An (in)convenient future

Policy on Genetic Resources in The Netherlands
Netherlands policy on genetic resources

Conservation, sustainable use and equitable distribution of benefits

Contributing to:
- Sustainable agriculture
- International leading role of Dutch research & breeding
- Biodiversity in rural development, value of Dutch cultural heritage
- Global food security

Genetic resources: self-replicating living material with actual or potential value for use by human society
Related international legislative environment

Biodiversity

CBD

Carthagena

IT-PGRFA

Nagoya

ABS

GPA

Trade

WTO

UPOV

TRIPS

SPS

WIPO

PATENT SYSTEMS

Intellectual Property Rights

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Intellectual Property Rights

UPOV

TRIPS

SPS

WIPO

PATENT SYSTEMS
Institutional Environment

Policy document: ‘Bronnen van ons bestaan’
(Sources of Existence)

Min EL&I

Wageningen R&D

CGN

Core Finance

WOT

‘Centre of Excellence’

WOT: 5 year research program based on international agreements

Research, advise, information, support, promotion & networking

Stakeholders

• Seed industry
• Animal breeding industry
• Forestry management (SBB)
• Other public/private genebanks
• NGO’s
• Education
• Research
• Civil society
• Other government
CGN and the Netherlands Government

- Unique position of CGN - added value to the Netherlands Government through:

  - Knowledge centre for development and dissemination of know-how on genetic resources;
    - National information centre for IT and CBD
    - Efficient Genebank management
  - Providing policy and technical support;
    - representation of the Netherlands in EU and other international platforms, at the request of government
  - Network of (inter)national stakeholders
  - 25 years history – acting as the government’s memory on matters related to genetic resources for food and agriculture
Genetic resources in the context of global food security

- Moral imperative for plant breeders
- New system approaches, attention to minor food crops
- Min EL&I emphasis on food security: AFC conference, Nov 2010
- Future crop genetic characteristics, do we know these?
- Challenge for 2050…. 
Welcome
Eucarpia meeting

Thank you