



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture



Synergies with ITPGRFA

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A brief introduction to the Treaty

- All 27 EU countries (+ the EU) are Contracting Parties of ITPGRFA
 - PGRFA of Annex 1 crops conserved in collections under public control are included in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing
 - Other PGRFA can be included voluntarily by the holder
- Main activity areas
 - Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing (MLS)
 - Conservation and Sustainable Use
 - Farmers' Rights
 - Global Information System (GLIS)
 - Compliance
 - Funding strategy



Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing

- Facilitated access to PGRFA for conservation, development, research and training
- According to the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA)
- Payment of royalties to the Benefit Sharing Fund for commercial exploitation of PGRFA derived from the MLS if access is restricted
- Public information about the PGRFA made available by the Provider to the Recipient
- The Recipient to make available through GLIS any public scientific result about the PGRFA received
- The Provider reports about the SMTAs concluded
- SMTA reports to the Secretariat are confidential



A brief introduction to the Treaty

Conservation and Sustainable Use (Art. 5 and 6 of the Treaty)

- Guidance to promote conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA
- Characterization and evaluation of crops and potential traits
- Complementary approach between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation
- Importance of diversified farming systems
- Participatory approach to plant breeding
- On-farm management of crop diversity
- Adoption of policy and legal measures by Contracting Parties



A brief introduction to the Treaty

Global Information System (GLIS)

- *“integrates and augments existing systems to create the global entry point to information and knowledge for strengthening the capacity for PGRFA conservation, management and utilization”*
- Assignment of Digital Object Identifiers
- Collaboration with other systems and portals
- Adoptions of standard formats and protocols to facilitate data access
- *Ex situ* and *in situ* conservation
- Capacity building



A brief introduction to the Treaty

Farmers' Rights

- The Treaty is the first legally binding international agreement to formally recognize the contribution of local and indigenous communities and farmers to the conservation and development of PGRFA
- Protection of traditional knowledge
- Access to BSF project funding
- Participation of farmers in decision making

Compliance

- To promote compliance with the provisions of the Treaty and to identify issues of non-compliance
- Monitoring, offering advice or assistance, including legal advice or legal assistance, when needed and requested



Synergies with ITGRFA

Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing

- Facilitated access to PGRFA through the SMTA
- Access to BSF funds for developing countries

Global Information System

- Assign DOIs to PGRFA directly, via EURISCO or record DOIs assigned otherwise
- Global entry point for PGRFA with links to first- and third-party systems

Conservation and Sustainable Use

- Directly matches many of the recommendations in PGR Strategy for Europe
- Global perspective

Farmers' Rights

- Helps involve farmers in the processes impacting their activity and livelihoods
- Global perspective

Compliance

- Helps identify gaps and issues and suggests how to address them



Thank you for your attention!

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