



Participation of the Oman Animal & Plant Genetic Resources Center (OAPGRC)

Exhibition
(GAFEX 2013)

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GAFEX 2013

Under the patronage of the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, the Gulf Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Wealth Exhibition, GAFEX 2013, took place at the Oman International Exhibition Centre, Muscat from 28th to 30th of October 2013.

The opening ceremony was held under the auspices of HE Sheikh Saad bin Mohammed Al-Saadi, Minister of Sports Affairs, in the presence of HE Mohammed bin Salim Al-Toobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs and other senior officials.

Over 30 government, non-government and private organizations took part in the exhibition, presenting the latest information, technology and business opportunities in agriculture and fisheries.

Oman Animal and Plant Genetic Resources Center (OAPGRC)

Following His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said's order to review Oman's opportunities in protection of its globally significant genetic resources, the Oman Animal and Plant Genetic Resources Center (OAPGRC) was established by The Research Council in 2012.

Our mission is to promote recognition, sustainable exploitation and valuation of the genetic diversity inherent in Oman's animals, plants and microorganisms as a natural heritage resource. It is our vision to develop as a collaborative hub for all animal and plant genetic resources activities; promote the sustainable use of knowledge across economic sectors and social segments; create value from world-class research



and practical innovation; share our work with the world of international science and build recognized local capacity in the field of genetic resources.

With policy, expertise and capacity building, and extracting

value underpinning all our activities, we work with a variety of local stakeholders and partners - from farmers to scientists to government organisations - on twenty-eight programs that will help us fulfil our remit and achieve our goals. They include research, data collection, conservation, public awareness and community engagement.

We share our experience, expertise and best practice through



participation in a variety of committees, conferences, workshops, seminars and training activities and we proudly promote OAPGRC through activities which include: school outreach, exhibitions, workshops and science cafés.

OAPGRC at GAFEX

OAPGRC used its participation at GAFEX to introduce its mission, vision, programs and work to VIPs and visitors to the exhibition. It also took the opportunity to showcase Oman's biodiversity and unique wealth of animal, plant, marine and microbial genetic resources and their immense value and benefits for humanity.

The OAPGRC stand attracted significant interest and was extremely well-received. The exhibition proved to be a valuable opportunity to raise the profile of the center. Thanks to the type of visitors to the exhibition, GAFEX was a significant networking opportunity for OAPGRC.

