International Seed Federation

Perspective

Seminar on the role of plant breeding and plant variety protection in enabling agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change - UPOV

Michael Keller
Secretary General, International Seed Federation
Climate change is at the heart of our concerns and part of a much larger story...

No "one-size-fits-all" solution

We are here: Most critical input!
License to operate

Innovation Inter-dependency Seed Resil. License to operate

Biodiversity

Prices Increasing population + income End of Multilateralism

Threats on IP 7 trillion calorie gap

Inflation

Soil Health

Trust?

Genetic Resources Transparency Incl. Seed Systems

Water demand

Transp. Water demand + 25% Pests

0.15 ha per capita

Climate Change

Hunger

Wars, conflict
“There is absolutely no doubt that today is the time to gather our strength, complementarity, and diversity to build resilience and to adapt and adjust to a changing world.”

It is now!
“A world where the best quality seed is accessible to all, supporting sustainable agriculture and food security.”
Contribution through Plant Breeding Innovation

• Innovation is in our DNA!
  • Yield, taste, nutritional quality, drought, salinity, disease resistance, pests, etc...

• Capacity to use all existing breeding tools
  • Genome editing: + 40 Crops 30 countries broad range of developers (private + public) – “improved performances”

• Access to supporting technologies
  • Digitalization, Bioinformatics, Big Data,...
Contribution must be economically sustainable!

• Can a business without intellectual property protection be sustainable?

• Preferred tool: **UPOV**

“Encourage the development of new plant varieties for the benefit of society”
... our contributions also depend on alignment of policies at international level...
It’s about our joint capacity to provide seed choice for farmers to address climate change at the local level.
Seed is Life