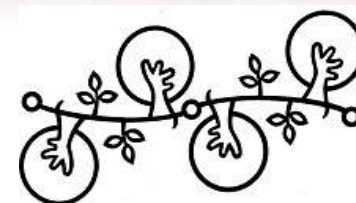




End of Project Final Meeting (IFAD NUS III-IV)

Stefano Padulosi
Global Coordinator



MSSRF



Hotel Presidente, 4 February 2015, La Paz (Bolivia)

Objectives of Meeting

- 1. Share outputs, outcomes and impact of Project**
- 2. Reflect on experiences and lessons learnt and their importance for Bolivia**
- 3. Reflect on the way forward and recommend changes for mainstreaming best practices in research, cooperation and policy**

IFAD NUS3-4

Title: *“Reinforcing the resilience of poor rural communities in the face of food insecurity, poverty and climate change through on-farm conservation of local agrobiodiversity.”*

Participating Countries: Bolivia, Nepal, India

Global Coordination: Bioversity

National Coordination: M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation- MSSRF (India);
Local Initiative for Biodiversity, Research and Development -LIBIRD (Nepal);
Fundación Promoción e Investigación de Productos Andinos -PROINPA (Bolivia)

Supporting Agencies: IFAD, EU and CCAFS

Duration: 3+1 years (March 2011- March 2015)

Project' s GOAL

To facilitate more effective and sustainable use, management and conservation of local agrobiodiversity by communities and stakeholders, particularly in the context of food security, nutrition, income-generation potential and adaptation to climate change

Project's Objectives

1. Develop and test **new methods and tools** to sustainably conserve traditional crops and associated knowledge at the farm level;
2. Explore ways of integrating the **participatory monitoring** of diversity on-farm through interdisciplinary and multi-sector approaches;
3. Promote **complementary conservation** in national programs;
4. **Guide further** research related to climate change and its impact on species and varieties deployed in local production systems.

Expected Outputs & Research Questions

Methods and tools for documenting and monitoring diversity on-farm using community-based approaches

Reflections:

- 1. Can Community Biodiversity Registers be a viable solution?**
Note: introduction of CBR in Bolivia has been very well received by communities- how to scale up method?
- 2. How to embed on farm monitoring within existing ex situ frameworks?** **Note: this is now being done in Nepal, what are the concrete opportunities for Bolivia?**
- 3. Red Listing and its mainstreaming- Note: successful applications in Bolivia. How this method can be mainstreamed by the Government to safeguard diversity of crops that represent the basis of country's food security?**

Expected Outputs & Research Questions

Enhanced understanding/ maps on distribution of NUS diversity/ IK and use for climate change, threats of genetic and cultural erosion, custodian farmers.

Reflections:

- 1) **How to scale up/validate information from community to larger areas? Note: the Project has provided important contribution for the Titicaca region, what the perspectives for mapping other areas?**
- 2) **Who are the custodians? How to support their work? Note: Project has made an important contribution on their recognition- INIAF has been championing this in Bolivia. What are the next concrete steps for supporting their work?**

Expected Outputs & Research Questions

Networks of custodians established and tested in project sites

Reflections:

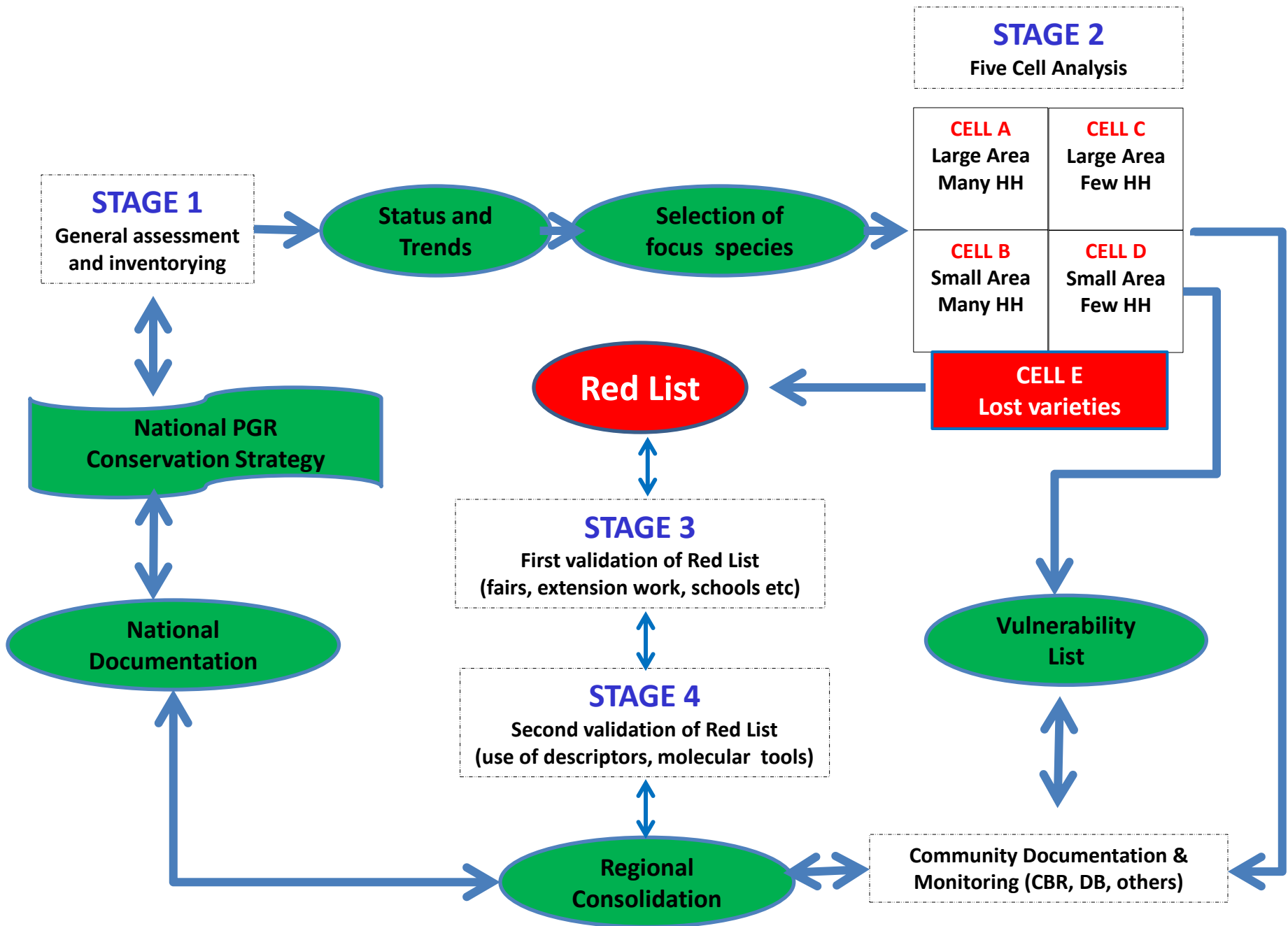
- 1) Established successfully in all countries incl. Bolivia. Note: how to scale up these? What the steps to be taken up by INIAF?**
- 2) What is the scope/relevance of linking local and national networks so as to create a 'global' network that would ideally complement that already existing among ex situ conservers/ genebanks? Note: Project raised awareness on this aspect and now both Bioversity and FAO are working to promote such a 'global system' for on farm conservation. Can Bolivia support advocacy for such a network within FAO and the Int. Treaty?**

Expected Outputs & Research Questions

Diversity Fairs integrated within on-farm conservation monitoring systems

Reflections:

- 1) **Can these be effective instruments for supporting also monitoring? Note: In all countries these have been successfully promoted; but which changes can be made on their organization so that they can be even more effective and also embed documentation and monitoring in their activities..?**
- 2) **Realizing the ex situ-in situ complementarity through seed fairs: Note: explore organization of joint fairs between communities and INIAF. This would represent a unique example to share with the world!**



Project's Expected Outcomes: how well have we met these?

- Understanding **NUS roles** in strengthening resilience of production systems
- Understanding where **NUS are distributed**, used by whom and how, status of GD and associated IK
- Direct contribution towards their **conservation** of and /or recommendations on how this can be achieved;
- Explore ways for **building complementarity** between ex situ and in situ conservation with regard on traditional crops/ NUS and raise awareness of decision makers/ experts on how to achieve those;

Project's Expected Outcomes: how well have we met these?

- **Enhanced capacities** of partners in training and guiding community-based documentation and monitoring activities
- Greater **self-reliance/empowerment** of custodian farmers/ recommendations on ways to achieve that;
- Greater **awareness** among policy makers of needs for conserving diversity on farm and ways to support its use enhancement sustainably;

India

- MSSRF facilitated the establishment of **Biodiversity Management Committees** in accordance with the regulation of India's Biodiversity Act 2002. Consistent efforts have been taken to record crop diversity / traditional knowledge into the **People's Biodiversity Registers** and link it with the district data management system to access benefit from the State biodiversity board for their contribution in managing crop diversity..



20 November 2012, village of Singarpur, Madhya Pradesh. “Seed Fair for promotion and popularization of small millets” Almost **40 types of seeds** were put on exhibition. **70 participants, thirty dishes** exclusively prepared from minor millets. More than **300 farmers** attended, mostly women.



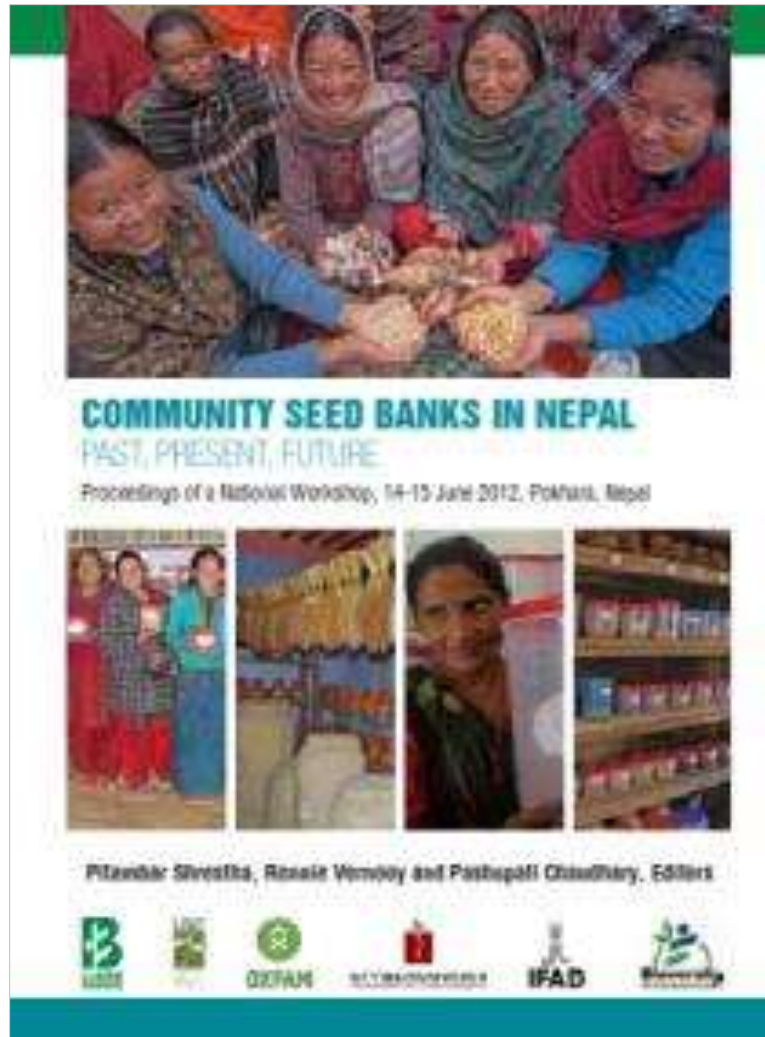
India

Village Name	Currently Cultivated Millet Crop	Mostly cultivated popular variety	Highly threatened Variety	Vanished / Lost Crop
Padasolai	Sadanjsamai	Sadanjsamai	Perum Samai	Malliya samai
	Perum Samai	Perun thinai	Palan thinai	
	Perun thinai	Kara Kelvaragu	Perung Kelvaragu	
	Palan thinai	Ilang Kelvaragu		
	Kara Kelvaragu			
	Ilang Kelvaragu			
	Perung Kelvaragu			
Sempoothu valavu	Sadanjsamai	Perum samai	Sadanjsamai	Malliya samai
	Perum Samai	Perun thinai		
	Perun thinai	Ilang Kelvaragu		
	Palan thinai	Perung Kelvaragu		
	Ilang Kelvaragu			
	Perung Kelvaragu			

Nepal

Vegetables	No. of HHs	Average no. of varieties per HH	Max no. of varieties in a HH
Sponge Gourd	285	1.56	4
Broadleaf Mustard	285	1.12	4
Taro	285	2.25	6
Radish	265	1.17	3
Onion	246	1.01	2
Pumpkin	238	1.29	3
Yam	225	1.56	6
Cauliflower	214	1.26	3
Bottle Gourd	214	1.19	2
Cucumber	204	1.16	3
Cabbage	197	1.10	3
Potato	191	1.29	3
Bitter Gourd	162	1.36	3
Snake Gourd	159	1.09	2
Tomato	151	1.23	3
Okra	108	1.19	3
Eggplant	106	1.14	3
Ash gourd (Kubindo)	91	1	1
Carrot	70	1.01	2
Chamsur	46	1	1
Broccoli	38	1.05	2

Nepal



*Logo of the National Network of
Community Seed Banks*

India

Our IFAD NUS Champion, Prof. Swaminathan, member of Parliament until 2012- lobbied for minor millets and used the work of the Project to inform Policy makers on these life saving crops: This has led to a major breakthrough:



The new 2013 Food Security Bill in India has introduced minor millets into the PDS!!

2 CHENNAI THE HINDU • WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2008

CITY **Vellore constituency inherits a major problem**
The reconstituted Vellore constituency inherits a major problem - pollution of groundwater resources of the Palair caused by the discharge of tannery effluents. Page 3

"Consider inclusion of small millets in noon meal scheme"
M.S.Swaminathan launches Ragi Malt of Kolli Hills



NUTRITION RICH: Member of Parliament M.S.Swaminathan launches the Ragi Malt of Kolli Hills at a function in M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai on Tuesday. - PHOTO: R. RADU

Staff Reporter

CHENNAI Agricultural scientist and Member of Parliament M.S.Swaminathan on Tuesday suggested that the government consider including small millets that are high in nutrition and fibre content

clude three eggs in the noon meal scheme. These small millets too could be included." He said that conservation of bio diversity must be human centred.

The Ragi Malt, a product of the Kolli Hills Agro Biodiversity Conservancy Federation

MSSRF, said 30 years ago five species of small millet - finger millet (Bewaraegal), little millet (Anjal), Talasa millet (Shinai), horse millet (oravai) and common millet (panjavaru) were cultivated in the Kolli hills in Namakkal district.

sowing methods to increase productivity. Formation of seed banks and setting up de-husking mills with funds from MSSRF and the District Rural Development Agency".

Self Help Group members Latha, Jayalakshmi and Malika envisioned the manufac-



Muchas Gracias!