



# SOMMET INTERNATIONAL DE LA SOCIÉTÉ CIVILE

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*Des solutions agroécologiques, pour inspirer la transition*





# **AGRO-ECOLOGICAL PRACTICES IN IRAN TO PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT**

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# Agro-ecological Practices in Iran to Preserve the Environment

**In  
Memoriam**

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**Dr. Khadija Catherine Razavi  
(1944 – 2022)**



**Environmental concerns:  
Climate change, land  
degradation, loss of land  
productivity and  
biodiversity, pollution and  
waste**

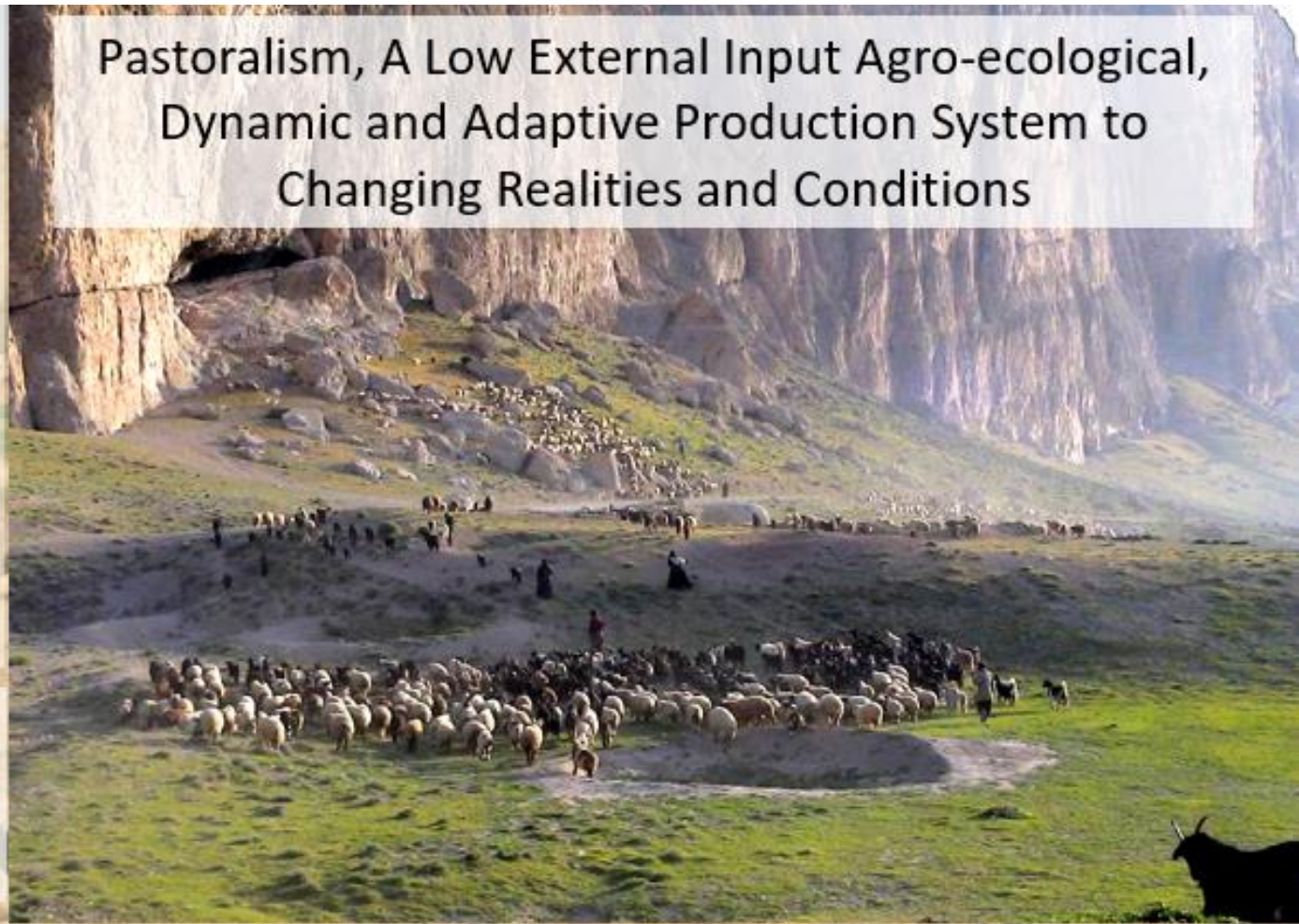




**Seasonal Migration—  
living in  
harmony with  
nature  
and unique  
adaptation  
strategy— to  
cope with  
climate change  
issues**

<https://www.biodiversity-z.org/content/indigenous-peoples-and-community-conserved-territories-and-areas-icca>  
[www.rbd.int/pa/doc/tu64-case-studies/iran-en.pdf](http://www.rbd.int/pa/doc/tu64-case-studies/iran-en.pdf)  
<https://report.territoriesoflife.org/>  
<https://knowledge.uky.edu/igc/24/Keynotes/5/>  
<https://hyrp.info/sites/hyrp.org/files/2022-10/2016C-IRC%20VPR%20Nahid%20Naghizadeh%20MENA%202022.pdf>  
[DOI:10.1007/s10460-020-10093-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10460-020-10093-x)

**Pastoralism, A Low External Input Agro-ecological,  
Dynamic and Adaptive Production System to  
Changing Realities and Conditions**





## Territories of Life Phenomenon

Worldwide, there is a wide variety of ICCAs, differentiated based on their ecological, socio-cultural, political, and economic features, such as Aqdal in Morocco and Tunisia, Qoroq in Iran, Hima in the Arabian Peninsula, and adjacent countries such as Syria and Jordan.

The territories of life, are the most widespread and longstanding Indigenous conservation institution in the MENA region, and perhaps on Earth.





## Key socio-economic & ecological Contribution Pastoralists

- Pastoralists are Rich in productivity
- Live in Harmony with nature
- Sustainable long-term conservation
- Encouraging regrowth of plants
- Spreading seeds, Reduced risk of wild
- Control of invasive species
- Improved biodiversity
- Livestock genetic resources
- Hotspots of cultural and biological diversity



## Participatory and Evolutionary Plant Breeding in Iran

Brings back diversity to farmer's fields to strengthen their resilience and adaptive capacity in the face of biotic and abiotic stresses.



<http://www.cenesta.org/en/category/themes-en/agroecology-en/agro-biodiversity-en/pb-en/ppb-en/>







**Single varieties**



**Mixture of several varieties**



<http://www.cenesta.org/en/category/themes-en/agroecology-en/agro-biodiversity-en/pb-en/ppb-en/page/2/>

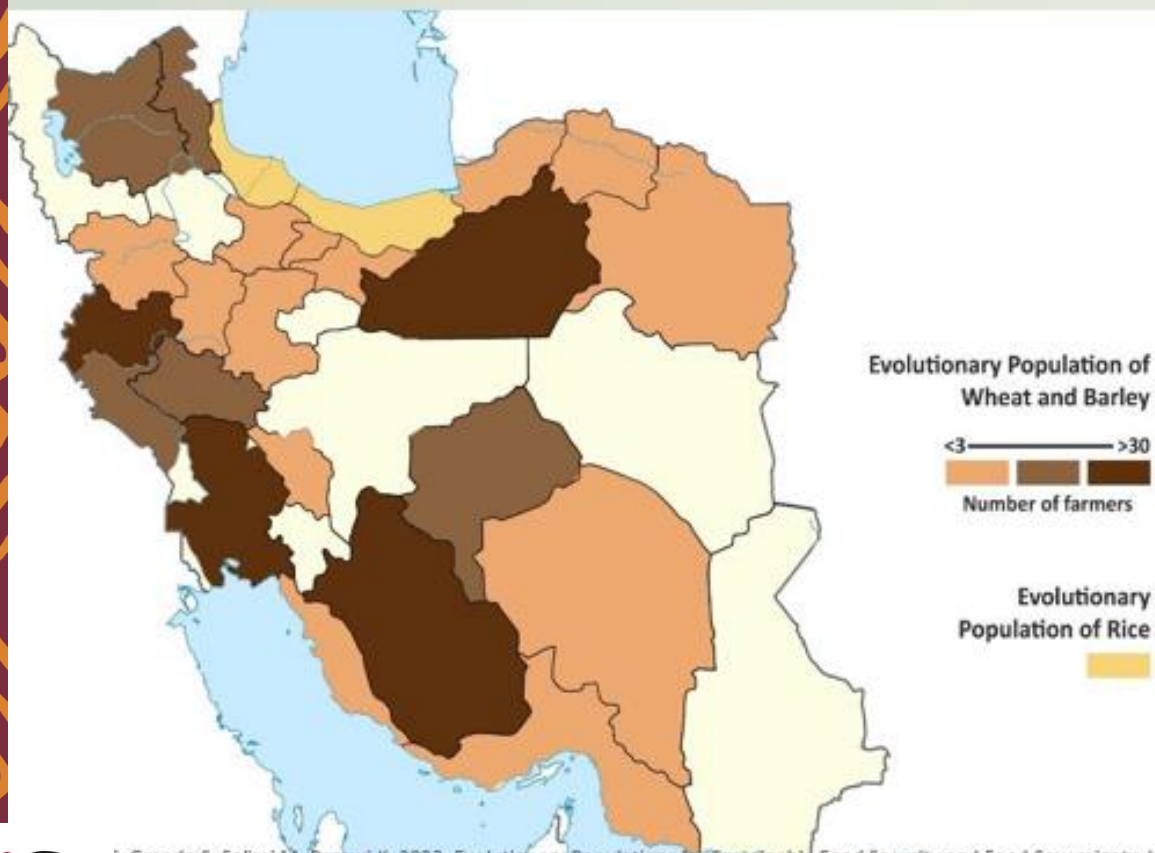


**Mixture of mega-diversity,  
1600 barley F2s**





## Distribution of Evolutionary Populations in Iran



EPs in Iran are mostly cultivated under rainfed conditions. But they are grown, too, by farmers in irrigated areas who are facing water shortages, because the populations are recognized as more resistant to water scarcity and drought than modern varieties.



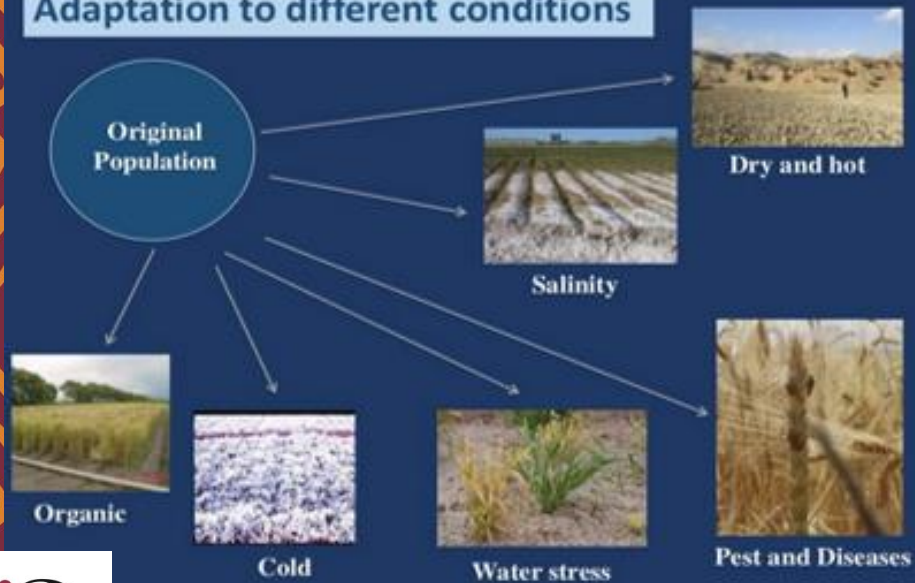
## Different reports from farmers...

**Increase yield and yield stability**

**Resilience to biotic and abiotic stresses**

- Pests/ Diseases, Drought, Water Scarcity, Unpredictable rainfall, Poor Soil, Hot wind, Cold, Soil and water salinity

### Adaptation to different conditions



- Improve healthy food production systems (*good quality and aromatic breads*)
- Improve livelihoods of small-scale farmers
- And more nutritious feed for livestock



# Identification of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

GIAHS A Diversified Agro-ecological System



<http://www.cenesta.org/en/2015/10/04/globally-important-ingenious-agricultural-heritage-systems-giahs/>



# Advocacy strategy on promoting agroecology

1. Why and how to develop an advocacy strategy for agroecology;
2. Setting a specific goal for the advocacy strategy for agroecology (the highest priority);
3. Choosing a method for elaboration of the advocacy strategy for agroecology.


## Challenges related to agroecology in Iran

- Lack of a common literature and proper national definition, weak content production;
- Lack of a center or association to promote the concept of agroecology
- Instability of the socio-economic and environmental situation
- Inattention of policymakers to understand, promote and institutionalize agro-ecological approaches
- The challenge of understanding and institutionalizing the concept of agroecology among producers and consumers.

“Achieving A Common Literature and Understanding of Agroecology among Stakeholders”



## Developing Advocacy Strategy for Agroecology

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- Establishment of a drafting committee for elaboration of advocacy strategy
  - Sharing the advocacy strategy with the expert committee
  - Completing, presenting, and releasing the final advocacy strategy for agroecology



## Promoting Agroecology in Henna farming in the Baluchestan region



Support Henna farmers in 3 regions towards restoring the natural productivity of their agro-ecosystems and maintain their balance without the use of agricultural chemical inputs





Thank you  
Nahid Naghizadeh, CENESTA, Iran  
[www.cenesta.org](http://www.cenesta.org)

**D**  
Desert  
Actions  
2022







*Des solutions agroécologiques, pour inspirer la transition.*

**Thank you**

**Nahid Naghizadeh, CENESTA, Iran**

**[www.cenesta.org](http://www.cenesta.org)**

**[desertif-actions.org](http://desertif-actions.org)**

