



### Webinar Training Session:

## Guidelines for the preparation of country reports on the State of Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture

12 December 2013

### Presentations:

| Title                                                                      | Presenter                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (5 minutes) | Ms. Linda Collette<br>Secretary CGRFA      |
| Preparation of the national report (35 minutes)                            | Ms. Kim-Anh Tempelman<br>CGRFA Secretariat |



THE STATE OF THE WORLD’S BIODIVERSITY  
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



### ***Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture***

- FAO statutory body
- Established in 1983 to deal with plant genetic resources
- Mandate broadened in 1995 to cover all components of Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (BFA)



- **The only intergovernmental forum to discuss and negotiate matters relevant to biodiversity for food and agriculture**
- **177 member countries + EU**
- **Strategic Plan 2014-2023 and Multi-Year Programme of Work**



## ***THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE***

- CGRFA-11 (2007): **the Commission requested FAO to prepare the SoWBFA** for its 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Session (2017)
- The Commission stressed the SoWBFA should be **country-driven**
- **Guidelines** to facilitate the preparation of country reports.

▪ In adopting its Multi-Year Programme of Work at its Eleventh Regular Session in 2007, the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture requested FAO to prepare the first ever SoWBFA for consideration at its 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Session (2017).

▪ The Commission stressed the SoWBFA should essentially be country-driven and invited countries to contribute to the SoWBFA through the preparation of a national report assessing the status and trends of their biodiversity for food and agriculture.

▪ The Commission Secretariat prepared guidelines to assist countries in the preparation of their national report. This webinar intends to present these guidelines to those that will be involved in the preparation of country reports, to explain how these guidelines can be used and to address any questions countries may have.



### ***TIMELINE AND PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF COUNTRY REPORTS***

- Designation of **National Focal Points** for the preparation of country reports (deadline: 30 November 2013).
- Establishment of a **consultative process** to facilitate the preparation of the country report (National Committee, cross-sectoral working groups, broader stakeholder review)
- Finalization and review of the country report
- Official **government endorsement** of the country report
- **Submission** of the country report to FAO no later than 31 December 2014

▪ FAO invited countries to designate a National Focal Point to coordinate the preparation of their country report as a contribution to the SoWBFA by 30 November 2013

▪ Countries are strongly encouraged to develop a consultative process for the preparation of their country report. It is recommended for such a process to include the establishment of a National Committee. Given the cross-sectoral nature of the country report, it would be desirable for the National Committee to be composed of as many representative stakeholders as possible and practical, representing government, research and civil society with expertise in different sectors, such as in fisheries, aquaculture, forest, livestock and plants. Other elements of the consultative process could include the establishment of working groups to compile data and information for specific sections of the report. Following the development of a first draft of the country report, the National Coordinator could decide to submit this draft for broader stakeholder review.

▪ The National Focal Point will also coordinate the finalization of the country report, the submission for official government approval and the transmission to FAO before 31 December 2014 in one of the 6 official languages of the Organization.



### ***THE PREPARATION OF COUNTRY REPORTS: A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY***

- Strategic planning and policy development in biodiversity for food and agriculture:
  - Involvement of a wide range of stakeholders from different sectors;
  - Structured data collection, including both existing and supplementary information;
  - Assessment of the current status and trends in the conservation and use of BFA; and
  - Strategic assessment of national priorities and future needs
- Identify synergies with and strengthen existing programmes and processes of relevance to biodiversity for food and agriculture (e.g. NBSAPS)

- The preparation of country reports offers a unique opportunity to countries to strategically plan their programmes and activities to the benefit of the conservation and use of their biodiversity for food and agriculture.

Through the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders, the structured data collection of existing and new information, and by assessing the current status and trends, as well as national priorities and future needs in the conservation and use of biodiversity for food and agriculture in the country, long term policy development will be facilitated.

- In addition, the country report process is an opportunity to identify synergies with and strengthen existing national programmes and processes of relevance to biodiversity for food and agriculture, such as, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans.



## PREPARATION OF COUNTRY REPORTS

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## PREPARATION OF COUNTRY REPORTS

### Why?

1. Strengthen strategic planning and policy development at the national level
2. A key step in the preparation process of *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*

### How?

1. Using the Guidelines to prepare Country Report
2. Using the Dynamic Guidelines to generate a pre-formatted Country Report

### Where?

1. The Guidelines can be downloaded in French, English, Chinese and Spanish at the following address:  
<http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/biodiversity/guidelines/en/>
2. Guidelines in Russian and Arabic, as well as Dynamic Guidelines will be made available shortly at the same address.

## Preparation of country reports:

### Why?

- As mentioned in the introduction given by Linda, the preparation of country reports is first and foremost an opportunity for countries to undertake a comprehensive assessment of their biodiversity for food and agriculture and on the role of its components in the delivery of multiple ecosystem services. The preparation of country reports will therefore enable countries to strategically plan and facilitate policy development in the area of biodiversity for food and agriculture.

-The preparation of country reports is also one of the most important steps in the preparation process of *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* Report. The information countries will provide through their country reports will allow regional and global analysis and will enable the establishment of baseline information on biodiversity for food and agriculture.

### So how to prepare the country report on biodiversity for food and agriculture?

Well, two options are being proposed:

Countries can choose to prepare their Country Report using as a reference the instructions and guiding questions provided in the Guidelines. Alternatively, countries are also given the option to use the electronic version of the Guidelines, the so-called Dynamic Guidelines, where they will be able to enter information in fill-in fields and tables. Countries may find the dynamic guidelines useful as they allow them to provide the information electronically and in a pre-structured form.

In addition, information provided in this form will to a certain extent also facilitate the regional and global analysis process. The Dynamic Guidelines will shortly be made available on the Commission's website.

### Where to find the guidelines?

The Guidelines can be downloaded at the address given on the slide:

<http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/biodiversity/guidelines/en/>



## **GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF COUNTRY REPORTS**

### Objective

Assist countries in the preparation of Country Reports

### Scope

The variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms at the genetic, species and ecosystem levels that sustain the structures, functions and processes in and around production systems, and that provide food and non-food agriculture products (Annex 1)

### Focus

- Associated biodiversity (supporting and regulating ecosystem services)
- Wild resources used for food
- Interactions between different genetic resources

▪ FAO prepared Guidelines to assist countries in the preparation of Country Reports contributing to *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*. In this respect, the guidelines have been designed to help countries undertake a strategic assessment of their biodiversity for food and agriculture

▪ The recommended scope of the Country Reports is all biodiversity for food and agriculture, which includes the variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms at the genetic, species and ecosystem levels that support the structures, functions and processes in and around production systems, and that provide food and non-food agriculture products. A detailed description of the scope is given in Annex 1 of the guidelines.

▪ Countries that have prepared country reports as a contribution to previous and ongoing assessments of the state of the world's plant, animal, aquatic and forest genetic resources may find relevant information in these sectoral reports for the preparation of certain sections of their country report on biodiversity for food and agriculture. The guidelines indicate when a country could consult its sectoral reports.

In the guidelines, increased attention is given to:

- the biological diversity that contributes to the delivery of different (soil formation, nutrient-cycling) and regulating ecosystem services (pollination, pest and disease management) within production systems or of importance to them. This biological diversity is referred to in the guidelines as associated biodiversity.
- wild resources used for food, such as fungi, wild berries, wild bush meat...
- the guidelines will also seek for an integrative analysis of interactions, including synergies, inter-linkages and trade-offs, between genetic resources of the different sectors.



## STRUCTURE AND KEY ASPECTS OF THE GUIDELINES

- The Guidelines propose:
  1. An outline for the Country Report
  2. Questions to assist countries in the preparation of their Country Report
- Critical questions are indicated in **bold**
- Questions are organized on the basis of production systems present in the country
- Countries are invited to provide references to the information sources used

- The Guidelines propose an outline for the Country Report, as well as questions to assist countries in the preparation of their Country Report.

- The outline is not intended as a strict reporting template, it rather aims to assist countries to structure and organize their Country Report in the way that best meet their needs. However, to provide baseline information, highlight knowledge gaps and to facilitate the regional and global synthesis using the information countries will provide, it would be preferable if countries were to follow the suggested structure for country reports as closely as possible.

- The questions have been developed to assist countries to identify the type of information they could gather for the preparation of their Country Report. They are intended to facilitate analysis, to stimulate discussion and to ensure that the Country Report contains strategic directions leading to the identification of priorities and needs, and to ways in which these priorities and needs could be addressed.

- Questions that are critical to establish a basic understanding of the status and trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture in your country and the answers to which would significantly facilitate regional and global synthesis, are indicated in bold. We therefore strongly encourage countries to ensure that data and information are provided for these questions, wherever such information is available.

- Throughout the guidelines, questions are organized and formulated in relation to production systems that are present in your country. Therefore, for the optimal use of the guidelines, it is highly recommended that countries fill in Table 1 of Chapter 1 to establish a list of their production systems (which we will present in a few moments).



## ***PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR THE COUNTRY REPORTS***

Executive Summary

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Drivers of change

Chapter 3: State and trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture

Chapter 4: State of use of biodiversity for food and agriculture

Chapter 5: State of interventions in the conservation and use of  
biodiversity for food and agriculture

Chapter 6: Future agendas for conservation and sustainable use of  
biodiversity for food and agriculture

The proposed outline for the country reports is as follows:

Executive Summary; Chapter 1: Introduction; Chapter 2: Drivers of change; Chapter 3: The state and trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture; Chapter 4: The state of use of biodiversity for food and agriculture; Chapter 5: The state of interventions in the conservation and use of biodiversity for food and agriculture; Chapter 6: Future agendas for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture.

We will now take you through each of these chapters, briefly introducing them and highlighting the key information they will seek. We will not go through each question in detail, however, you are more than welcome to raise any questions you may have, preferably, after this presentation when some time has been reserved for answers and questions.



## ***CHAPTER 1: Introduction to the country and to the role of biodiversity for food and agriculture***

### Objective

Set context for the Country Report giving explicit attention to associated biodiversity, ecosystem services and wild foods

### Key information

Identifying the production systems present in your country in Table 1.

### Note

Annex 2 of the guidelines provides a description of production systems

### Objective

This chapter is an introductory chapter. It basically intends to set the context for the country report.

For this chapter, countries could provide a general overview of the country's physiographic and climatic features, demographics and a description of the current and potential contribution of biodiversity for food and agriculture to food security and nutrition, ecosystem health and sustainability of production systems.

Countries can take advantage of existing information sources to fill in the different sections of this chapter, including from previous and on-going sectoral assessments. Countries are however encouraged to provide explicit attention to associated biodiversity, ecosystem services and wild foods, where possible.

### What would be the key information to provide for this chapter?

Many questions throughout the guidelines are organized on the basis of the production systems that are present in your country. Therefore, it is important that for this chapter countries fill in Table 1 to the best of their possibilities, indicating which of the listed production systems is present in their country.

### Note

To help countries fill in this table, Annex 2 of the guidelines provides a detailed description of the production systems that are listed in Table 1.



## Production systems

**Table 1.** Production systems present in the country.

| Sector    | Code | Production system names                                                 | Present<br>(Y/N) |
|-----------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Livestock | L1   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Tropics <sup>1</sup>                 |                  |
|           | L2   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Subtropics <sup>2</sup>              |                  |
|           | L3   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Temperate <sup>3</sup>               |                  |
|           | L4   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Boreal and/or highlands <sup>4</sup> |                  |
|           | L5   | Livestock landless systems: Tropics                                     |                  |
|           | L6   | Livestock landless systems: Subtropics                                  |                  |
|           | L7   | Livestock landless systems: Temperate                                   |                  |
|           | L8   | Livestock landless systems: Boreal and/or highlands                     |                  |
| Forests   | F1   | Naturally regenerated forests: Tropics                                  |                  |
|           | F2   | Naturally regenerated forests: Subtropics                               |                  |
|           | F3   | Naturally regenerated forests: Temperate                                |                  |
|           | F4   | Naturally regenerated forests: Boreal and/or highlands                  |                  |
|           | F5   | Planted forests: Tropics                                                |                  |
|           | F6   | Planted forests: Subtropics                                             |                  |
|           | F7   | Planted forests: Temperate                                              |                  |
|           | F8   | Planted forests: Boreal and/or highlands                                |                  |
|           | A1   | Self-recruiting capture fisheries: Tropics                              |                  |
|           | A2   | Self-recruiting capture fisheries: Subtropics                           |                  |
|           | A3   | Self-recruiting capture fisheries: Temperate                            |                  |

Each production system is identified by a specific code and a name, which will be referred to throughout the report

In Table 1 countries are asked to identify which production systems are present in their countries. Each production system has a code and a name to be referred to throughout the report.



Production systems

**Table 8.** Trends in the state of regulating and supporting ecosystem services within production systems.

| Production systems                                                            |             | Trends in last 10 years (2,1,0,-1,-2, NK, NA) |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                         |                                      |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| The code or the name will then be reported manually in the rest of the report |             |                                               |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                         |                                      |                          |
|                                                                               |             |                                               |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                         |                                      |                          |
|                                                                               | Pollination | Pest and disease                              | Water purification and waste treatment | Natural hazard regulation | Nutrient cycling | Soil formation and protection | Water cycling | Provisioning of habitat | Production of oxygen/ Gas regulation | Others: [please specify] |
| Code or name                                                                  |             |                                               |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                         |                                      |                          |
|                                                                               |             |                                               |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                         |                                      |                          |

[Insert rows as needed]

For example, in Table 8, the name or code associated with each production system identified in the country should be entered where indicated.



## Production systems - Dynamic guidelines

**Table 1.** Production systems present in the country.

| Sector    | Code | Production system names<br>(Place pointer on the production system name for a detailed description) | Check if<br>present in the<br>country |
|-----------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Livestock | L1   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Tropics                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | L2   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Subtropics                                                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |
|           | L3   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Temperate                                                        | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | L4   | Livestock grassland-based systems: Boreal and /or highlands                                         | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | L5   | Livestock landless systems: Tropics                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | L6   | Livestock landless systems: Subtropics                                                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   |
|           | L7   | Livestock landless systems: Temperate                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | L8   | Livestock landless systems: Boreal and /or highlands                                                | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
| Forest    | F1   | Naturally regenerated forests: Tropics                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | F2   | Naturally regenerated forests: Subtropics                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | F3   | Naturally regenerated forests: Temperate                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | F4   | Naturally regenerated forests: Boreal and /or highlands                                             | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | F5   | Planted forests: Tropics                                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|           | F6   | Planted forests: Subtropics                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/>              |

If using the dynamic guidelines, once the production systems present in the country are checked in Table 1 as present in the country, all remaining tables throughout the report are automatically built accordingly...



*Production systems - Dynamic guidelines*

**Table 8.** Trends in the state of regulating and supporting ecosystem services within production systems.

| Production systems                            | Trends in last 10 years (2,1,0,-1,-2, NK, NA)<br>(Place pointer on the ecosystem service name for a description) |                             |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                      |                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                                               | Pollination                                                                                                      | Pest and disease regulation | Water purification and waste treatment | Natural hazard regulation | Nutrient cycling | Soil formation and protection | Water cycling | Habitat provisioning | Production of oxygen/ Gas regulation |
| Livestock grassland-based systems: Subtropics |                                                                                                                  |                             |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                      |                                      |
| Livestock landless systems: Subtropics        |                                                                                                                  |                             |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                      |                                      |
| Planted forests: Temperate                    |                                                                                                                  |                             |                                        |                           |                  |                               |               |                      |                                      |

...as seen here with Table 8, which includes the three production systems checked in Table 1.



## ***CHAPTER 2: Drivers of change***

### Objectives

- Assessment of major drivers of change and their effect on:
  - a) the state of biodiversity for food and agriculture in the country
  - b) the involvement of women and on traditional knowledge in the maintenance and use of biodiversity for food and agriculture
  - c) the role of biodiversity for food and agriculture in improving food security and sustainability
- Comparison of drivers of change between different production systems
- Countermeasures, best practices, lessons learnt

### Note:

Annex 3 of the guidelines provides a list of drivers of change, describing each driver in detail

### Objective

This chapter aims to assess the major drivers of change and their effect, either positive or negative, on the state of biodiversity for food and agriculture in the country, on the involvement of women and on traditional knowledge in the maintenance and use of biodiversity for food and agriculture and on the role of biodiversity for food and agriculture in improving food security and sustainability.

This chapter also encourages countries to compare drivers between different production systems and to identify countermeasures, best practices and lessons learnt to reduce adverse consequences of drivers, particularly on associated biodiversity, ecosystem services and wild foods.

### Note

Some of the questions in this chapter refer to pre-defined drivers of change. In this respect, please note that Annex 3 of the guidelines provides a list of possible drivers of change, including their description, to help countries respond to questions in this chapter.



### ***CHAPTER 3: The state and trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture***

#### Objectives

- Describe the state and trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture
- Identify interventions required to maintain associated biodiversity
- Indicate knowledge gaps, future needs and priorities

#### Key information

- Importance of the different components of associated biodiversity to the delivery of supporting and regulating ecosystem services
- Identification of species at risk
- Assessment of major information gaps and ways to address these

#### Note

Annex 4 provides a description of regulating and supporting ecosystem services

#### Objectives

Chapter 3 aims to describe the state and current trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture in the country, with an emphasis on associated biodiversity in relation to the delivery of ecosystem services [and on wild foods]. In this chapter Countries can also identify interventions required to support the maintenance of associated biodiversity and indicate whether such interventions would be required at the local, national, regional or global levels. Current knowledge gaps and future needs and priorities are also identified in this chapter.

#### Key information

This chapter will give the opportunity to countries to assess the importance of the different components of associated biodiversity in and around their production systems to the delivery of, in particular, supporting and regulating ecosystem services. The chapter will also help countries to identify the species of associated biodiversity and of wild food that are at risk and possibly propose interventions required to maintain these species. In addition, this chapter offers countries the opportunity to analyze their major information gaps on the state and trends of biodiversity for food and agriculture and to identify opportunities to address these gaps.

#### Note

Annex 4 of the Guidelines provides a list of regulating and supporting ecosystem services for ease of reference.



## ***CHAPTER 4: The state of use of biodiversity for food and agriculture***

### Objective

Obtain information on:

- the contribution of biodiversity for food and agriculture to food security and nutrition and to rural poverty reduction
- the application of an ecosystem approach
- the sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture.

### Key information

Focus on the combined use of genetic resources from different sectors and on the use of associated biodiversity and wild foods

### Note

1. Description of use in the introduction of chapter 4
2. Annex 5 provides set of biodiversity maintaining management practices
3. Annex 6 provides list of diversity based practices and interventions

### Objective

This chapter aims to obtain information on the contribution of biodiversity for food and agriculture to food security and nutrition and to rural poverty reduction. This chapter also seeks for information on the possible application of an ecosystem approach and on the sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture.

### Key information

Since the sectoral State of the World reports already provide information on the use of animal, aquatic, forest and plant genetic resources, it would be of benefit to the country reports if the responses in this chapter were to focus on the combined use of and synergies between genetic resources from different sectors, as well as on the use of all types of associated biodiversity, either as separate components or in combination, and on the use of wild foods.

### Note

1. For ease of reference, the introductory section of chapter 4 provides a detailed description of what is intended by the term “use”.
2. To help reporting and facilitate the analysis of the information provided in Country Reports a set of biodiversity maintaining management practices and diversity based practices have been provided in respectively Annex 5 and Annex 6 of the guidelines.



## ***CHAPTER 5: The state of interventions on conservation and use of biodiversity for food and agriculture***

### Objective

Provide an assessment of interventions and activities that support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture

### Key information

State, gaps and needs in terms of:

- Stakeholder participation and collaboration between institutions and organizations
- Capacity development (information, knowledge, resources)
- Knowledge generation and science for the management and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture

### Objective

The main objective of this chapter is to provide an assessment and analysis of local and national interventions and activities that support conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture. This chapter will also seek to assess the state of international collaboration to this end.

### Key information

The key questions to be addressed in this chapter, include an assessment of the state, gaps and needs related to:

- Stakeholder participation and collaboration between institutions and organization in activities that support the maintenance of biodiversity for food and agriculture
- Capacity development (e.g. assessment of training programmes targeting the conservation and sustainable use of associated biodiversity, are there any capacity/resources limitations, what actions would be required to strengthen capacity development and what would be the country's priorities)
- Knowledge generation and science for the management and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture



## ***CHAPTER 6: Future agendas for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture***

### Objective

Identify future needs and opportunities, define priorities and start planning to improve the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture

### Key information

List planned actions and initiatives

### Note

This part of the Country Report should build on the results presented in earlier chapters

### Objective

This chapter provides an opportunity to countries to identify future needs and opportunities with respect to policies and legal arrangements, economic frameworks, knowledge creation, capacity development and collaboration. This section of the country report should also contribute to defining priorities and start planning to improve the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture. In doing so, countries may wish to particularly pay attention to opportunities that will enhance the contribution of biodiversity for food and agriculture to food security and nutrition and rural livelihoods.

### Key information

List planned actions and initiatives to among others:

- strengthen the contribution of biodiversity for food and agriculture to secure the multiple benefits of agriculture, such as enhanced sustainability and resilience of production systems
- improve the recognition and involvement of farmers, pastoralists, fisher folks and forest dwellers, with special emphasis on the roles and contributions of women - - - contribute to the UN Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and to achieving the Aichi Targets.

### Note

This part of the Country Report should build on the results presented in earlier chapters