# agrobiodiversity@scale abc meeting



1-5 October 2014, the Netherlands

# Contents

Context	1
Goals	1
Towards a Professional Action-Learning Community	1
Entry points for agricultural biodiversity at scale	2
Resilience Self-Assessment by Communities	2
Open Source Seed Systems	5
Pathways for Policy Influencing	7
Engaging with other stakeholders	
Reflections and next steps	11
Annex 1. Participants	12

### Context

In 2011, the Hivos-Oxfam Novib joint knowledge programme agrobiodiversity@knowledged, initiated a journey to build a knowledge and experience community of farmers, practitioners and scientists working on agricultural biodiversity. Since then, there have been several milestones, from the inception of the agricultural biodiversity community (Thika, 2011), to the development of a shared vision and mission (Thailand, 2012), and working together on different knowledge products (India, 2013). Throughout the journey members have started to break barriers all over the world, sharing knowledge and collaborating on several levels, from exchange visits, to collaborative projects and joint policy influencing. The community has demonstrated that a diverse group of people and organisations can form a global movement based on a shared passion to transform the way we produce our food and give a voice to those women and men at the center of this process.

The next logical step for the agricultural biodiversity community was to open up the house to other stakeholders and sectors and come to co-created and co-owned ideas, products and commitments for agricultural biodiversity at scale. We know that agricultural biodiversity is essential for a future proof food system that supports livelihoods, produces sufficient healthy food and is climate resilient. What is needed to unleash its potential, scale up what works and transform the way we produce our food? What knowledge do we have, what experiences can we build on and what questions remain?

From 1-5 October 2014, 41 change makers from the growing agricultural biodiversity community came together in the Netherlands for the fourth abc meeting. Participants included farmers, pastoralists, practitioners and scientists and came from Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and North America (Annex 1).

### Goals

For a transformation of our food system to happen, we need to understand and assess the benefits of agricultural biodiversity, scale out by enhancing the conservation, development and exchange of agricultural biodiversity and scale up by influencing decision makers. The agricultural biodiversity community builds on the experience, knowledge and creativity of farmers, pastoralists, practitioners and scientists from all over the world, who each hold different pieces of this puzzle.

The goal of this meeting was to create momentum for change towards agricultural biodiversity at scale by:

- Strengthening the basis for the agricultural biodiversity community to become a professional actionlearning community
- Advancing three themes that provide entry points to understand and assess, scale out and scale up agricultural biodiversity
- Engaging with other stakeholders to identify blind spots, reflect and share experiences and perspectives

# Towards a Professional Action-Learning Community

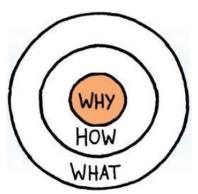
To effectively work across borders and disciplines, tackle complex issues and achieve something meaningful in limited time, we need a methodology to structure our dialogue and actions. This requires a shift from the traditional conference set up with a selected few sending messages to a passive audience, to a truly participatory process that provides a space for open dialogue and a rhythm to ensure we go from talking to doing.

In previous meetings of the agricultural biodiversity community we have used the "search conference" methodology to jointly identify the shared purpose, vision and mission of the community, and the "Scrum" methodology to productively and creatively develop knowledge products using a short cycle iterative process in small teams. To kick-start the transition from a knowledge community to a professional action-learning community, we used the ECM-method of Exploration, Condensation and Making. The core of the ECM method is to repeat this cycle to form a habit and way of working that facilitates the learning process of going from discussion to action.

In three parallel working groups, we completed two ECM cycles in two days, focusing on the framing of the topics during the first cycle and prototyping during the second cycle. Although the rhythm of each cycle is the same, you can have a different focus and use different tools each time.



To explore the topic we used the 'fishbowl' method. Participants first set the agenda of questions to explore in the fishbowl. Our fishbowl consisted of three people discussing in a circle (the fish), with the rest of the group in a circle around them listening (the bowl). There are four chairs in the inner circle, with only three of them occupied. When someone in the outer circle wants to contribute, they sit down on the fourth chair and one of the other people leaves the inner circle to join the listeners on the outer circle. The fishbowl stimulates active listening and equal participation.



The second phase of the ECM-method is the condensation phase. This is the part where the group makes sense of all the information that is collected during the exploration phase by distilling the key insights and deciding what to focus on. To facilitate this process, we used the 'Golden Circle' during the first and the 'Planning Mindmap' during the second ECM cycle. The Golden Circle is based on the concept that Simon Sinek presents in his famous Ted-Talk – see <a href="here">here</a>. The Golden Circle compels participants to distinguish between the why, how and what of their topic. We often start our story by telling others what we do, rather than why we do it! The Planning Mindmap is another visual tool to condense in preparation for the

make phase. The main difference with a normal mindmap is that you visualise the planning process for the product you want to make.

The last and perhaps most important part of the ECM cycle is the make phase. Using insights from the condensation phase, we deliver something that we can actually use after the meeting. This could be a video, document, drawing, website or something else, as long as it is something tangible and useful. During the framing cycle participants created a "Rich Picture" to visually represent the story created with the Golden Circle. The rich picture helps participants to think about the problem and understand it well enough to express it pictorially, develop a shared understanding and convey the story to others. During the make phase of the prototyping cycle, participants were free to select a method best suited for the development of their final product.

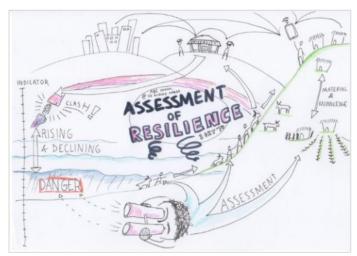
# Entry points for agricultural biodiversity at scale

# Resilience Self-Assessment by Communities



Communities are constantly adapting to changes in their environment, from climate change to market fluctuations and consumer preferences. The more diverse a community or a system is,

the greater its capacity to adapt to a large scope of new situations. So, it is important to understand, assess and monitor sources of and changes in social and biological response diversity, of which agricultural biodiversity is a key component. Resilience is a valuable concept to understand and assess the dynamics of change and adaptation in communities and systems. Although various tools exist for resilience assessment, few



Rich picture - Resilience Assessment

assessments have been done in socioecological production landscapes in a
development context, and fewer by
communities. We believe that resilience
assessment is most powerful when
communities of custodians, users and
managers of agricultural biodiversity
themselves assess changes in social and
ecological resilience and identify necessary
actions. This process could help communities
understand and reflect on their system and
its resilience attributes, replicate what works
and make improvements where needed,

communicate with external actors and plan for the future.

However, the concepts, language and approaches used in existing resilience assessment are sometimes seen as exclusive, extractive and complex. For this reason, one working group focused on the development of a resilience self-assessment process for communities that is inclusive, empowering, easy to use and applicable in different agricultural biodiversity contexts. Such a process could help communities to a) identify and monitor sources and status of resilience in their communities for themselves, and b) in some contexts, to communicate to external actors and thereby possibly avoiding inappropriate development interventions.

### How

The group strongly felt that the community should be at the center of an assessment process and there must be an understood purpose for the process of resilience self-assessment. The focus should be on developing a process that enables communities to explore and reflect on

resilience and resilience attributes in agricultural biodiversity contexts through their own narrative and from a personal and community perspective. This implies a radical departure from top-down resilience assessment approaches where the resilience of a system or community is assessed, often by an outsider, against a list of predetermined resilience indicators. Instead, we take the narrative of the community and their landscape as the starting point for discussion. The narrative allows communities to tell their story and identify, validate and evaluate attributes of resilience, including agricultural biodiversity, and plan for the future. Existing assessment tools, resilience indicators and approaches can be used to support this process, marrying scientific theory with practical reality.

# What

The working group developed a five-step facilitated process for Resilience Self-Assessment by Communities in agricultural biodiversity contexts.

- 1. Why: The community must have an understood purpose for the process of the self-assessment. This is not an extractive, top-down approach, so the community members themselves decides if and why they want to do a resilience assessment.
- 2. Community representation: This is an empowered process where the community needs to be inclusively represented by its members, ensuring all groups are engaging with the process and experiences are not overlooked. It is important to ensure meaningful participation of women and other people who are often excluded from such processes. The process is facilitated, either by a person from outside the community, or by a trained community member.

3. Telling the story: Together, the participants tell the story of their community, describing the different realities they face, expressing the land in which they live or focusing on aspects of their lifestyle, culture and history. Examples of this facilitated story-telling could be through eco-mapping or community resource mapping, the act of cooking and eating together, graphic illustration or a simple narrative. Cooking together and visualisations are evocative and unimposing tools to create the narrative and link social and ecological resilience

attributes. Simple questions can either be



Planning Mindmap – Resilience Assessment

used as a tool in itself or to guide discussions while cooking together or creating eco maps or drawings.

- 4. Identify attributes: Through the facilitated story-telling, attributes of resilience in biodiverse landscapes can be identified by discussing what is valued by the community and what makes it strong and healthy. Starting from these attributes we then have a basis to monitor or a foundation to address necessary change to improve resilience. Linking these attributes to existing and tested indicators for resilience in socio-ecological production systems, such as those developed by the Satoyama initiative, may be useful to evaluate and reflect on the identified attributes by structuring the community story in a different way. This could enrich the discussion, realisations or clarifications among community members may occur, eliciting further attributes or adding to the existing indicators.
- Action: Identification of resilience attributes leads to action. The action may simply be the need to communicate about the resilience of the community, either within the community or to outsiders. Or more fundamentally, to monitor sources and status of resilience in their communities, or make improvements and plan for the future if there is a recognised need for change.







**Next** 

The resilience assessment working group is now in the process of pulling together resources to populate each of these steps with the expertise of the members of the group. For example, experience with Eco-Mapping from MELCA in Ethiopia, and SEARICE in Asia with community mapping. We are preparing a web-launch of this tool early 2015, which will link to other resources, such as the Resilience Assessment workbook for practitioners, a new E-learning course on Resilience Assessment by SwedBio to be launched soon, and the Satoyama tools.

Farmers and practitioners left the meeting saying that this is definitely a tool that they can use in their communities. We will start field trials in Thailand, Uganda, South Africa, Peru, India and other countries early 2015.

Researcher studying resilience in agricultural biodiversity landscapes left thinking that we achieved a milestone in co-creating a process that is accessible to communities and that we made a contribution in aggregating existing tools assessing resilience in agricultural biodiversity contexts, moving towards a specified assessment. We look forward to connecting this to the many other ongoing initiatives to assess resilience.

### **Open Source Seed Systems**

Why

tradition.

Seed is the soul of Agriculture. Locally adaptable agrobiodiversity based cropping patterns and timely availability of good quality seed in required quantities are essential for sustaining farming. In order to keep their seeds healthy, farmers and breeders need continuous access to new germplasm. Free sharing of plant genetic material is part of traditional farmers' cultures. But today's intellectual property regimes transform seeds into (privately owned) means of production, interfering with this

Across the world, breeders, farmers, and others concerned with seed systems, have felt the need to develop an alternative system, based not on intellectual property rights claims but on the ideal that genetic resources should be in the public domain. This may both refer back to farmers' traditions of the commons, or be inspired by the open source software movement.

We believe that exploring and developing open source seeds models can contribute to:



Rich picture – open source seed systems

### Ensuring farmers' access to diverse, ecologically adapted seeds

Agriculture requires constant adaptation to changes in the socio-economic and natural environment: from market fluctuations, to consumer preferences and climate change. Farmers and breeders need continuous access to new seeds and germplasm. Free sharing of plant genetic material is part of traditional farmers' cultures.

An Open Source Seeds System would give free access to varieties that are put in the Open Source domain, on the sole condition that breeders using those varieties would give the same free access to new varieties that would result from breeding with the Open Source seeds.

### Preventing exclusive and monopolistic rights on genetic materials

Today's intellectual property regimes transform seeds into (privately owned) means of production, interfering with the tradition of free access to seeds. Forms of intellectual property protection prevent farmers (or make it illegal for farmers) to save, store, re-use, exchange and sell their own harvested seeds. They also prevent breeders (including farmer-breeders) to use potentially useful seeds in their breeding programmes. Seeds that (at least in part) are the collective product of selection and crossing by many generations of farmers, are being appropriated by increasingly powerful corporations, and taken out of the public domain.

An effective Open Source Seeds system would put a protective fence around all varieties that have been trusted to the Open Source. These would always remain available to farmers for planting and breeding, and not be vulnerable to exclusivity claims.

### Creating alternative seed systems

An effective Open Source Seeds system would be viral, since every new variety based on Open Source varieties would in turn also be part of the Open Source. Thus, it would create a growing protected commons of varieties that are freely available, protected from exclusivity claims.

### • Creating platforms for innovation and collaboration

Open Source Seeds systems may become platforms for collaboration and innovation among farmers, breeders, researchers, seed companies, traders, civil society, and others committed to promoting farmers' access to and use of diverse genetic resources.

How

Action is needed at different levels, each of them supporting the other levels. Education and awareness-raising among different audiences, from farmers and breeders to societal allies to policy makers, is a cross-cutting action at all levels.

At the heart of the strategy are concrete practices and actions by farmers and breeders, their networks, and seed companies they work with. Open Source Seed models can only be developed through trial and error, and need to be adapted to local contexts. As we learned from experiences in the USA and India, contexts can be very different, thus requiring different models in different places. Concrete initiatives will generate not just Open Source varieties, but also positive energy and important learnings, which are essential to inspire new initiatives.



Strategy – Open Source Seeds

Actually working Open Source Seeds models will provide fertile ground for further movement building through

alliances with a range of stakeholders and networks sympathetic to the idea. In turn, the active engagement of these allies would further add to the momentum for Open Source Seeds, and inspire more local initiatives.

Such momentum will also create a stimulus in society, particularly if positive results can be shown. Societal support can be turned into momentum for policy change – which in turn is needed to protect the Open Source Seeds varieties from misappropriation.

### Box 1. Challenges

There are important unresolved issues. Open Source Seeds initiatives will have to find solutions to these, which will vary according to contexts.

In the first place, there is the question of how to give rewards and incentives to breeders for them to breed for the Open Source. Breeding involves investments, care and creativity, which deserve to be rewarded. Some individual breeders, and communities, may be happy to share the products of their work, but costs need to be recuperated. Three options were discussed, each with their pros and cons. (1) Branding varieties as Open Source may help access or create specific niche markets and premium prices, particularly among the world's progressive middle classes. This works for the Open Source Seeds Initiative (OSSI) in the USA, however, it will not work for developing country farmers. (2) CSA in India will experiment with a benefit sharing system, requiring seed producers to contribute a small percentage of their revenue to an open source fund to support the network. (3) A third idea is to give breeders a 3-year exclusive right to produce their new varieties. Whereas the first option will only be viable in a limited number of markets, the last two options would essentially be a departure from the open source idea: a compromise with the breeders' rights system.

A second unresolved issue is related to the interface with the international governance system. Sharing open source varieties across borders would still be governed by the ITPGRFA and the CBD. While the Open Source Seeds pledge may oblige the users of those seeds to forego any exclusive rights over new varieties bred from the Open Source varieties, the ITPGRFA would still allow that. Breeders and seed producers need permission from governments for using varieties from other countries, and they would still need to share benefits through either the Benefit Sharing Fund (for varieties under the ITPGRFA) or bilaterally with the country of origin (under the CBD Nagoya Protocol).

What These concrete actions are needed if we want to contribute to generating this momentum.

- Clarity First, we need to all speak the same language to understand each other and be understandable
  and consistent to new audiences. For this we need conceptual clarity, for which we need to agree on a
  common set of ideas and common terminology. This will help create and grow our network of
  interested practitioners, and help them to test different models in different places, and build on each
  other's learnings.
- Evidence To generate momentum among allies, we need not only clear ideas, but also convincing
  evidence of why Open Source Seeds models are needed, and how they can be made to work. Well
  documented evidence is needed to convince farmers, as well as other stakeholders, policy makers and
  the public.
- Advocacy Our discussions have shown that under current international and national policies, it will be
  very difficult (and even illegal) to establish Open Source Seeds systems. To make them function,
  including through effective protection of varieties in the Open Source domain, they need to be
  supported by laws and regulations.



Next

These are the next steps we hope to undertake to generate momentum for Open Source Seeds. The steps will be defined more clearly as we go, in an iterative process.

- Conceptual clarity We have produced a concept note, which we will finalise and use for next steps.
- Reach out to peers The concept note, with its agreed concepts and terminology, will facilitate discussions with potentially interested peers who can help increase the momentum.
- Generate discussions on OSS Conceptual clarity and a greater involvement and engagement will help put Oopen Source Seeds on agendas, from office rooms at the CGIAR centres to interested media.
- Strategising and anchoring With momentum will come opportunities and challenges, and the need for joint strategising to make the best use of opportunities and to meet challenges. That will also be the moment to discuss anchoring the movement. Until then, we will be mean and lean.



# Pathways for Policy Influencing

Why

Agricultural biodiversity is key to food security, climate change adaptation and rural livelihoods. However, over the last 50 years of Green revolution it has come under threat and is declining. This has severe consequences for our food system and hits vulnerable people most.

The current food and agricultural system is dominated by industrial agricultural players. Although they only produce 30% of our food and their practices threaten biodiversity, they have a great influence on policy and

decision makers. This has led to subsidies, seed laws and research agendas that favour agricultural production systems based on uniformity and scale.

Small scale farmers, pastoralists, forest dwellers and fisherfolk have been managing agricultural biodiversity for hundreds of generations and together, they provide 70% of global food. Their food production systems are based on an intimate relationship between the environment, genetic diversity and farmers' knowledge. However, the knowledge and experience of these custodians of agricultural biodiversity is often not accessible and they have little influence on policy processes.

The agricultural biodiversity community aims to capture the narrative of ways to promote, sustainably use and enhance agricultural biodiversity, to demonstrate the global scale of local initiatives and to acknowledge the farming communities and civil society organisations in the frontline to nurture and defend it. By making this knowledge more accessible and actively plugging this into different platforms, we want to ensure that the stewards of agricultural biodiversity are given a voice in the global debates on agriculture, food security and climate change and that their knowledge and experience is taken into account by decision makers to create a conducive policy environment.

# How

It is time to 'fork the system' and turn the 'M' of Monsanto into the 'W' for We! The working group identified three distinct strategies to scale up agricultural biodiversity through policy influencing:

- Make evidence and insights available
   Documenting, collecting, analysing and sharing
   case studies, stories, perspectives and evidence of
   the potential of a different agricultural system
   based on agricultural biodiversity, on knowledge
   sharing platforms, in media, through studies and
  - Mobilise voices of agricultural biodiversity stewards Strengthening the voices of the people at the base, so that they can be heard at the top.
- Take a seat at the (negotiating) table Involving farmers and civil society organisations in policy and decision making processes for inclusive governance.



Rich picture – Policy Influencing

# What

Together these three strategies will help to convince decision makers, influence policies and implementation of policies at local, national and international levels for a biodiversity-based food system.

### Making evidence and insights available

publications.

The working group identified four platforms or pathways to improve the accessibility and impact of evidence, insights and perspectives on the role of agricultural biodiversity and its custodians for resilient food systems.

Bringing experiences and perspectives together in an open source interactive knowledge sharing
platform will provide people involved in policy influencing or policy making processes an opportunity
to access evidence and insights directly. The seedmap (www.seedmap.org) is a knowledge sharing
platform on agricultural biodiversity for practitioners, researchers, policy makers, educators and
students. Through stories and case studies, the seedmap chronicles the origins of our food crops and
livestock and the threats to agricultural biodiversity and celebrates the collective action to nurture and

defend it. Agricultural biodiversity community members USC Canada, OxfamNovib, Hivos and ETC Group are currently developing the seedmap into Wikiseedia, to enable more dynamic interaction through an open source knowledge sharing platform with wikis and community forums that connect experts and users across borders, languages and sectors. The working group uploaded the story of one of the participants to <a href="www.seedmap.org">www.seedmap.org</a>. Zimbabwean farmer Dorothy Chita was awarded the Biodiversity Stewardship Award in 2014 by CTDT for growing 61 different crop varieties on her farm - a story worth sharing. Through one of the participants, working relations were established between the seedmap/Wikiseedia project and the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA). AFSA has documented agro-ecology case studies from Africa and will create a synopsis of each one, with a link to the full case study on <a href="www.afsafrica.org">www.afsafrica.org</a>, to be show-cased on seedmap/Wikiseedia.

ABC members are invited to share their stories, get inspired and interact with other stakeholders at <a href="www.seedmap.org">www.seedmap.org</a> and Wikiseedia when this becomes fully functional mid-2015.

- To make a convincing case for agricultural biodiversity to policy makers, evidence and insights at the case study level need to be analysed to synthesise lessons from a local to a global scale, draw out positive attributes of biodiversity-based food systems and identify successful strategies for scaling up. The working group proposed to conduct a meta-study of agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecology case studies, building on and linking up with seedmap and AFSA case studies and plans. The first step in this process will be the development of a Terms of Reference.
- Policy fora provide a good opportunity to bring stories and updates from the field directly to the policy arena. The working groups and participants made contributions to the World Food Sovereignty Day special edition of the CBD alliance's ECO newsletter (see <a href="https://www.cbdalliance.org/en/images/ECO\_Files/COP12/ECO\_50\_special\_issue\_agriculture.PDF">www.cbdalliance.org/en/images/ECO\_Files/COP12/ECO\_50\_special\_issue\_agriculture.PDF</a>). The special issue was published and circulated widely in Korea at CBD/COP12 and also promoted and distributed at events in the UK parliament's House of Lords (see <a href="https://great.seed.org/en/images/ECO\_Files/COP12/ECO\_50\_special\_issue\_agriculture.PDF">www.cbdalliance.org/en/images/ECO\_Files/COP12/ECO\_50\_special\_issue\_agriculture.PDF</a>). The special issue was published and circulated widely in Korea at CBD/COP12 and also promoted and distributed at events in the UK parliament's House of Lords (see <a href="https://great.seed.org/en/images/ECO\_Files/COP12/ECO\_50\_special\_issue\_agriculture.PDF</a>) and in Glasgow, Scotland (see <a href="https://great.seed.org/en/images/ECO\_Files/COP12/ECO\_50\_special\_issue\_agriculture.PDF</a>). All agricultural biodiversity community members are invited to use and share the document with their networks around the world.
- One clear pathway to increase impact of evidence and insights from Civil Society is through the FAO's
   State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (SoW-BFA) report (see
   <a href="http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/biodiversity/sowbfa/it/">http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/biodiversity/sowbfa/it/</a>). This will be the first "State of the World" report
   to break down the silos of sectoral approaches, focusing on the interactions between sectors (plant,
   animal, aquatic and forest) using an ecosystem approach. It will look at the contribution that all types
   of 'biodiversity for food and agriculture' as a whole make to food security, livelihoods and
   environmental health as well as to the sustainability, resilience and adaptability of production
   systems.

Before the end of this year, civil society organisations can provide input to the report on their views and experience with biodiversity for food and agriculture through a CSO study commissioned by FAO. The working group collected examples, stories and reports to be included in this study. A request for input has also been sent to the wider Agricultural Biodiversity Community. The final CSO report is expected end of December 2014 and can also be used to influence the SoW-BFA country reports of national governments.

### Mobilising voices

People get organised for a purpose. For farmers, examples include marketing cooperatives, public action and advocacy (e.g. <u>TWAWEZA</u> and <u>Femina</u>), farmer field schools, learning groups, and savings and loan groups. The tools such groups use include media such as mobile phones, radio, SMS voting and websites as well as champion or lead farmers building on an institutional basis. To develop a set of tools for organising and

mobilising farmers, fisherfolk, pastoralists and agro-foresters, the working group decided to draft a call for an online discussion to begin in January 2015 to gather ideas and tools for mobilising and constitute a task force to lead the work.







### Seat at the table

Several participants urged others to make use of existing opportunities to claim a seat at the negotiating table and share insights and concerns. Multi-stakeholder platforms from local to global levels provide opportunities and space for farmers and NGOs to engage on different issues related to agricultural biodiversity. Several of the previously mentioned instruments can help to make optimal use of these seats. Having information and insights available is crucial, seeking support from others in the Agricultural Biodiversity Community with more experience and mobilising voices when pressure is required can be valuable strategies to increase influence.

## Engaging with other stakeholders

On the last day of the meeting, the Agricultural Biodiversity Community partnered with the Youth Food Movement (the youth network of Slow Food International) for a Food Safari and World Food Cafe. On the Food Safari, the three working groups each visited relevant field sites in the Netherlands to learn from stakeholders and initiatives in the Netherlands, test workshop findings and fine-tune, adapt and improve products and plans. The World Food Café provided the opportunity to eat together and discuss with a wider group of stakeholders from the Netherlands how to transition to a biodiversity-based food system.

• The resilience assessment Food Safari visited two neighbouring farms that illustrate two ways of agricultural development with very different strategies to cope with change. One farm is the largest dairy farm in the region, having opted for specialisation, mechanisation and economies of scale. The neighbouring organic farm has embraced diversification and multi-functionality as its key strategy to adapt. The visit offered the opportunity to visit the two farms, engage with both farmers, learn from their different approaches and discuss what this means for the resilience of their farming systems using aspects of the resilience assessment process that was developed by the group.







• The open source seed Food Safari visited a seed company to exchange perspectives with stakeholders in the Dutch seeds sector: breeders, policy makers and civil society. For the mixed group of seeds

people from very different parts of the world, it was quite an experience to visit the hi-tech breeding company, which specialises in highly productive tomato varieties for Dutch greenhouses. The visit and the open dialogue illustrated the importance of context and that there is no one size fits all, but rather room for different systems to co-exist.

• The policy influencing Food Safari visited two farms that are living examples of how innovation at farm level can lead to sustainability. On both farms agricultural biodiversity conservation, development and use is a key strategy for sustainability. The Food Safari provided an opportunity to learn from their approaches, discuss policy implications and the potential for wider implementation.

See <u>here</u> for a short video impression of the day.







# Reflections and next steps

The three working groups will continue to work on these three topics, improving products, engaging with others and sharing results to create momentum for agricultural biodiversity at scale. This is not an exclusive process and members of the Agricultural Biodiversity Community who would like to contribute are encouraged to contact the working groups at: abc\_resilience@dgroups.org, abc\_oss@dgroups.org and abc\_policy@dgroups.org.

See

<u>here</u> for a video with participant reflections and messages to the Agricultural Biodiversity Community

Charles NK



"ABC has done a wonderful job bringing together people from around the world, to use their different perspectives and their creativity to try to generate solutions" – Jack Kloppenburg,

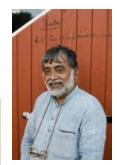
United States

"ABC is going from strength to strength" – Vasimalai, India



"It is so important to get more of these south-south connections" – Zayaan Khan, South Africa

"A window has been opened in the cathedral of industrial agriculture" –
Michael Farrelly, Tanzania, quoting José Graziano da Silva,
Director General of the FAO



# Annex 1. Participants

Participant	Organisation	Country	Working group
Vasimalai	Dhan Foundation	India	Resilience Assessment
Joy Daniel	IIRD	India	Resilience Assessment
Michael Ndimba	Ruzivo	Zimbabwe	Resilience Assessment
Michael Commons	GreenNet	Thailand	Resilience Assessment
Dang Cereno	SEARICE	Philippines	Resilience Assessment
Jamila Haider	Swedbio	Sweden	Resilience Assessment
Elizabeth Katushabe	PENHA	Uganda	Resilience Assessment
Million Belay	MELCA	Ethiopia	Resilience Assessment
Roberto Ugas	Universidad de las Molinas	Peru	Resilience Assessment
Kanya Duchita	Farmer	Thailand	Resilience Assessment
Zayaan Khan	Slow Food Youth Network	South Africa	Resilience Assessment
Frederik van Oudenhoven	PAR	Netherlands	Resilience Assessment
Cynthia Neudoerffer	Foodgrains Bank Canada	Canada	Resilience Assessment
Sarah	Hivos-OxfamNovib	Netherlands	Resilience Assessment
Mr. Karthikeyan	Dhan Foundation	India	Open Source Seeds
Sonali Bisht	INHERE	India	Open Source Seeds
Jack Kloppenburg	University of Wisconsin	US	Open Source Seeds
Carlo Fadda	Bioversity	Kenya	Open Source Seeds
Andrew Mushita	CTDT	Zimbabwe	Open Source Seeds
Ramoo	CSA	India	Open Source Seeds
			'
Rene Salazar	OxfamNovib - SDHS	Philippines	Open Source Seeds
Maede Salimi	Cenesta	Iran	Open Source Seeds
Sahmeer Ahmed Khan	Doaba Foundation	Pakistan	Open Source Seeds
Owen Smith	Farmer	UK	Open Source Seeds
Samson Ngugi	Slow Food Youth	Kenya	Open Source Seeds
Bertram	OxfamNovib	Netherlands	Open Source Seeds
Charles Nkhoma	CTDT	Zambia	Policy Influencing
Esperance Mukarugwiza	AgriProFocus	Rwanda	Policy Influencing
Thomas Mupetesi	Fachig	Zimbabwe	Policy Influencing
Zachary Makanya	PELUM	Kenya	Policy Influencing
Balu	CIKS	India	Policy Influencing
Patrick Mulvany	Practical Action	UK	Policy Influencing
Faris Ahmed	USC	Canada	Policy Influencing
Cynthia Morinville	USC	Canada	Policy Influencing
Dorothy Chita	Farmer	Zimbabwe	Policy Influencing
Alfie Pulumbarit	Masipag	Philippines	Policy Influencing
Desiree Immerzeel	Oxfam Novib	Netherlands	Policy Influencing
Michael Farelly	TOAM	Tanzania	Policy Influencing
Willy	Hivos	Netherlands	Policy Influencing
Maarten Bruns	Groene Aap	Netherlands	Facilitation
Frank Heckman	Embassy of the Earth	Netherlands	Facilitation
Metha Spaans	OxfamNovib	Netherlands	Support
Hanneke Rombouts	Entrepreneur	Netherlands	Catering
Eric Mol	De Kleine Aarde	Netherlands	Venue

Contact Sarah Doornbos Knowledge Officer Hivos-OxfamNovib agrobiodiversity@knowledged sdoornbos@hivos.org





