



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 Sweden on 9 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

- *Naptek* - National programme on local and traditional knowledge concerning the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and *Pom* - Programme for diversity of cultivated plants
- 2019-07-01
- Sweden
- *Naptek* - Swedish Biodiversity Centre, Uppsala; Håkan Tunón ([hakan.tunon@slu.se](mailto:hakan.tunon@slu.se)); *Pom* - Swedish Board of Agriculture, Jönköping; Jens Weibull ([jens.weibull@jordbruksverket.se](mailto:jens.weibull@jordbruksverket.se))
- *Naptek* - University (public), *Pom* - Government agency (public)

#### Description of the examples

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

In December 2005 the Swedish government launched the national programme *Naptek* on local and traditional knowledge concerning the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. *Naptek*'s aim was to safeguard relevant traditional knowledge, innovations and practices in relation to article 8(j) of the CBD, adding work on article 10(c). From the start, the Swedish Biodiversity Centre coordinated the *Naptek* programme and in direct collaboration with the Swedish Saami Parliament on issues concerning the Saami traditions. Other relevant tradition holders/stakeholders were also included in the process, e.g. farmers. *Naptek* publication record is extensive. The programme is now closed<sup>2</sup>.

The National Programme on Plant Genetic Resources, *Pom* began in 2000, focussing on the conservation and sustainable use of PGR as well as documenting relevant traditional knowledge. The volume of publications targeting LTK and cultivated plants is extensive. *Pom* is still ongoing.

- 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

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

<sup>2</sup> Current work in Sweden on LTK strictly refers to the Saami community. Responsible authority: Environmental Protection Agency.



- 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>3</sup>	Also relevant <sup>4</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		
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>5</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		✓
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) \_\_\_\_\_
- Target group(s) and numbers of involved and affected farmers<sup>6</sup> - **all stakeholders managing and sustainably utilising genetic resources**

<sup>3</sup> Please select only one category that is most relevant, under which the measure will be listed.

<sup>4</sup> Please select one or several categories that may also be relevant (if applicable).

<sup>5</sup> Including seed houses.

<sup>6</sup> Any classification, e.g. of the types of farmer addressed, may be country-specific.



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- Location(s) and geographical outreach - national scope
- Resources used for implementation of the measure/practice - national funding to implement the programmes
- How has the measure/practice affected the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture? Positively, not least from the point of view of raising public awareness and bringing stakeholders together.
- Please describe the achievements of the measure/practice so far (including quantification) (max 200 words)
  - *Naptek*: Worked for 8 years in order to increase the appreciation of LTK in society and for it to be included in biodiversity governance. While it has resulted in an increased national visibility of LTK, the practical participation in management and decisions governing biodiversity is still relatively scarce.
  - *Pom*: Nation-wide inventory of genetic resources during 10 years, c. 150 heritage varieties re-introduced on the market (c. 250 000 plants sold), extensive list of publications targeting LTK and cultivated plants
- Other national level instruments that are linked to the measure/practice - none
- Are you aware of any other international agreements or programs that are relevant for this measure/practice? CBD articles 8(j) and 10(c), the Nagoya Protocol, and to some degree the UNESCO Convention on the safe-guarding of the intangible cultural heritage.
- 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). Broad stakeholder engagement, respect for diverging views, discretion as regards certain information, patience in letting informants communicate, and letting participation processes take time.
- What challenges encountered along the way (if applicable) (max 200 words). There is, allegedly, a tendency that researchers and government officials demonstrate a too strong belief in their own competence and fail to recognise the knowledge of people with practical experiences, such as farmers. LTK is reported to be seen as prejudices and perceptions in some academic and government official circles. Furthermore, many of the initiatives to support awareness of LTK involve researchers and consultants rather than the actual knowledge holders, which may have a counterproductive effect.
- 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) Very important factors are trust and mutual respect, since there often is a mutual suspicion vis-à-vis the other parts. Local inclusion and participation, also in a very early stage of each process is necessary to form a mutual respect. If decisions and project planning are made prior to local participation, or in fora that local representatives are not invited to, it may be interpreted as signs of disrespect.

### **Further information**

- Link(s) to further information about the measure/practice:
  - Naptek: <https://www.slu.se/en/Collaborative-Centres-and-Projects/swedish-biodiversity-centre1/Research/research-projects/current-research-projects-at-cbm/naptek/> (in English)
  - Pom: <https://www.slu.se/en/Collaborative-Centres-and-Projects/the-programme-for-diversity-of-cultivated-plants/> (in English)