

# Glossary

<b>Accession</b>	Distinct, uniquely identifiable sample of seeds representing a cultivar, breeding line or a population, which is maintained in storage for conservation and use (1)
<b>Agricultural biodiversity or Agrobiodiversity</b>	The variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms that are used directly or indirectly for food and agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry and fisheries. It comprises the diversity of genetic resources (varieties, breeds) and species used for food, fodder, fibre, fuel and pharmaceuticals. It also includes the diversity of non-harvested species that support production (soil micro-organisms, predators, pollinators), and those in the wider environment that support agro-ecosystems (agricultural, pastoral, forest and aquatic) as well as the diversity of the agro-ecosystems (2)
<b>Agroecological intensification</b>	A means by which farmers can simultaneously increase yields and reduce or reverse negative environmental impacts, through the use of biodiversity-based approaches and the production and mobilization of ecosystem services
<b>Agroecology</b>	The application of ecological concepts and principles that integrate biological and ecological processes into food production, minimizing the use of non-renewable inputs that harm the environment (3)
<b>Agroforestry</b>	A production system in which trees are integrated with crops, thus providing many synergistic relationships, such as shade or nutrients
<b>Biodiversity</b>	The variability among living organisms from all sources including, <i>inter alia</i> , terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (4)
<b>Community biodiversity management</b>	A community-driven participatory approach that empowers farmers and communities to organize themselves and to develop livelihood strategies that support the on-farm management of agricultural biodiversity (5)
<b>Community seedbank</b>	A popular approach in developing countries, particularly in South Asia and Africa, to conserve and manage agricultural biodiversity at the community level. Community seedbanks tend to be small-scale, the local institutions, which store seed on a short-term basis, serving individual communities or several communities in surrounding villages (6)
<b>Cover crops</b>	Crops which are sown for agroecological purposes, such as containing soil erosion, controlling pests or enriching the soil with nutrients. Green manure is one specific instance of a cover crop. Nutrient-rich plants (usually legumes) are planted and then ploughed into the earth to improve soil quality

<b>Crop rotation</b>	Different crops grown in succession in the same field (e.g. cereal followed by legume), often to reduce risks of pests and diseases or to add nitrogen to the soil
<b>Crop wild relatives</b>	Crop wild relatives are wild plant species that are genetically related to cultivated crops.
<b>Cultivar</b>	A plant or grouping of plants selected for desirable characteristics that can be maintained by propagation. Most cultivars have arisen in cultivation, but a few are special selections from the wild (3)
<b>Ecosystem</b>	A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit
<b>Ecosystem services</b>	The direct and indirect contributions of ecosystems to human wellbeing, such as clean water, habitats for pollinators and waste decomposition (7)
<b>Ex situ conservation</b>	The conservation of components of biological diversity outside their natural habitats (4)
<b>Food biodiversity</b>	The diversity of plants, animals and other organisms used for food, covering the genetic resources within species, between species and provided by ecosystems (8)
<b>Food system</b>	Collaborative network that integrates all components from food production through food consumption based on ecological, social and economic factors and values of a region or sub-region
<b>Genetic diversity</b>	The genetic variability among or within a sample of individuals of a variety, population or species (3)
<b>Genetic material</b>	Any material of plant, animal, microbial or other organisms containing functional units of heredity
<b>Genetic resources</b>	Genetic material of plant, animal, microbial or other organisms containing a diversity of useful characters of actual or potential value to society
<b>Hybrid variety</b>	Variety resulting from crossing genetically distinct parents. Commercially, the parents used to produce hybrids are usually inbred for specific characteristics. If hybrid seed is recycled by farmers, its yield often drops.
<b>In situ conservation</b>	The conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings. In the case of domesticated or cultivated species, it refers to conservation in the surroundings where they have developed their distinctive properties (4)
<b>Intercropping</b>	A mixture of crop species in the same field at the same time, often with synergistic effects, such as pest suppression

<b>Landrace (also referred to as ‘farmer variety’)</b>	A crop variety, often harbouring some genetic variability, yet, with a certain genetic integrity that has evolved in cultivation, usually in a traditional agricultural system over long periods, and has adapted to a specific local environment or purpose (3)
<b>Live fences</b>	Fences of herbs, shrubs or trees (e.g. hedgerows), either retained from existing native vegetation or deliberately planted
<b>Non-cropped vegetation</b>	Fields left fallow or patches of natural vegetation, such as forest patches, which are retained or persist on farm
<b>No-till agriculture</b>	Tillage of the soil is replaced with approaches that directly drill seeds or directly plant into the soil, thus reducing soil disturbance
<b>On-farm conservation</b>	A dynamic form of crop and animal genetic diversity population management in farmers’ fields, which allows the processes of evolution under natural and human selection to continue (4, 9)
<b>Protected area</b>	A geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives
<b>Riparian buffers</b>	Vegetation planted or retained on river banks to protect river systems from adjacent agriculture
<b>Seed system</b>	An ensemble of individuals, networks, organizations, practices and rules that provide seeds for plant production
<b>Species</b>	Below the level of genus, a group of actually or potentially interbreeding individuals that are reproductively isolated from other such groups, share a common ancestor more recently than with individuals of related species, and have similar ecology and morphology (3)
<b>Subspecies</b>	Populations of organisms sharing certain characteristics that are not present in other populations of the same species
<b>Value chain</b>	The linkages between individuals or enterprises needed to move a product or service from production to consumption, along with related inputs and technical, business and financial service
<b>Variety</b>	A plant or group of plants selected for desirable characteristics and maintained in cultivation. It may be traditional and maintained by farmers, or modern and developed as a result of deliberate breeding programs (3)
<b>Wild foods</b>	Wild plants, animals and insects that are not cultivated or reared in captivity.; They are part of the minor crops and underutilized species, and include roots and tubers, vegetables and leafy vegetables, fruits, insects, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals gathered for food (8)

# References

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