



Plant Genetic Resources – the future for Europe's food and agriculture?

Wednesday 6 June from 17:30 to 19:00

Followed by a networking cocktail

Welcome address by **Jill Craig**, Deputy General Manager, Edelman|The Centre

Introduction by **Christiane Diehl**, Executive Director and moderation by **Brian Heap**, President, EASAC

Presentation of the findings of the EASAC report by **Professor Wayne Powell**, University of Aberystwyth, UK

Panel discussion with:

- **Shakeel Bhatti**, Executive Secretary of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic resources for Food and Agriculture (invited)
- **Guy van den Eede**, Advisor for Bio-Economy, European Commission DG Joint Research Centre
- **Timothy Hall**, Head of Unit - Agriculture, Forests, Fisheries and Aquaculture, DG RESEARCH

Conclusions by **Anne Glover**, Chief Scientific Advisor, European Commission

The Centre, in collaboration with EASAC (the European Academies Science Advisory Council), is pleased to invite you to a discussion with constituents, stakeholders and policy-makers around “**Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**” to mark the publication of the EASAC report.

Agriculture in Europe faces major challenges, associated with the need to deliver food security worldwide at a time of increasing pressures from population growth, climate change and economic instability and the continuing imperative to avoid further losses in biodiversity. Plant genetics is crucial to all these challenges. It provides food, feed for animals, fibers, clothing, shelter, medicine and energy.

EASAC advises that the conservation and use of plant genetic diversity should be an important concern in Europe. The European Commission and national governments have made significant efforts to tackle the challenges by establishing programmes of conservation, characterization and documentation. Nonetheless, further action is urgently needed, particularly with respect to neglected and underused crops and crop wild relatives.

This event will discuss, on the basis of the EASAC report's findings, the research priorities and the implications for policy makers.

To register, please send an email with '*Plant Genetic Resources*' in the subject field and stating clearly your name and organisation to meet@thecentre.eu

The event will take place at:

Edelman | The Centre

Avenue Marnix 22

B-1000 Brussels

Please note that this invitation is personal and that places are limited.