

AGRIDAPE

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Theme: **“Agro-biodiversity and food security”**

Family farms are based on the valorization of a wide variety of plant and animal species. With this biological diversity, they ensure to a good part humanity agricultural, livestock, aquaculture and fish production needed for a healthy and varied diet and food security.

However, such biological diversity, basis of the productivity and sustainability of family farming, is highly threatened today because of new agricultural policies increasingly oriented to the promotion of speculation with "high value" and varieties introduced to feed a population which is rapidly increasing (rice, corn, wheat, etc..). These policies have promoted a monoculture that ignores or relegates to second local species. Now these local species have demonstrated, in a context of climate change, a strong capacity of adaptation to hazards. Their development lays moreover on practices and knowledge which sustainably preserve the environment and contribute to the resilience of communities.

Many initiatives have been launched across the world, in recent years to valorize local species and sustainably preserve agricultural biodiversity. These initiatives developed to family farming scale, have highlighted the close relationship between food security and biodiversity.

This issue of AGRIDAPE will focus on innovative experiences that preserve agricultural biodiversity. It will draw lessons learned from these experiences by putting the focus on the context and the process of their implementation, without forgetting the difficulties encountered. But it will especially highlight their socio-economic and environmental impact and their contribution to food security and to the fight against poverty.

Articles for March 2014 issue of AGRIDAPE should be sent to the editors before February 22nd, 2014.

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