

## TOPIC: AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY AND FSN

My name is Luigi Guarino and I work at the Global Crop Diversity Trust (<http://croptrust.org>). The Trust is an independent international organization housed by FAO devoted to the development and support of a rational system for ex situ conservation of crop genetic resources. It is an element of the funding strategy of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

I'm not very familiar with FSN concepts and practice and I would like to educate myself. Can I therefore ask whether **the issue of agricultural biodiversity** (i.e. the ecosystem, species and genetic diversity found in agricultural landscapes) is much discussed **in FSN circles**? For example, are variables such as the number of different varieties of sorghum or the number of different leafy green vegetables (for example) grown by people in an area the kind of baseline data that are documented when doing livelihoods and food security vulnerability assessments? I have a feeling that this aspect of livelihoods and food security is sometimes ignored, or at least not given the consideration it deserves. But that may just be a bias on my part because of the work I do.

I would really appreciate the input of participants in this forum so I can try to better understand the field and the possible role of organizations like the Trust and Bioversity International in this kind of work.

Best regards,

Luigi Guarino

Global Crop Diversity Trust

(<http://croptrust.org>)