

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

BHUTAN

22/02/2017

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

Example of formatting not being retained.
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Institution(s) of affiliation

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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:

> The Interim ABS policy 2015

Executive Order identifying the National Focal Agency for ABS on Genetic resources and associated TK (2011, 2013, 2015)

Ministerial Order (2015) notifying the inclusion of 60 accessions of rice germplasm into the MLS of the Treaty
National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan 2014

Biodiversity Bill 2017

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:

> The Biosafety Act of Bhutan 2015

The Food and Nutrition Security Policy of Bhutan, 2014

The National Forest Policy, 2011

The Biosecurity Policy of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2010

The Economic Development Policy of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2010

The Biodiversity Act of Bhutan 2003

The Seeds Act of Bhutan 2000

The Pesticide Act of Bhutan, 2000

The Forest and Nature Conservation Act of Bhutan 1995

The Plant Quarantine Act 1993

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:

> The Biodiversity Act of Bhutan 2003 is being revised, especially under the context of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing. In the revised bill, the Treaty is mentioned under access to Annex 1 crops under the multilateral system of the Treaty through an SMTA, as opposed to other genetic resources which is through a User and Provider, with the requirements for Prior Informed Consent and Mutually Agreed Terms.

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.

> Currently, the data is being collated and analysed. Findings will be published by June 2018.

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

> NA

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;

> Neglected and Under-utilized Species (NUS) like millets, buckwheat, legumes, oil-seeds, barley, wheat, some varieties of rice.

The sources (causes) of these threats;

Displacement by improved varieties and cash crops

Change in cropping pattern

Change in food habit

Human-wild life conflict

Land conversion

Rural-urban migration

Occurrence of pest and diseases

Ban in shifting cultivation

Dwindling pool of farm labour

Scarcity of water

Rapid urbanization.

Availability of cheaper imported alternatives

Any steps taken to minimise or eliminate these threats;

Awareness and sensitization on importance of PGRFA diversity

Biodiversity/Seed Fairs/Exhibitions

Encourage seed exchange

On-farm conservation through seed selection, seed purification, rehabilitation, value addition, product development and marketing, and community seed banks

Exploration, collection, conservation ex-situ

Any difficulties encountered in implementing such steps;

Limited financial resources and technical capacities

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:

> The Agro-biodiversity program under the National Biodiversity Centre is in the process of identifying, prioritizing and collecting PGRFA under threat.

The On-farm conservation program undertakes series of activities viz. rehabilitation, promoting use of these PGRFA through value addition, product development and marketing.

Ex-situ Conservation program undertakes conservation of threatened PGRFA in the gene bank which serves as a genetic insurance.

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:

> On-farm conservation work was first initiated with an on-farm conservation project implemented in collaboration with SEARICE (South-East Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment) in 2001. The project ended in 2015 but other projects have supported the ongoing activities under on-farm conservation and it has also been mainstreamed as a sub-program under the National Biodiversity Centre under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

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:

> The Department of Forests and Park Services supports the in-situ conservation, sustainable harvesting and utilization of wild plant for food as well as medicinal and economic purposes through establishment of community groups and formulation of by-laws.

Active efforts to identify and conserve wild crop relatives are still in a nascent stage.

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:

> Holder: The National Biodiversity Centre under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

Content: PGRFA collected from farmers.

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:

> The National Plant Gene Bank under the National Biodiversity Centre was started in 2005. With the establishment of the National Plant Gene Bank, measures to promote the development and transfer of technologies are made possible through project funding, collaborative partnerships as well as trainings organized by international organizations. Operational and maintenance cost of ex-situ collection is supported by the Royal Government of Bhutan annually.

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

> Viability of the conserved germplasm are being monitored through conduct of viability tests at regular interval in both laboratory and field conditions. The results showed that viability of conserved germplasm is above 85%.

Since the collections are relatively young and that the viability of conserved germplasm is above 85%, no regeneration has been carried out. Thus the issue of degree of variation and genetic integrity has not been studied.

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:

> Bhutan has worked with:

- CG Centers like IRRI, CIMMYT, ICRISAT, CIP, AVRDC.
- International organizations like Bioversity International which supported a regional project on Genetic Resources Policy Initiatives (GRPI) including countries such as Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Nepal, Rwanda and Uganda
- GEF through UNDP
- Regional NGO like South East Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (SEARICE) which funded Biodiversity use and Conservation Project (BUCAP) project. The participating countries include Bhutan, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia and the Philippines.
- Agrobiodiversity Conservation project funded by Royal Government of the Netherlands under the frame works of SDA
- BSF project on formulation of 'National Cereals Conservation Strategic Action Plan (SAP)'. Countries include Bhutan, Philippines, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

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:

> While such measures are in place, the difficulty encountered in implementation is due to a result of lack of adequate human, technical and financial resources.

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:

> Various national policies and strategies that integrated PGRFA conservation are: GNH policy, Vision 2020, Food and Nutrition Policy, Access and Benefit Sharing Policy, Biosecurity Policy, National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, National Cereals Conservation Strategic Action Plan and Five year Plans

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:

> NA

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

> NA

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:

> Genetic Resources Policy Initiatives (GRPI) project was implemented through the support of Bioversity International, and participated by Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Nepal, Rwanda and Uganda. The Project focused on the harmonization of the Treaty within the national legal and policy framework of these countries.

• The BSF project to formulate the 'National Cereals Conservation Strategic Action Plan (SAP)'. Countries include Bhutan, Philippines, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

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:

> While the national policies and laws promote the rights of farmers' such as the Biodiversity Act of Bhutan 2003, the revised Biodiversity Bill, the Interim ABS policy, the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan 2014, to name a few, the challenges lie mostly in the active empowerment of farmers through participation and trainings, which are curtailed due to shortage of financial resources. Nevertheless, ongoing efforts to consult, engage and empower farmers on their role as custodians of PGRFA as well as their rights as providers of PGRFA and associated TK and possible benefits that can be harnessed by them, is a continued process.

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:

> NA

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:

> 60 rice accessions have been included. The process of inclusion requires rigorous consultations with different stakeholders, both technical and policy-making before endorsement of the list of PGRFA.

The National Crop Gene Bank in Bhutan was started only in 2005 and is relatively young with very limited resources and collections when compared to gene banks in other countries and still in the process of collecting and documenting the PGRFA diversity in the country.

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

> NA

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:

> NA

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:

> At this stage, we are not aware of any private collections but work could possibly start in active identification of such natural and legal persons, if any in the near future.

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:

> The Interim ABS policy 2015 and the revised Biodiversity Bill of Bhutan 2017 both direct access to duly registered Annex I PGRFA under the management and control of contracting Party to be carried out under the conditions of the Treaty.

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

> NA

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:

> NA

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:

> The difficulty is mainly due to lack of understanding by policy makers. This problem was addressed to some extent by the project on Genetic Resources Policy Initiatives (GRPI) supported by Bioversity International which provided support in building national capacity and awareness for implementation of MLS.

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:

> NA

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:

> MTAs are executed under the purview of the Contract Act of Bhutan 2013, whereby any disputes arising under such agreements can be placed before the courts.

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:

> Bhutan has adopted the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of Bhutan 2013. However, the Act is based on conditions which is "commerciality reservation", which means that the Convention will only apply to disputes characterized as commercial under municipal law, and the "reciprocity reservation", which means that the State party may choose to recognize and enforce only arbitral awards that are made in other States party.

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:

> NA

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):

> RNR diary distributed to agriculture staff with the information on ITPGRFA and MLS.

Poster with information on ITPGRFA and MLS distributed to various research centres around the country.

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

> NA

- 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:

> NA

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:

> One Official from the National Biodiversity Centre participated in the 5 days Capacity Building Workshop on Enhancing capacities to understand and implement ITPGRFA including use of SMTA in Japan which was supported by Bioversity International in 2013.

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:

> Implementation of following GPA priority areas are being promoted:

Priority area 1: Surveying and inventorying plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

Priority area 2: Supporting on-farm management and improvement of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

Priority area 4: Promoting in situ conservation and management of crop wild relatives and wild food plants

Priority area 5: Supporting targeted collecting of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

Priority area 6: Sustaining and expanding ex situ conservation of germplasm

Priority area 8: Expanding the characterization, evaluation and further development of specific subsets of collections to facilitate use

Priority area 10: Promoting diversification of crop production and broadening crop diversity for sustainable agriculture

Priority area 11: Promoting development and commercialization of all varieties, primarily farmers' varieties/landraces and underutilized species

Priority area 13: Building and strengthening national programmes

Priority area 14: Promoting and strengthening networks for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

Priority area 15: Constructing and strengthening comprehensive information systems for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

Priority area 16: Developing and strengthening systems for monitoring and safeguarding genetic diversity and minimizing genetic erosion of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

Priority area 17: Building and strengthening human resource capacity

Priority area 18: Promoting and strengthening public awareness of the importance 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:
> NA

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

> As far as we know, most of these organisations hold collections from Bhutan that was collected before the Treaty.

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:
> NA

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:

> Till date, we are not aware of any requests from IARCs and other international institutions that have signed agreements with the governing body of the Treaty, except for a request from a university in Europe for a PhD student, which we conveyed needed more time since we did not have enough germplasm and needed multiplication before facilitating access.

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:

> Bhutan participated in South Asia Network on Plant Genetic Resources (SANPGR) in the past but the network is not functional any more.

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:

> *Received funding support of USD.285,000 through Benefit Sharing Fund of ITPGRFA for PR 35

*Received funding support from Bioversity International through a project entitled 'Genetic Resources Policy Initiatives (GRPI) for USD 115,000.

SAPA funding ???

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:

> please put in budget allocation for PGR staff annually as well as ex situ project support !

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:

> NA

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

> Repeated reminders to the CPs before the deadline would be highly effective in ensuring maximum participation by CPs in reporting.

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:

> It would be good if the Treaty could support on farm conservation activities more in CPs which are rich in PGRFA. Without such support, more and more farmers' are opting for cash crops and could result in the loss or disappearance of PGRFA, especially under-utilized cereals.

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:

> More communication between the Treaty Secretariat and the national governments to appreciate and encourage the principles of the Treaty and make the Treaty more visible at the national level.

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:

> If proper recognition is taken of the difficulties and challenges faced by most countries in the conservation and sustainable utilization of PGRFA as summarized from the compliance reporting and measures are taken to prioritize these challenges and overcome them; then I believe CPs will understand the importance and value of reporting and compliance.