

Community Seed Banks: Reflections to the Challenges and Opportunities

E.D.Israel Oliver King

Director, Biodiversity

M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation,

oliverking@mssrf.res.in

9443364287



M S Swaminathan
Research Foundation
SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



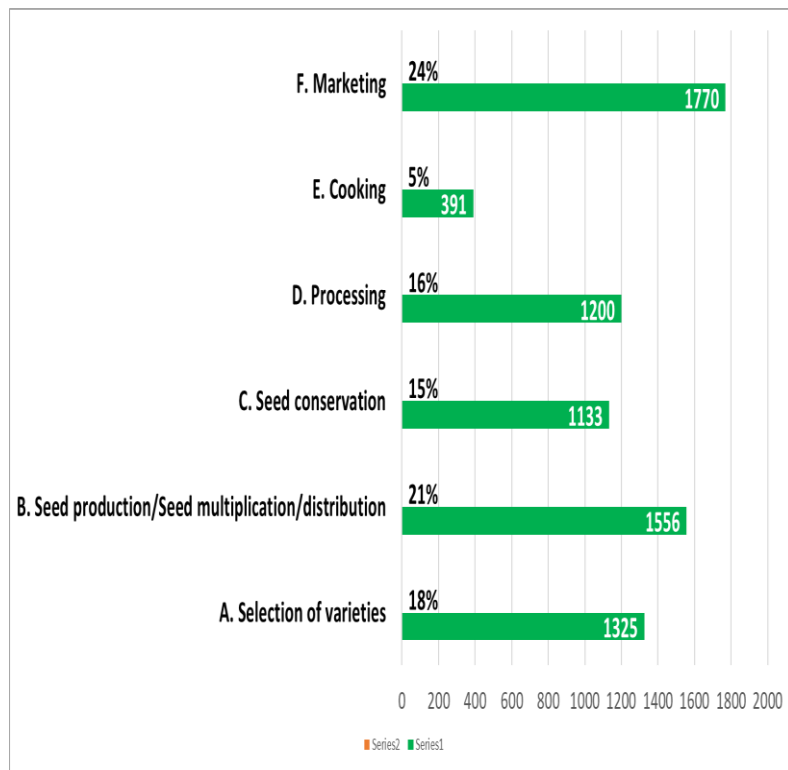


GLOBAL
MANIFESTO ON
**FORGOTTEN
FOODS**

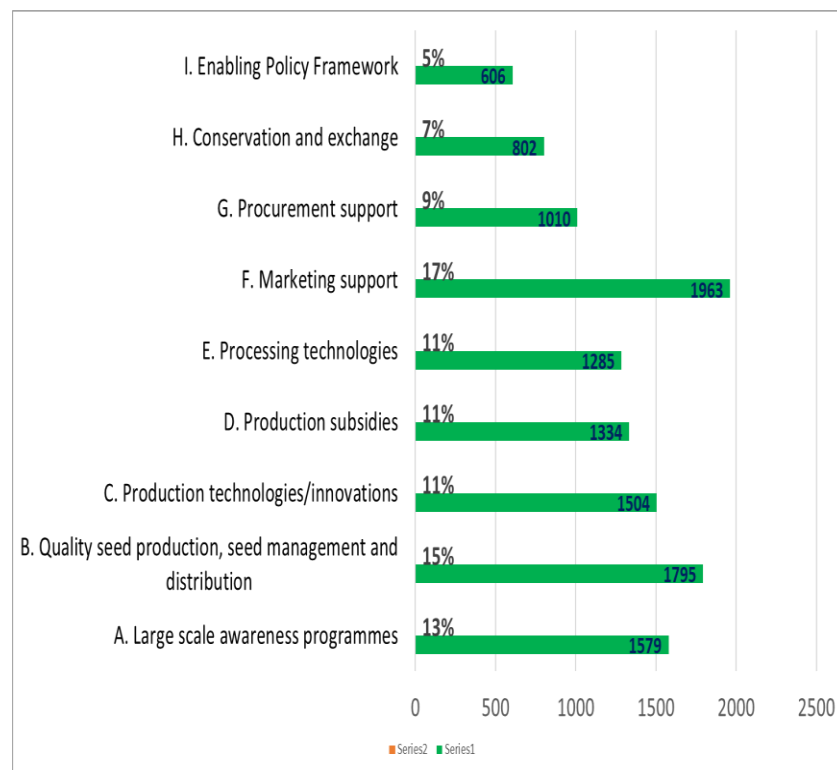


Asian Manifesto, Global Manifesto, Global Plan
of Action and Community of Practices on
Forgotten Foods as a part of the
FAO-GFAR Collective Action - 2022

Limitations and challenges in cultivating the Traditional Food Crops



Support needed to better grow the Traditional Food Crops

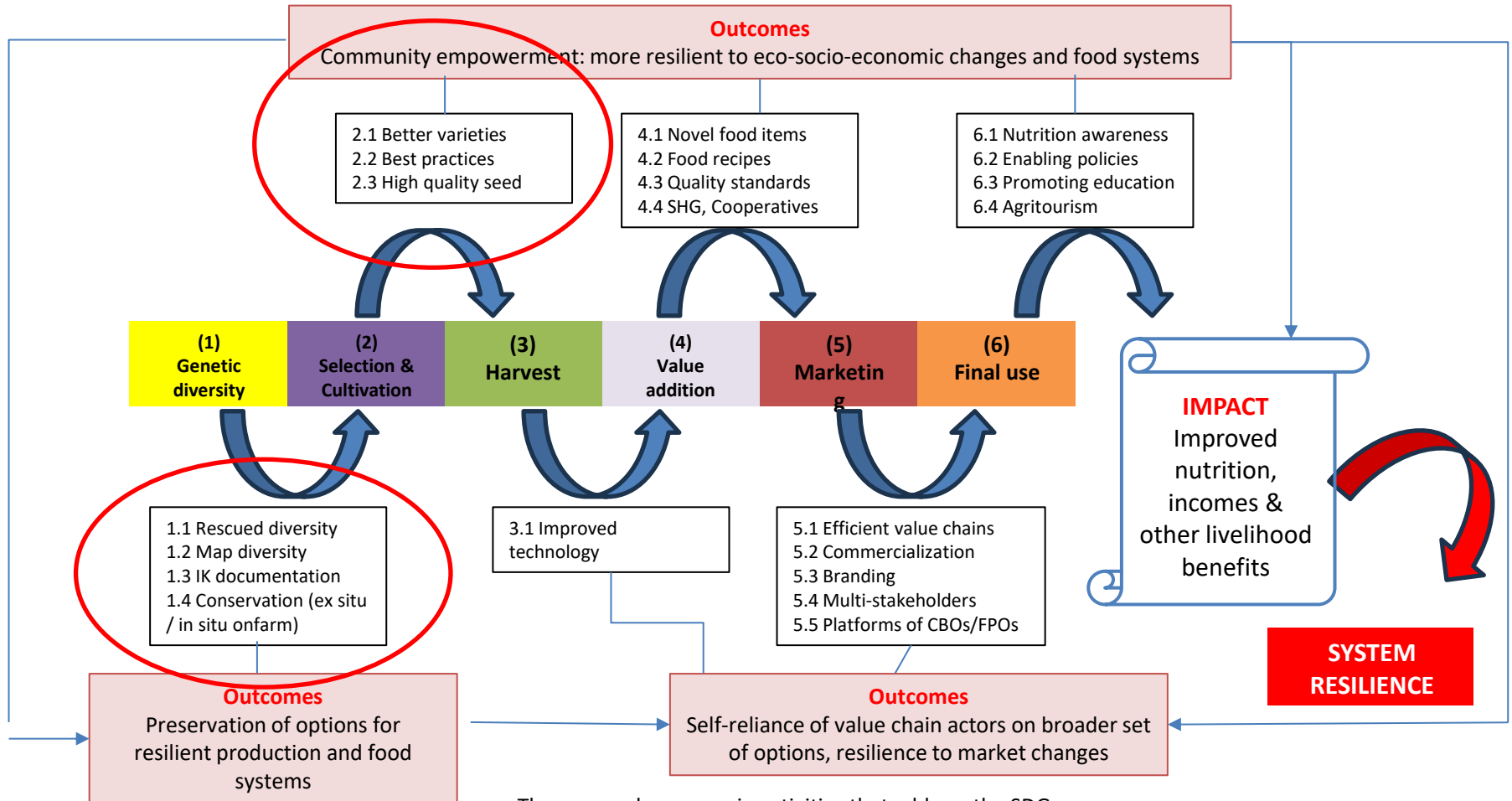


Forgotten foods Survey - FAO-GFAR Collective Action - 2022

3087 farmers – (70% male and 30% female)

Fifteen countries were surveyed: 3 countries in Southeast Asia, 6 in South Asia, 1 in East Asia, 3 in Central Asia and 2 in Pacific region

Holistic Value Chain Approach for strengthening Onfarm Conservation and Use (nutrition-income-resilience)



The approach engages in activities that address the SDGs, in particular SDG2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 15 (Life on Land)

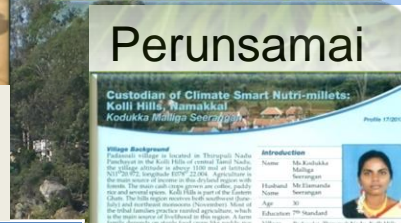
Custodian Farmers: Central in CMSS



Perunthinai

Custodian farmers Traits Conserve, Cultivate, Share, Innovate

Crop	Landrace Name	Traits of the Varieties
Samai/Little Millet	Perunjsamai	Suitable for Mixed Cropping,
Samai / Little Millet	Thirikulasamai	Short duration crop (3 Month), fodder grass, taste, survive in poor soil
Thinai / Italian Millet	Palanthinai	Suitable for mixed crop, Taste, survive in poor soil
Thinai/ Italian Millet	Perunthinai	Suitable for mixed cropping
Ragi / Finger Millet	Perungelvargu	Long duration crop (6Month), fodder,
Ragi/GPU 48	Improved Var.	High Productivity



Introduction

Name: Ms. Kulkarni Milliga Seeripala
 Husband: Mr. Kulkarni Srinivasan
 Age: 30
 Education: 10th Standard
 Village: Palanthina, Thirupur North, Kollil Hills, Namakkal, Dist. Coimbatore

Background

Palanthina village is located in Thirupur North, Perunthani in the Kollil Hills of central Tamil Nadu. The village distance is about 1200 km. It is one of the most remote areas in the district region with limited facilities. The major cash crop grown are coffee, jackfruit, banana, papaya, etc. The village is a part of the Central Rice and Millet Mission. The custodian farmers are practicing mixed cropping, which is the major source of livelihood in the region. In the past, the farmers were growing different varieties of millets in their fields. They grow such crops such as finger millet, ragi and sorghum. While some of the custodian farmers in Kerala, Karnataka to serve as laborers in the region.

Unique Features

Ms. Milliga and her family used to conserve and cultivate a variety of millets. They used to conserve their own old varieties in their fields. Within the village, the custodian farmers were not interested in cultivating millets on their fields as a long as they were different crops. They were interested in growing and during the year had developed considerable knowledge and skills to cultivate millets and value addition. For this she is recognized as the custodian of millets in the region.

Support

Most of the farm families in her village cultivate ragi. The custodian farmers were not interested in cultivating millets in the village. This led to the loss of the custodian farmers' knowledge and skills. The custodian farmers were not interested in cultivating millets in the village. This led to the loss of the custodian farmers' knowledge and skills.

Adaptation

Ms. Milliga has developed excellent knowledge and skills to produce quality seeds. She has been practicing the traditional knowledge of preparing and storing seeds. She has been practicing the traditional knowledge of preparing and storing seeds. She has been practicing the traditional knowledge of preparing and storing seeds.

Continuation

Ms. Milliga has been practicing the traditional knowledge of preparing and storing seeds. She has been practicing the traditional knowledge of preparing and storing seeds. She has been practicing the traditional knowledge of preparing and storing seeds.



Community Seed Banks – Critical needs as of now

Seed Quality

Ensuring quality, purity, and viability of saved seeds.

Capacity Building

Need for training in seed management practices, record-keeping, and business skills.

Market Access

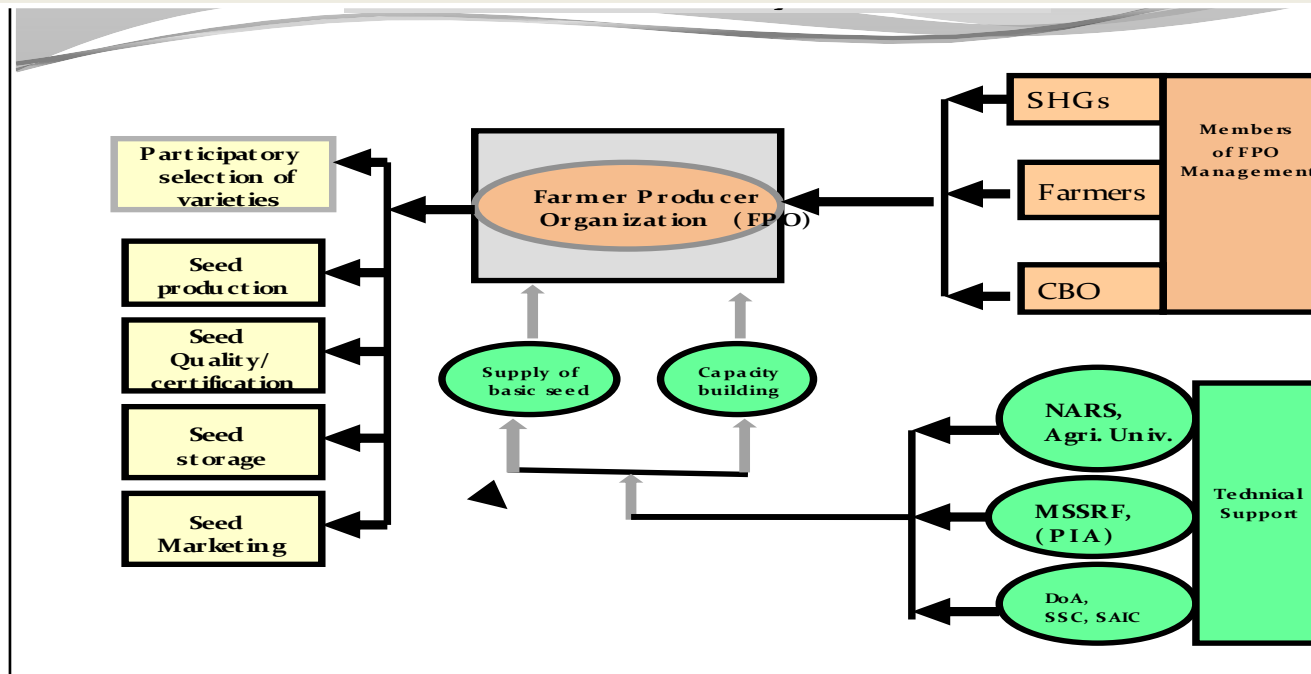
Difficulty in reaching wider markets and obtaining fair prices for Farmer seeds.

Policy

Policies supporting the formalization of CSBs, Network of CSB strengthening FMS



Alternative Seed System Approach – Choice based on the Community Needs



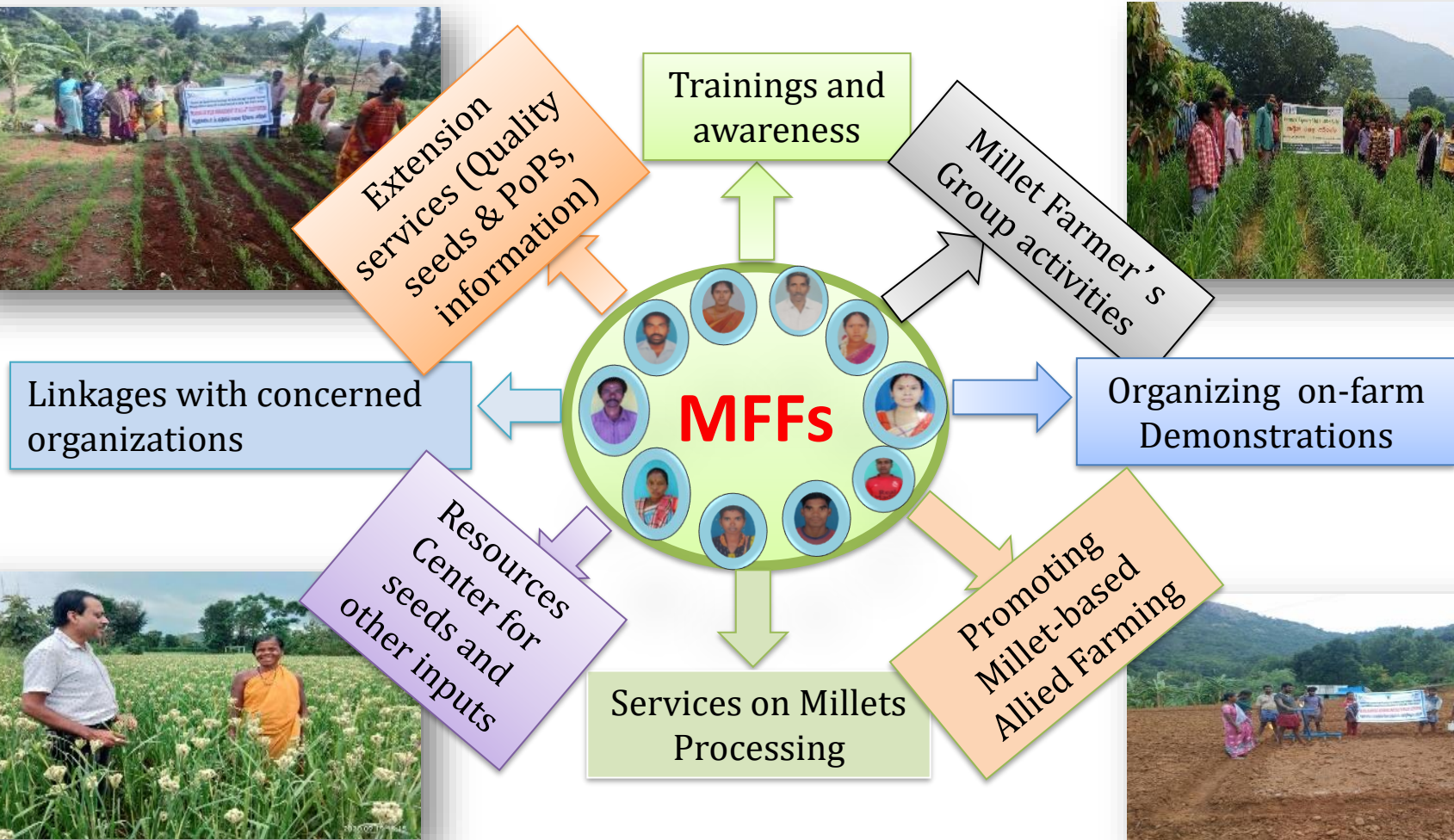
Farmers Varieties

- Finger Millet: Jam Mandia, Bhalu Madia, Kuruma Bhati, Santhara, Baduthara, Kalia, Chili Madia
- Little Millet: Ranga Suan, Bada Suan
- Niger: Desi Alasi

Improved Varieties

- Little Millet: Certified Var – Utkal 150
- Finger Millet: KMR 204, Arjun, VL Mandua, 379,380, Chilika, ML 365
- Niger: Desi Alasi
- Ground Nut: GJG 32, Kadiri 18-12

Farm Facilitators – Farmers to Farmers Extension Strategy

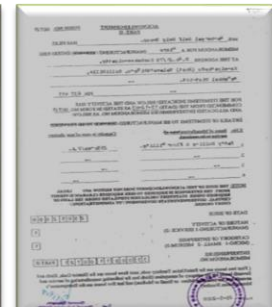


Capacity building and Support systems



Community Centred Assets Creation

- Creating Common Property
- Partnership deed in SHG
- MOU with the Block development Office
- Tax Payer's Identification Number certificate (TIN)
- Sales Tax Certificate (CTC)
- Small Scale industry certificate (SSI)
- Tamil Nadu Food Safety and Drug Administration Certificate



Sales Deed

Dhan Settlement

Partnership Deed

TIN Cert

Sales Tax Cert.

SSI Cert.

FSSAI

Imparting Biodiversity literacy for Children



Food Fair, Seed Fairs



Engaging Community Institutions through enabling environment



Folk Theatre



Rural Markets



Road Show



Exhibitions at Various Fora

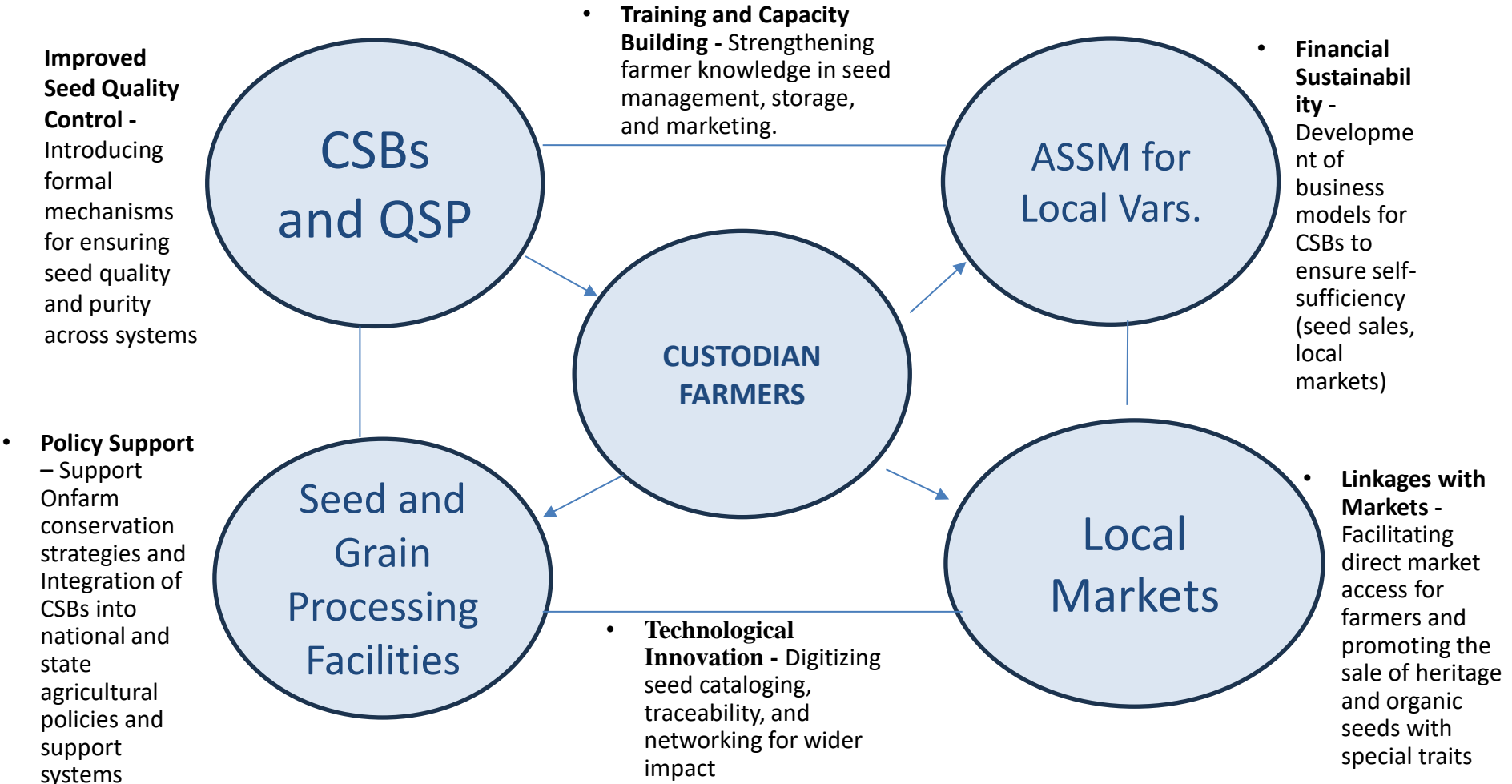


Legal literacy on PPVFR Act and Biodiversity Acts



- Genome Savors
Community Recognition
- Farmers Recognition
- Registration of Farmers
variety with PPVFR Act
- Awareness on Farmers
rights
- People Biodiversity
Registers

Sustainable Community Managed Seed Systems in Agroecology





Thank you