



Local Group Discussion for baseline data collection

# MAINSTREAMING AGROBIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND UTILIZATION IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN INDIA TO ENSURE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND REDUCE VULNERABILITY

## Objectives:

- To mainstream the conservation and use of agricultural biodiversity for resilient agriculture and sustainable production to improve livelihoods and access and benefit sharing
- To ensure that crop diversity is effectively conserved across four agro-ecosystems of India and used to improve rural livelihoods meeting the challenges of climate change;
- To enhance access to crop diversity for resilient and sustainable agriculture production for improved incomes and livelihoods
- To develop strategies and policies for sustainable conservation and use of crop diversity, including access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits
- To improve agricultural support systems, institutional frameworks and partnerships that support management and use of crop diversity on farm.

## Contribution towards the Sustainable Development Goals

- **SDG 1(1.5):** Mainstream agrobiodiversity for resilient production system and market and non-market benefits identified for improved livelihood
- **SDG 2(2.4):** Participatory conservation and use of agrobiodiversity and its access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits contributing to sustainable agriculture and enhanced food and nutrition security
- **SDG 3(3.9):** Promoting crop diversification to increase production and reduce use of pesticides and other harmful chemical inputs
- **SDG 13(13.1 and 13.2):** Strengthening capacity of farm communities for resilience production using adaptive crop diversity and Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- **SDG 15(15.9):** Promoting ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes and poverty reduction strategies

## Contribution towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

- **Target 1:** Enhance public awareness to increase value of agrobiodiversity, its conservation and sustainable use
- **Target 2:** Crop diversity valuation for house hold and market benefits and integration into national and state development plans for enhanced income and livelihood
- **Target 7:** Promote sustainable management of crop diversity on farm, capacity building and suitable policy recommendations for sustainable production
- **Target 13:** Promoting and safeguarding adaptive crop diversity on farm through improved local seed systems, community seed banks/gene banks and their conservation in ex situ collections
- **Target 14:** Traditional crops and their varieties having low input requirements restored on farm for improved livelihoods of indigenous and local communities
- **Target 18:** Traditional Knowledge regarding use of diversity for value-added products and adaptation documented and disseminated.

## Project results

- The project has reached 22000 farmers across four agro-ecoregions covering 50,000 ha of land to promote mainstreaming genetic diversity of 19 crops for resilience and sustainable production.
- A baseline survey was conducted across all project sites using Rural Household Multiple Indicator Survey to understand current genetic diversity patterns on farms, problems associated with climate change, local seed system and local food systems in the context of food and nutrition security at house hold level.
- Over 650 landraces and traditional varieties of 19 crops were identified for mainstreaming and seed increased for undertaking participatory on farm trials.
- Capacity building programs on conservation and use of agrobiodiversity were organized at grassroot level across project sites.

### Further Information:

<https://www.biodiversityinternational.org/>

<https://www.icar.org.in/>

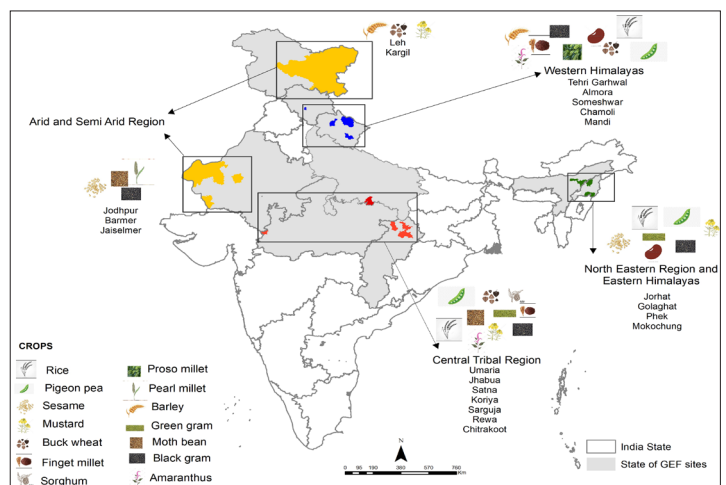
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Rice genetic diversity collected from project sites



Project map

