

# INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

## ENHANCING LOCAL SPECIALITIES IN SOUTHERN COUNTRIES

Origin-based products and biodiversity

23 – 26 April 2007

### PARTNERSHIP

- EPA (*Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority*)
- IRD (*Institut de Recherche pour le Développement*): “*Ethiopian Home Gardens of Ethiopia*” (Component 1 Research) and *Biodivalloc Program*
- CFEE (*Centre Français des Etudes Ethiopiennes*) with the support of the French embassy and the « Fonds d’Alembert » for the worldwide influence of French thought.
- Alliance Ethio-Française
- IDDRI (*Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales*)



## ENHANCING LOCAL SPECIALTIES IN SOUTHERN COUNTRIES

Heritages, territories, governance

Since the 1990s, with the advent of concerns about sustainable development and biodiversity conservation in the field of environmental protection, international concepts and regulations have undergone significant changes. Today biodiversity is no longer considered as a World cultural or natural heritage, but as a good the preservation and valorization of which is placed under States' responsibility, and which is to be dealt with in the view of sharing benefits, in particular to the advantage of local communities.

The preservation of biodiversity has now less to do with the protection of an untouched heritage than to the *valorization* of resources it provides to the communities who live in and make use of it. So the very concept of biodiversity preservation takes into account the links that bind each community with its own natural environment, and the way how each community perceive, use and manage the local biodiversity.

Almost everywhere, in the North as well as in the South, governance regulations granting special status to local communities are being implemented. Major changes result from this: new way of granting access and use of resources to a range of local, national and international actors, transformations in territorial organization, land tenure systems, uses of land and property rights.

Within this frame, products whose fame and quality are based on their local origin (i.e. what we call Geographical Indications) are of great importance. Their valorization seems to be an excellent way to reinforce and preserve the links between local communities and their territories as well as their natural and cultural heritages, while at the same time ensuring their sustainable development.

Regulations for the protection and valorization of these locally-based products are currently blossoming in many Southern countries. Some of them originated in European systems of so-called "Designations of Origins" and rely on specific concepts of local territories such as the French notion of "terroirs". Some rely on other legal tools such as the International Trademark law.

This international conference held in Addis Ababa, organized with the support of Ethiopian and French institutions and with the participation of many international specialists, aims at comparing experiences conducted in some Southern countries known for their pioneering role in these issues, and at evaluating the social, territorial and economic impacts of the implementation of Geographical Indications. One of the expected results of this conference is the creation of an international network of specialists in Geographical Indications and related issues.

FRANCOIS-XAVIER FAUVELLE & BERNARD.ROUSSEL

**MONDAY APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>**

**INTRODUCTIVE SESSION: “TERROIRS\* AND GLOBALISATION”**

***Origin-based products at the cross road of sustainable development and biodiversity conservation (from local to international)***

*\* Terroir (/terwar/) is a French term used to denote the special characteristics of geography that bestowed individuality upon the food product. Terroir is the product of a range of local influences that are transmitted into the character of the product.*

**ORGANISATION:** CFEE, Alliance Ethio-française, EHGP, Biodivalloc

● **10:00**

**VENUE: ALLIANCE ETHIO-FRANÇAISE**

Welcoming speech + philosophy text (FRANCOIS-XAVIER FAUVELLE & BERNARD.ROUSSEL) and a short presentation of Biodivalloc program (MC CORMIER) and Ethiopian Home Garden Project (YIGZAW AYELAW)

● **12:00 BUFFET AT THE ALLIANCE ETHIO-FRANÇAISE**

● **14:00 – 17:00**

**VENUE: ALLIANCE ETHIO-FRANÇAISE**

*20 min presentation*

**Chairman:** *Vice-President of Addis Ababa University, Pr. ABIYE TASSE*

**Presenters:**

- ▶ Laurence TUBIANA, IDDRI, “Sustainable development and governance of biodiversity: international stakes”
- ▶ TEWOLDE BERHAN GEBRE EGZIABHER, EPA, “Sustainable Development and governance of biodiversity: current debates in Africa and Ethiopia”,
- ▶ Sélim LOUAFI, IDDRI, Current international debates on access and benefit sharing of biodiversity

(Coffee break)

- ▶ Laurence BÉRARD, CNRS, “Geographical indication systems in Europe: definitions and raised questions”
- ▶ Cerkia BRAMLEY, University of Pretoria, “The various GI systems in southern countries”

● **19:00 DINNER AT FASIKA RESTAURANT**

## 24 – 26 APRIL: WORKSHOP SESSION

From Tuesday April 24<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup>, the Ethiopian Home Garden project and Biodivalloc program organise four workshop of half a day each. Each workshop will be directed by a chairman managing the discussion and a facilitator giving a general conceptual frame of the workshop and introducing the presenters. There will be three or four presenters per workshop talking for 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion.

- WORKSHOP 1: PROVENANCE, LOCALISED AND “TERROIR” PRODUCTS IN SOUTHERN COUNTRIES
- WORKSHOP 2: NORMS AND FOLLOW-UP FOR DIFFERENT POLICIES OF ENHANCING VALUE IN SOUTHERN COUNTRIES
- WORKSHOP 3: WHICH LEGAL TOOLS IN WHICH COUNTRY, IN WHICH CONTEXT?
- WORKSHOP 4: VALORISATION OF ORIGIN-BASED PRODUCTS, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS.

**TUESDAY APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>**

● 10:00 – 12:00

WORKSHOP 1: PROVENANCE, LOCALISED AND “TERROIR” PRODUCTS IN SOUTHERN COUNTRIES

VENUE: RAS AMBA HOTEL

**Chairman:** YIGZAW AYALEW, Manager of EHGP

**Facilitator:** FRANÇOIS VERDEAUX, Anthropologist

**Presenters:**

- ▶ Natalie UNTESTELL, ISA, Brazil, “Amazon local labels: an exploratory view of current strategies”
- ▶ Helene ILBERT, Socio-economist, “The creation of a Mediterranean high-quality specification”
- ▶ ARGUMEDO ALEXANDRO, Agronomist, “Production and local genetic resource within Papa Park in Peru”

● 12:00 LUNCH AT ADDIS ABABA RESTAURANT

● 14:00 – 17:00

WORKSHOP 2: NORMS AND FOLLOW-UP FOR DIFFERENT POLICIES FOR ENHANCING VALUE IN SOUTHERN CONTEXTS

VENUE: RAS AMBA HOTEL

**Chairman:** ALULA PANKHURST, Anthropologist

**Facilitator:** Marie-Christine CORMIER-SALEM, Geographer

**Presenters:**

- ▶ OMAR SARR, Economist, “Shell’s valorisation policy in Saloum (Senegal)”
- ▶ JORGE LARSON, Botanist, “Mezcales: from Chilapa to Geneva”
- ▶ SURENDRA KOTECHA, Agriculturist, “Characterization and tracing quality in Ethiopia’s coffee marketing chain”

● 18:30 FILM “BLACK GOLD” FOLLOWED BY A COCKTAIL AT THE TROPICAL GARDEN

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>**

● 10:00 – 12:00

WORKSHOP 3: WHICH LEGAL TOOLS IN WHICH COUNTRY, IN WHICH CONTEXT?

VENUE: RAS AMBA HOTEL

Chairman: DESSALEGN MESFIN, Lawyer

Facilitator: Delphine MARIE-VIVIEN, Lawyer

Presenters:

- ▶ DIRK TROSKIE, Lawyer, “Origin-based products, trademarks law in South Africa”
- ▶ JULIANA SANTILLI & FERNANDO BAPTISTA, “Which legal tools are used to protect origin-based products in Brazil?”
- ▶ GOPALAKRISHNA N.S, “GI and traditional knowledge in the Indian law”

● 12:00 LUNCH AT RAS AMBA HOTEL

● 14:00 – 17:00

WORKSHOP 4: VALORISATION OF ORIGIN-BASED PRODUCTS, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS.

VENUE: RAS AMBA HOTEL

Chairman: SEBSEBE DEMISSIE

Facilitator: ANNE LUXEREAU & BERNARD ROUSSEL

Presenters:

- ▶ MARCHENAY Phillipe, Ethnobiologist, “Terroir products, geographical indications and biodiversity”
- ▶ ZEMEDE ASFAW, Ethnobotanist, “The biodiversity virtues of safeguarding local products with designations of origin system: some ideas and examples from France and Ethiopia”
- ▶ PASCAL DE ROBERT & JANE SIMONI, Anthropologists, “Valorisation of local products and land strategies: certification of Brazil nut oil within the Kayapo”
- ▶ MARTHE DIARRA DOKA, Anthropologist, “Provenances and social dynamics in Niger”

● 18:00 **PUBLIC CONFERENCE AT THE RAS AMBA HOTEL:**  
“ENHANCING THE VALUE OF ETHIOPIAN LOCAL SPECIALITIES”  
**Origin-based products and biodiversity**  
BERNARD ROUSSEL., MNHN & FRANCOIS VERDEAUX, IRD.

● 20:00 COCKTAIL MADE OF “TERROIR” PRODUCTS OF ETHIOPIA  
AT THE VILLA TURQUOISE

THURSDAY APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>

## SYNTHESIS AND PROSPECTIVE SESSION

● 10:00

VENUE: RAS AMBA HOTEL

Chairman: BERNARD ROUSSEL & YIGZAW AYELAW

- Wrap up & interventions of Maria Julia Oliva, Alison Hoare, Genevieve Michon, Andrea Lobo, Marie Fleury, Jean-Dominique Wahiche
- Briefing for symposium proceedings publication. Damien Conare will present the periodical, "Courier de la planete"

● 12:00 LUNCH AT YOD ABISSINIA ORGANISED BY EPA

## **ABEBECH BELAYNEH**

**ABEBECH BELAYNEH** did her MA in Social Anthropology at Addis Ababa University and wrote a thesis on gender relations in Hamar society. She carried out research in the Wellbeing in Developing Countries Project in Shashemene, and worked with Save the Children Fund. For the Ethiopian Home Gardens Project she has carried out the market survey of products in Addis Ababa.

## **CINDY ADOLPHE**

**CINDY ADOLPHE** is a PhD student at the MNHN and is involved in an IRD research team in “Human, Nature and Society” Department. She is part of Biodivalloc Ethiopia Program and EHGP Project and is currently carrying out studies about the environmental and social consequences of the productions in labeled gardens (Yirga Cheffe).

## **ALULA PANKHURST**

**ALULA PANKHURST** is a social anthropologist who studied at Manchester University and taught at Addis Ababa University for 15 years where he has supervised several Masters theses on agriculture and cultural practices. He has carried out research on migration, resettlement, minorities, wellbeing, dispute settlement and natural resource management. He has published and edited several books including *Resettlement and Famine in Ethiopia* (1992), *Natural Resource Management in Ethiopia* (2001), *Peripheral People* (2003), and *People, Space and the State* (2004). With regard to biodiversity and natural resources he has contributed chapters to books on *Enset-based Sustainable Agriculture in Ethiopia*, (1996) published by the Institute of Agricultural Research and *Natural Resource Management Conflicts Case Studies* (2003) published by the FAO. In 2007 he has been coordinating research on the production, marketing and cultural practices relating to *terroir* products for the Ethiopian Home Gardens Project.

## **ARGUMEDO ALEXANDRO**

**ALEJANDRO ARGUMEDO** is a founding member and Co-Chair of the Call of the Earth Steering Committee. A Quechuan agronomist from Peru, Alejandro has been involved in the international policy debate on indigenous knowledge, intellectual property rights, access to genetic resources, benefit sharing and related biodiversity issues. Alejandro is currently Director of the Quechua-Aymara Association for Sustainable Livelihoods (ANDES) based in Cusco where he works to develop alternative models for the protection of indigenous knowledge and associated genetic resources. He is the founder of the Indigenous Peoples Biodiversity Network and a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas. He serves as vice-chair of the Indigenous Affairs for IUCN's Commission on Environment, Economics and Social Policy (CEESP) and as a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas and was formerly Executive Director of Cultural Survival Canada and Coordinator of the Indigenous Knowledge Programme.

### **Abstract: “Production and local genetic resource within Papa Park in Peru”**

The ‘Potato Park’ initiative addresses local concerns for food security, conservation, economy, education, gender equality, intellectual property and indigenous peoples’ self-determination. The Park help conserve native plant genetic resources – including landraces and wild relatives of domesticated plants and animal species – as well as associated traditional knowledge, important Andean habitats and local cultural heritage. Through the initiative, indigenous peoples have learned about their rights to biological resources and the potential benefits derived from their use. Alternative economic activities have been developed such as agro-eco-tourism, marketing native crops, and capacity building in sustainable agriculture and ecosystem management.

## LAURENCE BÉRARD

**LAURENCE BÉRARD** is an anthropologist and co-responsible of the research team “Terroir resources – Cultures, practices, societies” within the Eco-anthropology and Ethnobiology Department. Her research focuses on the ethnological dimension of local agricultural and food products. Her work consists in highlighting, characterizing and analyzing their cultural specificities. She focuses on knowledge, practices and representations implemented in the achievement, conservation and use of these resources. This work is put in prospect with the regulations concerning the Geographical Indication protection of these products and the questions at stake about that subject.

Since 2000, Laurence Berard has been conducting with Philippe Marchenay, studies and documentation activities that aim at gathering in a single place sparse databases and documents concerning “terroir” products to the benefit of professionals from different fields: food industry, tourism, local communities, Chamber of agriculture, rural development agents, etc. She is a member of numerous experts’ committees in the National Institute of designations of origin, a teacher at Lyon 2 and Lyon 3 Universities as well as in the University of Gastronomic Sciences in Pollenzo, Italia. Moreover, she is involved in many national and international research programs which draw parallels between local productions, “savoir faire” and biologic diversity. She is particularly the author in 2007 of “*Produits de terroir. Comprendre et agir*. Bourg-en-Bresse, CNRS, Ressources des terroirs”.

### **Abstract: Geographical indication system in Europe: definitions and questions**

The theory consisting in protecting the name of a product in relation with its geographical origin came into light in France during the first part of the XX<sup>th</sup> century. Such an action has been undertaken in order to defend the producers from an unfair competition due to the abusive use of a name to take advantage of its reputation. Originally restricted to wine industry, the French regulation concerning the protection of designations of origin widened its area of application in 1990. This concept was carried at the European scale in July 1992 with a regulation about the Geographical Indications and the designations of origin for agricultural and food products. A group of producers took this initiative taking into account the regulations framework at their disposal. Such an analysis relies on two main principles: on the one hand, the delimitation of a production zone and on the other hand, the creation and the control of the specifications. The whole thing constitutes then a tool for development which can afford an economic advantage for some operators. Moreover, it raises many questions that will be tackled later on.

## **CERKIA BRAMLEY**

**CERKIA BRAMLEY** is currently completing her law articles at the Intellectual Property Law firm, Adams and Adams in Pretoria. Her research on geographical indications for purposes of her Masters thesis has led to her involvement with the University of Pretoria in terms of which she advises on legal aspects of geographical indication protection in South Africa in the research program on this topic developed by the Department of Agricultural Economics.

### **Abstract: Protection of geographical indications in Southern Countries: A synopsis of selected legal frameworks and developments**

The signing of the TRIPS agreement brought about new obligations for Southern Countries, including the obligations imposed under sections 23 and 24 of the TRIPS agreement, that require countries to provide the “legal means” through which to protect Member countries’ geographical indications. This presentation will attempt to provide a synopsis of the different legislative responses of selected Southern countries in their attempts to become TRIPS compliant (notably South Africa, India, Brazil and Thailand). The topic is approached by critically analyzing the legislative amendments, or lack thereof, that are aimed at improving protection for geographical indications. Through this analysis, different Southern Countries’ responses are compared, leading back to the debate on whether trade mark laws provide sufficient protection for geographical indications in a Southern Countries context. The objective of the presentation will be to provide an overview of developments with respect to geographical indication protection in Southern Countries.

## **DAMIEN CONARÉ**

**DAMIEN CONARÉ** is an agricultural engineer. He is currently Chief Redactor of the *Courrier de la Planète*, a quarterly periodical which tackles with great international issues (economy/business, development, environment) in the view of sustainable development and mingles different point of views (research, policy, NGO...). Therefore, he focuses his research on biodiversity (accessing, enhancing and benefit sharing) which will be the subject of the next issue.

## **M.C.CORMIER-SALEM**

**MARIE-CHRISTINE CORMIER-SALEM** is a social scientist researcher and the Director of the Research Unit 'Patrimoines, Territoires and identities' at the Institute of Research for Development (IRD), Paris, France ([www.ur169.ird.fr](http://www.ur169.ird.fr)). Through an approach of history, social geography and political ecology, her research focuses on 1) Coastal zones and wetlands (Atlantic and Indian Ocean) representation, uses and policy; 2) Biodiversity conservation and local development. She is the head of the recent project BIODIVALLOC, focusing her attention on coastal biodiversity conservation and marine products qualification along West African Coast.

**Abstract: Norms and follow-up for different policies to enhance value in southern contexts.**

Enhancing biodiversity policies aim at improving the origin-based productions quality, an “intrinsic” quality which is part of the products themselves (gustative, nutritional or even sanitary value) but also an “extrinsic” quality which is due to the conditions of exploitation, transformation and commercialization (respect of the environment, sustainable and responsible practices, struggle against poverty, fair sharing of the benefits coming from Protected Areas, etc.) of these products. In doing so, the implementation of policies leads to a change of organization concerning “terroirs” and territories and to the modification of rules to access and use resources. In this workshop, the purpose will be to stress the way quality standards are elaborated: by whom, to what purpose and to match to which market? One will especially tackle the question of the risks of hiatus between local and international norms and will discuss the modifications, especially as far as areas and resources control is concerned.

## **DAMTEW YIRGU**

**DAMTEW YIRGU** did an MA in Social Anthropology at Addis Ababa University and wrote a thesis on the status of craftworkers in Northern Shewa. He has carried out research for over a year in the Wellbeing in Developing Countries project in a site Northern Shewa near Aliyu Amba. He has been working for the Ethiopian Home Gardens Project on markets and production practices and Northern Shewa around Debre Berhan and Ankober and Aliyu Amba.

## **ELISE DEMEULENAERE**

**ELISE DEMEULENAERE** is an ethnobiologist. As a student of the MNHN (Paris), she defended in 2005 her PhD thesis about country practices of management of nature by Konso people (Ethiopia). Her involvement in Ethiopia led her to take part to an ethnographic movie which deals with the Konso society through the preparation of the end of the mourning period for their main ritual chief (realization Pierre Lamarque). She is currently focusing on the dynamics fostering the conservation of biodiversity which is cultivated at the farm and the valorization of associated local knowledge as well as their different modalities (participative selection, “terroir” products).

## **PASCALE DE ROBERT**

**PASCALE DE ROBERT** is a Doctor in anthropology (EHESS, Paris) and ecology (Ula Merida, Venezuela) and focuses on the evolution of relationships between nature and society in Amazon and the Andes. As she is involved in Biodivalloc project, she coordinates research works led by Kayapo Indians about agrobiodiversity management in a forest area and the opportunities of valorization of local products.

### **Abstract: Valorisation of local products and land strategies: certification of Brazil nut oil within the Kayapo**

The Brazilian Amazon is a favorite place to implement biodiversity protection policies, as much by the expansion of Protected Areas of different categories as by the measures enhancing forest or local agriculture products. Once having introduced the panorama of current valorizations and territorial strategies about the biodiversity conservation in relation with this, one will develop the example of certifications that an Amerindian community obtained for its Brazil nut oil. The label is applied on a protected area with a special status (Indigenous Land) which is endangered by agricultural colonization fronts (Soya) and the association of NGO's with local people was the only way to obtain the label. Whereas certifications clearly aim at the conservation of biodiversity, one will explain that Amerindian people first try to enhance its social and territorial role by regenerating rituals and traditional collective expeditions of gathering and supervision.

**DESSALEGN MESFIN**

**Dessalegn Mesfin** graduated from the Law Faculty of Addis Ababa University and obtained a certificate from the United Nations Institute of Training and Research. He is currently the Vice-President of the Bureau of the First conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the Head of the Environmental Policy and Legislation Department of EPA.

## **MARTHE DIARRA**

**MARTHE DIARRA** is a sociologist of development in Niamey, Niger. After having spent 20 years in the Institute of research in Human sciences at Niamey University, she is currently working as an independent consultant in West Africa. She studies sustainable development in rural areas with a special interest on gender and natural resources management, including land.

### **Abstract: “Provenances and social dynamics in Niger”**

Niger ratified the reconsidered Bangui Agreement, a supranational law of the African Organization on Intellectual Propriety (AOIP) which has been approved by 16 French-speaking countries. A number of productions, already enjoying a national and international reputation, could thus benefit from recognition of a GI or a collective brand but the measures are at their very beginning. Starting from the current situation of some of these productions, this communication will analyze the social dynamics which are diversified according to the products and local culture, induced by their ever-increasing production and commercialization: women condition, relations between producers and merchants, hierarchies between producers according to the funds, saving and status within the society.

**FRANÇOIS-XAVIER FAUVELLE**

**FRANÇOIS-XAVIER FAUVELLE** is an Historian researcher in CNRS (France) and is currently detached from this institution as the director of the French Center of Ethiopian Studies (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia).

## **FELEKE WOLDEYES**

**FELEKE WOLDEYES** is an ethnobiologist, Lecturer at the Arba Minch University (Ethiopia). He has done a tough study on the Keficho home-garden (Kaffa Coffee forest, Ethiopia). He is currently doing Phd researches at the AAU (Ethiopia), in relation with MNHN (Paris, France) within Biodivalloc Programme, dedicated to the impact of valorisation of spices and condiments produced by homegardens of Keficho and Basketo farmers.

## **MARIE FLEURY**

**MARIE FLEURY** is an ethnobotanist and a Lecturer at the MNHN (Human, Nature and Societies Department). She works on Human/Nature relationships in French Guyana, especially on the High Maroni with Black maroon people and Amerindians.

She used to work on agrobiodiversity about the slash-and-burn agriculture system and medicinal plants used for automedication. She currently carries out in a fair and supporting way, research works about forest products and their valorization in Guyana.

**N.S.GOPALAKRISHNA**

**DR. N.S. GOPALAKRISHNAN** is the Professor of HRD Chair on IPR in the School of Legal Studies, Cochin University of Science and Technology. He was the Director of the School of Legal Studies and Dean of the Faculty of Law, Kannur University, Kerala. He published two books and a number of research articles in the area of Intellectual Property Laws including in the area of access and benefit sharing. He was expert adviser to the Indian Delegation to the Diplomatic Conference on WIPO Treaties, 1996. Also member of expert committees set up by the Government of India on IPR issues.

**Abstract: Relationship between Geographical Indications and Traditional Knowledge: Indian Experience**

Protection of Geographical Indications (GIs) is relatively a new concept in the Indian legal system. Though there are many products sold in the market using GIs, legal protection of these names was not efficient in India. Most of these products are produced by traditional communities in different parts of India. It is worth mentioning that a great amount of them are based on traditional knowledge systems transmitted from generation to generation. While some communities kept the traditional knowledge secret, others openly and widely used it. Hence there are practical problems in effectively protecting it. It was the obligations under the TRIPS Agreement that prompted India to enact the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999 that came into force in 2003. There are now more than 30 GIs registered under the Act out of more than 80 applications pending. The two case studies from South India – Kancheepuram Sarees and Aranmula Kannadi – both registered under the GIs Act indicate that there is a close relationship between the GIs and the TK. It is mentioned that GIs substantially contribute to the socioeconomic conditions of a large number of local community members. The full benefits of GIs protection do not reach the holders of TK who are the actual producers of the GIs products. The provisions of the GIs Act are more in favour of protecting the interest of traders of GIs rather than the actual producers of GIs. It is also interesting to mention that there is no express provision in the GIs Act to protect the TK. The fact that in most cases TK is widely used also creates limitations in protecting it through GIs Act. The experience of India suggests that GIs Act need amendment to effectively protect the actual producers of GIs. There is also a need to effectively link the protection of GIs to TK wherever it is possible.

## **HOARE ALISON**

**DR ALISON HOARE** is an associate fellow within the Energy, Environment and Development Programme at Chatham House, London, UK. Trained as an ethnobiologist, her research interests include natural resource use, forest management and intellectual property rights. Recent projects have included research on disclosure requirements in patent legislation as a tool to prevent the misappropriation of genetic resources, and research into sustainable forest management in Central Africa.

## **HÉLÈNE ILBERT**

**HÉLÈNE ILBERT**, socio-economist, is a researcher at the CIHEAM-IAMM, Montpellier (from 1986). She works on Mediterranean issues and interactions with global governance. She taught responsibilities on trade international negotiations and property rights issues (patents and geographic indications). She is coordinating a research program on geographic indication in the Mediterranean (Femise network).

### **Abstract: The creation of a Mediterranean high-quality specification**

Countries around the Mediterranean Sea organise quality chains in a view to the opening of the EUROMED free trade zone in 2010. In the present liberalisation context, the highlighting of local products and national or local heritages enable stakeholders to make good use of the local know-how and cultural heritages. Studies led in Turkey, Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco and Syria show the heterogeneity of situations. National policies comply with bilateral and multilateral agreements such as WTO agreement. The objective of this presentation will be to provide examples and analysis of actual developments with respect to geographic indications initiatives and national policies in southern Mediterranean countries.

## **KOTECHA SURENDRA**

**Surendra Kotecha** is currently the principal advisor to the European funded coffee improvement programme (CIP) for the Ethiopian government. He has experience in growing of agricultural crops, processing, worldwide coffee trading, tasting and blending with roasters; now as a consultant in recent years. His vast experience in coffee and knowledge of Ethiopian growing regions, production systems and diverse taste profiles gives an ideal background to consider the geographical indication possibilities and practicalities of traceability in the marketing chain.

### **Abstract :**

#### **Characterisation and Tracing Quality in Ethiopia's Marketing Chain - ("Practicalities of Terroir by Growing Region Taste Profiles for Value Enhanced Marketing)**

The immense genetic and ecological diversity of the coffee growing areas of Ethiopia with high inherent quality potential presents many possibilities for differentiation and value added marketing. However, the lack of a supportive enabling environment for market oriented production inhibits the dissemination of knowledge and how to use that to best advantage. Traceability is possible and in practice to a certain extent. It is paramount for the European 'farm to fork' policies, Japanese residue intolerance on imports and "Terrorist Act" of the USA. Improved and standardised growing and post-harvest practices by growth area with geographical indication could lead to Terroir. Intellectual property rights registration as well as Certification are required for more transparent value chain management to the consumer shelf. Development of national policies need to be market oriented to achieve positive results.

## **JORGE LARSON**

**JORGE LARSON**, plant biologist from Mexico's National University and MacArthur Foundation fellow (1998-2000) with the project Intellectual property and biological resources in Mexico. At the National Biodiversity Commission he conceived and coordinated the Collective Biological Resources Program aim at integrating and disseminating biological and geographical knowledge for product differentiation, as well as supporting social processes for the development of geographical indications.

### **Abstract: Mezcales: from Chilapa to Geneva**

Mezcales -wild cousins and forefathers of tequila facing the threats of industrialization- are traditional spirits widely differentiated throughout Mexico. Their history and current battles will be described to provide a specific scenario in which to discuss the politics of space from the Mezcal landscapes of rural indigenous communities to the marble halls of trade and intellectual property in Geneva.

## **ANDREA LOBO**

**ANDRÉA DE SOUZA LOBO** is an anthropologist specialized in cultural landscapes in Brazil and family organization in the context of women's' emigration in Cape Verde - Africa. She is currently Director-President of the Institute for Society, Population and Nature (ISPN) which has been responsible for the management of the GEF-UNDP Small Grants Programme since 1995 and has supported 234 projects from more than 130 organisations in the Cerrado and its transitions to other biomes.

## **SÉLIM LOUAFI**

**SÉLIM LOUAFI** is a research fellow at IDDRI since 2001 in charge of the biodiversity program of this Institute. He is a PhD fellow in Agricultural economy. Formerly, he was Research assistant at the Centre of Philosophy of Law at The Université Catholique de Louvain (2000-2001). He worked on different theories of governance applied on biodiversity negotiations. His current research projects focus on traditional ecological knowledge and access to genetic resources. He was the coordinator of a collective book on the Biodiversity and local ecological knowledge in France.

**Abstract: Geographical indication, Access and Benefit Sharing and 8j debates: where do they meet?**

The international regulation of genetic resources uses encompasses many substantial dimensions. Two of them are of special interest when looking at the link with the traditional ecological knowledge debate: the scale to deal with access (i.e. the appropriate level of regulation) and the use of intellectual property rights as a tool to trigger benefit sharing (not to talk about the different cultural understandings of this tool as such). This presentation will attempt to provide a broad overview of existing conflicts between the two issues of ABS and 8j and explore the potential of geographical indication system to resolve at least partially those conflicts.

## **ANNE LUXEREAU**

**ANNE LUXEREAU** is an anthropologist (CNRS-MNHN, Paris). She is been working for many years in Niger about the social and environmental dynamics. She coordinates Biodivalloc-Niger team which focuses on social resetting at work with the development of an agriculture based on economic valorization in relation with potential GI.

**Abstract: Valorization of origin-based products, environmental and social dynamics.**

The use of tools to protect and enhance GI is more and more often displayed as a mean to contribute to the protection of cultural and biological diversity through Market business. This workshop aims at leading a comparative debate about the environmental and social impacts of the implementing of various tools in southern countries, whether they belong to the band right or are more or less close to the designations of origin.

If, in northern countries, a few results have been published on the influences of such tools upon the diversity directly involved in production or in the connected biodiversity, influenced by the related systems of production, on the other hand, there is still little information concerning southern countries. At the society level, the recognition and valorization of GI, even if it is still stammering, already show the social, economic and territorial questions at stake: social and territorial resetting, modifications concerning the rules to access resources, power relationships between producers and merchants, between local and central powers, gender relations, etc.

## **PHILIPPE MARCHENAY**

**PHILIPPE MARCHENAY** is an ethnobiologist (CNRS) and co-responsible of a team “Terroir” Resources – Culture, practices and society – within the Eco-anthropology and ethnobiology Department. His research focuses on the ethnological dimension of local agricultural and food products. Since 2000, Philippe Marchenay has been conducting with Laurence Bérard, studies and documentation activities that aim at gathering in a single place sparse databases and documents concerning origin-based products to the benefit of professionals from different fields: food industry, tourism, local collectivities, Chamber of agriculture, rural development agents, etc. He is a member of many experts’ committees in the National Institute of labels of origin, a teacher at Lyon 2 and Lyon 3 Universities as well as in the University of Gastronomic Sciences in Pollenzo, Italia. He is particularly the author of “*Local products and geographical indications: taking account of local knowledge and biodiversity*”, *International Science Journal, Cultural Diversity and Biodiversity*.

### **Abstract: “Terroir products, geographical indications and biodiversity”**

Whereas their main goal still remains the protection of a geographical name (or any indication aiming at designing a product), the question is more and more to get to know whether geographical indications offer the possibility to draw links between biodiversity and protection, as far as most of them deal with traditional productions associated to living. In such a context, it is essential to take into consideration not only the biological characteristics but also local knowledge and practices. These elements, including animal races and vegetal varieties, are part of the product specificity and taken into account with an increasing consideration as far as the definition of the production conditions is concerned. A few French examples will show that there can be an opportunity to take part to the biological diversity maintenance or even its regeneration.

## **DELPHINE MARIE-VIVIEN**

**DELPHINE MARIE-VIVIEN** is graduated in Chemistry and Intellectual property law. After 2 years as patent engineer, she joined CIRAD, a French public research institute dedicated to agricultural research for developing countries. After 5 years counselling CIRAD on the issues of intellectual property and genetic resources, she then started at CIRAD a PhD on a very specific intellectual property right: geographical indications (Basmati, Darjeeling, Champagne, Parmigiano...). In order to conduct her research on a comparative analysis between French, European and Indian system at the time of globalisation of intellectual property, she is visiting researcher/lecturer at National Law School of India University in Bangalore since October 2005.

**Abstract: Which tools for protection and valorization, in which context and to which goals?**

Brazil, India, South Africa, three southern countries, have development legal means to protect geographical indications following the implementation of WTO's TRIPS agreement on intellectual property. For all those countries the legal concept is new but the existence of local product having quality from the place of origin has been there for a long time. Thus it will be interesting to see through the legal framework adopted by those countries, which political options have been taken. To help the comparison, trying to encompass the stigmatised opposition between certification trademarks and sui generic systems, the following criteria will be applied:

- What are the objectives of GI protection: ensure better income to the producers, protect traditional knowledge, and protect biodiversity?

- Who are the stakeholders able to benefit from a GI: association of producers, individuals producers, traders, processors..., is it a collective right, are they all located in the area defined in the GI?

- Which kind of products can be designated by GI: agro food products, handicraft, natural products or industrialised products?

- Which link with the place of origin: natural factors, human factors...?

- What are the rights conferred by a GI?

The answers to the above questions will help to determine whether GI can help ensuring local biodiversity.

## **GENEVIÈVE MICHON**

**GENEVIÈVE MICHON** is an ethnobiologist and a geographer as well as a research director at the IRD (Research Institute for Development, Paris). She is the director of an interdisciplinary Research Unity (R168) “Environmental dynamics between public policies and practices on Nature”. She coordinates an ANR/ADD Popular program “Public policies and rural management of tree”. She is in charge of research in Maroc, Indonesia and France focusing on the dynamics of local knowledge concerning tree and forest in a particular context within which they are supported by projects proclaiming themselves as part of sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.

## **MARIA JULIA OLIVA**

**Ms. MARIA JULIA OLIVA** is a legal consultant on intellectual property-related and other issues for the UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative. Ms. Oliva is also one of the lead researchers in the Trade and Environment Research Group at the University of Geneva, Faculty of Law. She sits on the Board of Directors of IP-Watch and is a member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law. She served for several years as Director of the Intellectual Property and Sustainable Development Project at the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL). Ms. Oliva graduated an LLM Degree in Environmental Law from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College and a law degree at the University of Mendoza in Argentina.

## **BERNARD ROUSSEL**

**BERNARD ROUSSEL** is an ethnobiologist and a teacher at the MNHN where he conducts researches on environmental and social consequences of Heritage-management of Nature. As Biodivalloc Program coordinator and head of the team “research” in Ethiopian Home Garden Project, he’s been taking part to the negotiations of the CBD since 1996. He is one of the author of the recent special issue of the periodical *Africa* (2007; n°77) entitled “Nature as local heritage in Africa.

### **Abstract: General introduction for the symposium (FX Fauvelle et B. Roussel)**

#### **To enhance local specialties in the South: heritages, territories, governance**

Since the 90’s and the advent, in the field of environmental protection, of concerns about sustainable development and biodiversity conservation has significantly been altering international concepts and regulations. Biodiversity should not be considered as a world cultural heritage but as a good whose conservation and valorization, under States responsibility, have to be done in the view of benefits sharing while taking particularly into account the local communities.

The biodiversity conservation is then now related to the valorization of resources it provides for societies which make use of it and take into consideration the links that any community binds with its nature, that is, the way it conceives, uses and manages the biodiversity of its own. Almost everywhere, in the North as in the South, governance measures allowing a special status to local communities are being implemented. Major modifications result from this: access and use regulations between the different management levels from local to international; modifications in territorial organizations, the use of lands and property rights.

In this dynamic, products whose reputation and quality are related to the origin, that is Geographical Indications, are of great importance. Their valorization appears to be an excellent way to reinforce and preserve the links between local societies and their territories as well as their natural and cultural heritages while ensuring their sustainable development. Protection and valorization measures blossom almost everywhere in the South. Some of them take their inspiration in European systems of designations of origin and rely on special local territorial conceptions (as for instance the notion of “terroir”). Others rely on the implementation of institutional and legal tools related for example to the trademark law.

The international symposium in Addis Ababa, organized with the support of French and Ethiopian institutions, aims at highlighting and comparing, in some southern countries which are well-known for them playing a pioneer role on these issues, territorial, social and economic consequences of the implementation of a Geographical Indications system by gathering an interdisciplinary panel of illustrious research fellows from all countries involved in the project. Among the expected results from that symposium of great importance, will be mentioned the creation in Southern countries of an international network of specialists working on the issue of Geographical Indications.

## **JULIANA SANTILLI**

**JULIANA SANTILLI** is a lawyer and a public attorney, specialized in Environmental Law and Minority Rights. She is a co-founder of the Instituto Socioambiental (ISA), a Brazilian non-governmental organization dedicated to the defence of environmental and social rights. She holds a Master's degree in Public Law from the University of Brasília, and is a doctorate student at the Catholic University of Paraná. She is the author of the book "Socioenvironmentalism and the law: legal protection to biological and cultural diversity" (ISA/IEB/Editora Peirópolis, 2005)

### **Abstract: "Which legal tools to protect origin-based products in Brazil?"**

The presentation will start with a general panorama of legal tools for biodiversity protection and the cultural diversity in association with it in Brazil. Later on, one will deal with special territorial rights given to indigenous people, to "quilombas" (maroons, fugitive slaves) and to other traditional and local people, as well as with the judicial categories embodied by extractivist reservations and those of sustainable development. The main legislative initiatives in progress to control the access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge, the inventory of immaterial cultural heritage and the Geographical Indications system in Brazil, their judicial status and their potential use to protect and give added value to local products and initiatives already in progress will be so many issues to tackle.

## **OMAR SARR**

**OMAR SARR** is a researcher at IRD since 2006. He is in charge of the scientific secretariat and coordination of the Biodivalloc program, Team 1, in West Africa (Western African Littoral Team). He worked from 2001 to 2005 in the Centre of Law and Economy of the Sea (University of Western Brittany) within the framework of the preparation of his thesis for Doctor degree in fishing economics. His research tasks relate to the management of the artisanal fisheries and the valorisation of the marine resources in the Biosphere reserve of Saloum Delta (Senegal). Previously, Omar SARR was an inspector of fisheries at the Direction of Maritime Fisheries of Senegal, post he joined in 1991.

### **Abstract: “Shell’s valorisation policy in Saloum (Senegal)”**

Saloum Delta shelters a mangrove ecosystem to which is associated a diversity of natural resources, shells in particular. This ecosystem is nowadays weakened among other things, by a strong anthropogenic pressure which, like the entire West African coastline, questions the permanence of a local socioeconomic system. Management measures are implemented to improve the situation. This is the reason why this zone enjoys many AMP statuses (National Park, Biosphere reservation, Ramsar Site and Members of the Club of the most beautiful bays in the world). Such a diversity of status explains the diversity of actors and measures as far as natural resources management in the region are concerned. Among these measures, one can mention the valorisation project of traditionally altered shells such as “pagne”, “yokhos”, “touffa” and “yeet”. In the view of biodiversity conservation, these projects aim at promoting the intrinsic and extrinsic quality of these very well-known origin-based products in Senegal. Can such measures be understood in themselves as measures of label process? Are they likely to generate standards? Which kind of alterations do they imply? Do they intend to access to the markets? Such are the different questions one will try to answer in this presentation.

## **SEBSEBE DEMISSEW**

**SEBSEBE DEMISSEW** is a botanist, professor at Addis Ababa University, dean of the Science Faculty and Leader of the Ethiopian Flora Project. He has a PhD in Systematic Botany with emphasis in Biodiversity, and Ecology from the Institute of Systematic Botany, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. Member of a lot of organizations and professional associations dedicated to biodiversity and environment protection, he has published over 90 scientific papers and articles in national and international refereed journals, proceedings and parts Flora publications and two books: "Field Guide to the Ethiopian Orchids" and " and "Flowers of Ethiopia and Eritrea: aloes and other lilies".

**TEWOLDE BERHAN GEBRE EGZIABHER**

**TEWOLDE BERHAN GEBRE EGZIABHER** is the General Director of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in Ethiopia. He was a former researcher and academic administrator at the Biology Department in Addis Ababa University. He also took part to the negotiations for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety from 1996 to 2000.

In 2000, Dr Tewolde received the Right Livelihood Award for his work in biosafety and community rights. Addis Ababa University also honoured him with a Doctor of Sciences Honoris Causa in 2004.

## **DIRK TROSKIE**

**DIRK TROSKIE** is a doctor in agricultural economy (Stellensboch University, South Africa). He is the director of a program “Agricultural Economy” at the Department of Agriculture in Western Cape (coordination of activities of research and counselling to support policies as well as agricultural concern management). He conducts the group of agricultural departments in four provinces which are involved in a program aiming at implementing and enhancing GI in South Africa. He is also the main partner of IPR-DURAS and Biodivalloc-South Africa projects which aim at exploring the potential of GI as tools for rural development and biodiversity conservation.

### **Abstract: Origin - based products and trademarks law in South Africa**

Many poor communities in rural areas of Southern Africa own a rich diversity of traditional knowledge and indigenous resources (Cape indigenous flora; Mopani worms; Marula fruit etc.). Also, many agro-food products originating in these communities are rooted in the use of these local resources (Honeybush tea; Rooibos tea; Karoo lamb; Boer goat; ostrich products). Considering that many of them have a given quality, reputation or other characteristic essentially attributable to their geographical origin, labeling and protection through a geographical indication could apply to them.

Nevertheless, rural communities in the SADC region generally market low value products or raw materials. Where differentiated products do exist, they are often the result of the initiative of medium or large-scale farmers and enterprises.

There is therefore a need to explore the potential for improving and strengthening rural poor communities' linkages to the market through geographical indication labeling and collective action, as was done so successfully in some European countries.

In South Africa, the concept of GIs and of its possible implementation in a South African context has been introduced over the past few years, especially thanks to an initiative of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture. This initial phase has raised awareness and interests for GIs among the government sector as well as research institutions and private actors. In contrast, the concept is completely new to Namibia. Hence, there is a strong need to create awareness and build capacity.

There is an obvious lack of collective action both at local and national level for improving agricultural production, commercialization and competitiveness. Commercial farmers

are accustomed to acting on an individual basis and emerging and resource poor farmers are generally poorly involved in local farmers' organizations.

The current legal framework only provides for the protection of GIs as collective or certification trademarks. Hence, enforcement and marketing basically rely on private actors, while government maintains some inspectorate bodies and technical support capacities. It is most probable that the lack of a public system through which to valorize GIs is excluding resource poor farmers from a potentially useful tool to improve their market access.

## **LAURENCE TUBIANA**

**LAURENCE TUBIANA** is director of the institute of sustainable development and international relations (IDDRI). She is also professor at Sciences-Po Paris and director of the sustainable development chair. She has previously served as senior adviser on environment and global issues of the Prime Minister Lionel Jospin and has conducted a number of international negotiations on environment for the French government. She has been a member of the “Conseil d’Analyse Economique” in the Prime Minister office. In her academic career she has been director of research at the Institute of Agronomic research (INRA) and associate professor at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Montpellier (ENSAM). She is also member of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED).

Laurence Tubiana founded and chaired SOLAGRAL a french based NGO working on international issues. She is the editor in chief of a journal “Le Courrier de la Planète”. She has published a number of articles and books on environment, development and international issues.

## **NATALIE UNTERSTELL**

**NATALIE UNTERSTELL** is a specialist in Administration for Enterprises (international economic and judicial relationships) at the Getulio Vargas Foundation, Rio de Janeiro. She has been working in the Rio Negro Program at the ISA since 2000 where she coordinates a network of actors and collaborators involved in the elaboration of Rio Negro products commercialisation paths. She also studies economy in Amerindia. Her favourite themes are: fair trade, judicial and economic tools in regional valorisation, local development.

### **Abstract: Amazon local labels - an exploratory view of current strategies**

Brazilian Amazon has become a contemporary phenomenon of consumption, allied to an increasing valorisation of organic, ecological and "fair trade" products in the urban centres. Several are the production and commercialization initiatives that exist in the Amazon; however this whole of projects is dispersed not only regarding the territorial plan but also concerning the articulation between the actors that promote these initiatives. It increases complexity to access the markets and to disseminate successful experiences. Considering this panorama, if in one hand the "Amazon label" facilitates the diffusion of experiences and the dialogue between consumers and products; in the other hand it jeopardizes Amazon diversity, overlapping local specialties. At the local level "ethnic" or "origin" brands bet on very high cultural, social and environmental values, although these still don't meet economic translation.

This presentation intends to explore what is 'behind' local Amazon brands, using Arte Baniwa and Xingu's honey examples to point ways and allow reflections about the possibilities of the development of geographic denomination systems in the region. It will focus in three axes: the first approaches inter-organizational links at the production level and identifies the presence of the two distinguished logics that permeate initiatives; the second makes a diagnosis of the distribution of added value in the supply chains, besides providing subsidies that allow a reflection that can be expanded to other experiences; and at last, we narrate the fact that the various experiences that have emerged throughout the Amazon region are using the same branding strategy, saturating the market and confusing the consumers.

## FRANÇOIS VERDEAUX

**FRANÇOIS VERDEAUX** is an anthropologist, research director at IRD and is specialised about Nature appropriation in West and East African societies. After many years spent in studying the regulation of the access to forest and halieutical resources, he is the current coordinator of Biodivalloc Ethiopia Program and the head of the first component, "research", in the Ethiopian Home Garden Project.

### **Abstract: « Provenances, origin-based products and « terroir » products: which definitions in southern countries context?»**

To point a type or quality product, the latter's name is often useful in order to identify it on the market. This is what we call "provenance". Practically speaking, one can realize that such a relation fits with very irregular links degrees between the place and the product under consideration.

The name of the place can only take into account the generic classification of the product, like for instance "l'eau de Cologne" without this product being related to the now more historical than geographical origin anymore.

In other cases, the name of a place or a region will rather refer to a special quality of the general classification of the product. This is the case for instance concerning "Sidamo" coffee in Ethiopia. To assign a name which will allow the market to distinguish the required quality is being overlooked by the moral or physical person in possession of the name. It does not mean anyway that the product is being exclusively nor even necessarily produced in the region under discussion: the region gave its name to a quality which does not belong to it anymore.

Eventually, the last degree, quality and specificity of a product are supposed to come from at the very place where it has been produced, and from this place only. They are then called "terroir" products, that is to say, a product coming from the single combination of ecological characteristics and proprieties of a place and from the related "savoir-faire". No one but the producers of this place is allowed to make use of its name which is also useful in order to identify the product on the market places. The product can not be understood anymore apart from the place it comes from, or more precisely from its "territory".

By displaying some concrete cases in southern countries, this workshop will try to point out how relevant the different kinds of special links between places and products are regarding the corresponding socio-political and institutional contexts.

**JEAN-DOMINIQUE WAHICHE**

**JEAN-DOMINIQUE WAHICHE** is a doctor in Law (Paris 1), the assistant of the general director at MNHN. Head of valorisation of research, he particularly focuses on judicial aspects concerning natural heritage in situ and in museums, its use, its management and preservation.

## **YIGZAW AYALEW**

**YIGZAW AYALEW** has a MA in Environment, Development and Policy of the University of Sussex (UK). He worked for 15 years as a professional in Environmental issues. For more than 10 years, he has been responsible for the conservation strategy of Ethiopia Project including the development of its policy, strategy, institutional framework and action plan. As a member of the Federal Environmental Protection Authority, he also took part to many International Conferences and Workshops. Since 2006, he is the Project Manager of Ethiopian Home Garden Project.

## ZEMEDE ASFAW

**ZEMEDE ASFAW** is a botanist/ethnobotanist who studied in Sweden and has held academic position at the Department of Biology of the Addis Ababa University for the last 30 years, where he is currently an Associate Professor. He has taught various courses in general biology, botany and ethnobotany at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and also supervised more than 35 postgraduate students between 1990 and 2007. His research involvements mostly focus at the interface between agriculture and botany covering the broad areas of cultivated plants, indigenous crops, ethnobotany, home gardens, biodiversity and related fields. He has published various scientific works including with colleagues and graduate students. Some of his published works include a book on Indigenous Food Crops and Home Gardens in Ethiopia; a chapter in the book “*Genes in the Field*” and another in the book “*Home Garden Agrobiodiversity*”. More than half a dozen of the publications are related to home gardens including: Home gardens in Ethiopia, Plant associations of Welayta and Gurage home gardens in Southern Ethiopia, Origin and evolution of rural home gardens and Useful plants in Daniio Gade in Southern Ethiopia. Currently he is one of the principal investigators in the botany/ethnobotany team of the project entitled: *Home Gardens of Ethiopia*.

### **Abstract: Biodiversity Virtues of Safeguarding Local Products with Designations of Origin system: Some Ideas and Examples from France and Ethiopia**

The situation with local agricultural products and the practice of designation of origin were inspected to check on their actual and potential contributions to maintenance of biodiversity. Some examples of plant and animal products of France and Ethiopia are highlighted to point at the impacts that each production system may have on biological diversity. For some Ethiopian local products, the production systems are reviewed to show how they relate to the environment and the associated species as well as the local know-how. This also brings into focus the major Ethiopian products of local, regional, national and international reputes. The links between the production of Harer SENGGA (the fat ox of Harer), Harer coffee (*Coffea arabica*), ENSET (*Ensete ventricosum*) products (BULA, KOCHO), AMBIR/YE-GURAGE GOMEN (*Brassica carinata*) and KOSERET (*Lippia adoensis var koseret*) with the biological diversity of the localities wherein they occur are highlighted. These products are seen to be the pillars of local biodiversity since some are actually the key species of the farming system or products related to the key species.