



# The joy of sharing seeds

## Organizing a successful seed fair

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On 15 May 2019, members of 10 community seedbanks from the southern region of Nepal came together at the Agyauli Community Seedbank in Nawalparasi to participate in a seed fair. A seed fair is an activity to create awareness about and appreciate local crop diversity, exchange seed and related knowledge, and celebrate farmers' efforts to conserve agrobiodiversity. It takes considerable time and effort to organize a seed fair. The Agyauli seed fair was divided in four parts graphically presented in this brief.

### PART 1 Community seedbanks carefully select, label and display their crop varieties





**PART 2**

After the display of seeds has been organized, community seedbank members go around, interact with each other, identify and request seed of interest. Each community seedbank lists all the demands for seed on a form prepared by the organizers. This will allow the tracing of the seeds: by whom they will be used, how they will perform and if more seed will be produced.





**PART 3**

After all farmers have made their seed requests, community seedbank members prepare the seed packages (envelopes), which are carefully labelled. They then hand over the packages to their colleague community seedbank members. The 10 community seedbanks displayed an impressive total of 27 crops and 381 varieties, including 211 rice landraces.







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More about the seed fair can be read in a brief: <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/102365>

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### PART 4

At the end of the seed fair, farmers share seed stories about the socio-cultural, religious, medicinal and health values of their farmers' varieties. For example, in Shankarpur, Kanchanpur, Anadi rice is used for various food culture practices as well as worshipping the Naga (snake god) by the indigenous Tharu community. It also has medicinal value.



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