

Planet Diversity – Diversity on Tour with guests from Africa in Berlin, in the Uckermark – and at the Plaza of Diversity in Bonn



The Exhibition "Colour the Future - Ur-Rinder Afrikas weisen in die Zukunft" is lendable.



Romain Abilé Houehou,
President of 'League for the
Defence of the Consumer in
Benin'



Matthew Mubanga Musyani,
Sambia, Participatory Ecological
Land-Use Management (PELUM)



Visit to a dairy farm in
Brandenburg, which produces
cheese sold labeled as: 'Von hier'
(‘from here’).

The guests Romain Abilé Houehou, President of the „League for the Defence of the Consumer in Benin“ and Matthew Mubanga Musyani, from Participatory Ecological Land-Use Management (PELUM) in Zambia were welcomed in the ‘Afrika Haus’ in Berlin with a colourful banner depicting an early breed of cattle.

Romain Abilé Houehou is President of „League for the Defence of the Consumer in Benin“(LDBC), which is a consumer advocacy group focused on food and raising questions about the affordability of food, environmental protection and sustainability of food production. Matthew Mubanga Musyani from Zambia was representing the Participatory Ecological Land-Use Management (PELUM), a network working for sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty, to which 150 organizations and individual members from western and southern Africa belong. The network campaigns against the expansion of genetically modified crops in Africa and is active in the stabilization of small farms and municipalities and the protection and the development of traditional food and agricultural techniques. Unfortunately, they often must be defended against cheap food imports from industrialized countries. In order to sensitize people in Germany to these problems trips with delegates from affected countries, were organized before and after the Planet Diversity Congress within the scope of the Diversity on Tour program.

Our guests had many stops along their tour besides the House in Berlin including a meeting of the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Hamburg Thalia Theatre (together with the alternative Nobel Prize winner laureate, Percy Schmeiser), a whole day in the Uckermark landscape in Brandenburg with visitations and discussions on the farms and processing units.

A visit to the group VERN (Association for the Preservation and Cultivation of Useful Plants) highlighted the problem of agrobiodiversity loss in Europe. Back in Berlin, the guests were interested in the organization of a small consumer-cooperative and in the idea behind and practice of the intercultural gardens.



Romain Abilé Houehou in the garden of VERN.

On the last day in Berlin the guests even visited several intercultural gardens. The guests experienced how shared gardening can make the gardeners of immigrant and native families rich and happy. Here people sow together, which after tastes in future. There was homemade bread baked in a loam oven, a picnic and many good wishes for the journey to Bonn and back to their African homeland.



Intercultural Garden. Here people seed and harvest together things which taste later.