



PIANETA 3000

CROP PRODUCTION AND GENETIC DIVERSITY: can tradition and innovation coexist?

**Thursday 16th October 2014,
2.30–5.00 PM**

**Conference room of the Department
of Electronics, Information
and Bioengineering
Via Ponzio 34/5, Campus Leonardo,
Politecnico di Milano**

What's all about? Pianeta 3000 is a series of events promoted by the program in Environmental and Land Planning Engineering at the Politecnico di Milano. The meetings with the invited researchers are intended to inform the public (colleagues, students, journalists and citizens) and to stimulate thinking through dialogue. The discussion between (and with) experts usually evidences the crucial role of the topic addressed not only from the environmental, but also the economic and the social viewpoints.

This meeting is organized with the contribution of the project "Open Sesame: new networks of cooperation for food sovereignty"

Speakers

Lorenzo Genesis (Institute of Biometeorology, CNR, Florence headquarters) will provide an overview of trends in demand (in terms of food requirements) and supply (in terms of production) in agriculture on a global scale over the last decades.

Debal Deb (Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies, India) will show how the big numbers result from the sum of many small contributions. Since long, he's been collecting the autochthonous rice varieties in India and keeping them alive through their use by local producers. He will talk about the risks inherent to monocultures and the industries that support them.

Piero Morandini (University of Milan) will discuss how varietal selection works with both ancient and modern methods. He will also discuss why an aprioristic veto towards transgenesis (the technology employed to generate the so-called GMOs) is in contradiction with the history of agriculture.

Moderator:

Marino Gatto (Politecnico di Milano), Professor of Ecology and Vice-Dean of the School of Civil, Environmental and Land Planning Engineering.

