

Biodiversity, Desertification, Water, Food and Human Rights

Towards **G8**:
an international meeting
of knowledge, experiences
and testimonies

Faculty of Agriculture
University of Sassari
Sardinia, Italy
Viale Italia 39, Sassari
**September,
18 → 20th 2008**

SARDEGNA



Issues such as biodiversity, desertification, water and food have become a planetary emergency, but still today there is no real awareness of their close interconnection and, notwithstanding the many international agreements, they are a challenge to which effective answers still need to be found.



In light of the G8 meeting in 2009 at La Maddalena, the Region of Sardinia intends to give an informal contribution through a series of initiatives on issues of the agenda so as to involve to the extent possible institutions, scientists, persons of law, associations and private citizens who have the future of the Planet at heart.

The deterioration of ecosystems at the global level has both caused and increased disparity among peoples, and has highlighted fundamental issues, ignored up to now, of biodiversity, climatic change, desertification and human rights. The dramatic reduction of biodiversity, climate change, with the increasing phenomenon of desertification on one hand and tropicalization on the other, biological

invasions and the threat to autochthonous species, together with water and food and their social implication as a fundamental human right and common good, will be the subject of discussion from different points of view.



Participants will include leading international experts, academics, and representatives of NGOs and environmental associations; the meeting is preparatory to the presentation of a document with the G8 meeting at La Maddalena in mind, with

the hope that it provides a tool that can contribute to a deeper understanding and awareness of Governments, which have the responsibility to give global answers to these pressing issues.

Scientific Committee

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Meeting coordinators

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General information

Free entrance.

Pre-registration is not required. Registrations may be done directly at the Organizing Secretariat's desk at the Conference venue
Simultaneous translation (Italian/English) provided



REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

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With the participation

Agriculture Faculty, University of Sassari, Italy

Center of Conservation and Promotion of plant Biodiversity,
University of Sassari, Italy

European Center for Climatic Changes, IPCC Italy

International Commission on the Future of Food and Agriculture, Italy

NRD-Research Unit Desertification, University of Sassari, Italy

National Center to Combat Desertification, Italy

Thursday 18th september

8:30 → 9:00
Registration

9:00 → 10:00
Welcome of Authorities
Gianfranco Ganau, Mayor of Sassari Town
Alessandra Giudici, President of Sassari Province
Alessandro Maida, Rector of University of Sassari
Renato Soru, President of Autonomous Region of Sardinia

Introduction to work program: **Ignazio Camarda**

ROOM A ROUND TABLE

Biodiversity and ecosystems: a global patrimony to be protected

Chairperson/moderator: **Mike Manfredo**

10:00
Jakob von Uexkull, Founder of The Right Livelihood Award and the World Future Council
Diversity and a sustainable livelihood of future generations

10:20
Mike Manfredo, Dept. Head Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism, Colorado State University, USA
Human dimensions of natural resources

10:40
Sandro Pignatti, Prof. Emeritus Accademy of Lincei, Italy
Biodiversity, genetic, ecological and cultural erosion in the Mediterranean basin

11:00
Andrei Laletin, Global Forest Coalition, Krasnojarsk, Russia
Siberian Taiga: its importance and threats to the biom

11:20
Wolfgang Schumacher, Institute of Crop Science and Resource Conservation, INRES. Ecology of Cultural Landscape, Geobotany and Nature Protection, University of Bonn, Germany
Promotion of the Biodiversity of Central European cultural landscapes through restoration and nature conservation strategies integrating land use

11:40
Mohamed Rejdali, Laboratory of Botany. Dept. of plant ecology, Institute of Agriculture and Veterinary Science, University Hassan II, Rabat, Morocco
Biodiversity in North-Africa, local uses and management

12:00
Nobert Jürgens, Biocentre Klein Flottbek University of Hamburg, Germany
Dryland ecosystems and Biodiversity in Africa: The role of local communities

12:20
Samuel Muhonyu, Network for Ecofarming for Africa, Kenya
Gambling with food is a death sentence for millions in Africa

12:40
Marina Silva, Senator, former Brazilian Environmental Minister, Brazil
The Amazon Rainforest as a strategic resource for Humanity

13:00 _ 13:30
DISCUSSION

ROOM A ROUND TABLE

Diversity: life and cultures under threat. Climate change and biological invasions

Chairperson/moderator: **Phil Hulme**

15:30
Mark Davis, Dept. of Biology, Macalester College, S. Paul, USA
Globalisation and biological invasions: impacts on native biodiversity

15:50
Carlos Ramirez, Institute of Botany and Statistics. Southern University of Chile, Valdivia, Chile
Forest decline and alien plants in Chile

16:10
Phil Hulme, Bio-protection and Ecology Division, Lincoln University, New Zealand
Biological invasion: do we have the right management and policy tools to respond ?

16:30
Roberto Pantaleoni, Dept. of Plant Protection, University of Sassari, Italy
Impact of exotic insects pests on Sardinian landscape and culture

16:50
Laszlo Rakosy & Elena Rakosy Tican, University, Babes-Bolyai, Cluj, Rumania
Traditional Romanian agriculture landscape change and its effects on vegetation and insects populations

17:10
Eladio Fernandez Galiano, Head of the Biological Diversity Unit, Council of Europe
The threat of biological invasion in Europe in a context of Climate Change: European responses

17:30 _ 18:00
DISCUSSION

ROOM B ROUND TABLE

Diversity: life and cultures under threat. Climate change and desertification

Chairperson/moderator: **Bruno Dettori**

15:30
Antonio Navarra, Director European Center for Climatic Changes. IPCC, Italy
Climatic change between certainties and uncertainties

15:50
Angelo Aru, Former Professor of Geopedology at Cagliari University, Italy
Soil degradation and desertification: social aspects of a similar problem

16:10
Valerio Calzolaio, UNCCD Consultant, Italy
Climatic change, climatic migration and climate refugees

16:30
Luc Gnacadja, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat desertification, Benin
Desertification, land degradation and drought, a civilization issue. UNCCD and the role of land in the carbon economy

16:50
Hama Arbo Diallo, Former Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Burchina Faso

Awareness and actions of Governments to combat desertification: 10 years of experience

17:10
Mahamat Moukthar Djibrine, National Institute of Human Sciences, University of N'Djamena, Chad
The problem of desertification in chad

17:30
Giuseppe Enne & Pier Paolo Roggero, NRD (Research Unit Desertification), University of Sassari, Italy
Cooperation projects to combat desertification: lessons learned by NRD and implications for future actions

17:50
Mariam Akhtar-Schuster, Co-chair of the European Network for Global Desertification Research, Biocentre Klein Flottbek, University of Hamburg, Germany
Strengthening the science/policy Interface and promoting cutting edge science for dryland development

18:10
Riccardo Petrella, President European Research Institute on Water Policy, Italy
Climatic change, Water and Desertification. Beyond technology

18:30 _ 19:00
DISCUSSION

Friday 19th september

ROOM A ROUND TABLE

Biological knowledge, patents and human rights

Chairperson/moderator: **Pietro Luciano**

09:30
Vandana Shiva, Right Livelihood Award 1993. Founder Navdanya, Physicist, Environmental and human rights activist, Author, India
Sharing Earth's Bounty - Humanity's path to peace and justice

10:00
Elisabeth Dodinet, Secretary Société Botanique de France, France
Trade and uses of exotic aromatic and medicinal plants and spices. The emergence of a world system: a view from antique and modern Mediterranean

10:20
Mario Agabbio, Dept. of Agri-Crops and Biotechnology, Sassari University, Italy
Agricultural biodiversity in the light of the international scenarios

10:40
Ignazio Camarda, Dept. of Botany and Plant Ecology, Faculty of Agriculture, Sassari University, Italy
Can species be owned?

11:00
Paolo Fois, Dept. of Economy, Institution and Society Sassari University, Italy
Multinationals and Biodiversity

11:20
Marcello Buiatti, Dept. of genetics, University of Florence, Italy
GMOs: a false solution to feeding the world

11:40
Debi Barker, Co-Director, International Forum on Globalization, USA
Industrial agriculture: A threat to food security

12:10
Marina Silva, Senator, former Brazilian Environmental Minister, Brazil
Biodiversity and sustainability – Keystones to life

12:30 _ 13:00
DISCUSSION

ROOM A ROUND TABLE

Humanity's common goods and sovereignty rights

Chairperson/moderator: **Marina Silva**

15:30
Janice Jiggins, Wageningen University Research, Communication and Innovation Studies, Food and Soil, The Netherlands.
When business as usual is not an option, what are the choices for decision makers?

15:50
Maria Grazia Mammuccini, Administrator, ARSIA/Region of Tuscany, Italy
Protection and valorization of local breeds and varieties - regional self-determination for environmental and social sustainability

16:10
Giovanni Cordini, ICEF – International Court of the Environment Foundation, University of Pavia, Italy
Water rights and the right to water

16:30
Qiu Sun, Integrated Rural Development Research Institute, Guzhou Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China
The stakeholders and their stake holding in water management

17:40
Vandana Shiva, Right Livelihood Award 1993. Founder Navdanya, Physicist, Environmental and human rights activist, Author, India
Enclosure and Recovery of the Commons, Food and Water

18:00 _ 18:30
DISCUSSION

Saturday 20th september

ROOM A

Manifesto on climate change and the future of food security

Chairperson/moderator: **Maria Grazia Mammuccini**, Administrator, ARSIA/Region of Tuscany

9:30 → 10:20
Vandana Shiva, Chair, International Commission on the Future of Food and Agriculture
Marcello Buiatti, Member International Commission on the Future of Food and Agriculture
Debi Barker, International Commission on the Future of Food and Agriculture
Francesco Foddìs, Assessor for Agriculture, Region of Sardinia

ROOM A

Climate change and nature's commons: the future of food and water security

Chairperson/moderator: **Vandana Shiva**, Right Livelihood Award 1993

10:20 → 12:00
consideration of the draft document of the conference

18 → 20th september

Activities of universities and NGOs of the sardinian Region; activities of the other Institutions

Free presentation of posters on meeting's topics