



# ENABLING EQUITABLE ACCESS

## FARMERS' RIGHTS – LOCAL AND GLOBAL

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# OVERVIEW

- I. CONTRIBUTION OF CGIAR TO CONSERVATION FARMING
- II. DOMESTICATING FARMERS' RIGHTS – LESSONS FROM SOUTHERN AFRICA
- III. GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR DOMESTICATING FARMERS' RIGHTS
- IV. BEYOND FRAMEWORKS TO ACTIONS



# I. CONTRIBUTION OF CGIAR TO CONSERVATION FARMING

## Small Scale Seed Project

### Sorghum and Millets

- Foundation seed from CYMMYT (60 days to flowering) +
- Farmers' varieties: quality of grain, flavor, pinnacle to seed head, awns =

New farmers' varieties sold commercially by Seed Co.



# I. CONTRIBUTION OF CGIAR TO CONSERVATION FARMING (continued)

## Sorghum Millet Improvement Program

- Cooperation of governments, CGIAR, and farmers' networks
- Farmers became seed self-sufficient, even in years of drought



# BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD

depends upon

- ▶ Sharing of genetic materials
- ▶ Breeding by farmers
- ▶ Conservation through use

➔ ALL RELATED TO  
ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING  
OF GERMPLASM









## II. DOMESTICATING FARMERS' RIGHTS – LESSONS FROM SOUTHERN AFRICA

### Goals:

- Amendment of national seed laws
- Regional harmonisation

### Process:

- Extensive inclusion of stakeholders
- Participatory plant breeding





# II. DOMESTICATING FARMERS' RIGHTS – LESSONS FROM SOUTHERN AFRICA

(continued)

## Institutionalisation:

- Draft farmers' rights law
- Agrobiodiversity management committees at local, district and national levels
- Information systems
- Public awareness to increase accountability





# III. GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR DOMESTICATING FARMERS' RIGHTS

Not all the work can be done at the national level

- Collection and sharing of legislative experiences
- Global fund (ITPGRFA-2009): training, capacity building
- FAO/CGIAR information management system: revealing access, MTAs, benefit sharing
- Patent transparency registers
- Clear timelines





**Thank you**







