



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



**The International Treaty**  
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES  
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**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 International Seed Federation (ISF) on 31 July 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: SEVIA
- Date of submission 31/07/2019
- Name(s) of country/countries in which the measure/practice is taking place Tanzania
- Responsible institution/organization (name, address, website (if applicable), e-mail address, telephone number(s) and contact person) SEVIA
- Type of institution/organization (categories) private
- Collaborating/supporting institutions/organizations/actors, if applicable (name, address, website (if applicable), e-mail address, telephone number(s)) private and public partners including two private seed companies

#### **Description of the examples**

##### **Mandatory information**

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

Seeds of Expertise for the Vegetable Sector of Africa (SEVIA) is a private-sector driven project that started in 2013, based on cooperation of two vegetable seed companies (East-West Seed and Rijk Zwaan), a department of Wageningen University and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In Tanzania, SEVIA collaborates with public and private sector partners, including the Tanzanian Horticulture Association. SEVIA aims to contribute to the development of the vegetable industry in Africa by testing existing genetic resources for Africa and breeding improved African vegetable varieties, and to increasing food security by developing and disseminating adapted technical innovations that enhance productivity and increase farmers' income. Demonstrations in farmers' fields are at the 'heart' of this project: SEVIA shows farmers – in different regions of Tanzania – how they can improve the cultivation practice, to increase the yield and quality of their vegetable production. SEVIA research has, for example, identified tomato varieties that are resistant to bacterial wilt and discovered that plastic mulch increases yields in cooler conditions and decreases yields in hot conditions.

- Implementing entity and partners See above
- Start year
- Objective(s)
- Summary of core components
- Key outcomes
- Lessons learned (if applicable)
- Brief history (including starting year), as appropriate  
See above.
- Core components of the measure/practice (max 200 words)  
SEVIA essentially works through field days where it is shown to farmers how they can improve their cultivation practices leading to higher yields and better quality.



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

- Art. 9.1
- Art. 9.2a
- Art. 9.2b
- Art. 9.2c
- Art. 9.3

**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>1</sup>	Also relevant <sup>2</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		
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		
5	In-situ/on-farm conservation and management of PGRFA, such as social and cultural measures, community biodiversity management and conservation sites		
6	Facilitation of farmers' access to a diversity of PGRFA through community seed banks <sup>3</sup> , seed networks and other measures improving farmers' choices of a wider diversity of PGRFA.	X	
7	Participatory approaches to research on PGRFA, including characterization and evaluation, participatory plant breeding and variety selection		

<sup>1</sup> Please select only one category that is most relevant, under which the measure will be listed.

<sup>2</sup> Please select one or several categories that may also be relevant (if applicable).

<sup>3</sup> Including seed houses.



8	Farmers' participation in decision-making at local, national and sub-regional, regional and international levels		
9	Training, capacity development and public awareness creation		
10	Legal measures for the implementation of Farmers' Rights, such as legislative measures related to PGRFA.		
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)

SEVIA (Seeds of Expertise for the Vegetable Sector of Africa) aims to contribute to the development of the vegetable industry in Africa and to food security. SEVIA has an interest to develop the African vegetable sector by breeding improved African vegetable varieties for the farmers and by testing existing genetic vegetable resources for Africa. In addition, SEVIA develops and disseminates adapted technical innovations in order to enhance productivity and to increase farmers' income.

- Target group(s) and numbers of involved and affected farmers<sup>4</sup> Vegetable farmers in Tanzania.
- Location(s) and geographical outreach Tanzania
- Resources used for implementation of the measure/practice Public and private
- How has the measure/practice affected the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture?
- Please describe the achievements of the measure/ practice so far (including quantification) (max 200 words)
  - Over 4000 farmers reached through Nanenane, Tanzania in 2018
  - At least 50 interns from colleges/universities in Tanzania over the past three years
- Other national level instruments that are linked to the measure/practice
- Are you aware of any other international agreements or programs that are relevant for this measure/practice?
- 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).
- What challenges encountered along the way (if applicable) (max 200 words)

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<sup>4</sup> Any classification, e.g. of the types of farmer addressed, may be country-specific.



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- 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)

**Further information**

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

<http://www.sevia.biz/>