

Year of CP: 2011

Project 1100-002

Project title: The Multi-Stakeholder Expert Dialogue on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Unit managing the project: AGAP Plant Genetic Improvement and Adaptation (CIRAD, INRA, Montpellier SupAgro) (CIRAD, INRA, Montpellier SupAgro)

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Countries of the experts involved in the project: Ireland, Canada, Australia, Brazil, the Netherlands, Thailand, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Kenya, Ivory Cost, Norway, Costa Rica, India, Philippines, Malaysia, USA

Subthematic axes: IPB-1 (Integrative Plant Biology 1: *Genetics and genomics, plant breeding, ecophysiology*), STDI-3 (Socio-Technical Dynamics of Innovation 3: *Innovation processes, social management of innovations*)

Objectives:

With the ongoing progressive regulation of access and benefit sharing (ABS) both at the international and at the national level, it becomes ever more important to generate knowledge and ideas towards an effective implementation of ABS for Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GRFA), which would both ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of GRFA, and at the same time facilitate the continued exchange of genetic material according to established practices in the food and agriculture sector.

The current initiative aims at setting up an international multi-stakeholder expert dialogue in Montpellier gathering the experience and expertise from the user communities in the different sub-sectors of the food and agriculture sector (dealing with animal, aquatic, forest, invertebrate, microbial and plant genetic resources). This multi-stakeholder platform will allow for informed international discussion on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in an effort to build a shared vision among the actors involved in the utilization and exchange of genetic resources.

The concrete output of the multi-stakeholder expert dialogue will be a study on access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture, covering the following topics: 1) Summary of current practises of use and exchange of genetic resources for food and agriculture in the main sub-sectors of the food and agriculture sector; 2) Comparative study identifying the commonalities and differences of the main subsectors of the food and agriculture sector as to their use and exchange patterns regarding genetic resources; 3) Assessment of the potential impacts of typical access and benefit-sharing policies on the use and exchange of genetic resources for food and agriculture; 4) Principles and innovative solutions, including arrangements and mechanisms, for the exchange of genetic resources for food and agriculture, addressing their specific features and needs.

Total Agropolis Fondation funding: €47,100

Funding categorie(s): Support for the organisation of high-level scientific events (conferences, seminars, workshops, etc.)

Project duration: 15 February 2011 - 31 December 2011

Keywords: access and benefit sharing, genetic resources, regulation, multi-stakeholder