

Call for Papers

CIMA 2023 - Agriculture - A Living Heritage

October 13-18, 2023 , India

Shoolini University, Solan (Himachal) and Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab)

The 20th CIMA, the triennial Congress of the International Association of Agricultural Museums (AIMA), is being held in India (and Asia) for the first time. The conference will draw from around the world professionals from agricultural museums, collections and heritage centres, faculty of agricultural universities, members of agricultural and rural institutions, farmers' organisations, social scientists, policy makers, students, and interested members of the public.

The Congress is looking for papers / presentations, of 15-20 minutes duration, in physical and virtual mode, that will draw attention to the multiple dimensions of traditional agricultural practice, highlight the 'living' Culture in Agriculture. Traditionally, knowledge of sustainable agriculture and food production has been held by farmers and practitioners, often carried as oral knowledge and intangible tradition. CIMA 2023 will look at Agriculture of the past and towards the future, at farming continuities in local and global perspective, Many of the pressing global challenges of our time connect to the development of food systems and practices that sustain them. The success of present-day food production is dependent on many of the same factors as our farming pasts.

How can agricultural and rural museums communicate history of farming practice, resilience, traditional knowledge and embedded cultural expression and values? Many of these histories and ways of living are represented in agricultural museum collections, large and small, including those with a social history or ethnography focus. Museums can play a role in helping us understand these pasts and also help shape our future responses, by communicating how as knowledge and information changes, so do perceptions and attitudes. By showing relationships between knowledge and ways of living, traditions provide powerful contexts for informing and engaging audiences in matters related to food, farming and sustenance.

The presentations and papers at CIMA 2023 are grouped into four themes of

- Challenges - an interdisciplinary overview
- Heritage - as knowledge and resource
- Alternatives - towards sustainable futures
- Farming Tales and Tellers - Communicating agricultural knowledge from oral sayings to museum displays.

Connected topics and focal areas include but are not limited to:

- Regional food and farming traditions
- What makes Millets a sustainable crop in a warming world
- Food collection, storage, processing and managing nutrition
- Soil, water, tools and implements
- Safeguarding traditional varieties and breeds
- Animal welfare and well being – challenges and responses

- Colonial-industrial legacies and farming histories
- Heritage farming in developing nations
- Validating traditional knowledge
- Diversity, inclusion and farming
- Agriculture as performative heritage- festivals, ritual, song, performance.
- Creative practices, digital and webbased technologies and the agricultural museum
- Engaging urban audiences with farming
- Agricultural Museums and collections in South Asia

CIMA 2023 invites proposals or summaries (within 200 words) for papers or presentations of 15 to 20 minute duration which address the theme of the conference and its sub-themes. Interested participants can also form a panel around a theme, to present diverse cases or multiple views.

Schedule

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| ● Submission of Proposals | 30 June 2023 |
| ● Acceptance information by | 15 July 2023 |
| ● FinalPaper or Presentation (including recordings) | 15 September 2023 |

Submit to the India Co-Organizers through the AIMA General Secretary via this link: [\[contact\]](#).