

# INVITATION

## Presentation of invited Speakers:

### **Toby Hodgkin**

Toby Hodgkin has recently retired as a Principal Scientist at Bioversity International in Rome, Italy. He has over twenty years experience of working on conservation and use of agrobiodiversity working on-farm maintenance of diversity, the socio-economic aspects of conservation and the conservation of crop wild relatives. Most recently he was responsible for Bioversity's collaboration with international agriculture and conservation organizations working with FAO, UNEP and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. He is currently the Coordinator of the Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research and is leading the Platform's work on the ways in which rural communities and indigenous peoples can use agrobiodiversity to help cope with climate change.

### **Eija Pouta**

is a professor at the MTT Agrifood Research Finland. She is an expert in valuation of environmental non-market benefits and costs. She has conducted numerous empirical studies in valuing nature conservation as well as ecosystem services such as outdoor recreation, rural landscape and rural tourism. Her interest has been how to explain public preferences for environmental goods with their attitudes and beliefs. She has acquainted herself with value of agricultural genetic resources by conducting an international meta-analysis of the literature. With her group she is currently conducting a study of the value Finnish public place on agricultural genetic resources.

### **Nigel Kilby**

is the Head of the molecular laboratory at Boreal Plant Breeding Ltd. He trained as a molecular geneticist at Cambridge University where he was a senior research associate for ten years. After moving to Finland to take up a position at Turku University he subsequently joined Boreal and established Boreal's molecular breeding effort which currently supports their wheat, barley, oil seed crops, faba bean, oat, rye and grasses breeding programs. His current focus at Boreal is the implementation of high-throughput marker platforms for the rapid analysis of complex breeding issues in order to make selections at the genotype level.

### **Sirkku Pihlman**

from University of Turku, School of History, Culture and Art Studies, Museology. She is head, organizer and teacher of Museology and has a PhD in archaeology. Her special interest in archaeology is the Iron Age society in Finland. In museology, main interest quite generally is the relationship of people with the past and its future, especially with the tangible and intangible representations of the past in their own environment. In the museology education in Turku, the maintenance of heritage plants and traditions connected to them is seen as an essential local and global task that museums can contribute to in the future.

### **Agneta Börjeson**

is an agronomist and biologist with focus on biodiversity. She has been working at the Swedish Board of Agriculture issues concerning biodiversity in the agricultural landscape and the Swedish national program for plant genetic resources (POM). Since 1988 she has been a member of Sesam, a non-government organisation that is working to conserve varieties by growing seeds. Furthermore, she has developed own business with plant genetic resources including lecturing, small-scale seed propagation, café and sales of homemade bread and jam at local markets.

# WELCOME TO THE SEMINAR

## VALUES OF GENETIC RESOURCES

### EVENT UNDER FINNISH CHAIRMANSHIP OF NORDIC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

## HELSINKI 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011



**You are cordially invited  
to the seminar “Values of genetic resources”,  
which is an event under Finnish chairmanship  
of Nordic Council Ministers.**

The seminar is organised by MTT Agrifood Research Finland project VALUEGENES (Values and qualities in the gene resource conservation chain) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

The seminar wishes to high-light different values of genetic resources and turns especially to the policy makers and other interest groups dealing with research, breeding and conservation of genetic resources.

Venue: House of Sciences and Letters, Kirkkokatu 6, Helsinki  
**[www.tieteidentalo.fi](http://www.tieteidentalo.fi)**

There is no seminar fee and the participants will be provided a light lunch and coffee free of charge. The participants should arrange and cover the costs of their travels and lodging themselves.

Please, confirm your participation by 4th of November 2011 to [merja.vetelainen@mtt.fi](mailto:merja.vetelainen@mtt.fi)

## Seminar Programme

- 9.30 Coffee
- 10.00 Opening (Tuula Pehu, chair person of the Advisory Body for Genetic Resources, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in Finland)
- 10.15 Introduction: The VALUEGENES research project high-lighting significance of plant genetic resources (Merja Veteläinen, MTT Agrifood Research Finland /Finnish National Program for Plant Genetic Resources)
- 10.30 The values of genetic resources for coping with climate change (Toby Hodgkin, Bioversity International, Italy)
- 11.00 The value of agricultural genetic resources perceived by Finnish public (Eija Pouta, MTT Agrifood Research Finland)
- 12.00 Light lunch
- 13.00 From genetic resources to plant breeding populations: the use of molecular tools to decipher genetic variation (Nigel Kilby, Boreal Plant Breeding Ltd., Finland)
- 13.30 Cultural historical values of genetic resources (Sirrku Pihlman, Turku University, Finland)
- 14.00 Diversity of varieties – who cares? Possibility and interest in choosing among different varieties (Agneta Börjeson, Röttle Natur & Kultur, Sweden)
- 14.30 Panel discussion
- 15.30 Conclusions (Tuula Pehu)