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Farmer's Pride

Networking, partnerships and tools to enhance *in situ* conservation of European plant genetic resources

Final dissemination conference

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This document is a deliverable of the Farmer's Pride project: D5.8, 'Dissemination conference'.



The Farmer's Pride final dissemination conference was convened in association with the Genetic Resources section of the European Association for Research on Plant Breeding (EUCARPIA) and the European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources (ECPGR) as a virtual event over four days, 28 June – 01 July 2021¹. A dedicated website was created for publicity, access to the conference programme, information about speakers and session chairs, registration, and resources associated with the conference sessions, presentations, and Farmer's Pride project (Figures 1–3).



Figure 1. Dedicated conference website – home page (farmersprideconference.org/)

The event was organized across four themed sessions:

1. Realizing the public and private benefits of *in situ*/on-farm PGR conservation
2. Enhancing the use of PGR conserved *in situ*/on-farm
3. Optimizing *in situ*/on-farm PGR population management
4. Establishing a European network for *in situ* conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources

As this was a virtual event, the sessions were intentionally kept reasonably short (2.5 hours for Sessions 1–3 and 4.5 hours for Session 4, which included the policy roundtable and stakeholder workshop) to

¹ farmersprideconference.org/programme/

maximize participation. They were each convened at 13:00 CEST to allow for participation outside of Europe.

There were 170 registrants for the conference and viewing numbers were: Session 1 – 157; Session 2 – 144; Session 3 – 151; Session 4 – 106.

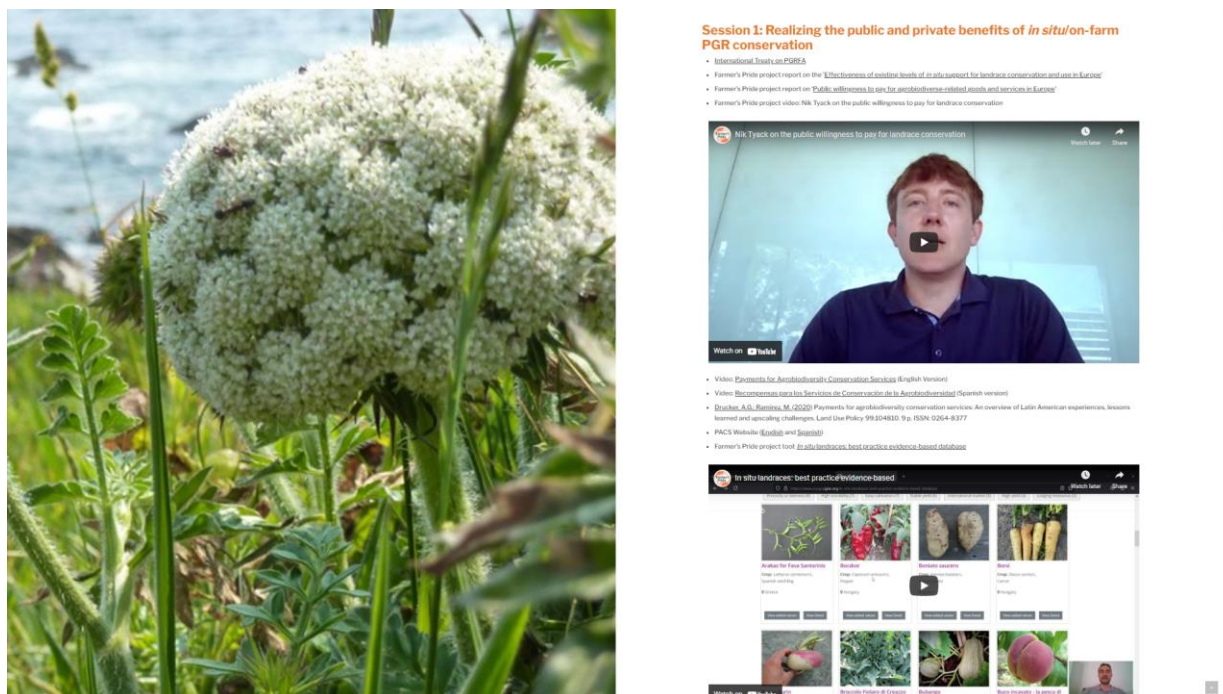


Figure 2. Screenshot from part of the 'Resources' page of the conference website farmersprideconference.org/resources/

The conference was chaired by Shelagh Kell, Farmer's Pride Project Manager, and Chair of the EUCARPIA Genetic Resources section, who also led the organization of the conference. Presentations were given by keynote speakers Kent Nnadozie, Secretary, FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA); Stef de Haan, Centro Internacional de la Papa (part of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research – CGIAR); Ronnie Vernooij, the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT; and Nigel Maxted (University of Birmingham), Farmer's Pride Project Coordinator. Each of the session keynotes was followed by presentations comprising a mix of Farmer's Pride partners for the dissemination of the project outputs, and invited external speakers (see [Farmers Pride conference programme.pdf](#)).

The sessions were chaired by Chike Mba, FAO and member of the Farmer's Pride External Advisory Board (EAB); Farmer's Pride Ambassador (FPA) Susanne Barth from the Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority; and project partners Anna Palmé (NORDGEN) and Parthenopi Ralli (DIMITRA).

Seven panellists representing FAO; Euroseeds; Eurosite – the European Land Conservation Network; the European Environment Agency; the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic; the FAO ITPGRFA; and DG Agriculture and Rural Development, participated in the policy roundtable as part of Session 4 (see Deliverable 3.6²).


See farmersprideconference.org/speakers/ for the details of all speakers and session chairs.

² Add url when published

For the final part of the session, the conference participants split into ten breakout rooms to further discuss questions 1 and 2 of the policy roundtable, and a final plenary reporting and discussion session was convened. The key outcomes of the breakout and plenary discussions are summarized in Deliverable 4.4³.

The conference sessions (except for the breakout room discussions) were recorded and are available at farmersprideconference.org/programme/.


Conference Chair




Shelagh Kell
The University of Birmingham
[Open biography](#)

Welcome to our conference. We are delighted to present an impressive line-up of speakers who are stakeholders and leading experts in aspects of global in situ and on-farm conservation, management and sustainable use of plant genetic resources.


Keynote speakers




Session 1
Kent Nnadozie
FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
[Open biography](#)



Session 2
Stef de Haan
Centro Internacional de la Papa
[Open biography](#)




Session 3
Ronnie Vernooij
The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
[Open biography](#)




Session 4
Nigel Maxted
The University of Birmingham
[Open biography](#)


Session chairs




Session 1
Chikelu Mba
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
[Open biography](#)



Session 2
Susanne Barth
Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority
[Open biography](#)




Session 3
Anna Palmé
Nordic Genetic Resource Center
[Open biography](#)




Session 4
Parthenopi Ralli
Hellenic Agricultural Organization – DIMITRA
[Open biography](#)


Policy roundtable




Chair
Geoffrey Hawtin OBE
Former Director General of Bioversity International and CIAT
[Open biography](#)




Panelist
Katarzyna Biala
European Environment Agency
[Open biography](#)




Panelist
Szonja Csörgö
Euroseeds
[Open biography](#)




Panelist
Tilmann Disselhoff
Eurosit - the European Land Conservation Network
[Open biography](#)




Panelist
Chikelu Mba
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
[Open biography](#)



Panelist
Kent Nnadozie
FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
[Open biography](#)



Panelist
Annette Schneegans
European Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development
[Open biography](#)



Panelist
Vlastimil Zedek
Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic
[Open biography](#)

Figure 3. Screenshot from part of the ‘Speakers’ page of the conference website farmersprideconference.org/speakers/

The conference proceedings will be published in 2022 by CABI (cabi.org/) under the title ‘PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES – IN NATURE AND ON-FARM: Ensuring diversity for food and agriculture’, both in print version and open access.

³ [D4.4 European in situ PGR conservation network.pdf](#)