

# Agropolis: why getting involved in agrobiodiversity monitoring

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**BIODIVERSITY**

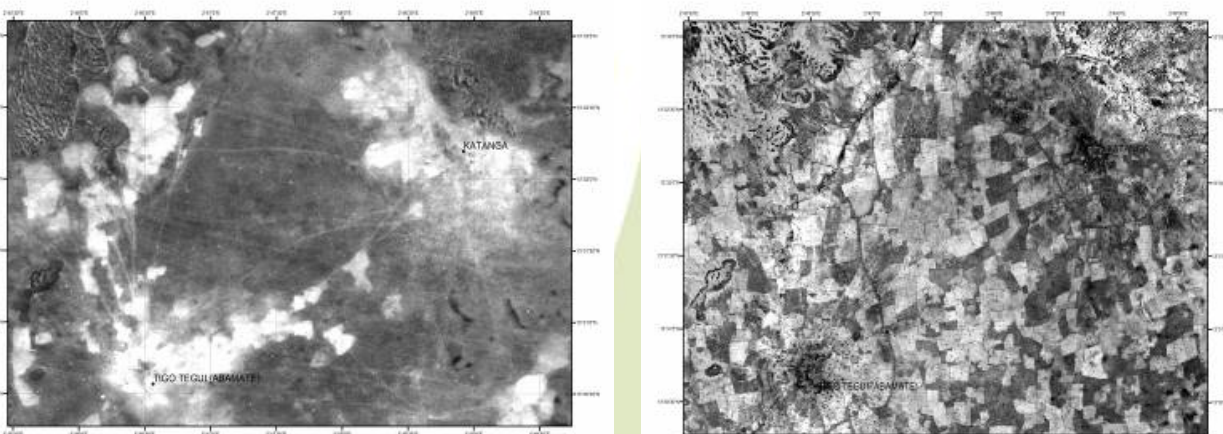
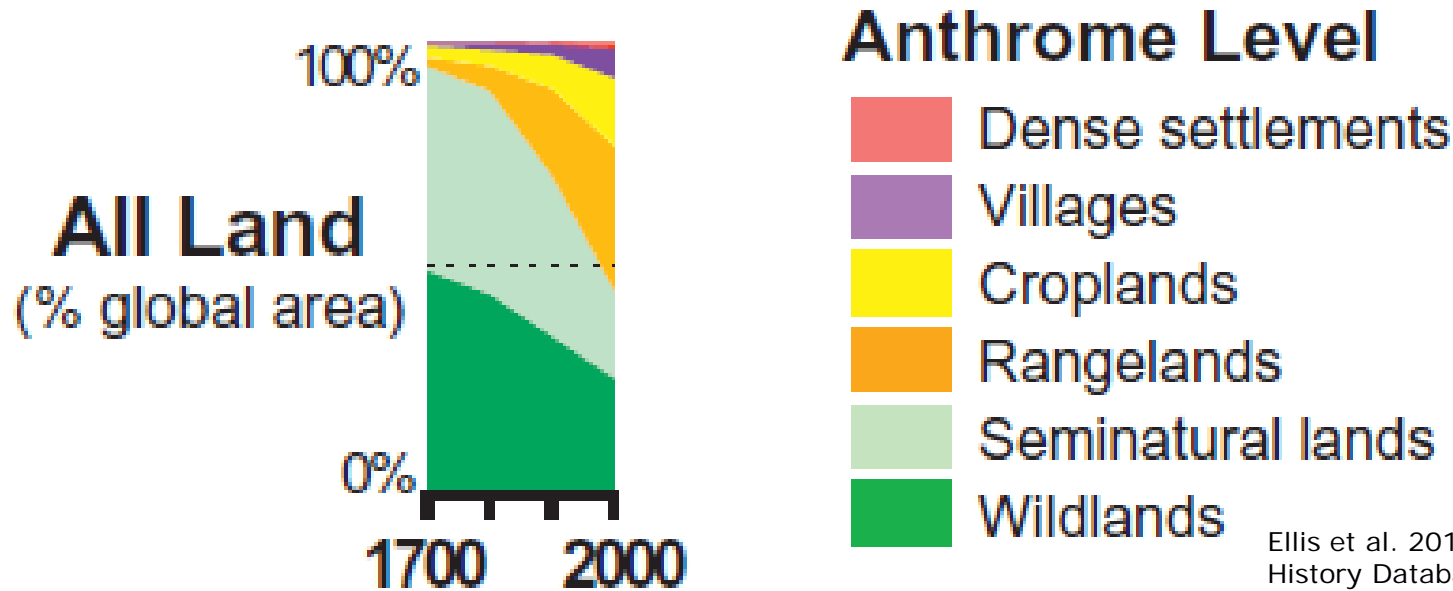
**Agrobiodiversity**

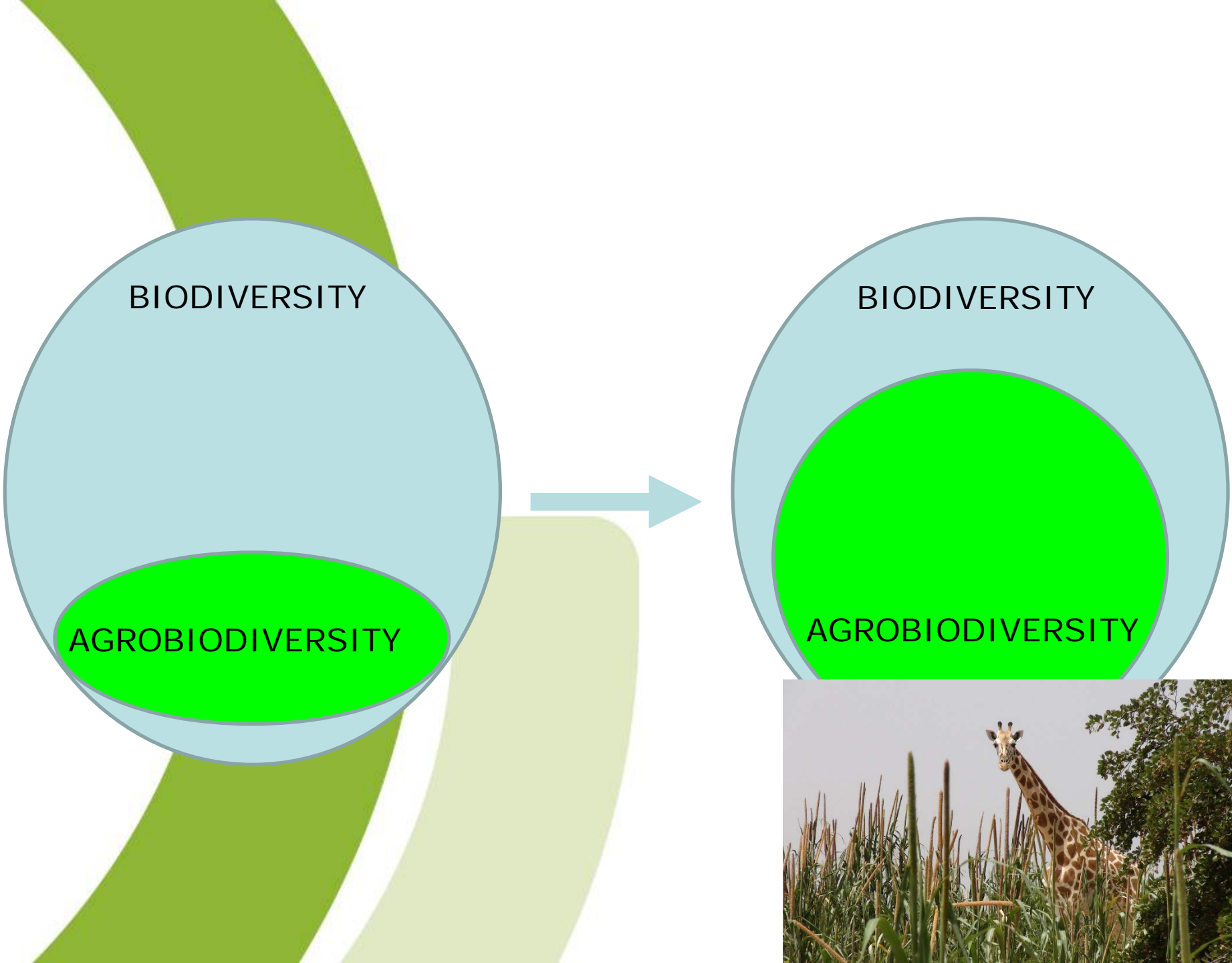
**Mixed agro-ecosystems**  
**Crop species/varieties**  
**Livestock and fish species**  
**Plant/animal germplasm**  
**Soil organisms in cultivated areas**  
**Biocontrol agents for crop/livestock pests**  
**Wild species as landraces or with breeding**  
**Cultural & local knowledge of diversity**

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/007/y5609e/y5609e01.htm>

 **arcad**

# Long and short term trends





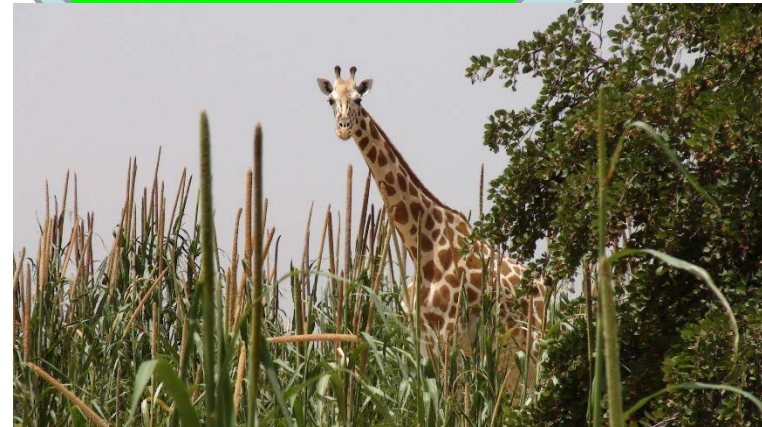
BIODIVERSITY

AGROBIODIVERSITY



BIODIVERSITY

AGROBIODIVERSITY



- (agro)biodiversity is at the same time:
  - a service of agro-ecosystems through its intrinsic value and its associated cultural services
  - the result of the management of other services (in particular production)
  - a component in the delivery of a large range of other services.
- This makes the analysis of relationships between management, (agro)biodiversity and ecosystem services particularly complex.
- Need to better understand dynamics associated with agrobiodiversity



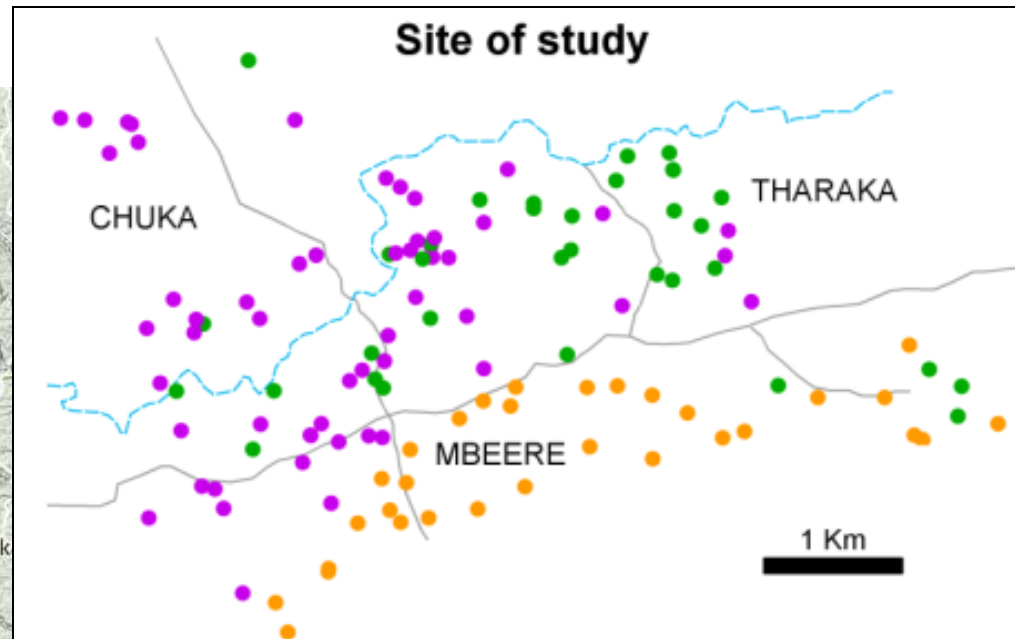
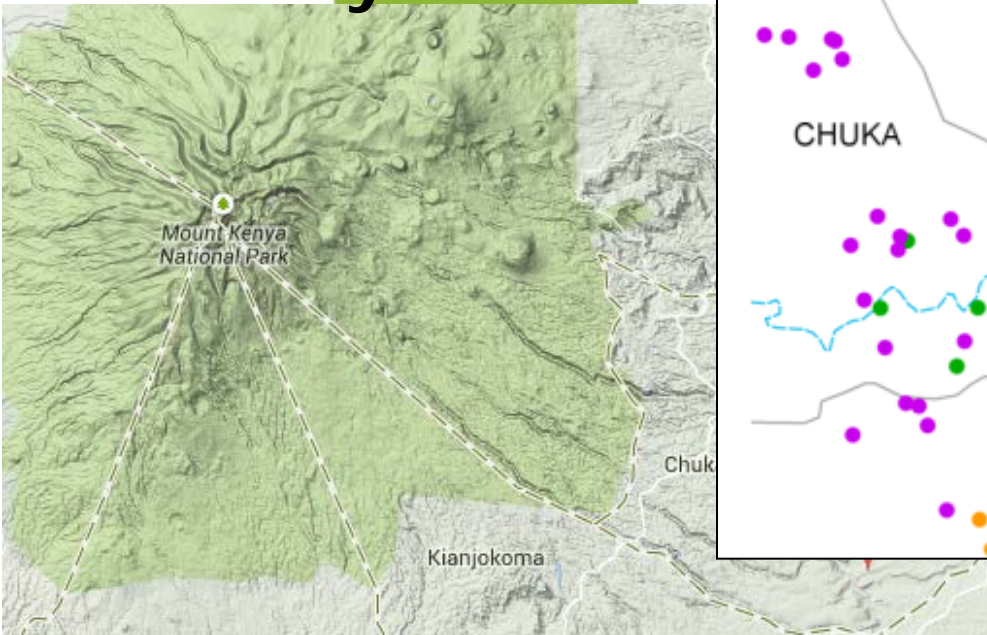
**GAP in knowledge where  
monitoring might be an asset**



# Testing the relation between farmers' social organization and spatial patterns of crop diversity

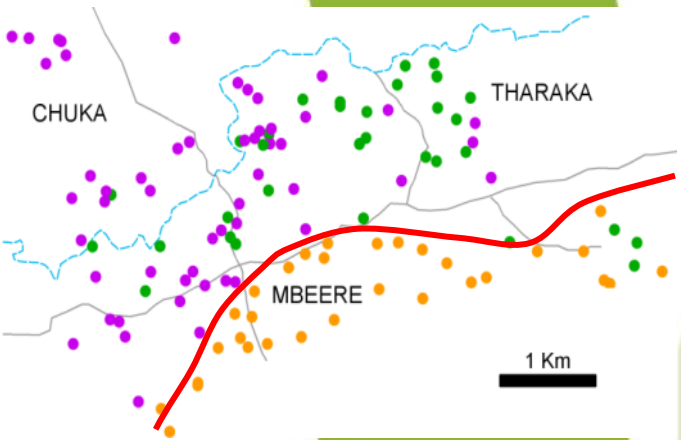


## Mont Kenya

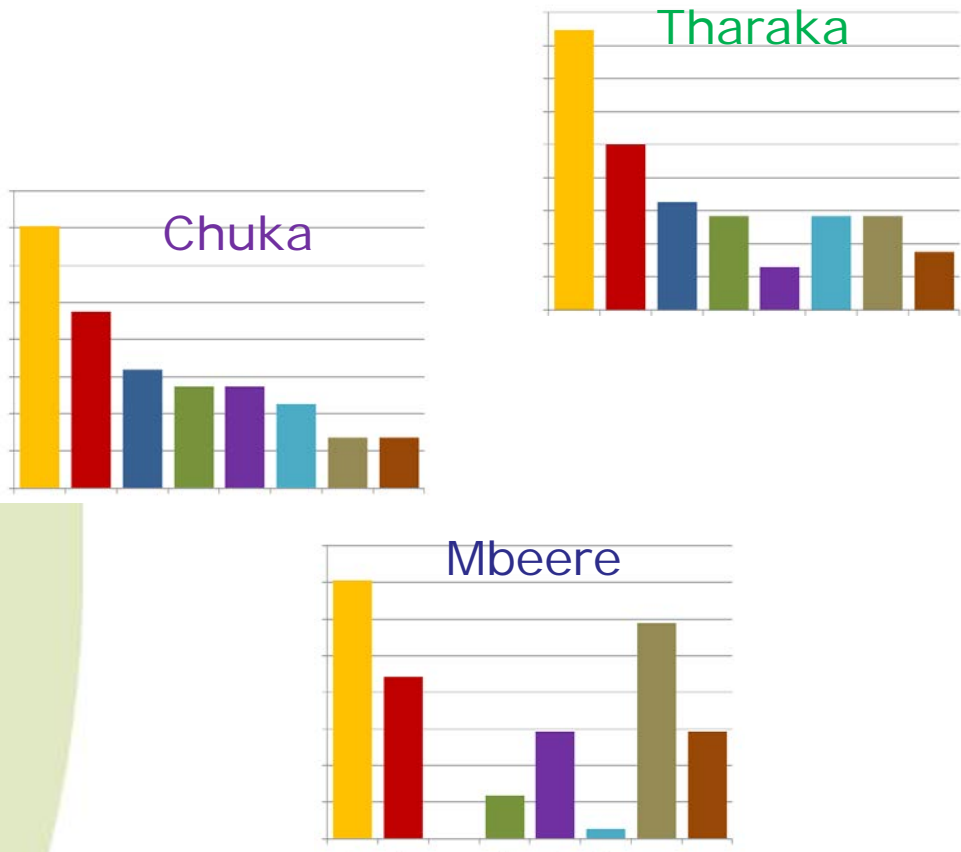


# Farmers' social organization and crop diversity patterns

Ethnolinguistic groups

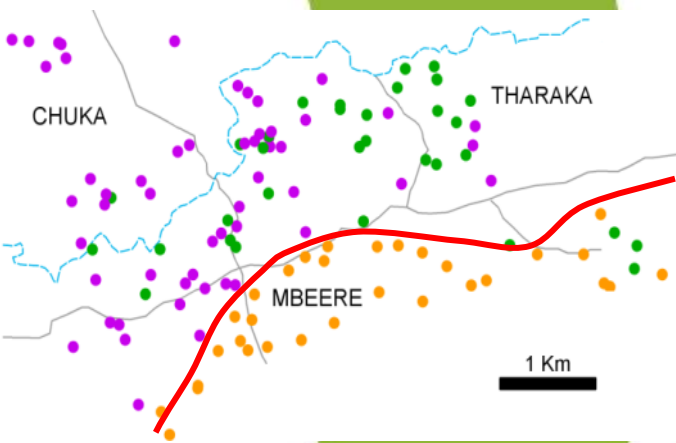


Uneven distribution of named sorghum varieties





## Ethnolinguistic groups



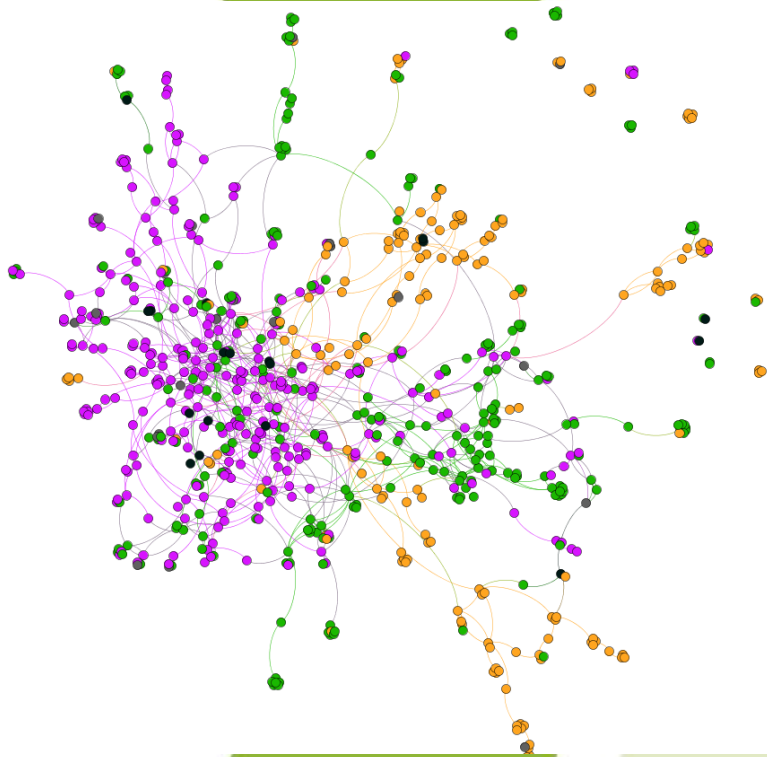
## Social partitioning of sorghum genetic diversity

**Chuka**  
R.allèlique  
: **6.1<sup>a</sup>**

**Tharaka**  
R.allèlique:  
**5.9<sup>a</sup>**

**Mbeere**  
R.allèlique  
: **4.6<sup>b</sup>**

# Questions



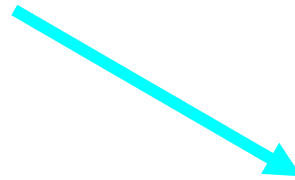
Does it translate to differential capabilities of adaptation?

How social change impact such pattern and its evolution?

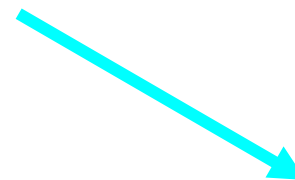
# An example :The ennoblement practice in yam (West Africa)



The tuber of a spontaneous plant is harvested



Vegetative Multiplication (3-6 years)



Integration into the cultivated pool

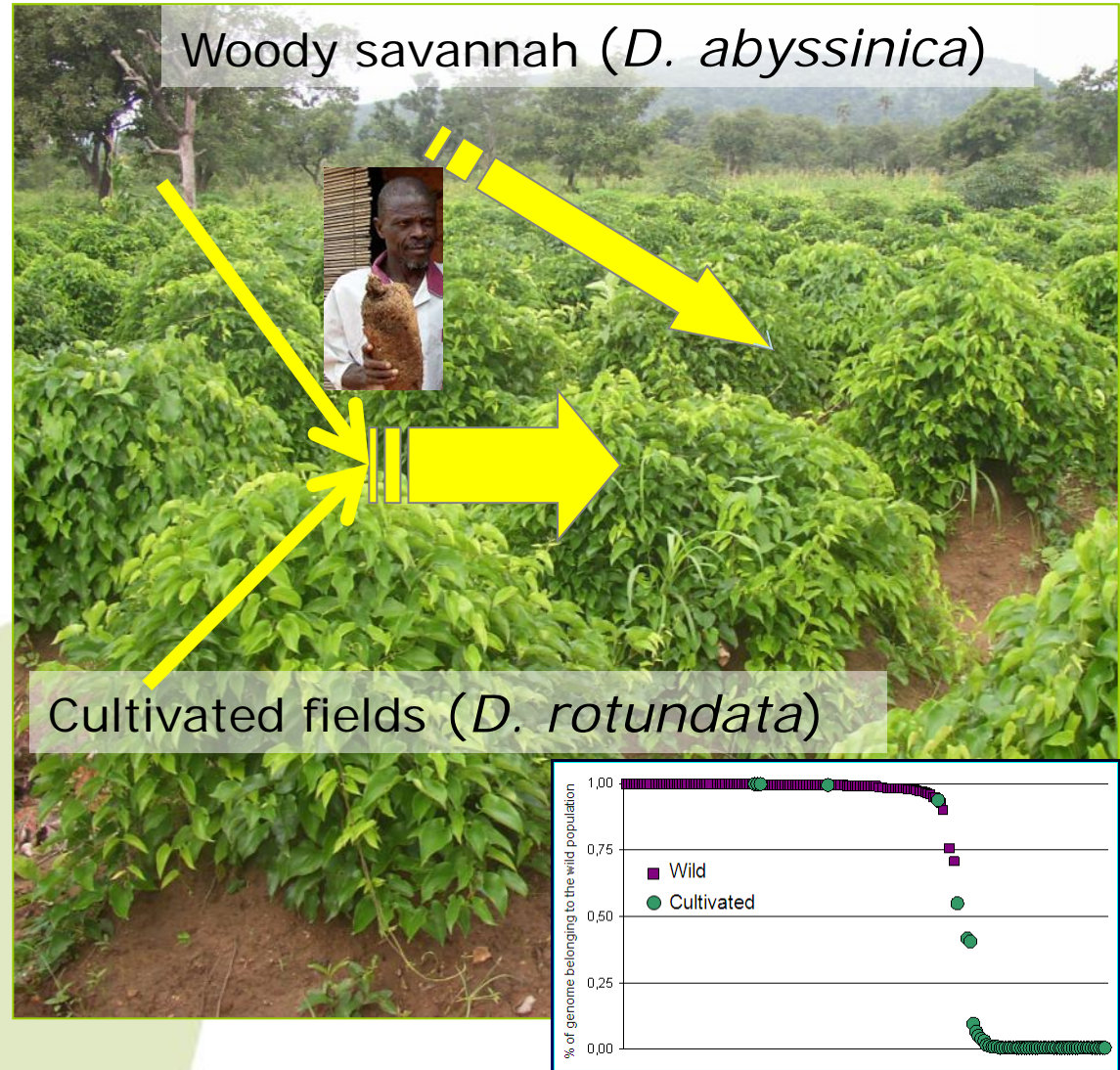




# Wild x Cultivated x Traditional knowledge

The resilience of this evolutionary dynamics will depend on:

- the resilience of the wild environment (land use planning?)
- the resilience of the ennoblement practice (cultural tradition)



Scarcelli et al. Mol. Ecol 2006  
Scarcelli et al. BMC Plant 2014

# But lack of dynamics and monitoring...

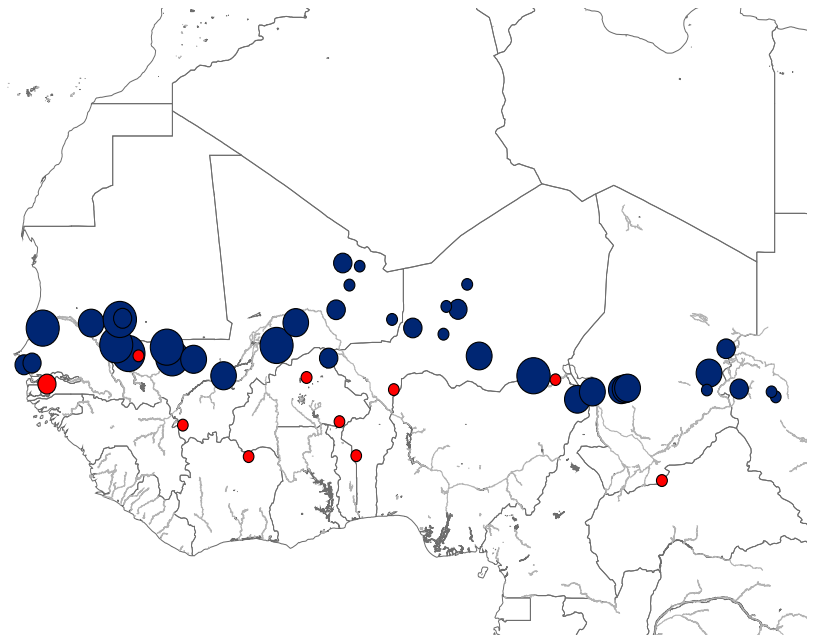
- How such system evolved in a changing world
  - More land use for crop
  - Social modification
  - Relevance for long term adaptation?



# In-situ assessment of wild diversity – pearl millet



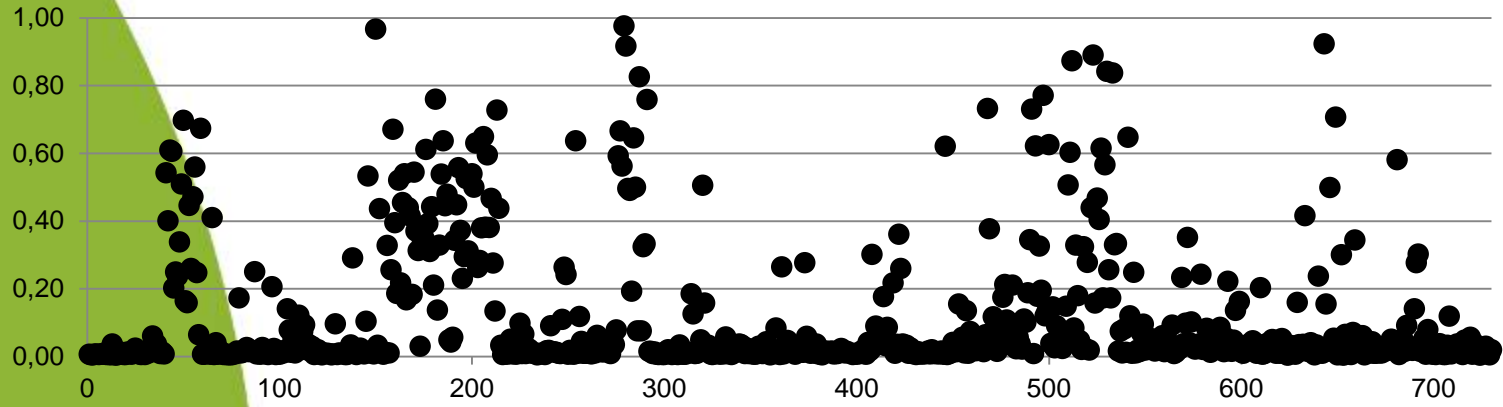
Diversity of **wild** and **cultivated** pearl millet





Cultivated gene flow  
into wild individuals

Cultivated introgression level per wild individual



Western Africa : Senegal,  
Mauritania

Western central Africa : Mali,  
Niger

Eastern Tchad and Soudan

## Conclusion

Widespread and impact diversity  
assessment because it leads to local  
diversity hotspot.

Is-it a problem? Dynamics?

## Conclusion

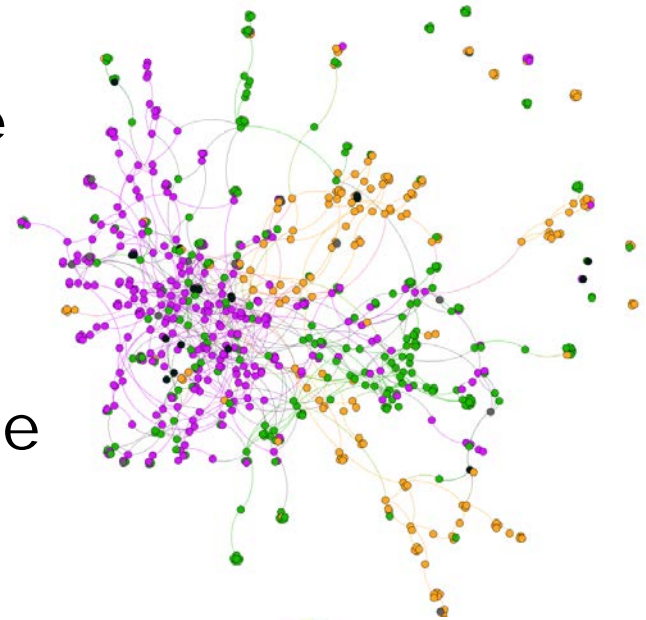
Agrobiodiversity becomes a large fraction of worldwide biodiversity



Understanding dynamics (via monitoring) is necessary to **relate** observation, process and interaction.

It will allow better assessment of our resources *in situ* and favor the understanding of how such biodiversity is useful.

It will allow consequently a better management of it.





Thanks

















# France and International Agricultural Research

- French support to the CGIAR reform
  - CRPs' success is critical
  - Involvement in CRPs when relevant and possible
  - Consortium in Montpellier
- CRAI (French Commission on International Agricultural Research)



Towards an orchestration  
of global agricultural  
research

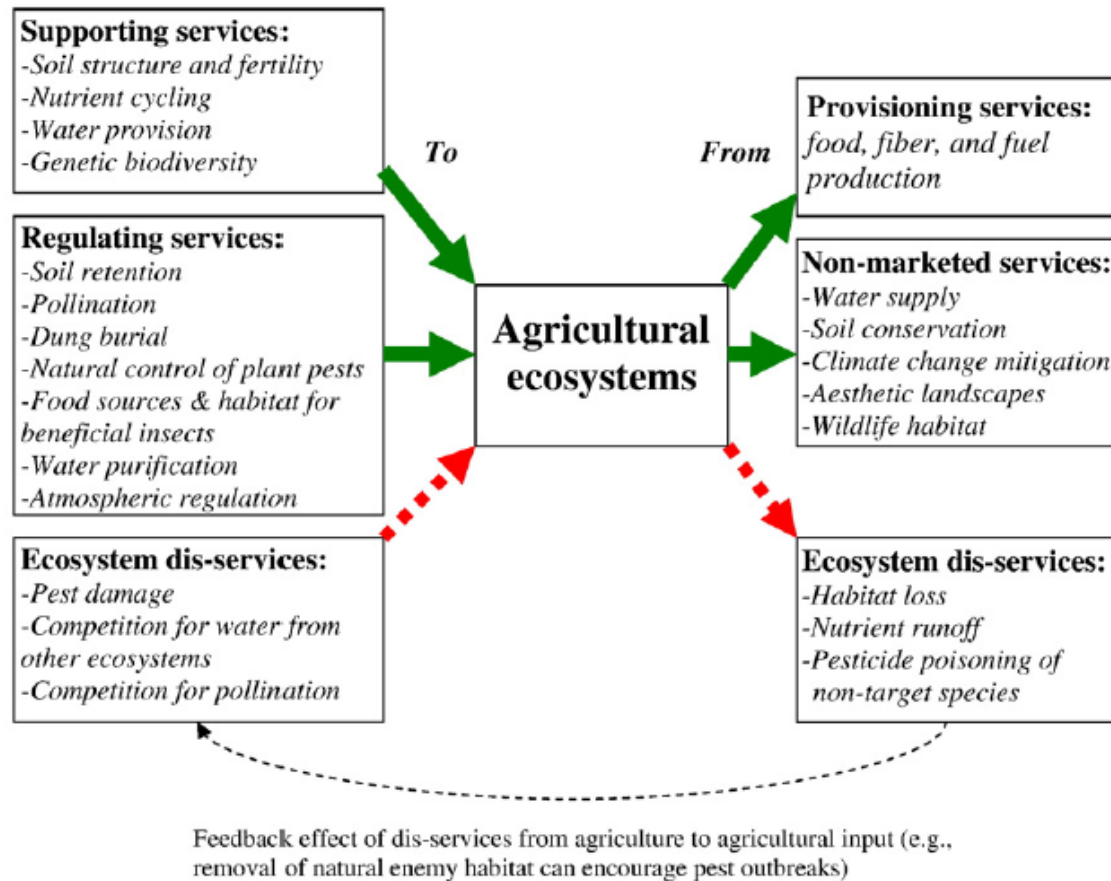
A CIRAD proposal

July 2011

**A**gricultural research needs to rise to increasingly global and complex challenges. How can it do so, given the emergence of a multi-polar, many-faceted agricultural research system and growing differences between countries?

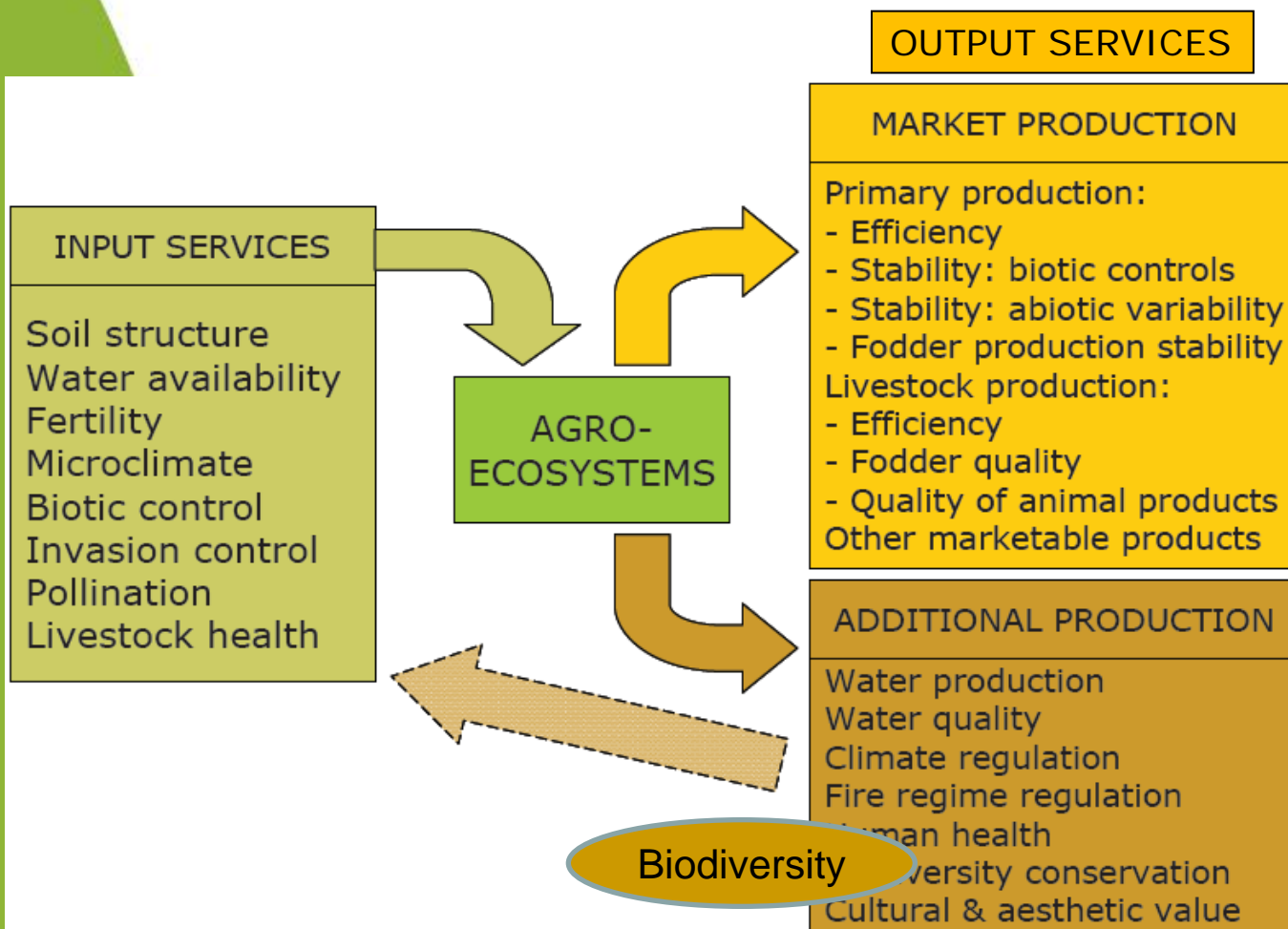
CIRAD suggests that coordination of global agricultural research for development (AR4D) should be founded on strategic intelligence designed and shared by all stakeholders. For this, it is essential to include the least advanced countries and to strengthen their research capacity.

# ...by managing and enhancing the existing resources (incl. Agrobiodiversity) and processes in agroecosystems



Zhang et al  
2007

Fig. 2 – Ecosystem services and dis-services to and from agriculture. Solid arrows indicate services, whereas dashed arrows indicate dis-services.



after Le Roux et al. 2008 (after Zhang et al 2007)



RIO+20

THE EARTH HAS LIMITED RESOURCES!



...  
SO  
DO  
WE



Europe

USA



# Genetic Resources : a global issue

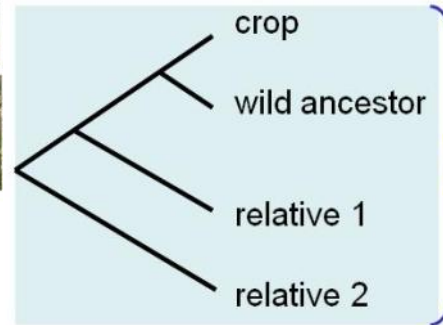
- Strong interest in genetic resources
- French research in genetic resources :
  - Very much on the « in situ » side of PGR
    - Ethnobotany (Haudricourt, Portères)
    - Population genetics and evolutionary biology
    - Even ex situ collections are seen as major assets for research ( diversity, domestication history)
  - Decentralized *ex situ* PGR conservation system





- An **open platform for genetic and genomic resource** conservation, management and analysis
- A **research programme** addressing key challenges on **Mediterranean and tropical crop diversity** for agriculture and sustainable development
- A demand-oriented **training platform** for Southern scientific communities

Banana	Monocot	perennial	outbred.
Palm tree	Monocot	perennial	outbred.
Einkhorn wheat	Monocot	annual	inbred.
Pearl millet	Monocot	annual	outbred.
African rice	Monocot	annual	inbred.
Sorghum	Monocot	annual	inbred.
Cocoa	Dicot	perennial	outbred.
Coffee tree	Dicot	perennial	outbred.
Medicago	Dicot	perennial	outbred.
Grapevine	Dicot	perennial	outbred.
Tomato	Dicot	annual	inbred.



**Domestication**  
bottlenecks,  
Selection footprint  
LD evolution

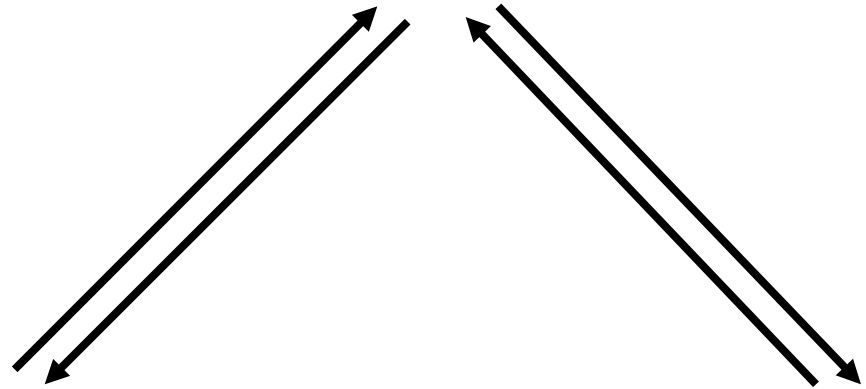
**Population genomics**

**Molecular evolution**  
rate of divergence  
selection footprints  
Allele and sites

**SP1 Comparative crop population genomics**

**SP2 Crop Adaptation to climate change**

**SP3 Cereals in Africa**



**Pearl millet**  
*(Pennisetum glaucum)*



Cross-pollinating  
Traditional cultivation



**Rice**  
*(Oryza sp)*



Self-pollinating  
Traditional cultivation

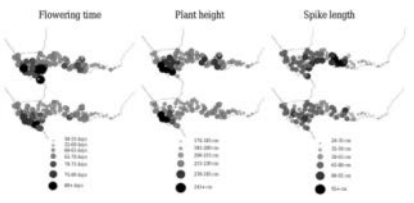


**Medicago truncatula**



Self-pollinating  
Model plant  
Natural populations





# International training course on Agrobiodiversity analysis

- 2-week course (in French)
  - Week 1 : Population genetics
  - Week 2 : Biology x Social Sciences
- 2010 : Morocco
  - 23 trainees from 13 countries
  - 17 trainers (Arcad, IAV Hassan II, Bioversity, ...)

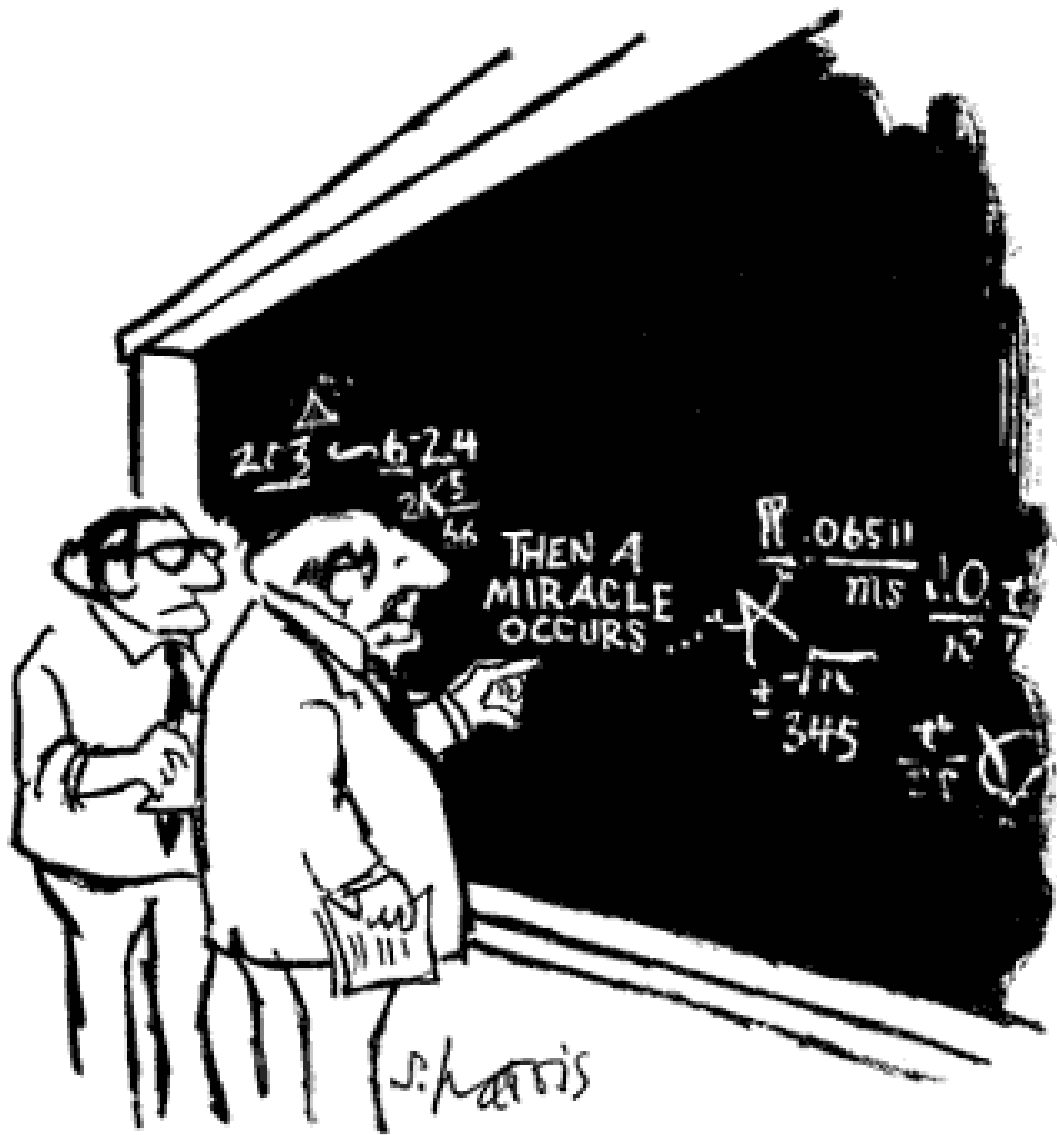




# Why contribute to a CGIAR initiative on the in situ management of agrobiodiversity?

- Insert our activities and expertise into a global effort
- Help mobilize of other local skills and teams
  - agrobiodiversity and ecological intensification
- Old and new partnerships
- Test and share methodologies
- Synergies between datasets, study sites





"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."



# Challenges

- Necessity of building partnerships between few organizations to move things forward at the conceptual and practical level
- Necessity of sharing existing research results about on-going or past projects
- Necessity of collecting critical mass of data and information to make meaningful assessment on larger scale





# Three areas of cooperation

- 1. Help building international consensus** on key GRFA policy issues: non-Annex 1, non food/non-feed uses, non-plant GRFA, in situ...
- 2. Strengthen linkages between conservation and use:** *how to increase benefits from conservation of GRFA to the widest range of stakeholders?*
  - Diversity characterization; GR diversity exploitation through pre-breeding strategies; information management and exchange; transfer of knowledge and research tools from major crops to minor crops
- 3. Increase on farm conservation relevance and policy support**



# A twofold role for researchers

1. Producers of knowledge and evidences to address these key research issues

*but also...*

2. Users of genetic resources and key intermediaries between several actors who do not necessarily share the same objectives

- Ensure better institutional fit between existing practices and regulatory frameworks

