



**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 [second meeting](#) of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights (AHTEG), the Expert Group agreed on a revised version of the [template](#) for collecting information on examples of national measures, best practices and lessons learned from the realization of Farmers' Rights*

*This document presents the updated information on best practices and measures of implementing Article 9 of the International Treaty submitted by Brazil on 1 August 2019.*

*The submission is presented in the form and language in which it was received.*

## Template for submission of

### Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty

#### Basic information

- Title of measure/practice: Site recognition of traditional agricultural systems
- Date of submission: July 25<sup>th</sup> 2019
- Name(s) of country/countries in which the measure/practice is taking place: Brazil
- Responsible institution/organization (name, address, website (if applicable), e-mail address, telephone number(s) and contact person):

National Historic and Artistic Heritage Institute, IPHAN: <http://portal.iphan.gov.br/>

Contact Person: Natalia Brayner +5561 99106-1400 Address: SEPS – Quadra 713/913 Bloco D Edifício IPHAN CEP 70390-135 Brasília/DF

Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, Embrapa: <https://www.embrapa.br/>

Contact Person: João Roberto Correia +5561 34481583 [joao.roberto@embrapa.br](mailto:joao.roberto@embrapa.br)

- Type of institution/organization (categories): Governmental
- Collaborating/supporting institutions/organizations/actors, if applicable (name, address, website (if applicable), e-mail address, telephone number(s))

Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply: <http://www.agricultura.gov.br/>

National Bank of Economic and Social Development: <https://www.bndes.gov.br/>

FAO Brazil: <http://www.fao.org/brasil/pt/>

#### Description of the examples

##### Mandatory information:<sup>1</sup>

- Short summary to be put in the inventory (max. 200 words) including:

The initiative aims to recognize and protect Agricultural Systems maintained and managed by Traditional communities and Indigenous Peoples of Brazil that contribute to *on farm* conservation of genetic resources. The initiative has as its background concepts from the National Imaterial Cultural Heritage Program and GIAHS FAO Program.

The Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa), Iphan, BNDES and FAO Brazil launched, in 2017, a call for the Good Practices in Traditional Agricultural Systems Prize. 58 good practices were submitted, and 15 were awarded with the prize. A short film, a book and a booklet were produced.

The prize gave the opportunity for the communities to present their initiatives for agrobiodiversity conservation, which included a municipal law project that identified the “Geraizeiro territory of Sobrado” in the Northern region of the Minas Gerais state, as an area that preserves practices that

---

<sup>1</sup>This mandatory information is required in order for the measure/practice to be included in the Inventory.

conserve agrobiodiversity in the intersection of the Savannah and Mata Atlântica tropical forest. Initiatives such as collective work, seed Exchange fairs, self demarcation of traditional territories among others received the prize. The evaluation of the initiatives was done by a specialized committee from the organizing institutions, and representatives from Universities and civil society.

The communities that had their practices recognized by the prize received a financial award and participated in a workshop on patrimony and agricultural systems.

The prize initiative aimed to identify traditional agricultural systems in which practices, places, instruments and ways of life contribute to *on farm* genetic resource conservation, and work as subsidies to build public policies that attend to Brazilian obligations under the FAO International Treaty.

The prize initiative also aimed to improve the shared compromise to *ex situ* conservation of genetic resources found in the Traditional Agricultural Systems (SATs).

- Brief history (including starting year), as appropriate

In April, 2016, Embrapa and the National Historic and Artistic Heritage Institute (IPHAN) signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement on Agriculture and Intangible Cultural Heritage for a period of 5 years. One of the goals of this Agreement is mapping Brazil's Traditional Agricultural Systems (SATs). As a strategy for this mapping, in 2017 the BNDES prize of Good Practices for SATs was structured, a result of a partnership with the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES). In 2019, the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the prize, for which inscriptions are open until the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2019, was launched. The awarded communities in both editions will be able to run, amongst others, for two initiatives of recognition of their Traditional Agricultural Systems: The Registration as Intangible Heritage by IPHAN and the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems program (GIAHS) of FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

- Core components of the measure/practice (max 200 words)

The special characteristic of this initiative is the self-declaratory aspect. During the prize submission, the communities and peoples self declare the realization of the good practices for dynamic agrobiodiversity conservation and of the traditional agricultural systems.

Another aspect that is worth mentioning is the fact that the agricultural system allows for studying and knowing other agrobiodiversity conservation practices in an integrated way to other practices that are done by the farmers on their fields.

- Description of the context and the history of the measure/practice is taking place (political, legal and economic framework conditions for the measure/practice) (max 200 words)

In this initiative the focus is on sociobiodiversity. In the case of Brazil, there is a National Policy of Traditional Communities and Indigenous Peoples that recognize at least 18 traditional communities besides all the indigenous peoples of Brazil. Actually Brazil houses 180 different indigenous languages.

Recently, a new regulatory framework was approved in support of already existing initiatives for the conservation of traditional agricultural systems in the form of Decree 121 that inaugurated the Brazilian Bioeconomy Program – Sociobiodiversity on June ,2019.

- To which provision(s) of Article 9 of the International Treaty does this measure relate

Art. 9.1    X The contracting parties recognize the enormous contribution, past and future, of local communities and of farmers of all regions of the world, especially from origin centers of diversity of cultures and for the conservation and valorisation of plant resources that make up the base for world food and agricultural production.

Art. 9.2a    X The protection of traditional knowledge of interest to plant resources for food and agriculture;

Art. 9.2b    ;

Art. 9.2c   

Art. 9.3    X

Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted to limit any rights that farmers have to save, use, exchange and sell farm-saved seed/propagating material, subject to national law and as appropriate.

#### Other information, if applicable

- Please indicate which category of the Inventory is most relevant for the proposed measure, and which other categories are also relevant (if any):

No.	Category	Most relevant <sup>2</sup>	Also relevant <sup>3</sup>
1	Recognition of local and indigenous communities', farmers' contributions to conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, such as awards and recognition of custodian/guardian farmers		X
2	Financial contributions to support farmers conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA such as contributions to benefit-sharing funds		
3	Approaches to encourage income-generating activities to support farmers' conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA		X
4	Catalogues, registries and other forms of documentation of PGRFA and protection of traditional knowledge		X

<sup>2</sup> Please select only one category that is most relevant, under which the measure will be listed.

<sup>3</sup> Please select one or several categories that may also be relevant (if applicable).

5	In-situ/on-farm conservation and management of PGRFA, such as social and cultural measures, community biodiversity management and conservation sites	X	
6	Facilitation of farmers' access to a diversity of PGRFA through community seed banks <sup>4</sup> , seed networks and other measures improving farmers' choices of a wider diversity of PGRFA.		
7	Participatory approaches to research on PGRFA, including characterization and evaluation, participatory plant breeding and variety selection		
8	Farmers' participation in decision-making at local, national and sub-regional, regional and international levels		X
9	Training, capacity development and public awareness creation		X
10	Legal measures for the implementation of Farmers' Rights, such as legislative measures related to PGRFA.		X
11	Other measures / practices		

- In case you selected 'other measures', would you like to suggest a description of this measure, e.g. as a possible new category? \_\_\_\_\_
- Objective(s)
- Target group(s) and numbers of involved and affected farmers<sup>5</sup> -

Indigenous people and traditional communities with almost 1500 families

- Location(s) and geographical outreach

All of the Brazilian territory (in the first edition of the Prize, 10 Brazilian states were contemplated, reaching all Brazilian regions)

- Resources used for implementation of the measure/practice

In the first edition, 15 prizes were delivered, which total around US\$ 300.000,00 .

- How has the measure/practice affected the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture?

In giving visibility and appreciating Brazilian SATs, as well as its agrobiodiversity conservation strategies. SATs are characterized by their resilience, which is fruit of the expansion, usage and conservation of genetic resources. With the first edition of the prize, 15 experiences of sustainable management of genetic resources were identified, associated to the maintenance of native biodiversity, which, together, shape an intricate agricultural system.

- Please describe the achievements of the measure/ practice so far (including quantification) (max 200 words)

---

<sup>4</sup>Including seed houses.

<sup>5</sup> Any classification, e.g. of the types of farmer addressed, may be country-specific.

The awarded communities got the recognition of their SATs, while contributing to their visibility and the construction and implementation of public policies linked with genetic resources. An example of a public policy influenced by the prize was the creation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply Decree (MAPA) n. 121 of 2019 which created the Program of Bioeconomy - Sociobiodiversity – for Brazil.

- Other national level instruments that are linked to the measure/practice

- Register of Intangible Heritage by IPHAN

- Program of Bioeconomy - Sociobiodiversity of the Secretariat of Family Farming and Cooperativism of MAPA

- National Policy for Traditional Peoples and Communities of the Brazilian Government – municipal laws of recognition of traditional communities

- National policies of promotion and protection of indigenous peoples

- Are you aware of any other international agreements or programs that are relevant for this measure/practice?

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems/GIAHS FAO Program

- Other issues you wish to address, that have not yet been covered, to describe the measure/practice

### **Lessons learned**

- Describe lessons learned which may be relevant for others who wish to do the same or similar measures/practices (max 250 words).

- Need for a wider strategy of dissemination in national scope for potential candidates to the prize.

- Need for a Seminar of Capacitation in Strengthening Instruments of SATs to take place drawing from the awarding ceremony, in which all the selected entities are present.

- The public announcement of the prize could require not only information about the good practice done in the SAT, but also about the characterization of the SAT and about the communities involved. This set of information can contribute greatly to the mapping of SATs.

- What challenges encountered along the way (if applicable) (max 200 words)  
More financial support for representatives of local communities to participate

- What would you consider conditions for success, if others should seek to carry out such a measure or organize such an activity? (max 100 words)

- Engagement of Institutions, which develop activities/projects along with indigenous peoples and traditional communities.

- The public notice needs to be sufficiently clear for the candidates, taking into consideration the specificities of the targeted audience. The items to be filled in by the candidates need to be of easy understanding, especially when it comes to information related to descriptions of social groups, traditional agricultural systems and the good practices performed by them and which contribute in keeping the SAT alive.

**Further information**

- Link(s) to further information about the measure/practice

[BNDES – \(www.bndes.gov.br/wps/portal/site/home/onde-atuamos/social/premio-bndes-boas-praticas-sistemas-agricolas-tradicionais-1-edicao\)](http://www.bndes.gov.br/wps/portal/site/home/onde-atuamos/social/premio-bndes-boas-praticas-sistemas-agricolas-tradicionais-1-edicao)

[Decree 121 – Bioeconomy Brazil – Sociobiodiversity, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply \(www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/portaria-n-121-de-18-de-junho-de-2019-164325642\)](http://www.in.gov.br/en/web/dou/-/portaria-n-121-de-18-de-junho-de-2019-164325642)