

Report on INFOODS' activities from 2013

INFOODS achieved a lot in 2013. There were three major highlights: one was the publication of FAO/INFOODS e-Learning Course on Food Composition Data, the second the 10th International Food Data Conference (IFDC), and the third was the recognition of the importance of nutrition and biodiversity for agriculture through the Commission on genetic resources for food and agriculture (CGRFA).

Standard setting and guidelines

- Component identifiers also called tagnames. INFOODS created a working group in 2013 on the attribution of AOAC methods to tagnames. A technical meeting was held on 10-11 September 2013. The meeting report was published in 2014 at <http://www.fao.org/infoods/infoods/standards-guidelines/food-component-identifiers-tagnames/en/> and the accompanying Excel files with the tagnames and the AOAC methods will come later in 2014.

Publications

- Many scientific articles were published by INFOODS members

Capacity development

- Published the FAO/INFOODS e-Learning Course on Food Composition Data in English in 2013. It is a 10-hour-course teaching all important issues on food composition. It was especially designed to be integrated into the curricula of universities starting at bachelor level.
- The list of previous courses and participants is as well as new courses are published at the INFOODS website <http://www.fao.org/infoods/infoods/training/en/>
- Involved in and/or co-organized international training courses on food composition:
 - In 2013 in the course held in Wageningen, the Netherlands
- FAO/INFOODS organized several training courses
 - in 2013 held a course at the University of Vienna, Austria

Databases and tables

All FAO/INFOODS databases and tables can be downloaded as PDF or Excel file free-of-charge from the INFOODS webpage <http://www.fao.org/infoods/infoods/tables-and-databases/faoinfoods-databases/en/>

- FAO/INFOODS Food Composition Database on Biodiversity (BioFoodComp) was updated in 2012 and 2013 and hold now analytical data of over 6500 food entries. The first edition in 2010 had data for about 2400 foods.

Biodiversity (<http://www.fao.org/infoods/infoods/food-biodiversity/en/>)

- Progress reports on the two Nutritional Indicators for Biodiversity on food composition and on food consumption were published in 2012 and 2013
- The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) in their 14th session in 2013, included for the first time nutrition and biodiversity as a main topic and endorsed their importance and requested FAO and partners to continue working on this issue

International Food Data Conferences (IFDC) and IUNS conferences

- INFOODS co-organized 10 IFDCs taking place every second year in a different place and every 4 years as a satellite meeting to the ICN (International Conference on Nutrition). In 2013, INFOODS co-organized the 10th International Food Data Conference in Granada, Spain, 12-15 September. It was convened by INYTA of the University of Granada and FINUT in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Network of Food Data Systems (INFOODS). 23 participants were entirely or partly funded by FAO. Publication of the proceedings of the 10th IFDC in *Food Chemistry* will be co-funded by IUNS, FAO, FINUT and the University of Granada.
- A session on food composition was also held at the ICN Granada, which was very well attended for an early morning session. It was funded by FAO and the Task Force.

Meetings

- Meetings of the IUNS/UNU/FAO INFOODS Task Force are held every two years at the IFDC. Reports of some of these meetings are available at <http://www.fao.org/infoods/infoods/structure-and-tasks-of-infoods/en/>

Regional INFOODS data centres:

They created and maintain websites which contain many information as well as the reports of the regional and national activities

- INFOODS: http://www.fao.org/infoods/index_en.stm
- ASEANFOODS: http://www.fao.org/infoods/index_en.stm
- LATINFOODS: <http://www.inta.cl/latinfoods/> (in Spanish only for the moment)
- NEASIAFOODS: www.neasiafoods.org (in Chinese only for the moment)
- EUROFOODS: for the moment more operating as EuroFIR <http://www.eurofir.net/>

Communication

- The INFOODS website was completely redesigned in 2012 and much information was added, such as the role of coordinators, meeting reports, challenges. It is very regularly updated.
- The INFOODS listserv remains an important communication tool within the food composition community. It is actively used by members to ask questions but also by FAO to inform the community about new publications and events. There are about 700 members subscribed.