



Friday 03 July 2020

3:00 – 5:00 PM (Rome Time – CET)

A Taste of Biodiversity

A touch of cocoa into the Mediterranean Diet, towards a healthier and sustainable planet

This online event is part of the initiative “Mediterranean Diet’s Principles for Agenda 2030”

WEBINAR

FAO Technical Network on
Sustainable Crop Production and Agroecology

The Italian Permanent Representation to the UN Agencies in Rome, the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, and the FAO Technical Network on Sustainable Crop Production and Agroecology are pleased to invite you to the webinar entitled “A Taste of Biodiversity – A touch of cocoa into the Mediterranean Diet, towards a healthier and sustainable planet” on 03 July. This online event is part of the initiative “Mediterranean Diet’s Principles for Agenda 2030”, a series of thematic sessions promoted by the Italian Permanent Representation that aim to raise awareness on how the Mediterranean Diet can help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The event aims to:

- Present the contribution of food and agricultural biodiversity to food security and nutrition, resilience and sustainability in agriculture value chains, and highlight the benefits of the Mediterranean Diet.
- Present activities to preserve and promote biodiversity in the Mediterranean region and beyond, with special attention to mitigating the effects of COVID-19.
- Present best practices in conservation and sustainable production of cocoa that can be replicated in other regions and crops.

PROGRAMME

15.00 - 15.15

Opening remarks

Moderator: **Marcela Villareal** – Director, Partnerships Division, FAO

- H.E. **Vincenza Lomonaco** – Permanent Representative of Italy to the UN Agencies in Rome
- **Juan Lucas Restrepo** – Director General, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- **Beth Bechdol** – Deputy Director General, FAO

15.15 - 15.35

Session 1 – Why biodiversity matters?

- Biodiversity for food security, nutrition and healthy diets
Teresa Borelli – The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- Why biodiversity is critical for healthy diets
Anna Lartey – Director, Nutrition and Food Systems Division, FAO
- Biodiversity for sustainable agriculture
Mario Marino – International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO
- Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework: Environmental sustainability and agri-food system in the Mediterranean Basin
Lorenzo Ciccarese – ISPRA

15.35 - 15.55

Session 2 – How can we preserve biodiversity for future generations?

- The future of agrobiodiversity: thinking global, acting local
Chiara Villani – The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- The promotion of Conservation agriculture in the Mediterranean region
Michele Rinaldi – CREA
- Sustainable Cropping Systems
Fenton Beed – Team Leader, Rural and Urban Crop Systems, Plant Production and Protection Division, FAO
- International Year of Plant Health and biodiversity
Mirko Montuori – Project Officer, International Year of Plant Health, FAO

15.55 - 16.15

Session 3 – How has biodiversity sustained present generations? The case of cocoa

- The importance to preserve ancient cultivations as cultural heritage
H.E. **Massimo Riccardo** – Permanent Representative of Italy at UNESCO
- Cocoa of Excellence
Brigitte Laliberté – The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- Normative instruments to preserve biodiversity at the national level
José Antonio Villena Sierra – President, Asociación Latino Americana de Denominación de Origen
- Public-Private Partnership to improve the livelihoods of cocoa farmers in Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas, Ecuador
Riccardo Mazzucchelli – Public Information Specialist, International Plant Protection Convention Secretariat, FAO

16.15 - 16.35

Q&A Session

16.35 - 16.40

Closing remarks

- **Mario Lubetkin** – Assistant Director General, FAO