

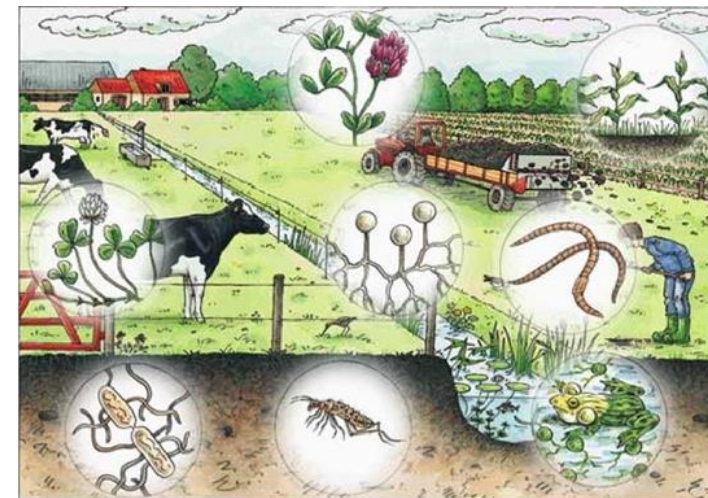
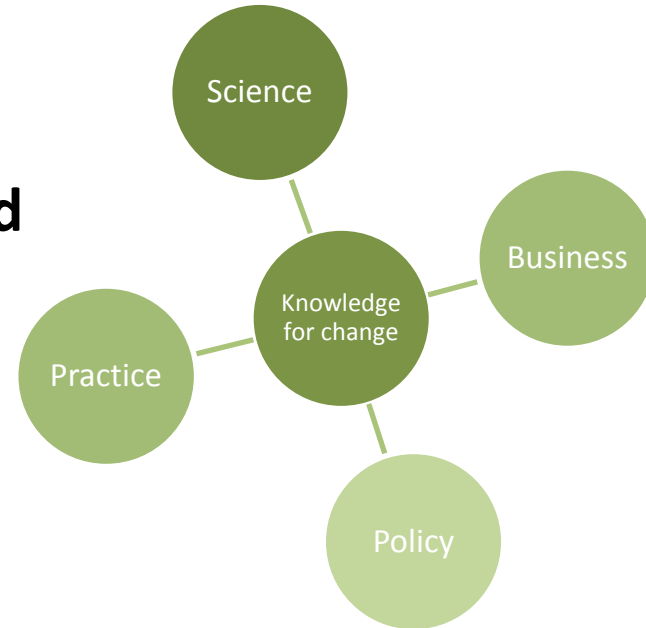
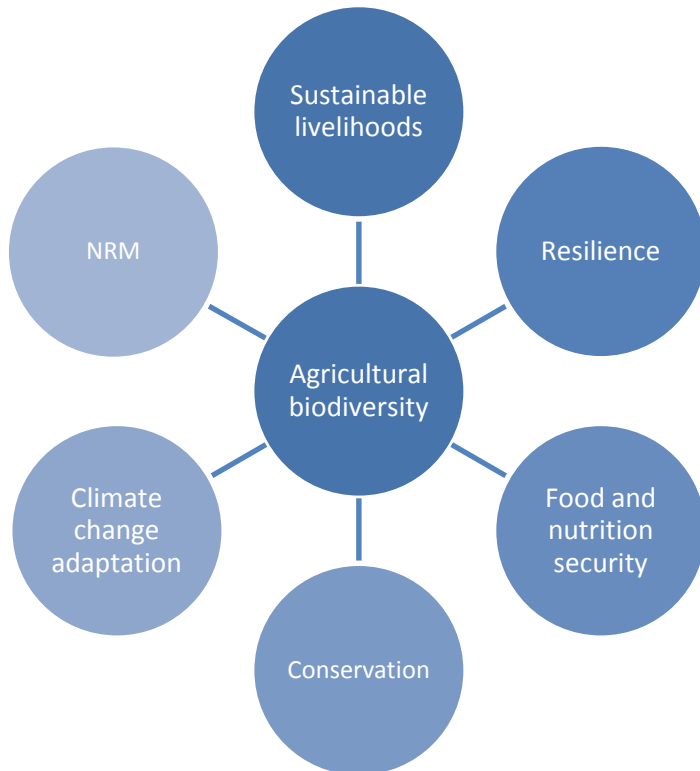
Agricultural biodiversity community



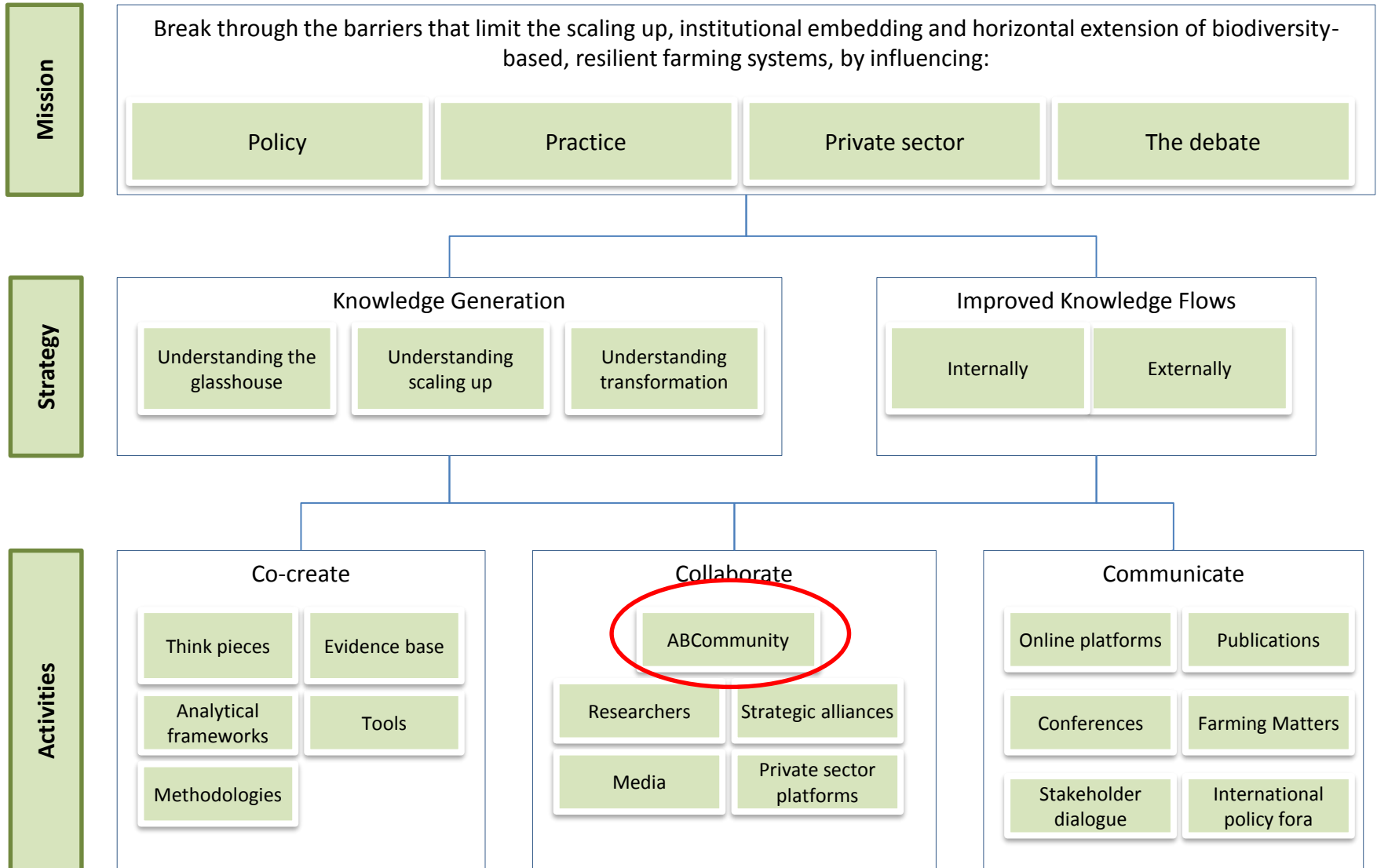
Unity for Diversity



Knowledge programme agricultural biodiversity @knowledged



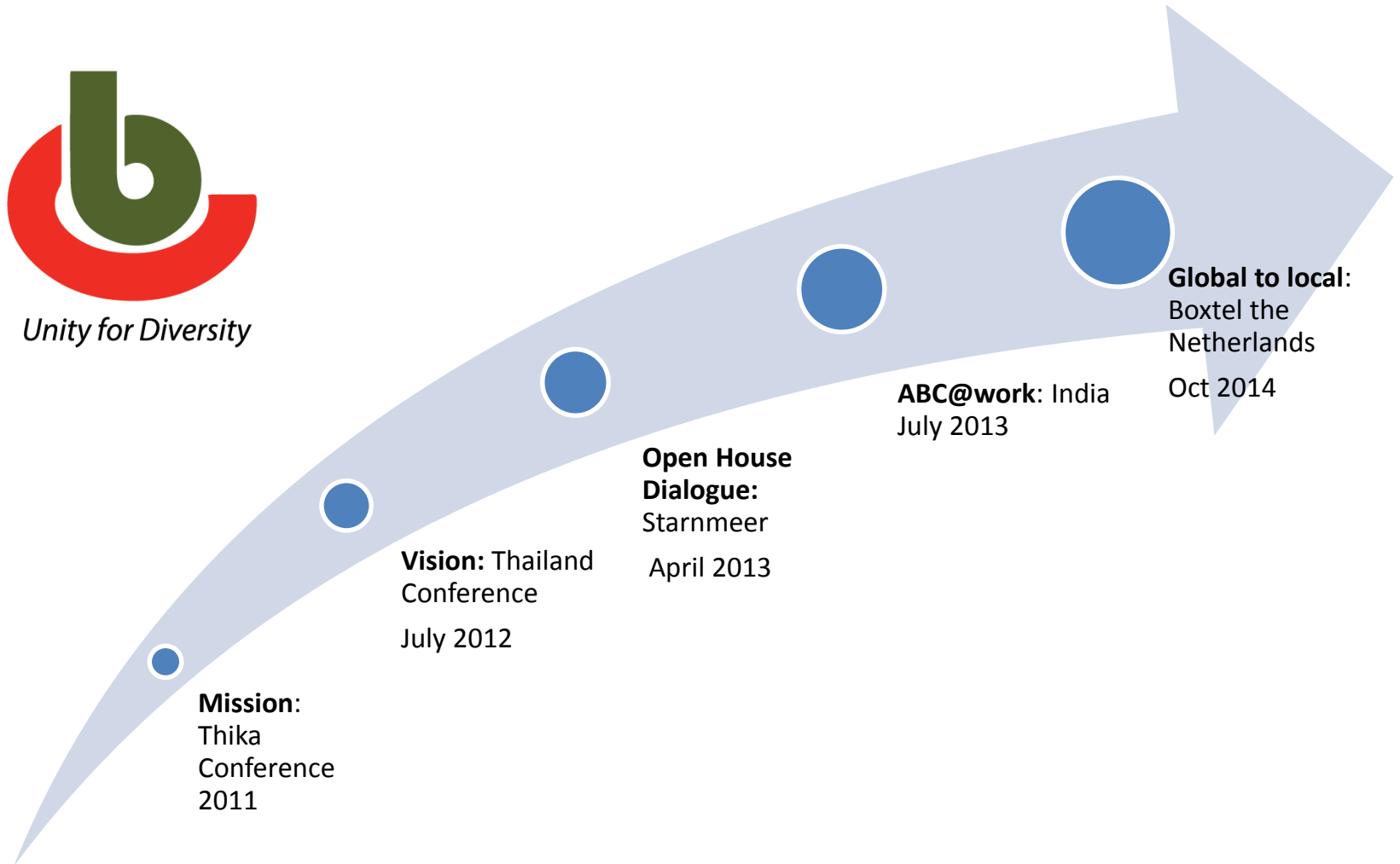
Agrobiodiversity@knowledged - Strategy Map



Journey of the abc



Unity for Diversity



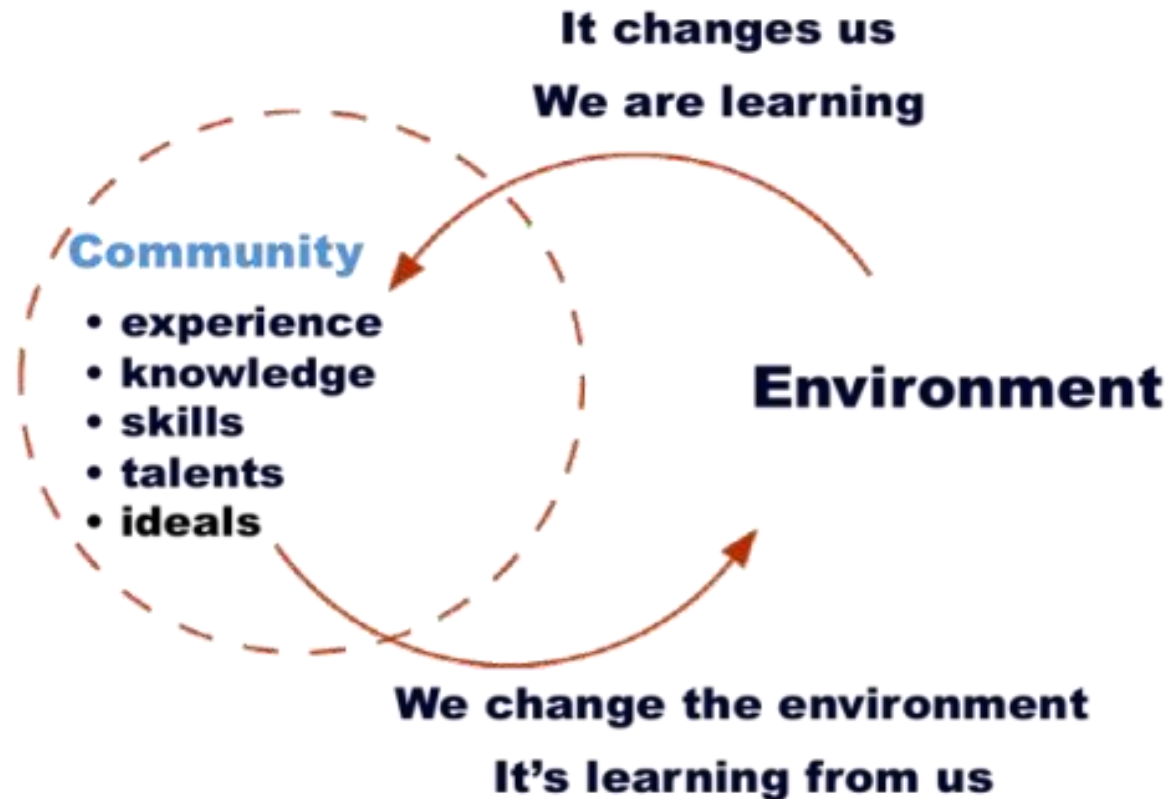
Membership



Summary

Members	154
Countries and territories	25

Why a community of practice?





Unity for Diversity

Vision



The abc desires a world where agricultural biodiversity is conserved, carefully utilized and continuously developed; a world where **smallholder farmers, pastoralist, fisher folk and forest dwellers (men and women)** are enabled to contribute to, and benefit from, **biodiversity-based resilient food production systems**; a world where these people, the agricultural biodiversity they manage and their associated socio-ecological systems, are recognized, supported and strengthened and **consumers have access to healthy produce** coming from such farming systems.



Unity for Diversity

Mission



The abc aims to break through the barriers that limit the **scaling up, institutional embedding and horizontal extension** of **people-centered, agricultural-biodiversity-based food production systems.**



Unity for Diversity

Priority areas



The abc works across five priority areas for strategic intervention:

- Seeds, breeds and technology
- Resilient communities
- Policy influence
- Markets and trade
- Information networks



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Strategies cum Goals



The abc provides a platform for:

- **Knowledge exchange**
- **Skills exchange**
- **Co-creation**
- **Collaboration**
- **Inspiration and empowerment**



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Seeds, breeds and technology



- 1. Nutritional and Therapeutic Properties of Indigenous Paddy Varieties – CIKS India**
- 2. Establishing an Open Source Seed System – CSA India**
 - ❖ A working group was initiated
 - ❖ Support from OSSI in US



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Resilient communities



1. Resilient Assessment tool developed
2. A website developed
3. Assessment tool tried in four sites and results shared in UNDP- SwedBio workshop



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Policy influence



- **Advanced Reflective Program (ARP) on Agricultural Biodiversity for Decision makers – Dhan Foundation India**
- **Making the Case for Ecological Agriculture in Africa by AFSA**
- **Study of biodiversity-based livestock development approaches of the LIFE Network for contribution to the GAA process**
- **State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture report: influencing process and outcomes**
- **Support to Seedmap.org**



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Other initiatives



- **Zimbabwe Biodiversity Stewardship Recognition and Award – CTDT Zimbabwe**
- **Workshops on Landscapes Labeling (Sept) in Mbeya Tanzania**



Knowledge sharing

Online platforms



- Dgroup is main source of sharing and linking with members from 24 countries
- Wordpress not updated but remains useful
- 18 articles and interviews on a@k page on AgriCultures network website
- Dedicated space on Hivos website, interview in Hivos Magazine. Selective items on ON page and KPM newsletter
- abc@work conference website with communication materials







Dgroup



The Hivos Oxfam Novib Knowledge programme on agriculture, biodiversity and climate change started in 2011 aims to develop knowledge for change in the hands of researchers and practitioners alike in the field mentioned. The programme started its work with a mapping of existing knowledge on current debates using a resilience framework. The work was carried out by the Stockholm Resilience Centre. The first plans were developed at a meeting of 25 interested organisations in Kenya. Areas of interest included more insights in how to increase the impact of successful approaches ('breaking the glass house'), to scale up current successful farmer experiences and initiatives e.g in the field of participatory plant breeding and in agro-ecological practices and to strengthen important approaches ('the undercurrent'). Next steps are expected to include further development of a knowledge network and carry out action research on identified areas including both practitioners and researchers

Recent discussions

Discussions →

-  [Urgent...need a letter from u abt accom and expenses](#)
ramoo@csa-india.org on April 9 1
-  [Moving to a different position](#)
fhfheckman@gmail.com on April 2 34
-  [job posting: USC Canada program specialist plant genetic resources](#)
fahmed@usc-canada.org on March 25 1
-  [Take the pledge to support family farming](#)
fhfheckman@gmail.com on March 20 2
-  [Animation: soil + family farmer = nourished planet](#)
sdoombos@hivos.org on March 20 1
-  [Inventory of initiatives to enhance agbio - your help needed!](#)
vivekseva@gmail.com on March 19 2

Recent resources

Library →

 [You are what you eat](#)

www.agriculturalbiodiversity.org

www.hivos.net



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Knowledge sharing

Publications



- **a@k columns in four issues: SRI (CIKS India), Markets (Pelum Uganda), Education (Searice Philippines), Family farming (CSA India).**
- **Synthesis report of SRC mapping study: Agricultural biodiversity for resilient farming systems**
- **Report of abc conference Thailand**
- **Video reports of abc@work conference and participant reflections (abc@work, SCRUM methodology and stakeholder dialogue)**
- **Report (not yet published) on SCRUM conference methodology**
- **Two think pieces on food**



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Knowledge sharing

Public debate



- Stakeholder dialogue (April) with 16 high profile representatives from the academic, government and private sector and 7 abc members



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Knowledge sharing *Contribution in international fora*



- Brussels development briefing EU (March, 2013)
- Rome CGRFA (April, 2013)
- Ethiopia (April, 2013); input in strategic plan ILRI
- ITPGRFA Oman (Oct, 2013)
- CFS, Rome (Oct, 2013)- launch of Seedmap
- First International Conference on Global Food Security (Sept. 2013)



Unity for Diversity

Agricultural biodiversity community

Moving forward...



Unity for Diversity

abc in transition



- Shift towards “member driven community”
- Reviewing and accepting purpose statement developed earlier
- Constitution of a 6 member Steering Committee (SC) and developing terms of reference
- Identification of a secretariat (DHAN Foundation) and developing terms of reference



Unity for Diversity

abc Steering Committee



- M. P. Vasimalai, DHAN Foundation, India- Chair person
- Mr. Michael Commons, EarthNet Foundation, Thailand
- Mr. Prosper, Ruzivo, Zimbabwe
- Mrs. Sonali Bisht, INHERE, India
- Ms. Jamila, SRC, Swedon
- Ms. Maryleen Micheni, PELUM, Kenya



Unity for Diversity

First SC meeting



Focus

- Brainstorm on how to transform abc into a natural vibrant community.
- Relooking the purpose statement, terms of reference of SC and secretariat of abc
- Efforts to be taken before October to ensure continuity and sustenance for the next one or two years
- Sharing of responsibilities by SC and other members.



Unity for Diversity

First SC meeting...



Brainstorming done on

- Core purpose
- Unique features of abc
- Core values
- Rights /responsibilities of SC and members
- Priorities for action
- Matrix of members based on level of involvement; need for differentiated approach
- Financing mechanisms/self-financing
- Building alliances with other networks
- Concrete action plan for next 3 months (Aug/Sep/Oct)



Unity for Diversity

The possible activities identified



Knowledge exchange

- Sharing of results of Agrobiodiversity@knowledged programme supported projects.
- Sharing of best practices and other knowledge products (manuals, tools, outcome stories, policy briefs, etc.) on promoting agricultural biodiversity by members.
- Knowledge building events like thematic conference and using novel formats like webinar, roadshow, etc.
- Sharing of agricultural biodiversity initiatives by members through newsletter, uploading of videos in the website, etc.



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Skills exchange



- Mapping of skills on agricultural biodiversity of the members need to be undertaken to facilitate exchange of skills based on demand.
- Facilitation of training at regional/ country levels
- Facilitation of exchange visit for considerable duration among partners



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Co-creation and collaboration



- This is the strength of abc and can be a unique feature when compared to other networks.
- Undertaking joint projects
- Applying for consortium proposals
- Each working group can share the knowledge product (like tools, manual, etc.) across the members for use and further development



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Inspiration and empowerment



- Support to address repressive policies by other abc members
- Sharing of progress and achievements on agricultural biodiversity by members between and beyond the meetings in a regular interval in a consistent manner



Unity for Diversity

Initiatives taken



1. Reached out to the members for confirming their involvement
2. Mobilised funds from SwedBio
3. Initiated e-Newsletter
4. Organised Annual meeting at Thika



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Leads for moving forward



1. Institutionalising abc
 - a. Strengthening the member base
 - b. Expanding the steering committee
 - c. Evolving organisational structure
2. Giving continuity to existing initiatives
3. Expanding the scope of abc
 - a. New working groups
 - b. Alliance with other networks
 - c. Knowledge generation initiatives
4. Fund raising at different levels

Moving forward of abc...

