and of the European Search Catalogue for Plant Genetic Resources (EURISCO); wild plant collecting in Europe.

Dr. Mario **Marino**, ITPGRFA Secretariat

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Professional capacities: Technical Officer, ITPGRFA; Coordinator, Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA; Resource Mobilization Officer and Treaty Focal Point for training programmes on sustainable use of PGR and food security. Previously worked at the Italian Ministry of Agriculture as Head of the Agriculture and Environment Unit, Coordinator of PGR and Rural Development Projects, and Technical Coordinator, seed certification and plant variety protection. Expert in many committees and working groups related to GRFA, including those of the European Commission, the European Council, CBD¹⁴, WIPO¹⁵ and OECD¹⁶.

Specific areas of expertise: *modus operandi* of the ITPGRFA (technical, legislative and financial aspects of implementation) with specific responsibilities for the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA, Farmers' Rights, and the Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies; seed certification; plant variety protection.

Dr. Silvana **Maselli**, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala

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Professional capacities: Lecturer in genetic resources and Research Leader, Plant Genetic Resources Unit, Centre for Agricultural and Food Studies, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala; founder of the national genebank at the National Institute of Agricultural Research; leader of ITPGRFA BSF Project PR-98 'Establishment of a preliminary network of community seed banks in vulnerable regions of Guatemala to provide seed in the event of a natural disaster'.

Specific areas of expertise: genetic diversity studies; *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation; communal seed banks; conservation and sustainable use of NUS¹⁷.

Prof. Valeria **Negri**, University of Perugia, Italy

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Professional capacities: Professor of genetics, biodiversity conservation and management, Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Alimentari, Ambientali, University of Perugia; Chair of the ECPGR On-farm Conservation and Management Working Group; member of the ECPGR Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Reserves and Forages Working Groups; member of the IUCN SSC CWRSG; past and current member of various national committees on PGRFA conservation; partner in a number of EU-funded projects on conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.

Specific areas of expertise: *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation strategies and techniques; monitoring; germplasm collection and characterization; genetic diversity assessment; population genetics; ethics of biodiversity conservation; breeding systems; pulses; neglected crops; forages; breeding for sustainable agriculture of barley, common bean and *Brassica oleracea*.

Dr. Paul **Olson**, KWS SAAT SE, Germany

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Professional capacities: Senior Intellectual Property Expert – Plant Variety Protection and Germplasm, KWS SAAT SE; member of the International Seed Federation Sustainable Agriculture Committee and European Seed Association Biodiversity Working Group, and Chair of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association Outreach Committee.

Specific areas of expertise: Nagoya Protocol compliance processes; strategies for maintaining access to germplasm; crop-specific variety protection approaches; gene discovery; trait characterization and development.

Dr. Stefano **Padulosi**, Bioversity International

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Professional capacities: Senior Scientist, NUS. Previously consultant for a number of global, regional and national bodies, including IFAD¹⁸, DANIDA¹⁹, the European Union, IFS, GIZ²⁰, BLE²¹ and CIHEAM²² and member of the European Commission EIP-AGRI Focus Group on Genetic Resources.

Specific areas of expertise: promotion and sustainable use of NUS, including development of an institutional strategy to guide their use enhancement and the implementation of the first UN Global Programme dedicated to their promotion through a novel interdisciplinary, holistic value chain approach; methods, approaches and tools to support the sustainable conservation and use of PGRFA through international projects in Africa, the Middle East, Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Prof. Enrico **Pè**, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (SSSA), Italy

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Professional capacities: Full Professor of Genetics and Dean of the Faculty of Experimental Sciences, SSSA. Previously Director of the Institute of Life Sciences, SSSA; Vice President of the Italian Society of Agricultural Genetics (SIGA); National Coordinator of the French-Italian initiative for the structural and functional characterization of the grapevine genome (VIGNA); in the Board of the Italian Association of Genetics (AGI); Associate Professor of Agricultural Genetics, University of Milan; Visiting Scientist, University of California; Visiting Scientist, Rice Genome Project, Tsukuba, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery of Japan; Scientific Advisor in Genetics and Molecular Biology, Centre of the Indonesian National Institute for the Development and Application of Biotechnology; Assistant Professor of Genetics, University of Milan.

Specific areas of expertise: plant genetics, genomics and breeding; genetic basis of complex traits in cereals; structural and functional characterization of non-coding RNAs.

Dr. Lawrent **Pungulani**, Malawi Plant Genetic Resources Centre

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Leader, BSF Project PR-219 'Building sustainable livelihoods through on farm conservation'

Dr. Vanaja **Ramprasad**, Foundation for Genetic Resources, Energy, Ecology and Nutrition (GREEN Foundation), India

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Professional capacity: Founding Trustee, GREEN Foundation.

Specific areas of expertise: establishment of seed networks and community seed banks in the dryland regions of Karnataka in southern India; empowerment of farmers through capacity building in seed selection and breeding, seed production and the role of diversity in crops and farmers' varieties; increasing women's knowledge of seed storage in home gardens.

Dr. Mohammed **Shahid**, International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA), United Arab Emirates

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Professional capacities: Agricultural Research Scientist, ICBA. Previously Research Officer at the Rice Research Institute, Lahore, Pakistan, working on the production of high yielding, disease resistant and aromatic rice varieties and maintenance of local rice germplasm.

Specific areas of expertise: germplasm collection and maintenance; seed production; plant breeding; screening of salt tolerant crops; documentation of the flora of UAE. Focal crops include amaranth, barley, cowpea, oat, pearl millet, quinoa, safflower, sorghum, sunflower and wheat.

Dr. Jan **Svensson**, Nordic Genetic Resources Centre (NordGen), Sweden

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Professional capacities: Senior Scientist at NordGen responsible for the cereal collection; board member for the Swedish national gene bank; NordGen representative in DivSeek; ECPGR working group member (wheat, barley and oats). Previously: technology transfer in genomics and bioinformatics, Portugal; research associate professor, University of Copenhagen; post-doc, University of California, Riverside.

Specific areas of expertise: abiotic stress tolerance; cereal genomics; genomics of genebanks; utilization of PGR and outreach activities.

Dr. Anke **Van den Hurk**, Plantum, The Netherlands

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Professional capacities: Deputy Director, Plantum – the Dutch association for the plant reproduction material sector. The members of Plantum are active in breeding, propagation, production and trade of seeds, bulbs, tubers, cuttings and young plants. Previously worked at IPGRI²³, a local university in Ethiopia and a vegetable breeding company.

Specific areas of expertise: plant breeding; seed associations in various countries and regions; ABS with regard to the CBD, Nagoya Protocol, ITPGRFA; regional and national ABS legislation and implementation; genetic resources use projects; seed legislation; intellectual property; participatory plant breeding.

¹ National Agricultural Research Institute

² European Food Safety Authority

³ European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources

⁴ Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

⁵ International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas

⁶ European Association for Research on Plant Breeding

⁷ Centre for Environment, Development and Policy

⁸ Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

⁹ United Nations Development Programme

¹⁰ International Union for the Conservation of Nature

¹¹ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

¹² Ecosystem Services Partnership

¹³ Crop Wild Relative Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission

¹⁴ Convention on Biological Diversity

¹⁵ World Intellectual Property Organization

¹⁶ Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

¹⁷ Neglected and underutilized species

¹⁸ International Fund for Agricultural Development

¹⁹ Danish International Development Agency

²⁰ German Society for International Cooperation

²¹ Federal Office for Agriculture and Food, Germany

²² International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies

²³ International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (now Bioversity International)