Views, Experiences and Best Practices as an example of possible options for the national implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty

Note by the Secretary

At its first meeting of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers’ Rights (AHTEG), the Expert Group considered possible structure of the inventory based on a number of proposals made by members, agreed to utilize a Template for collecting examples of best practices and measures of implementing Farmers’ Rights.

This document presents the updated information on best practices and measures of implementing Article 9 of the International Treaty submitted by Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania on 8 April 2019.

The submission is presented in the form and language in which it was received.
### Measures/Practices on the implementation of Article 9, Farmers’ Rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Title of measure / practice</th>
<th>Short description of measure / practice</th>
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| Technical  | Protection of traditional knowledge        | The purpose of this initiative was that the traditional knowledge collected during centuries by Albanian farmers, to be used for the selection and preservation of local varieties of maize and beans, which consist the basis nutrition, especially in the remote mountainous areas of Albania. In some parts of the country, agricultural practices are developed over the centuries, and have to do with the cultivation and preservation of these local varieties of maize and beans. This knowledge has to do with the ways of cultivation, the positive mass selection techniques, the storage techniques, the ways of using these varieties as food for farmer communities etc, For the purpose of transmitting these knowledge to other farmers, several field days, field demonstrations as well as workshops with a wide participation of farmers and specialists of the area, have been organized. In addition, dissemination materials such as leaflets, brochures, etc., which describe these traditional knowledge, and agricultural practices, related to the preservation and use of the local genetic resources for food and agriculture, have been used. In addition, there has been an extensive use of local media, such as radio and television, through which, all the activities carried out |         | Inshiti i Resurseve Gjenetike te Bimeve
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This initiative indicates the importance of preserving and utilizing traditional knowledge to maintain local agricultural practices and nutrition.
with the farmers, have been reflected and transmitted, in the context of the conservation and use of local crops.

| ✓ | **Equitable participation in the sharing of benefits** | Related to this initiative, in the framework of the project funded by the BSF (third call) it has been possible to evaluate and characterize some of the germplasm accesses, that are stored in the national genetic bank. In total, around 100 accessions of local populations of maize, beans and wheat, are evaluated, which are of a great interest to be cultivated by the farmers. In the field evaluation and characterization, of these local populations have also participated farmers themselves, who are interested to know much more about the characteristics/features of these species, their cultivation technology, resistance to diseases and pests etc. After the multiplication of these accessions on the experimental parcels, a part of the seed has been distributed to interested farmers, in order to be used by them, for production and food. Many farmers, who have been involved in project activities, continue to multiply and cultivate these local crops, as they are well adapted to the harsh climate conditions, especially to prolonged droughts, colds, diseases and so on. |
| ✓ | **Strategy for Rural development 2014-2020** | The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, has drafted the rural development strategy for the period 2014-2020. In this document there is a chapter on diversification of agricultural activities in the rural areas of the country, and the use of agrobiodiversity as a good opportunity for the economic development of the rural areas of the country. In this context, a number of local crops are listed, which have a great interest to be collected and multiplied by farmers, and to be used as local products by the farmer community. In the strategy document, a number of activities will be undertaken for the preservation of local crops in protected areas, national parks, etc. Also, this document foresee the drafting of some legal and sub legal acts, related to the management of agrobiodiversity in Albania. | Albania | Instituti i Resurseve Gjenetike te Bimeve | https://qrgj.org |

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