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# Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agricultural Biodiversity

## A Sourcebook




**Volume One**  
Understanding  
Agricultural  
Biodiversity

**Volume Two**  
Strengthening Local  
Management of  
Agricultural  
Biodiversity

**Volume Three**  
Ensuring an Enabling  
Environment for  
Agricultural  
Biodiversity





The appreciation for agricultural biodiversity has grown and matured, resulting in an increasing awareness that its valuation and use might contribute to long-term conservation. This sourcebook encourages action aimed at managing agricultural biodiversity resources within existing landscapes and ecosystems, in support of the livelihoods of farmers, fishers and livestock keepers. This is designed for use by rural development practitioners and local administrators as well as trainers and educationalists.

Agricultural biodiversity is the basis for global food security. It helps secure people's livelihoods and habitats by sustaining multifunctional agro-ecosystems. Plant and animal genetic resources are the primary source material for the further development of crop varieties and animal breeders by farmers and breeders. Equally, biological diversity in agriculture safeguards the potential for natural adaptation to changes in the environment and ecosystems, and to meet changing human nutritional requirements.

The valuable collection of resources in this compilation is the result of contributions from over a hundred scientists, academics, development practitioners and policymakers around the world.

This sourcebook comprises a total of 75 articles packaged in a set of three separate volumes:

### **Volume 1: Understanding Agricultural Biodiversity**

- dimensions
- local knowledge
- system dynamics

### **Volume 2: Strengthening Local Management of Agricultural Biodiversity**


- local seed systems
- participatory approaches to crop improvement
- livestock and aquatic resources

### **Volume 3: Ensuring an Enabling Environment for Agricultural Biodiversity**

- policy and legal frameworks
- institutional arrangements and incentives

The collection of articles is intentionally diverse, addressing topics ranging from international treaties, legislation, policy, community processes, local knowledge, field-level interventions and methodological issues. There is, however, a predominance of articles on crops. It is hoped that there will be additional contributions on livestock and aquatic resources in the future.

Each article in this compilation stands on its own and can be read or used independently. Names and addresses of the contributing authors are included at the end of each article so that direct contact can be made. There is no copyright to this publication and free use is encouraged, provided the source and authors are duly acknowledged.



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