

Mainstreaming biodiversity into the agricultural sector: Examples from the GEF portfolio

*Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity
31 May - 3 June*

Devra I Jarvis (d.jarvis@cgiar.org)

Principal Scientist, Bioversity International, Maccarese, Rome Italy

Adjunct Faculty, Washington State University, Pullman, WA USA

Adjunct Professor, IAV Hassan II University, Rabat, Morocco

Global



Regional

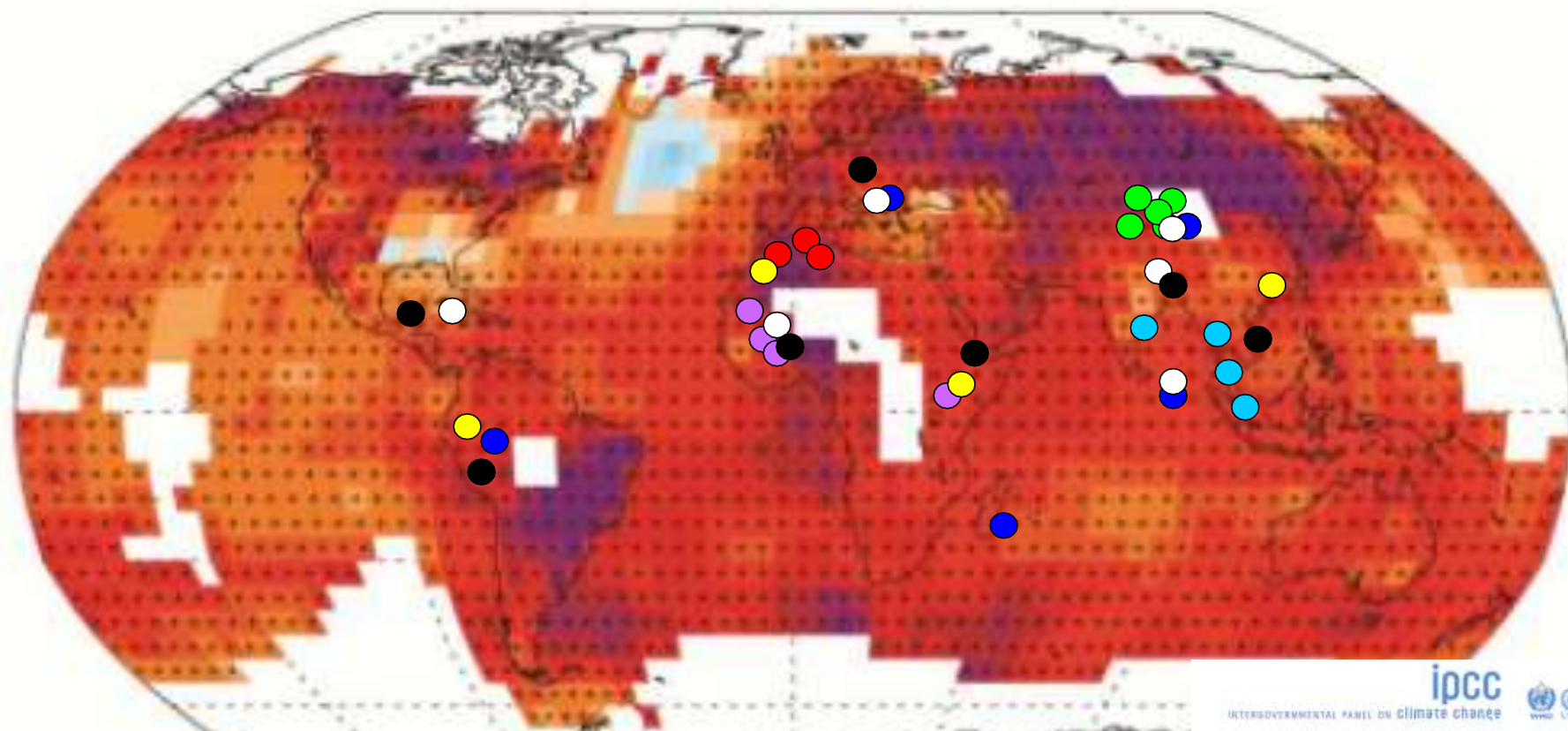
Single County

- Crop Wild Relatives
- Pest and Disease

- Community based mgt. SSA
- Fruit trees Central Asia
- Fruit trees in APO
- Date palm in North Africa ()

- Cuba
- Nepal
- Sri Lanka
- Niger ()
- Armenia
- Uzbekistan
- Before (from 1995)

Observed change in average surface temperature 1901–2012



Climate change is already happening

IPCC 2016



Why deliberately mainstream intra-specific crop diversity into agricultural production systems?



1. Unpredictable fluctuations in temperature, rainfall, frost, pest, disease,



2. Productivity in low input environments, extreme temperatures and water, degraded soils

3. Growing consumer demand for diverse and natural food-based products



4. Interested of communities to retain control over their crop resource



An Heuristic Framework: Determining where local crop genetic diversity can help achieve SDGs

I. Does diversity exists in the production system?

Exists but not in sufficient quantities

II. Diversity exists but is it accessible ?

Lack of funds

Social constraints, policy constraints

III. Diversity is accessible, but is it valued and used -- does it perform ?

Not perceived as competitive, not evaluated

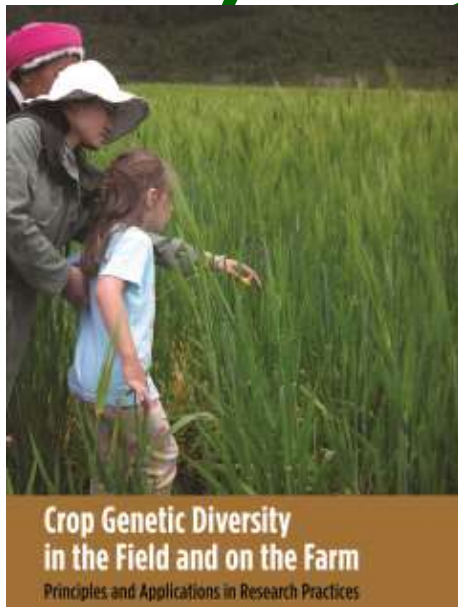
Poor performance or cultural acceptability

Management not optimal, policies inhibit use

4. Diversity exists, is accessible, is valued but do farmers benefit from it use?

Insufficient market or non market benefits from use

Weak local institutes and farmer/community leadership



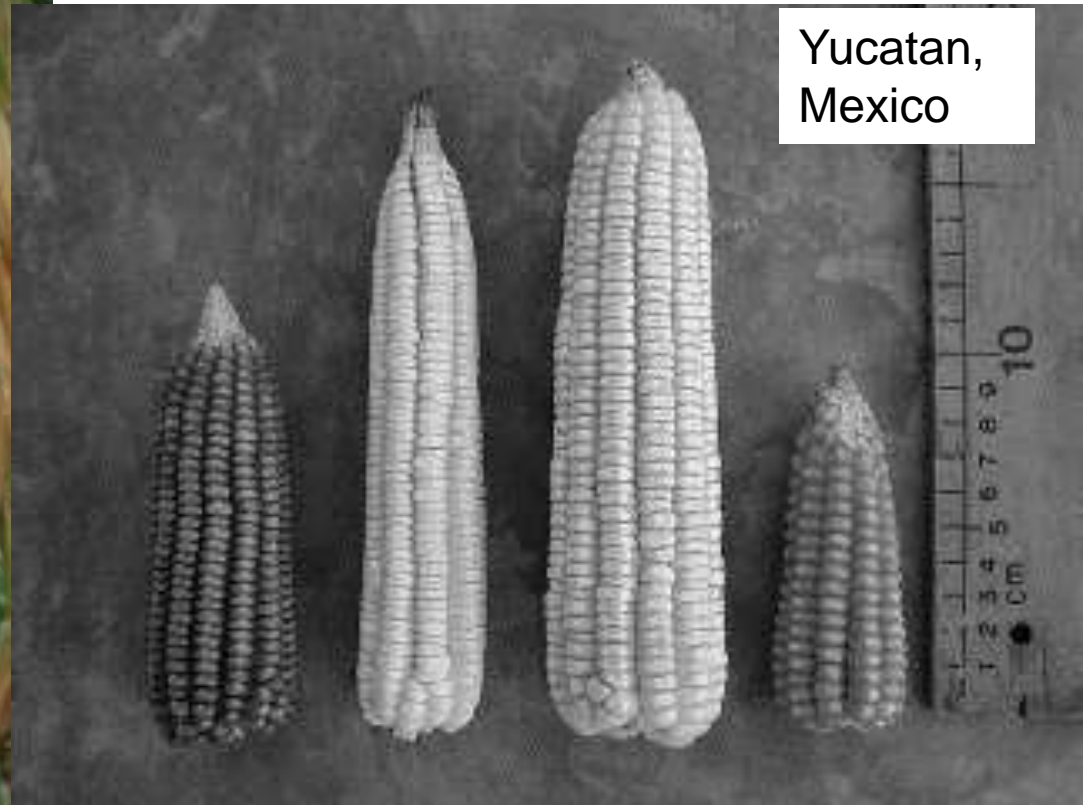
I. Diversity exists: Significant traditional variety diversity continues to be managed by small holder farmers



Globally applicable indicators: richness, evenness, divergence



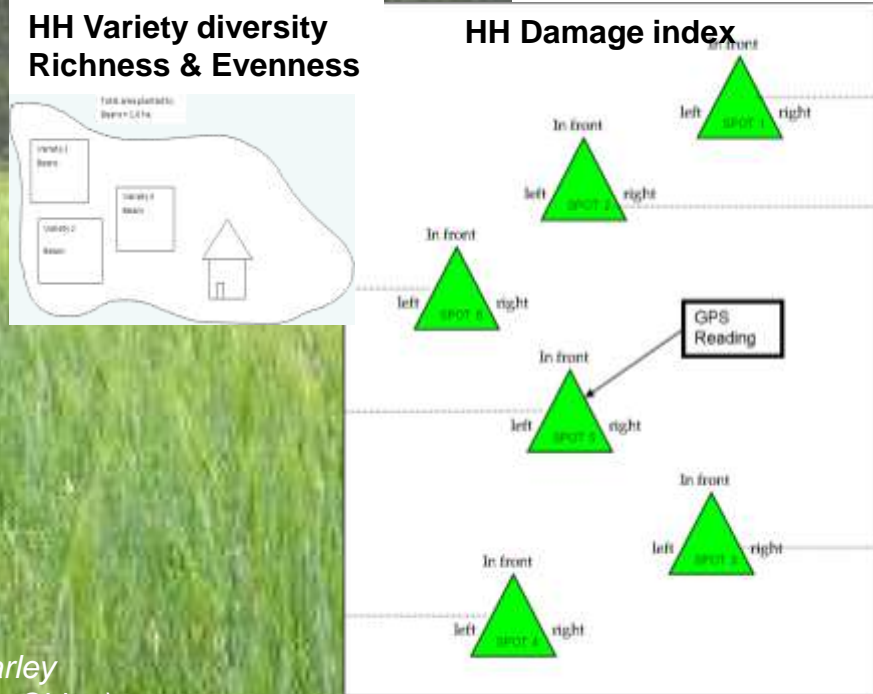
I. Functional diversity exists: Varietal diversity in the farmer's field for unpredictable rainfall and poor soils?



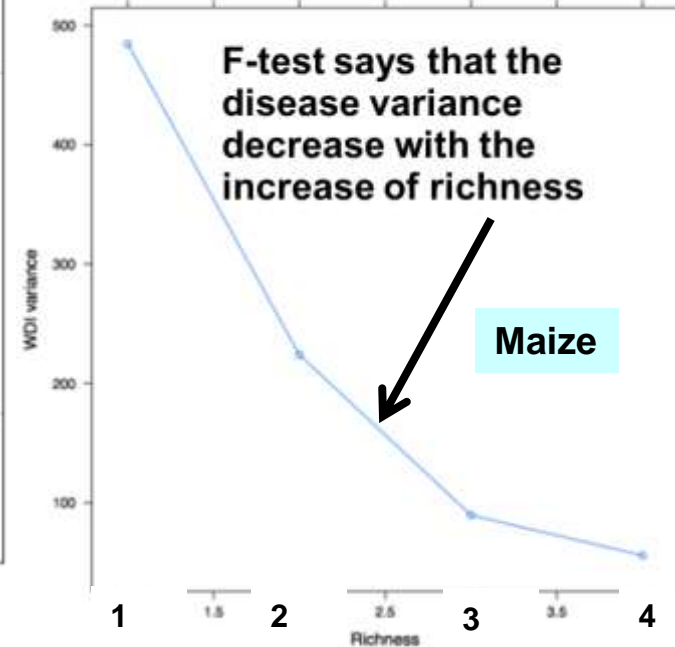
Na'tel: *from planting to maturity in 7 weeks – drought avoidance*

X-nuuk nal: *four months – long maturing drought resistant*

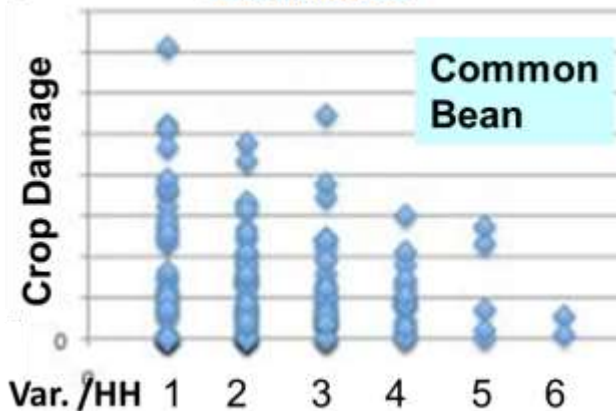
I. Functional diversity exists: Is varietal diversity in the farmer's field improving production and resilience?



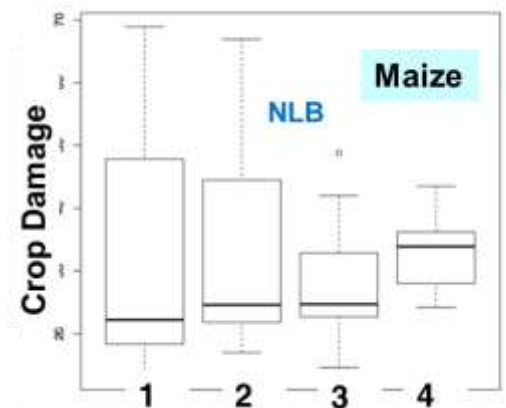
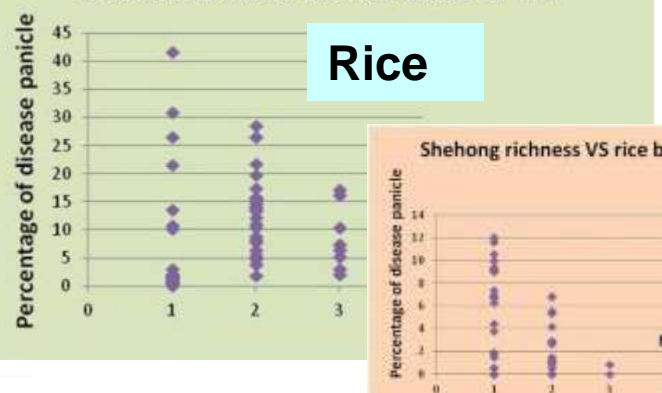
Lower probability of future damage



Anthracnose



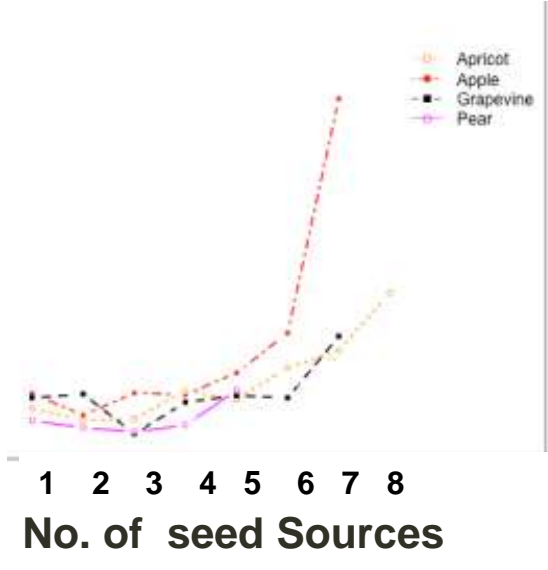
Meitan richness VS rice blast of HH



II. Diversity is accessible: good quality diverse planting materials assessable at the right time, in sufficient quantity

Higher diversity of seed supply sources -- more resilient seed systems

Variety diversity



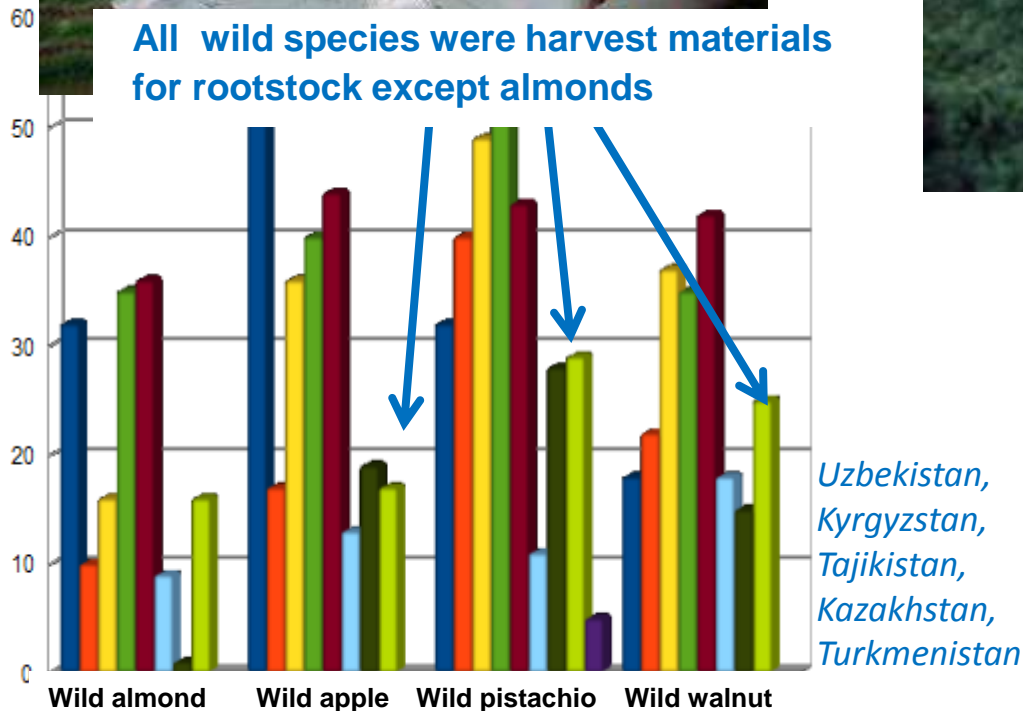
Community Biodiversity Registry

II. Diversity is **accessible**: Diverse sources of planting materials:

Bridging natural and managed landscapes



All wild species were harvest materials for rootstock except almonds



UNEP GEF Cuba
MAB UNESCO



III. Performance/Use:

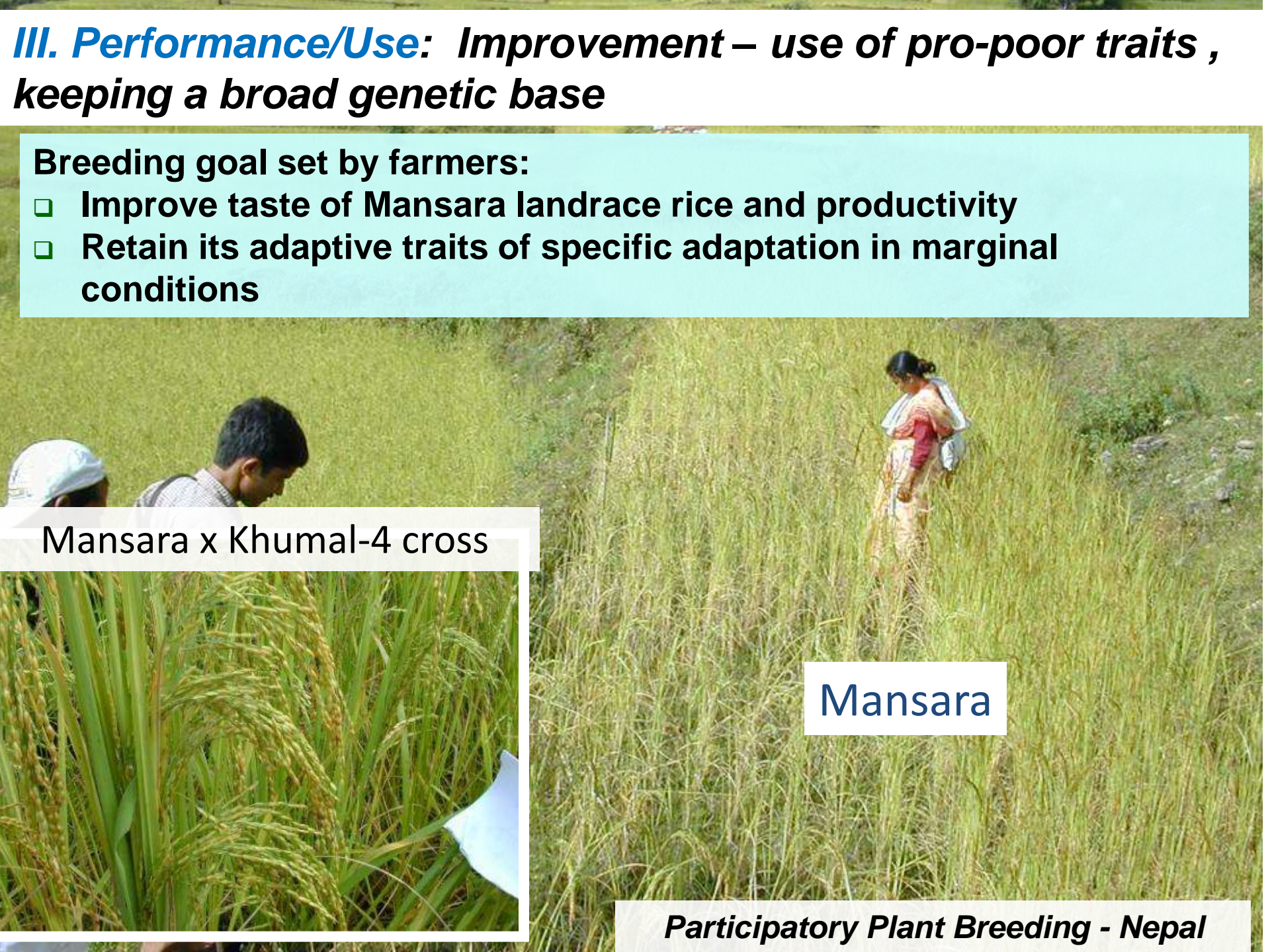
Shifting from livestock to horticulture using local drought and frost resistant apple varieties (Farmer Norkushakov, Uzbekistan)



III. Performance/Use: Improvement – use of pro-poor traits , keeping a broad genetic base

Breeding goal set by farmers:

- ❑ **Improve taste of Mansara landrace rice and productivity**
- ❑ **Retain its adaptive traits of specific adaptation in marginal conditions**



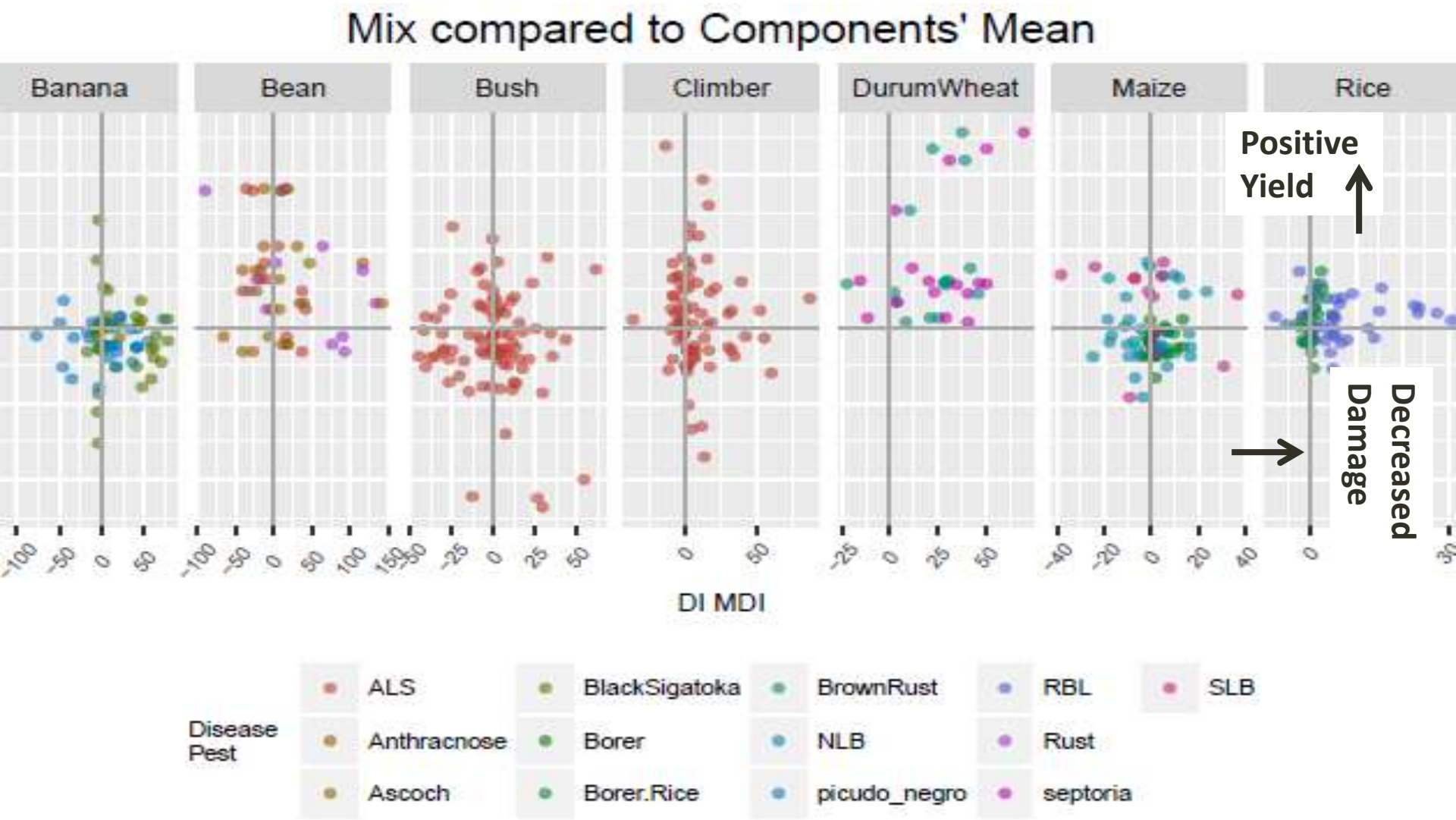
Mansara x Khumal-4 cross

Mansara

Participatory Plant Breeding - Nepal

III. Performance/Use: Reducing crop loss to pest/disease

Can mixtures give a benefit over component monocultures?



467 observations (China, Ecuador, Morocco, Uganda)

IV. Benefit sharing: Guidelines: Access and sharing benefits in research projects

Model Agreements:

MTA on planting material of local varieties of fruit crops maintained in demonstration plots and nurseries

Prior Informed Consent (PIC)

Agreement on Information Access and Exchange



**Nepal: national network of community seed banks
NGO + Government**



Central Asia: 58 nurseries producing 1,500,000 local variety saplings annually

<http://centralasia.biodiversity.org/>

IV. Benefit sharing: Market strategies for marketing diversity

Changing consumer norms



Celebrating Diversity

- Bouquet gift packages
- Agro-tourism



Product differentiation

- Product differentiation based on favorable crop attributes
- Geographic indication



Premiums for conservation efforts

Marketing mixed varieties



IV. Benefit: Legal and policy recognition of the contribution of local communities to enable benefit sharing

Alternatives and modification to seed certification systems

Law conserving date palm oasis

Tunisia

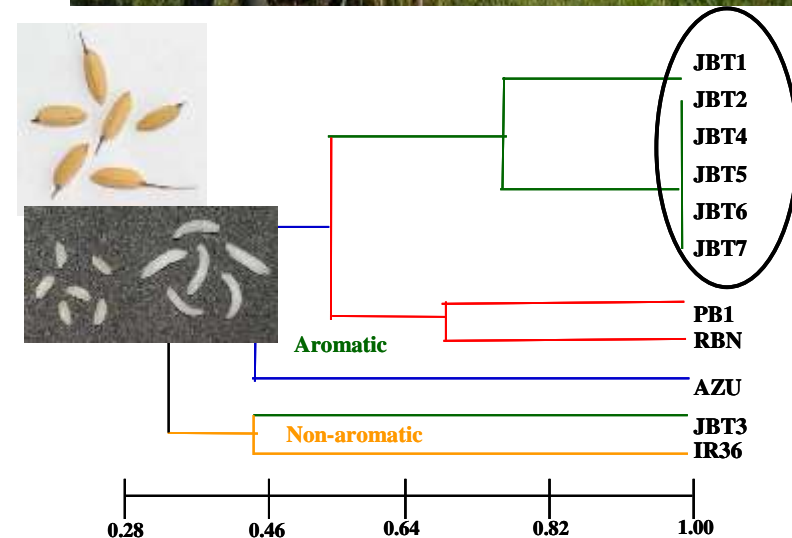


Loi n° 2008-73 du 2 décembre 2008, relative à la sauvegarde des palmiers...

Certifying
nematode free
soils for potato
seed in Bolivia



Photo: G .Plata



Nepal's first farmer bred registered released variety through the Nepalese seed system

IV. Benefit sharing: Collective action and community institutions

Mali



Diversity Field Forum (DFF)
Men and women teams (25-30)

- Assess, improve, multiply seed, informed on legislation

Ecuador



US farmers /farm interns
heirloom varieties /low input



USA

Photo: L. Lewis

Attaining change in practices – Course materials for schools and universities that train agricultural and environmental extension workers

Scaling up process	Moving from Local to National to International Scales (>100 interventions)
Adaptation	<p>An innovation is scaled up by adapting it to other contexts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A machine for de-husking rice is adapted to tiny seed millets, reducing women labor</i> <i>FAO Farmer Field Schools adapted to use genetic diversity (Diversity Field Forum)</i> <i>IPM, climate change adaptation, soil-water mgt. includes crop varietal diversity</i> <i>Participatory and conventional breeding use locally adapted materials</i>
Diffusion	<p>An existing innovation is scaled up by communicating it to more people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Diverse sets of varieties or varietal mixtures are taken up by more farmers</i> <i>Extension colleagues have materials that include the use of varietal diversity</i> <i>Community seed banks and biodiversity registries are linked to national gene banks</i> <i>Private and public seed suppliers diversify their varietal portfolios</i>
Replication	<p>An existing innovation is scaled up to more people in different sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Community seed banks: Central Asia fruit tree nurseries with high diversity</i> <i>GIAHS site certification; Nematode free site certification</i> <i>Restoration of degraded lines with locally adapted diversity</i>
Value addition	<p>An innovation is scaled up so that the same people, doing the same thing, can earn more</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Markets for diversity; Geographical Identification certification; Agrotourism</i> <i>Policies support benefit sharing for diversity custodians</i>
Temporal	<p>An innovation which is supposed to be introduced for a limited amount of time is scaled up for a longer time frame</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Diversity fairs becomes an annual affair</i> <i>A training course becomes an annual course</i>

Adapted from R. Alcadi, IFAD

Acknowledgements:

Participating farmers, local, national and international institutes, organisations and partners



Thank you