



La Settimana della
Biodiversità Alla scoperta dei
legami tra cultura
cibo e natura

BIODIVERSITY? SUSTAINABLE FOOD FOR ALL

The Mediterranean Diet, an Example of a Sustainable Diet

Sala Petrassi
Parco della Musica, Rome
Friday 21 May 2010
Time: 10.00 - 12.30



MEDITERRANEAN DIET TALK SHOW

PROGRAMME

10.00 am - Opening: **Emile Frison**,
Director General Bioersivity International

Moderator: **Glauco Benigni**, Journalist

Carlo Cannella, INRAN/CIISCAM

Sandro Dernini, Forum on Mediterranean Food Cultures

Cosimo Lacirignola, CIHEAM-IAM of Bari

Aldo Soldi, COOP-ANCC

Barbara Burlingame, FAO

Stefano Padulosi, Bioersivity International

Flavio Paoletti, INRAN

Massimo Iannetta, ENEA

Giuseppe Maiani, INRAN

Lorenzo Donini, Sapienza University of Rome

Mauro Gamboni, CNR

On the occasion of 'la Settimana della Biodiversità', organized by Bioversity International and the Comune di Roma, the Mediterranean Diet "Talk show" will explore the use of the TV format as a tool for a wider promotion of the global campaign "Diversity for Life".

With the onset of modern agriculture and food globalization, the concepts of sustainable diet and human ecology have been neglected in favour of the intensification and industrialization of agriculture production systems. The outcome has been a sizeable increase of global food production, but with no improvements at the global level of nutrition. It is currently estimated that the number of people suffering from hunger is now over 1 billion. During the "Talk show". the FAO on-line petition www.1billionhungry.org will be promoted. The petition aims at gathering 1 million signatures to be presented to the United Nations, next October, on the occasion of the World Food Day, with the purpose of sensitizing Governments from all over the World to take effective measures against hunger. In addition to the mentioned problems of undernutrition, other problems such as obesity and chronic diseases are also increasing. The alarming pace of food biodiversity loss and the

deterioration of ecosystems call for a serious reconsideration of the sustainability of current agricultural systems and diets.

Why biodiversity? Biodiversity is one of the three pillars firmly supporting the pyramid of the Mediterranean Diet. It is closely linked and highly complementary to the other two pillars - cultural diversity and environmental diversity. Biodiversity is of strategic importance both at the species level and at the variety level. Interactions between the various species and the environment are also strategic. The strong erosion of biodiversity that is observed nowadays is threatening the very foundation of the Mediterranean Diet.

It is therefore, urgent to promote a sustainable Mediterranean diet, rich in a variety of local and seasonal products.

Diversity for Life. In May 2008, Bioversity International launched the campaign 'Diversity for Life' encouraging people to use agricultural biodiversity to improve their own nutrition, to guarantee the nourishment and adapt agriculture to climate changes and make it more sustainable.

DIVERSITY FOR LIFE is a global awareness campaign coordinated by Bioversity International to inspire people toward a new appreciation of agricultural biodiversity to improve their nutrition and to conserve the diversity of plants and animals that are so critical to food security.

Sign the petition to end hunger:
www.1billionhungry.org



MEDIA PARTNER

