



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Submission form for full project proposals

Fourth Call for Proposals of the Benefit-sharing Fund

Deadline for submitting pre-proposals: 30 September 2018
at Treaty-Fund@fao.org and PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org

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PROJECT PROPOSAL COVER SHEET

Project Title: Strengthening national capacities and regional integration for efficient conservation of plant genetic resources in a post-conflict region
Project duration: four years (48 months)
Target crops: Barley, wheat, lentil, chickpea and faba bean
Targeted developing country/ies: Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon
Total requested funding (USD): 450,000
Total co-funding available (USD): 90214
Please select the type of project you are applying for:
<input type="checkbox"/> Single country
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multicountry
Please select to which of the main outcomes the proposal contributes to¹:
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Outcome 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outcome 1 and 2
Applicant
Name of Organization: International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Type of organization: International Agricultural Research Center
Project Contact: Dr. Mariana Yazbek, Scientist and Genebank Manager E-mail address: m.yazbek@cgiar.org
Telephone: 009611813303
Fax: 00961 1 804071/01-843473

¹ Please note that as stated in [the text of the Fourth Call for Proposals](#) (3.1. Introduction) all proposals will have to contribute to the cross cutting Outcomes 3-5 of the Outcome Matrix.

SECTION A: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1.Executive summary (0.5-1.0 page)

Securing biodiversity as a safe-guard for future food security is critical, and no less so in the Fertile Crescent where ongoing civil unrest and climate variability has presented challenges. By conserving and adapting key, nutrient-rich foods, farmers will see increased on-farm productivity and incomes, and help reduce adverse impacts to the environment while enhancing resilience to shocks in production. The proposed work focuses on the Fertile Crescent, and more specifically in the countries of Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon, are long-acknowledged as the centre of diversity, domestication and origin of crops and forages of global significance including barley, chickpea, faba bean, lentil and wheat. These crops are both significant for agricultural production systems, as well as having a deep-rooted cultural value in the countries in which they are grown.

In a region that is seemingly regularly challenged by drastic climate fluctuations and societal upheaval, the proposed work seeks to achieve the following outcomes: the first of these outcomes (1) will be to support farmers to maintain and conserve agrobiodiversity by providing the necessary seeds, information, education and technology. This will largely focus on improving a sustainable seed supply and the reintroduction of diversity and pre-existing and locally adapted landraces. The second outcome (2), strongly aligned with the targets of the ITPGRFA and CBD (for relevant countries in this project), is to support the strengthening of research and development to accelerate the production of climate resilient crop varieties. This work is highly critical in the Fertile Crescent now, and will be increasingly critical for countries globally. This outcome will be undertaken through the collection, characterization, documentation and distribution of germplasm and will support national institutions to undertake this work through capacity development and training in best practice. Further support to this work and alignment to the ITPGRFA, will be undertaken through strengthening of the implementation of the ITPGRFA in those three countries already signed up (Iraq, Syria and Lebanon) through efforts made to increase funding to undertake this work (3). There will be a particular focus on the inclusion of young women scientists and their training, along with male colleagues, in the effective integration of the Treaty to inform local policies and regulations. Enhanced recognition and inclusion of gender in the implementation of the programme of work will be a key focus.. Highlighted in Outcome 4, there will be an explicit inclusion of women in this work to support their greater access to capacity development and to support them to play a crucial role in decision-making related to the PGRFA. As an overarching Outcome of this work, Outcome 5 sees the strengthened collaboration of stakeholders by supporting more effective implementation and visibility of Treaty activities. This will serve both as a means of strengthening the important work being undertaken and serve as a means of capacity building, while also providing a regional basis for recognition of the Treaty, and how it can be best utilized by those countries participating in this project, and their neighbours. Using traditional methods of communication including seminars and of courses, this work will also be complemented by increased presence on select media outlets to enhance the visibility for the need to maintain biodiversity as a means of long-term agricultural production, as well as to support increased interest in the critical work that needs to be undertaken to support it long-term.

Investigating the potential contribution of barley, chickpea, faba bean, lentil and wheat will support long-term crop diversity and poverty alleviation through increased income potential and enhanced food security. It will contribute to the revival of biodiversity-based agricultural activities in post-conflict affected areas by empowering local communities both in terms of short-term capacity development, and mid- to long-term access to seed enterprise and market development. Long a mainstay in the lives of the peoples of these countries, the crops highlighted in the proposed work will be continue to support these communities now and in the future.

SECTION B: PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND CONTENTS

2.1. Problem definition (0.5-1.0 page)

Most of the countries in the Fertile Crescent are experiencing significant unrest which is seriously affecting the livelihoods of rural communities, agricultural activities and local agrobiodiversity. The Fertile Crescent combines the centers of diversity, domestication and origin of crops and forages of global significance including barley, chickpea, faba bean, lentil and wheat. Agriculture is, and remains, a pivotal component of the economic development in most of targeted countries with major contribution to food security and to the sustaining of the livelihoods of local communities. With the exception of a few crops such as wheat and vegetables, the predominant farming systems, including traditional farming systems, are still exclusively dominated by the use of landraces. However, they are subject to threats caused by over-use, introduction of new varieties and species, land use changes, all amplified by the effects of climate change and by the displacement of farmers due to the prevailing social and civil unrest that has caused significant human migration whether within countries or throughout the region. In addition to this, farmers have limited access to seeds of landraces as their stocks are exhausted due to successive droughts and difficulties in accessing their fields. Displaced young people as well as women will be critical for bringing back agricultural development and conservation of agrobiodiversity to contribute to overall sustainable development. In addition to this, the national genebanks are either not operational or needing capacity enhancement for regeneration and conservation of the remaining accessions.

ICARDA plays a crucial role in conserving dryland agrobiodiversity with its genebanks holding in-trust a total of 156,000 accessions most of which are landraces, wild relatives and forages collected from the dry areas. ICARDA is also providing technical backstopping and training to national programs and is hosting safety duplicates as black boxes of the genetic resources from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Yemen. ICARDA has developed genebank facilities in Lebanon and Morocco which are a good platform for organizing training courses and for regenerating accessions. Although the region is known for the importance of its biodiversity, no concerted regional efforts for its conservation and sustainable use are in place.

The present proposal aims to enhance the national capacities for efficient conservation of genetic resources of cereals and legumes towards and multiplying initial seeds to respond to farmers needs for preferred landraces.

2.2. Project outcomes and related targets (1- 2 pages)

Goal-*Farmers around the world use and conserve adapted varieties, leading to increased productivity and on-farm incomes, increased availability of diverse nutrient-rich food, reduced adverse impacts to the environment, & enhanced resilience to production shocks.*

Outcome 1 – Farmers supported to maintain and conserve agrobiodiversity in areas vulnerable to climate change and food insecurity

Target 1.1-Fifty to one hundred (50-100) farmers directly supported in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq

Target 1.2-Packages of 5-10 locally adapted varieties (landraces and improved varieties) of wheat, barley, chickpea, lentil, and Faba bean are introduced, disseminated to farmers and evaluated in farmers' fields in a participatory manner.

P.S.: Varieties with traits such as salinity tolerance, heat tolerance, drought tolerance, etc.. will be provided based on the national authorities challenges faced and as a result of the discussions and participatory planning.

Target 1.3-Technical support to improve sustainable seed supply and re-introduction of diversity of locally lost pre-existing landraces and introduction of new locally adapted improved varieties encouraged

Activity 1.1-Produce and supply foundation seeds of adapted and preferred landraces and improved varieties

Activity 1.2-Pilot informal seed production in selected sites in Lebanon

Activity 1.3-Training on “Informal Seed Sector”

Outcome 2 -Research and development is strengthened in the developing world and accelerated to produce climate resilient crop varieties

Target 1.1-Fifty to one-hundred (50-100) accessions of target PGRFA are collected, characterized for traits of importance to adaptation and resilience, documented, and made available

Target 1.2-Three (3) national institutions are supported to strengthen PGRFA information systems and contribute to GLIS

Target 1.3-Ten (10) researchers, government workers and technicians from each country trained through targeted capacity building (50% women)

Activity 2.1-Assess genetic resources, ex situ conservation activities, and facilities at the national level and provide recommendations for improvement

Activity 2.2-Conduct eco-geographic and botanical surveys in selected areas to assess the state and threats to local agrobiodiversity in situ

Activity 2.3-Organize collection missions based on gap analysis and deposit copies at the national genebanks

Activity 2.4-Training on best practices of management of ex situ collections

Outcome 3 – The enabling environment for Treaty implementation is strengthened with increased funding available for the sustainability of project interventions

Target 3.1-Three (3) plans and policies related to PGRFA focusing on ITPGRFA of the 3 participating countries in the project strengthened or developed

Target 3.2-Ten (10) young scientists from each country, particularly women, supported to ensure a new generation of scientists have the knowledge and skills to take forward Treaty implementation.

Activity 3.1-Policy advocacy training workshops on integration of the treaty into the local policies and regulations supported in the target countries

Outcome 4 - Enhanced equity and inclusion in the implementation of the programme

Target 4.1-All project activities explicitly target a fair gender representation (50%) to ensure women have access to capacity development ultimately improving the chances of them playing a crucial role in decision making related to PGRFA

Activity 4.1-Formulate and apply gender balanced, sensitive and inclusive based procedures and practices in all project activities

Outcome 5 - The program results in strong consortia of Treaty stakeholders collaborating to enhance implementation and visibility of Treaty activities

Target 5.1-Strengthening collaboration with already existing and newly established consortia; The main objective of the consortia would be to learn from experiences with relation to the enhancement of the implementation of the Treaty and the development of the national policies related to PGRFA.

Activity 5.1-All project activities implemented through the existing and/or to be established consortia

2.3. Targeted PGRFA (1 page)

While the assessment will include all crops and range species of local and global importance, the focus will be on crops species for which landraces are still predominately used by farmers in the region and also for which genetic resources are of global importance such as:

- Barley is the major field crop in the drylands of targeted countries. It is a major feed source for small ruminants which are key to sustaining the livelihoods of herder communities living under harsh conditions. Landraces are still widely used by farmers. Because of the high genetic variability within the plant populations of the landraces, they have inherent traits for better adaptation to climate change.
- Lentil is among few legume species fitting better to the barley-based system allowing for the sustaining the traditional farming systems through fixation of nitrogen. It is an important source of proteins for the diets of rural communities.
- Chickpea, exclusively Kabuli type, is highly appreciated by local communities and included in several local dishes. It is the main legume in rotation with wheat.
- Faba bean is mainly cultivated under more favorable environments included the limited irrigated areas in the mountains.
- Durum wheat is the major crop, tightly linked to food security for which breeding efforts are undertaken to enhance its productivity. Landraces are highly appreciated for special dishes such as burghul and friekkeh.
- Wild *Cicer*, *Lens*, *Hordeum*, *Aegilops* and *Triticum*: the Fertile Crescent encompasses the major centers of diversity and distribution of wild relatives of targeted crops, mainly the species included in the primary and secondary gene pools which can be readily used to introgress adaptive genes into cultivated species.

2.4. Beneficiaries (1 page)

- Direct beneficiaries include around 300 farmers who will be working directly with the project and will benefit from seeds of landraces in their fields and from the training on low-cost technologies to be demonstrated to the communities. Broadly, the ultimate beneficiaries are poor farmers still living under traditional farming systems as well as pastoralists in need of feeding sources.
- The other direct beneficiaries will include young researchers and extension agents who will benefit from training opportunities on all aspects related to conservation and use of genetic resources, women groups training on add-value technologies and decision makers and ITPGRFA focal points by increasing their awareness on policies and legislations related to access and benefit sharing.
- Genetic resources conserved will benefit actual and future generations by supplying germplasm for breeding purposes and for rehabilitation of degraded systems.

2.5. Mainstreaming gender in project activities (1-1.5 pages)

This project will emphasize gender equality and the involvement of women in its different activities by targeting women from the different sectors (professionals at national research institutes and ministries, researchers at academic institutions, farmers, etc.). Women will not only participate in the implementation of the project but also be engaged at the design stage.

Access to knowledge: The project will raise the awareness amongst women on the need, means and significance of effective participation in identifying and conserving the key local plant genotypes used in their day to day food and feed preparation and consumption. The active participation and direct professional interaction with organizations that manage agricultural biodiversity (NARS, universities, Ministries of Agriculture, etc) during project implementation will significantly raise public awareness on the immediate and long term needs, means and benefits of germplasm conservation among men and woman in the project target communities and countries. It will ensure fair and equitable participation of women in all training and capacity building workshops and events implemented in the different countries. Women will be encouraged to participate in national capacity building geared towards the formulation and enhancement of national policies pertaining to the ITPGRFA. This will build their capacities and improve their confidence to voice their opinions in various stages of the decision-making process at the community, institutional and national levels.

Decision making: Having enabled women by building their capacities, the project will attempt to establish a quota for women in national committees involved in the implementation of the ITPGRFA. This might be needed more in Syria and Iraq (pending closer investigation of the situation). In Lebanon, women are adequately represented in such national committee despite the absence of an official quota for women.

Resources and Services: This project will ensure that the benefits arising from the implementation of this project (resources and services) will be fairly shared between men and women from different sectors.

2.6. Potential development impact and impact pathways (0.5 page)

Landraces of targeted crops are still used within the prevailing traditional farming systems and are consequently contributing significantly to sustaining the livelihoods of rural poor communities. The project will work towards ensuring efficient conservation of genetic resources considered key to realizing needed genetic gains around the world through their use by breeding programs to develop new varieties resilient to climate change. It will initiate the seed production of most preferred landraces and improved varieties to serve as foundation seeds and demonstrate to farmers, in Lebanon, Syria and Iraq the low-cost agricultural packages which could improve crop productivities.

The developmental goal of the proposed project is strengthening agricultural development and food security through conservation and sustainable use of dryland agrobiodiversity. Other specific objectives for development impact and impact pathways include:

- Strengthen national and regional efforts for efficient conservation of dryland agrobiodiversity
- Contribute to reviving biodiversity-based agricultural activities in post-conflict affected areas
- Empower local communities including young and female
- Enhance capacities of major stakeholders

2.6.1 Food security and poverty alleviation (0.5 page)

The three target countries, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, are at the core of the fertile crescent and are particularly rich in plant genetic resources (land races and crop wild relatives). Moreover, these countries are highly vulnerable to climate change, the impacts of which are aggravated by conflict, and further challenging food security.

This project, in line with ICARDA's global mandate, aims to achieve food security and poverty alleviation as an ultimate objective. This will be attempted locally through conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, particularly land races and locally adapted new varieties. The conservation of these varieties will enable farmers to adapt to change in climate. In addition to this, through the strengthening seed systems has the capacity to produce a quick short term impact by providing farmers with much needed resources in countries in which agricultural system has been devastated post conflict. Internationally, conserving plant genetic resources and making them available through MLS (multi-lateral systems) will enhance international food security by making these resources available to scientists and breeders worldwide

2.6.2. Adaptation to climate change and environmental sustainability (0.5 page)

This project addresses *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation and sustainable use of local plant genetic resources as well as capacity building and technology transfer, both priority areas for combating climate change and promoting environmental sustainability. In developing and implementing medium- (technology transfer) and long-term activities (agrobiodiversity conservation), it provides the means to adapt to climate change before the tipping point is reached.

Two of the activities proposed in this project essentially address adaptation to climate change and environmental sustainability: the dissemination of diversified packages comprised of new locally adapted varieties and the promotion of currently available (de facto adapted) land races of various crops, primarily wheat, barley, lentils and chickpeas. While developing new varieties is not a direct objective of this project, material already developed or under development will be utilized. In implementing these activities, the project empowers vulnerable small holder farmers, custodians of agrobiodiversity in marginalized areas, and thus promotes the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources, which in turn constitute the main resources that will enable us to face future environmental challenges. Furthermore, enhancing the national capacities implementing policies related to ITPGRFA would not only benefit the vulnerable rural communities in the target countries but would support them to surpass those already available at the national and international level.

Partnerships established in this project will make available resources, skills and knowledge crucial for combating such a trans-boundary challenge. The establishment of these partnerships requires the identification and support of networks of stakeholders and partners concerned. The project will support attempts to empower existing national and regional networks, and the establishment, where necessary, of new networks to support positive long-term outcomes beyond this project lifetime.

2.6.3. Scientific impact (0.5 page)

This project will introduce new accessions of land races and crop wild relatives of economically important crops in the region, including wheat, barley, chickpea, lentil, and Faba bean into the Multilateral System (MLS). Our target is to characterize, phenotype, evaluate and document 50-100 PGRFA per species. These accessions will be conserved and made available to the international scientific community to be used in research, breeding and education.

This project will also contribute to an improved understanding of trends in agrobiodiversity in the Levant, which have the potential to be extrapolated regionally. This improved understanding will be enhanced through eco-geographic and botanical surveys intended to assess the state and threats to local agrobiodiversity *in situ*/ on farm.

Furthermore, the project will positively impact agrobiodiversity research at the national level in the target countries (Lebanon, Syria, Iraq) through training young scientists, researchers and technicians. Particular attention will be given to the fair participation and representation of women among these trainees.

2.6.4. Capacity development and empowerment (0.5 page)

One of the main objectives of this project is to create an enabling environment for the implementation of the ITPGRFA in the three participating countries: Lebanon, Syria and Iraq. This will be ensured through direct interaction with national focal points and through targeted training of extension agents and government employees. Policy advocacy workshops will be conducted with the ultimate aim of integrating the treaty into local policies and regulations. The project will aim to enhance national plans and policies related to ITPGRFA in order to further support the national implementation of the treaty.

The project aims to empower the seed systems in each participating country through co-developing and delivering 10 PGRFA packages and tools, which are expected to alleviate hardships imposed on the seed system within disturbed agricultural sectors due to conflicts.

Throughout this work, capacity development will be undertaken at various levels from the farm to the government. A particular focus on the empowerment of women and youth will be undertaken through the fair and equitable representation of these groups that are largely marginalized sectors in the agricultural community in these countries. This will improve the chances that they participate in the decision making process at all levels now and in the future.

2.7. Relevance to national or regional priorities in its plans and programmes for PGRFA (0.5 page)

Lebanon and Syria are signatories of CBD and the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources and have drafted the national strategies and legislations related to genetic resources conservation and access, while Iraq has recently joined the two conventions. Agrobiodiversity is a key element of the development plans in all three countries. These countries are members of the Near East and North Africa Genetic Resources Network and have contributed along with ICARDA to the development of the regional strategy for conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources.

2.8. Contribution to the implementation of the International Treaty (0.5 page)

The genetic resources held in-trust at ICARDA and originating from the countries are included in the MLS and are made available using SMTA (Standard Material Transfer Agreements). The characterization and evaluation information will be made available through the on-line database of ICARDA's genebank. The training to be provided through the project will enhance the understanding of the Treaty and its implementation.

3.1. Internal monitoring of performance (0.5-1.0 page)

The project team will monitor performance by preparing and implementing a project monitoring plan. Impact indicators to assess effects of proposed interventions and track progress towards the achievement of targets (project outputs and outcomes) will be developed. Risks associated with the volatility of the political situation will be closely watched for anticipating and addressing any delays or necessary (unforeseen) modifications in project implementation. Supported by ICARDA's monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) unit, internal evaluation of project outcomes and outputs will be regularly conducted using existing and well-established internal reporting mechanisms.

3.2. Communication strategy and visibility (0.5 page)

- Regular and clear communication among stakeholders of the project as well as with target groups is a key to the achievement of the project's objectives. A communication strategy is necessary to garner support for the the engagement in the project activities as well as to increase visibility and raise

awareness and understanding of the objectives of the proposed project. Internal communication (among the implementing partners of the project) is essential to ensure healthy flow of information and bump free road in the implementation of the project activities. On the other hand, external communication, is necessary to inform other stakeholders of the project of the project activities and products and services

- The first step in developing an effective communication plan is to identify the key stakeholders and target audiences. For the purpose of the proposed project, the key audience can include but are not limited to, a) contracting parties (Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq), b) FAO (particularly in Syria and Lebanon) and UNDP (particularly in Syria), c) international organizations, d) donors (existing and potential), e) national policy makers (ARIs, NARs and ministries), f) other national and international NGOs and CSOs, and the general public.
- The roles and responsibilities in undertaking the effective communication with the different target audiences is then agreed upon among the project partners (ICARDA and National partners).
- Branding and development of key messages that are necessary to be taken home by the various audiences can be produced along the way and consistently used. This can be coordinated with other partners within the Benefit Sharing Fund program to establish a unique identity.
- The effective communication products and activities as well as means of dissemination would be developed to ensure the appropriate timely delivery and relevance. Various tools can be used such as websites, traditional communication products (printed material and video and audio products), outreach events and activities (meetings, workshops, events, etc..), social media.
- Leveraging partnerships and collaborations with other national and international institutions can raise the visibility of the project activities and increase the capacity to reach the target audience through using their communication channels and events.
- The communication and visibility strategy should be planned and the necessary resources (human and financial) accounted for.

3.3. Partnerships and collaboration arrangements (1.0 -1.5 pages)

The targeted countries of Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria all experiencing unrest or are affected by the prevailing political situation. The key partners are national agricultural research institutes which are responsible for promoting the conservation and use of agrobiodiversity, most of which were involved in the previous GEF funded project on “Promoting in situ/on-farm conservation of dryland agrobiodiversity in west Asia” coordinated by ICARDA during 1999-2005.

- Iraq: the genebank was destroyed in 2002 and now efforts are being undertaken to reconstruct the collections and this requires technical backstopping and training. ICARDA holds 1,002 accessions collected from the country and backbox of around 400 accessions in urgent need of regeneration. The focus will be on generating the accessions available at ICARDA or with the national genebank.
- Lebanon: the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI) is in the process of establishing a new national genebank. The target region is in Ham/Maaraboun and Be’qaa region, all affected by the unrest in Syria and where large number of Syrian migrants are present. The focus of the work in this target region of Lebanon will be on demonstrating low-cost biodiversity enhancing technologies to local communities and added-value technologies for landraces with participation of local women cooperatives and regeneration of accessions jointly collected with ICARDA.
- Syria: The General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research (GCSAR). Its genebank was destroyed during the current conflict however, the genetic resources were sent as a blackbox to ICARDA for safety duplication in its genebanks in both locations in Lebanon and Morocco. The

focus will be on regeneration and characterization of genetic resources and on training young researchers and some farmers on technologies and approaches for conserving and using local agrobiodiversity.

3.4. Project management team (0.5 page)

Successful management of the project relies on the complementarity and clarity in the partnerships and roles between the different stakeholders.

The management team will be comprised of 1-2 representatives from ICARDA along with focal points from the 3 target countries. Representatives of other key stakeholders may also be present. Representatives of the BSF (Benefit Sharing Fund) of the ITPRFA might be on the management team as per the guidelines. The management team would have monthly virtual meetings and meet face to face at least twice a year. The agenda and minutes will be shared with all stakeholders of the project.

ICARDA will provide overall coordination of the project and will oversee the planning as well as technical, and financial management of the project as a whole, and coordinate the various activities.

The project coordinator will ensure the project objectives are achieved, and activities proceed with the specified time frames and under the established budget while making resources available to the partners. The project coordinator will also manage the relationships with the stakeholders.

ICARDA experts (Agrobiodiversity conservation scientist and seed scientist) have the experience necessary to undertake the activities related to the empowerment of the seed sector and conservation of agrobiodiversity (policy aspects related to the implementation of the ITPGRFA).

The national team members of the management team take the responsibility of ensuring the activities at the national level in the field and with the farmers are executed as per the agreed terms and time frame. The main national partners are listed below:

- Lebanon: Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI).
- Syria: General Commission for Scientific Agricultural Research (GCSAR); General Organization for Seed Multiplication
- Iraq: State Board for Agriculture Research (SBAR); State Board for Seed Testing and Certification (SBSTC)

3.5. Sustainability (1.0-1.5 page)

One of the major goals of this project is to support vulnerable farming communities located in marginal/rural areas of countries where the agricultural sector is affected by conflict. In supporting these communities, the project aims at conserving PGRFA and increasing their availability for sustainable use in an effective way.

We anticipate that increased crop diversity as a result of proposed interventions will increase income, which will trigger a number of lead farmers to maintain the conservation of PGRFA promoted by the project after the project ends.

The project also aims to develop new alliances between farmers and other stakeholders in such a way that dependency on institutions with dwindling resources that are currently key players in PGRFA is reduced. The project will also encourage the establishment of new NGOs and/or empowerment of existing ones, as well as cooperatives and associations, which will further enable the local community to access resources and funding beyond the implementation of the project.

Accessions introduced into the MLS will be continuously available for research and breeding that aims at enhancing food security at the national, regional and international level; this long term impact will extend beyond the implementation period of the project.

The project will employ a participatory approach in which it will develop and/or enhance strategic action plans in close cooperation with key stakeholders; the national partners will be supported to formulate or enhance policies and legislation, the impact of which will extend beyond the project. Moreover, any established facilities will be under the control of national partners and will benefit the target countries post-project implementation.

The project will adopt an effective communication strategy that will ensure the successful adoption and continuous utilization of technological packages made available by this project.

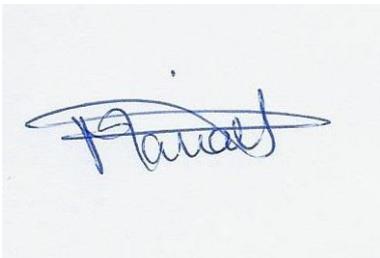
SECTION D: APPENDIXES

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By signing this submission form for full proposal, the applicant confirms that all the above statements, including the attached Appendixes, are true to the best of his/her knowledge. Any deliberately untruthful response will lead to the automatic exclusion from the further screening and appraisal process, and may lead to the denial of awarded grants from the Benefit-sharing Fund.

Signature of contact person:

Mariana Yazbek



Date and location

30 Sept 2018