

Country Report on the implementation of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic
Resources for Food and Agriculture
(ITPGRFA)

BANGLADESH

07/10/2018

First Report on Compliance of ITPGRFA

Online Reporting System on Compliance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Pursuant to Article 21 of the Treaty, the Governing Body approved, at its Fourth Session, the Compliance Procedures that include, among others, provisions on monitoring and reporting: Resolution 2/2011.

According to the Compliance Procedures, each Contracting Party is to submit to the Compliance Committee, through the Secretary, a report on the measures it has taken to implement its obligations under the Treaty. This Online Reporting Systems facilitates the submission of such information in electronic format.

Should you need any additional information regarding the reporting on compliance or the use of the online system, please visit the Treaty's Website or contact the Secretariat at PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org.

Additional Reporting Information

Name and contact of the reporting officer

> Dr. Md. Abdus Salam

Institution(s) of affiliation

> National Focal Point

Bangladesh Agricultural Research council

Article 4: General Obligations

1. Are there any laws, regulations procedures or policies in place in your country that implement the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

1A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such laws, regulations, procedures or policies:
> National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of Bangladesh 2016-2021

2. Are there any other laws, regulations, procedures or policies in place in your country that apply to plant genetic resources?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

2A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such laws, regulations, procedures or policies:
> 1. National Biosafety framework 2007

2. Environmental risk assessment of genetically engineered plants 2016
3. Biosafety Guidelines of Bangladesh 2007.
4. Biosafety Rules- 2012
5. Food safety Laws- 2014
6. National Forest Policy-2016
7. Bangladesh Forest Act-2017
8. Bangladesh Environmental Conservation Act, 1995

3. Is there any law, regulation, procedure or policy in place in your country that needs to be adjusted / harmonized to ensure conformity with the obligations as provided in the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

3A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such adjustments and any plans to make those adjustments:

- > National Agriculture Policy-2018

Article 5: Conservation, Exploration, Collection, Characterisation, Evaluation and Documentation of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

4. Has an integrated approach to the exploration, conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) been promoted in your country?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

5. Have PGRFA been surveyed and inventoried in your country?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

5A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of your findings, specifying species, sub-species and /or varieties, including those that are of potential use.

> We collected and conserved important GI crops prevailing in Bangladesh as follows:

Rice-20, Mango-8, Litchi-4, Guava-4, Jackfruit-4, Jute-4, Taro-7, Potato-6, Chili-4, Palm-2, Brinjal-8, Cucumber-2, Lime & Lemon-3, Pineapple-4, Banana-5.

5B. If your answer is 'no', please indicate:

Any difficulties encountered in surveying or inventorying PGRFA;

Any action plans to survey and inventory PGRFA;

The most important PGRFA that should be surveyed and inventoried

>

6. Has any threat to PGRFA in your country been identified?

Please select only one option

yes

No

6A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate:

The species, subspecies and/or varieties subject to such threats;

The sources (causes) of these threats;

Any steps taken to minimise or eliminate these threats;

Any difficulties encountered in implementing such steps;

> Most of our genetic resources are threaten due to introduction of modern varieties, changing cropping pattern, climate change, pest resurgence, rapid urbanization and industrialization.

7. Has the collection of PGRFA and relevant associated information on those plant genetic resources that are under threat or are of potential use been promoted in your country?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

7A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the measures taken:

> Plant Genetic Resources are collecting for long time and evaluated for use and conservation. Local and donor funded activities are going on for the purpose.

8. Have farmers and local communities' efforts to manage and conserve PGRFA on-farm been promoted or supported in your country?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

8A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the measures taken:

>

9. Has in situ conservation of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food production been promoted in your

country?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

9A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether any measures have been taken to:

- Promote in situ conservation in protected areas
 Support the efforts of indigenous and local communities

9B. If such measures have been taken, please provide details of the measures taken:

>

10. Are there any ex situ collections of PGRFA in your country?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

10 A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide information on the holder and content of such collections:

> Most of the food and fruits crops are in ex situ collection and are used for commercialization. National Agricultural Research Institutes are involved in the activities.

11. Has the development of an efficient and sustainable system of ex situ conservation of PGRFA been promoted in your country?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

11A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate the measures taken to promote ex situ conservation, in particular any measures to promote the development and transfer of technologies for this purpose:

> Important food and fruits crops having special values are propagated and distributed among different stakeholders and also efforts are taken to develop improve varieties by National Agricultural Research Institutes.

12. Has the maintenance of the viability, degree of variation, and the genetic integrity of ex situ collections of PGRFA been monitoring in your country?

Please select only one option

- yes
 No

12A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the main conclusions of these monitoring activities

> Collected genetic resources are continuously monitored through viability test, and sort duplicate samples both in lab and field condition.

13. Has your country cooperated with other Contracting Parties, through bilateral or regional channels, in the conservation, exploration, collection, characterization, evaluation or documentation of PGRFA?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

13A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate the other Contracting Parties with whom the cooperation was undertaken (where additional to cooperation through the Governing Body or Treaty mechanisms) and, where possible, details of any relevant projects:

> Asian Food and Agriculture Co-operative Initiative (AFACI), IRRI, CIMMYT, AVRDC, ICRISAT, CIP, ICARDA etc.

Article 6: Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

14. Are there any policy and legal measures in place in your country that promote the sustainable use of PGRFA

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

14A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether such policy and legal measures include:

- Pursuing fair agricultural policies that promote the development and maintenance of diverse farming systems that enhance the sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity and other natural resources;
- Strengthening research that enhances and conserves biological diversity by maximizing intra- and inter-specific variation for the benefit of farmers;
- Promoting plant breeding efforts, with the participation of farmers, that strengthen the capacity to develop varieties particularly adapted to social, economic and ecological conditions, including in marginal areas;
- Broadening the genetic base of crops and increasing the range of genetic diversity available to farmers
- Promoting the expanded use of local and locally adapted crops, varieties and underutilised species
- Supporting the wider use of diversity of varieties and species in on-farm management, conservation and sustainable use of crops and creating strong links to plant breeding and agricultural development
- Reviewing and adjusting breeding strategies and regulations concerning variety release and seed distribution

14B. If such policy and legal measures are in place, please provide details of the measures taken and any difficulties encountered in implementing them:

> Legal, technical and financial supports are provided as a measures to promote conservation, and uses for improvement. Lack of skill man power and inadequate financial assistance keeping lagging behind the efforts.

Article 7: National Commitments and international Cooperation

15. Has the conservation, exploration, collection, characterization, evaluation, documentation and sustainable use of PGRFA been integrated into your country's agriculture and rural development programmes and policies?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

15A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the integration of such activities into the agriculture and rural development programmes and policies:

> Conservation, exploration, collection, characterization, evaluation, documentation and sustainable use of PGRFA been integrated into country's agriculture and rural development program and policies as incorporated in different national policy and strategies are integrated like National Agriculture Polity- 2018, National Bio-diversity Strategy and Action Plan of Bangladesh 2016 to 2021, Access and beneficiary policy, Biosafety Guidelines of Bangladesh-2007, National Biosafety Framework-2007, 7th Five Years Plan, SDG

16. Has your country cooperated with other Contracting Parties, through bilateral or regional channels, in the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA?

Please select only one option

- yes
 No

16A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether the aim of such cooperation is to:

- Strengthen the capability of developing countries and countries with economies in transition with respect to conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA
 Enhance international activities to promote conservation, evaluation, documentation, genetic enhancement, plant breeding, seed multiplication, and sharing, providing access to and exchanging PGRFA and appropriate information and technology, in conformity with the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing under the Treaty

16B. If, in addition to cooperation through the Governing Body or other Treaty mechanisms, your country has cooperated with other Contracting Parties directly or through FAO and other relevant international organizations, please indicate such other Contracting Parties and, where possible, details of any relevant projects:

> We are cooperating with FAO, IRRI, CIMMYT, ICRISAT, SAARC, AFACI, CIP, ICARDA, AVRDC for germplasm exchange and improvement for climate resilience variety development.

Article 8: Technical Assistance

17. Has your country promoted the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with the objective of facilitating the implementation of the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

17A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the measures taken

>

18. Has your country received technical assistance with the objective of facilitating the implementation of the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

18 A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such technical assistance:

> Different international crop research institutes provided technical assistance in PGR management.

Article 9: Farmers' Rights

19. Subject to national law, as appropriate, have any measures been taken to protect and promote farmers' rights in your country?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

19 A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether such measures were related to:

- Recognition of the enormous contribution that local and indigenous communities and farmers of all regions of the world have made and will continue to make for the conservation and development of plant genetic resources;
- The protection of traditional knowledge relevant to PGRFA
- The right to equitably participate in sharing benefit arising from the utilisation of PGRFA
- The right to participate in making decisions, at the national level, on matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA
- Any rights that farmers have to save, use, exchange, and sell farm-saved seed/propagating material

19B. If such measures were taken, please provide details of the measures taken and any difficulties encountered in implementing them:

> Contributors as farmers' are duly recognized as being listed in the register, their traditional knowledge are documented, participatory sharing benefits are equitably allowed, decisions are participatory at national level and farmers' are free to save, use, exchange, and sell farm-saved seed/propagating material.

Article 11: Coverage of the Multilateral System

20. Has your country included in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing (MLS) all PGRFA listed in Annex 1 to the Treaty that are under the management and control of your Government and in the public domain?

Please select only one option

- All
- Partially
- None

20A. If your answer is 'all', please provide details of any difficulties encountered in including Annex 1 PGRFA in the MLS:

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20B. If your answer is 'partially', please provide details of:

The extent to which Annex 1 PGRFA have been included in the MLS

The crops that have been included in the MLS; and

The difficulties encountered in including Annex 1 PGRFA in the MLS:

>

20C. If your answer is 'none', please provide details of the difficulties encountered in including Annex 1 PGRFA in the MLS:

> We are not aware of MLS and quarantine systems is not well developed to refrain from invasion of dreadful insect pest and diseases.

21. Has your country taken measures to encourage natural and legal persons within your jurisdiction who hold Annex 1 PGRFA to include those resources in the MLS?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

21A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of:

The natural or legal persons within your jurisdiction that included Annex 1 PGRFA in the MLS;

The crops that have been included in the MLS by these persons; and

Any difficulties these persons encountered in including Annex 1 PGRFA in the MLS:

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21B. If your answer is 'no', please provide details, in particular details of any difficulties encountered in encouraging these persons to include Annex 1 PGRFA in the MLS:

> From national perspective no such instruction and initiative is taken from government for MLS.

Article 12: Facilitated access to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture within the Multilateral System

22. Has your country taken measures to provide facilitated access to Annex 1 PGRFA, in accordance with the conditions set out in Article 12.4 of the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

22A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such measures:

> Bangladesh signed MTA with AFACI, and National Agriculture Research Institutes are signed with different international agricultural institutes for PGRFA.

22B. If your answer is 'no', please provide details of any difficulties encountered in providing facilitated access to Annex 1 PGRFA:

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23. Has facilitated access been provided in your country to Annex 1 PGRFA pursuant to the standard material transfer agreement (SMTA)?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

23A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide the number of SMTAs entered into:

> Bangladesh has SMTA with AFACI and other National Agriculture Research Institutes signed SMTA with CGIAR institutes.

23B. If your answer is 'no', please provide details of any difficulties encountered in providing facilitated access to Annex 1 PGRFA pursuant to the SMTA:

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24. Has the SMTA been used voluntarily in your country to provide access to non-Annex 1 PGRFA?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

24A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate the number of such SMTAs entered into:

>

25. Does the legal system of your country provide an opportunity for parties to material transfer agreements (MTAs) to seek recourse in case of contractual disputes arising under such agreements?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

25A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the relevant laws, regulations or procedures:

>

26. Does the legal system of your country provide for the enforcement of arbitral decisions related to disputes arising under the SMTA?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

26A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of the relevant laws, regulations or procedures:

>

27. Have there been any emergency disaster situations in respect of which your country has provided facilitated access to Annex 1 PGRFA for the purpose of contributing to the re-establishment of agricultural systems?

Please select only one option

- Yes

No

27A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such emergency disaster situations and the Annex 1 PGRFA to which access was provided:

>

Article 13: Benefit-sharing in the Multilateral System

28. Has your country made any information available regarding Annex I PGRFA?

- Yes
 No

28A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of any information made available regarding Annex 1 PGRFA (e.g. catalogues and inventories, information on technologies, results of scientific and socio-economic research, including characterisation, evaluation and utilisation):

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29. Has your country provided or facilitated access to technologies for the conservation, characterisation, evaluation and use of Annex I PGRFA?

If access to technologies was provided, please provide details of the access provided.

Please select only one option

- Yes

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- No

29A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether your country:

- Has established or participated in crop-based thematic groups on utilisation of PGRFA
 Is aware of any partnerships in your country in research and development and in commercial joint ventures relating to the material received through the MLS, human resource development and effective access to research facilities.

29B. If access to technologies was provided, please provide details of the access provided:

>

30. Has your country provided for and/or benefitted from capacity building measures in respect of Annex 1 PGRFA?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

30A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether such measures were related to:

- Establishing and/or strengthening programmes for scientific and technical education and training in conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA;
 Developing and strengthening facilities for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA;
 Carrying out scientific research and developing capacity for such research.

30B. If your country provided for and/or benefitted from such measures, please provide details:

> Different CGIAR institutes helped through providing genetic resources, human resources development and PGR management.

Article 14: Global Plan of Action

31. Has your country promoted the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture?

Please note that this question differs from question 15 as it only concerns Annex I PGRFA and is more specific.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

31A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate whether the implementation of the plan was promoted through:

- National actions
- International cooperation

31B. If the implementation of the plan was promoted, please provide details:

> We have developed National Biodiversity strategy and action plan for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for Food and Agriculture.

Article 15: Ex Situ Collections of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture held by the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other International Institutions

32. Has facilitated access to Annex I PGRFA been provided in your country to the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (IARCs) or other international institutions that have signed agreements with the Governing Body of the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

32A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate:

To which IARCs or other international institutions facilitated access was provided;
The number of SMTAs entered into with each IARC or other international institution:
> IRRI, CIP, ICRISAT, ICARDA, AFACI, AVRDC, CIMMYT.
A good number of SMTAs are signed with CGIAR institutes.

32B. If your answer is 'no', please provide details of any difficulties encountered in providing facilitated access to Annex 1 PGRFA to IARCs and other international institutions that have signed agreements with the Governing Body of the Treaty

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33. Has access to non-Annex I PGRFA been provided in your country to IARCs or other international institutions that have signed agreements with the Governing Body of the Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

33A. If your answer is 'yes', please indicate:

To which IARCs or other international institutions access was provided;
The number of MTAs entered into with each IARC or other international institution:
>

33B. If your answer is 'no', please provide details of any difficulties encountered in providing access to non-Annex 1 PGRFA to IARCs and other international institutions that have signed agreements with the Governing Body of the Treaty:

> We are not aware of signing with governing body of the treaty.

Article 16: International Plant Genetic Resources Networks

34. Has your country undertaken any activities to encourage government, private, non- governmental, research, breeding and other institutions to participate in the international plant genetic resources networks?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

34A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such activities:

> Conserved genetic resources are being characterized and documented electronically facilitating different stakeholders for use and networking with international plant genetic resources.

Article 18: Financial Resources

35. Has your country provided and/or received financial resources for the implementation of the Treaty through bilateral, regional or multilateral channels?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

35A. If your answer is 'yes', where possible, please provide details of such channels and the amount of the financial resources involved:

> AFACI and CGIAR institutes are helping both technically and financially for the implementation of the treaty.

36. Has your country provided financial resources for national activities for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

36A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of such national activities and the amount of the financial resources involved:

> We received genetic resources from different countries through CGIAR institutes, and trained manpower from CGIAR institutes followed by regular collection, conservation and evaluation of genetic resources. It is not possible to mentioned the value of financial resources.

About this reporting format

37. Have you encountered any difficulties in completing this reporting format?

Please select only one option

Yes

>

No

37A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details on such difficulties:

>

37B. If you have suggestions for improvement of this reporting format, please share them:

> Questions should be brief and concise and with no repetition of phrases and newly introduced terms and annexure should have a link.

General remarks on the implementation of the ITPGRFA

38. You may use this box to share any advice you may have arising from your country's experience with implementation of the Treaty:

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39. You may use this box to share any additional information that may be useful to provide a broader perspective of difficulties in implementation of the Treaty:

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40. You may use this box to share any additional information that may be useful to provide a broader perspective of measures that could help to promote compliance:

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