



## **Report of the Second Chinese DIVERSEEDS Workshop**

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The second regional workshop in China was held on 19<sup>th</sup> June of 2008 at the Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IBCAS). This workshop was organised by IBCAS and the Institute of Crop Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (ICS-CAAS). The workshop's objectives were to:

- 1) Review the DIVERSEEDS e-conference;
- 2) Discuss and revise the issues related to plant genetic resource conservation and use;
- 3) Discuss and draft recommendations for the use and conservation of PGR;
- 4) Discuss proposals put forward by European colleagues and Chinese partners;
- 5) Prepare the second international Diverseeds meeting in Kunming, China.

The director of IBCAS, Prof. Keping Ma, briefly introduced the researches of IBCAS working on PGR use and conservation. Vice director Prof. Shu-min Wang gave a presentation on the 'International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resource for Food and Agriculture' (ITPGRFA). He provided some fundamental information on ITPGR and the policy in China. Prof. Bao-rong Lu from Fudan University presented a successful case study on the use and conservation of PGR. Finally, Dr. Wei Wei updated the progress made since the last regional Diverseeds workshop and defined the activities of this workshop. The following session was chaired by Prof. Song GE, Vice-director of IBCAS. Prof. Zeng-yan Zhang, Dr. Ying-yui Li from ICS-CAAS and Dr. Hai-fei Zhou of IBCAS presented the outcomes of the e-conference, the major issues addressed and the resulting recommendations in the three main categories: in situ and ex situ integration, landrace conservation and the use and conservation of NUS. This presentation was followed by a discussion, involving primarily senior experts.

In a session chaired by Prof. Da-yuan Xue from the Central University for Nationalities and the Ministry of environmental Protection of China, Dr. Wei presented new project proposal put forward by Dr. Nigel Maxted from Birmingham University, Dr. Markus Schmidt from IDC and by himself. These proposals raised a lot of interest among the meeting's participants. The final session was used to prepare the second international meeting that will be held in Kunming. Following the workshop, the main issues and recommendations addressed in the presentations were provided to CAAS senior scientists for evaluation. On the basis of these evaluations, a final list of recommendations was elaborated.