



第三届国际农业生物多样性大会

The Third International Agrobiodiversity Congress

农业生物多样性繁荣人类和地球
Agrobiodiversity for People and Planet

张宗文 Zhang Zongwen

中国农业科学院作物科学研究所

Institute of Crop Sciences of CAAS



Background

- Against the backdrop of global food crisis, malnutrition, and environmental degradation, there is an urgent need to establish a more diverse, resilient, and sustainable food system to nourish the growing global population.
- However, the current global food system is overly dependent on a limited number of species and varieties, which are highly vulnerable to pests, climate change, and land degradation, further exacerbating biodiversity loss.
- The conservation and sustainable utilization of agrobiodiversity are crucial strategies for addressing food crises, malnutrition, and environmental degradation.



The important role of agrobiodiversity

Agrobiodiversity is a vital component of overall biodiversity, encompassing species, genetic, and ecosystem diversity of plants, animals, and microorganisms used in food and agriculture. It is the biodiversity most closely related to humans.

- It provides a variety of options and possibilities, which helps enhance the capacity to respond to climate change.
- It contributes to diversified production systems, improving production stability and ensuring food security.
- By providing ecosystem services, it helps maintain the health of agricultural ecosystems and promotes sustainable agricultural development.
- As a source for developing high-quality, specialized products, it can increase farmers' incomes.
- Additionally, it serves as the material foundation for improving crop varieties, continuously boosting productivity.



International Agrobiodiversity Congress was proposed

- The international community places great importance on the conservation and sustainable utilization of agrobiodiversity, with organizations such as UNEP, CBD, FAO, and ITPGRFA playing key roles.
- There is an urgent need to establish an action mechanism related to agrobiodiversity. In response, the Bioversity International proposed the convening of the Agrobiodiversity Congress as an action mechanism aligned with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- The first International Agrobiodiversity Congress was held in 2016 in New Delhi, India, with Prime Minister Modi presiding over the opening ceremony and delivering a speech. Over 900 participants attended, and it was decided that the Agrobiodiversity Congress would be held every four years. The Delhi Declaration on Agrobiodiversity Management was released at the congress, providing a global action framework for the conservation and sustainable utilization of agrobiodiversity.
- The second International Agrobiodiversity Congress, hosted by the Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture, was held online in November 2021. More than 3,100 participants attended virtually, including researchers, R&D experts, policymakers, indigenous peoples, business leaders, and youth.



第三届国际农业生物多样性大会
The Third International Agrobiodiversity Congress

The Third International Agrobiodiversity Congress will be held in Kunming, Yunnan, China, April 22-25, 2025

Organized by:



中国农业科学院
CHINESE ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES



CGIAR国际生物多样性中心与国际热带农业中心联盟
Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT of the CGIAR



Objectives

- To provide a global platform for sharing and managing knowledge, technologies, and experiences related to agrobiodiversity.
- To facilitate the exchange and assessment of the current status, challenges, and trends in the conservation and use of global agrobiodiversity.
- Within the context of agrobiodiversity conservation and utilization, to discuss and propose priority areas, goals, actions, and innovative financial mechanisms that need to be strengthened.

Expected results

- To exchange and share new knowledge, technologies, and experiences in the research on the conservation and utilization of global agrobiodiversity, as well as to promote cooperation and communication mechanisms.
- To propose new ideas, solutions, and innovative financial mechanisms for the conservation and sustainable utilization of agrobiodiversity in response to current challenges.
- To release the 2025 Kunming Declaration: Agrobiodiversity for a More Effective Global Food System.



Theme: Agrobiodiversity for People and Planet

Topic 1: Agrobiodiversity for economic growth

Topic 2: Agrobiodiversity for climate change adaptation and mitigation

Topic 3: Agrobiodiversity for improved environmental health and biodiversity

Topic 4: Agrobiodiversity for healthy diets

Topic 5: Agrobiodiversity for gender and social inclusion

Topic 6: Agrobiodiversity conservation and management strategies



Topic 1: Agrobiodiversity for economic growth

This topic will explore crop selection and its potential for livelihood development, farmer-led seed systems, the processing of diversified crop products, and the challenges and opportunities faced by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries. It will also examine the impact of trade policies, land tenure, and other regulations that may hinder the use of agrobiodiversity, as well as possible solutions. Additionally, the theme will address the circular economy and related business models that contribute to poverty reduction, livelihoods, and employment.

Topic 2: Agrobiodiversity for climate change adaptation and mitigation

This theme will discuss the role of agrobiodiversity in restoring ecosystems as carbon sinks, the adaptation capacity of species, varieties, traits, or genes to climate change, the role of integrated agricultural production systems in reducing carbon emissions, and the importance of carbon or climate financing in advancing biodiversity and climate agendas.



Topic 3: Agrobiodiversity for improved environmental health and biodiversity

This topic will explore the impact of diversified production systems on improving soil degradation and biodiversity, the management of agroforestry and other multifunctional agricultural systems, soil biodiversity and integrated soil fertility management, pollination and other ecosystem services, as well as comprehensive financial support for the value of biodiversity and other environmental aspects.

Topic 4: Agrobiodiversity for healthy diets

This topic will explore the role of agrobiodiversity at the consumer end, including the impact of the triple burden of malnutrition and the benefits of incorporating a wider range of agrobiodiversity into diets. It will also examine the role of nutrient-rich and healthy diets, the functional components of underutilized species, and the importance of local food markets in accessing diverse foods and ensuring food and nutrition security.



Topic 5: Agrobiodiversity for gender and social inclusion

This topic will emphasize the role of farmers, particularly women and youth, in managing and utilizing agrobiodiversity and related traditional knowledge. It will also explore the practices of communities and smallholder farmers in managing agrobiodiversity on farms, support farmers in using agrobiodiversity to achieve sustainable livelihoods in an inclusive manner, and look ahead to the prospects of community seed banks.

Topic 6: Agrobiodiversity conservation and management strategies

This topic will explore how to protect the diversity of agricultural species and varieties, both now and in the future, including in situ and ex situ methods. It will focus on identifying useful traits and materials to enhance productivity and nutrition, resist pests and diseases, and adapt to changing environments, while adopting participatory approaches for on-farm management of local varieties. The topic will also elaborate on how to effectively manage germplasm resources preserved in national and international gene banks within national and international policy and legal frameworks, promoting their access and benefit-sharing.



Outlined agenda

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
09:00-12:00	Conference: Opening and Keynote Addresses <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Opening Ceremony- From the Delhi-Rome-Kunming Roadmap- Conference Agenda- Senior Keynote Addresses	Conference: Global and National Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Keynote Speech Focused on the CBD Global Process- Key National Keynote Speeches on Major Progress in Agrobiodiversity	Two Parallel Thematic Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Climate Change (T2)- Healthy Food (T4)	Plenary: Closing Session Summary of the Outcomes from Each Thematic Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion and Adoption of the Kunming Declaration- Closing Ceremony
13:30-16:30	Two Parallel Thematic Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Economic Growth (T1)- Conservation and Management (T6)	Two Parallel Thematic Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gender and Social Inclusion (T5)- Environment and Biodiversity (T3)	Parallel Side Events (1.5 hours) Parallel Side Events (1h)	Visit <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Yunnan Agricultural University Agrobiodiversity Center- Germplasm Bank of Wild Species, Kunming Institute of Botany
16:30-17:30	Poster and Exhibition	Poster and Exhibition Side Events	Poster and Exhibition Side Events	

The conference schedule will be continuously updated and published on the conference website.

<http://www.iac2025.cn/>



Call for submission of abstracts

The conference is inviting the submission of abstracts from around the world. All submitted abstracts should focus on providing evidence and case studies that demonstrate the role of agrobiodiversity in addressing one of the six thematic issues. The International Scientific Committee of this conference will review all submitted abstracts and select them for either oral presentations or poster displays. The submissions should include the following:

- Name, affiliation, and position of the primary author
- A short biography of the primary author/presenter (no more than 150 words)
- Abstract title
- Keywords
- Abstract (no more than 250 words), summarizing the paper's content, including background, methods/approaches, results, and conclusions.



Important dates

October 28th, 2024	Open for abstract submission Open for online registration
November 15th, 2024	Open for side event submissions
December 31st, 2024	Deadline for abstract submission
January 27th, 2025	Announcement of abstract selection results
March 1st, 2025	Deadline for online registration discount period Final schedule released
April 1st, 2025	Close of online registration



Registration

The conference website will open for online registration for participants on October 28, 2024. Only those who have paid the registration fee and completed the registration process will be invited by the conference organizers to attend the event. Participants are requested to refer to the registration categories listed in the table below and pay the corresponding fee.

Registration Categories	Before March 1st, 2025	After March 1st, 2025
International Participants	USD 600	USD 650
International Students	USD 300	USD 350
Chinese Participants	RMB 1,000	RMB 1,500
Chinese Students	RMB 500	RMB 750



Side Events

- It is expected that no more than 8 side event applications will be accepted.
- The events will primarily be targeted towards the CGIAR system, international conservation organizations, relevant regional and national organizations, and major collaborative projects.
- The guidelines for applying for side events will be released on the conference website on November 15th.
- Side event organizers will be responsible for the format and content of the events, while the conference organizers will arrange the time and venue.
- The schedule for side events, as part of the overall conference agenda, should be submitted to the conference organizers by March 1st, 2025.



“The Kunming Manifesto on Agrobiodiversity”

Under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and building on the Delhi Declaration, the Rome Declaration, and the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, further short-term action goals, key tasks, and implementation frameworks will be proposed to strengthen the conservation and sustainable utilization of global agrobiodiversity. These proposals will address major issues and needs in current global food and nutrition security, food and environmental health, and socio-economic development.



第三届国际农业生物多样性大会
The Third International Agrobiodiversity Congress

Thank you!

Please visit the conference website: www.iac2025.cn