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The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

FIRST MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FUNDING STRATEGY AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

21 – 24 July 2020

OVERVIEW OF *ANNEX 2* OF THE UPDATED FUNDING STRATEGY: OPERATIONS MANUAL OF THE BENEFIT- SHARING FUND

This document contains the slides of a PowerPoint presentation on the Operations Manual of the Benefit-sharing Fund contained in *Annex 2* of the updated Funding Strategy. The presentation contains an overview of the Operations Manual of the Benefit-sharing Fund and an audio narration of approximately ten minutes. The presentation with audio narration can be accessed via the Treaty's website here:

<https://ssl.fao.org/glis/web/ITPGRFA/Presentations/Presentation3-FSAnnex2BSF.ppsx>

It is part of a package of four presentations that have been prepared for the first meeting of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization, to provide an introduction to and background information on the different elements of [Resolution 3/2019](#). The other presentations include:

- IT/GB-9/SFC-1/20/Inf.3, *Overview of Updated Funding Strategy presentation*
- IT/GB-9/SFC-1/20/Inf.4, *Overview of Annex 1 of the Updated Funding Strategy, Operations Manual of the Fund for Agreed Purposes presentation*
- IT/GB-9/SFC-1/20/Inf.6, *Overview of the Terms of Reference of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization presentation*



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Overview of Annex 2 of the Updated Funding Strategy: Operations Manual of the Benefit-sharing Fund

Annex 2 – Operations Manual of the Benefit-sharing Fund



Funding Strategy of the International Treaty 2020 - 2025



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Benefit-sharing Fund

- ▶ An essential element of the Funding Strategy and of the Treaty's Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS)
- ▶ Operational mechanism for receiving, utilizing and sharing the monetary benefits arising from MLS, as specified in Article 19.3.f of the Treaty
- ▶ Established by the Governing Body in 2009
- ▶ Under direct control of Governing Body
- ▶ Supported four project cycles with 80 projects funded in 67 countries around the world



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Operations Manual – Benefit-sharing Fund

- ▶ Annex 2 of the Funding Strategy
- ▶ Operational procedures updated through update of Funding Strategy
- ▶ Four sections:
 - ▶ Introduction
 - ▶ Financial resources of the Benefit-sharing Fund and Resource Mobilization
 - ▶ Operational procedures for the use of resources under the Benefit-sharing Fund
 - ▶ Monitoring, evaluation and learning framework
- ▶ Contains several innovations:
 - ▶ Programmatic approach
 - ▶ Novelties in BSF decision-making process, operational modalities, reporting, monitoring and learning processes
 - ▶ Brings together and incorporates resource mobilization, allocation and disbursement
 - ▶ Integrates lessons learnt from previous project cycles



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Section I. Introduction

- ▶ Introductory text on history and uniqueness of BSF

Beneficiaries and priorities:

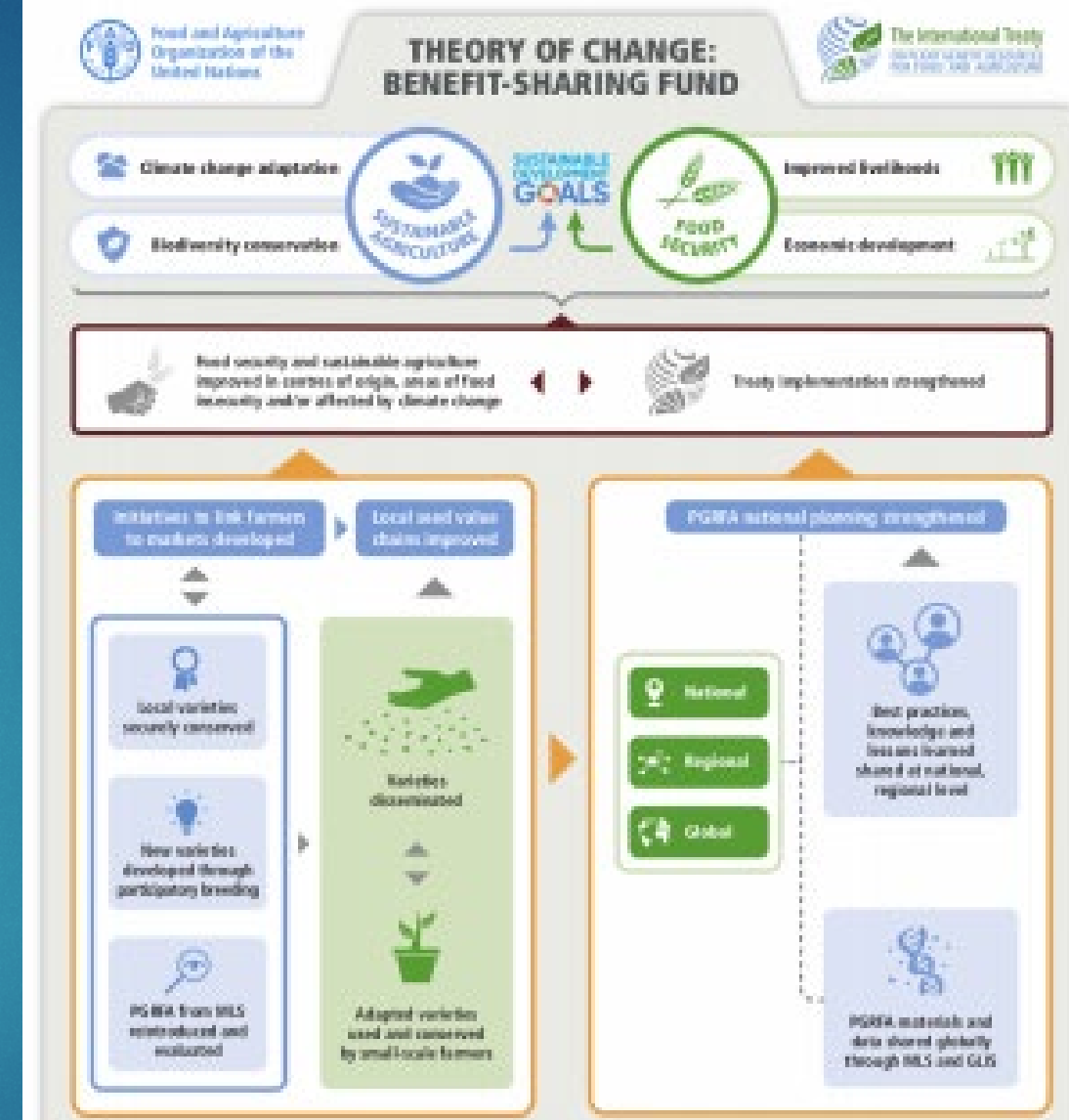
- ▶ Primary beneficiaries of the BSF are farmers
- ▶ BSF will have a new focus on GPA priorities:
 - ▶ PA 2: Supporting on-farm management and improvement of PGRFA, and;
 - ▶ PA 11: Promoting development and commercialization of all varieties, primarily farmers' varieties and underutilized crops
- ▶ Priorities fill gaps in GPA implementation
- ▶ BSF programmatic approach also support other GPA priorities

The Benefit-sharing Fund within the Funding Strategy:

- ▶ BSF funds are used strategically to play catalytic role in international cooperation for PGRFA

BSF Storyline and Theory of Change

- ▶ New BSF story line and a theory of change (ToC) diagram
- ▶ **Storyline** shows how BSF supports in situ and on-farm management and improvement, and creates linkages with broader ex-situ conservation efforts.
- ▶ Shows how BSF facilitates the implementation of MLS and GLIS
- ▶ **ToC** shows visually the components of the BSF's programmatic approach, how they interlink, contribute to the Funding Strategy's Results Framework, and contribute to addressing major development challenges of farmers.



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Section II. Financial resources of the Benefit-sharing Fund and Resource Mobilization

- ▶ Governing Body has not yet set a funding target for the Benefit-sharing Fund
- ▶ Two main sources of funding to BSF: 1) MLS user-based income and 2) voluntary contributions
- ▶ BSF is mechanism established by Governing Body for receiving and utilizing financial resources from the MLS, as stated Article 19.3.f
- ▶ MLS income to BSF will not be earmarked
- ▶ Funding Strategy reviews enable taking stock of MLS user based income
- ▶ Ambition of Funding Strategy is for further diversified sources of funding to BSF
- ▶ Funding prospects include Contracting Parties and non Contracting Parties (eg. philanthropic organizations, private-sector, food processing industry, innovative mechanisms)
- ▶ Calls for establishment of long-term partnerships with donors
- ▶ Voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties should preferably not be earmarked
- ▶ Earmarked voluntary contributions will be kept under regular review
- ▶ Donor recognition and visibility important opportunity for resource mobilization, and will extend to recognizing contributors who are using the MLS
- ▶ Funding Committee to regularly provide advice on new prospects, donor partnerships and donor recognition activities

Section III. Operational procedures for the use of resources under the Benefit-sharing Fund

- ▶ New innovations in operational management of the Benefit-sharing Fund.
- ▶ Elements covered are similar to those of former procedures (principles, project cycle, selection criteria and conflict of interest)
- ▶ Significant updates to project cycle
- ▶ Key change: GB has delegated authority for BSF operations from Bureau to Funding Committee. The Committee may:
 - ▶ Establish and launch a new round of the project cycle, as needed;
 - ▶ Decide to fund previous high quality proposals, second phase of previous BSF projects, contribute to larger development programmes, project preparation funding
- ▶ Committee may also play a role in opening of BSF call, selection and approval of proposals, final proposal review



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Section IV. Monitoring, evaluation and learning framework



- ▶ Monitoring, evaluation and learning framework (MEL) is an integral part of the monitoring of the overall Funding Strategy
- ▶ Updated to include a component on learning
- ▶ Knowledge and lessons can be applied and facilitated on a continuous basis and Funding Strategy reviews informed
- ▶ Community of practice of enabling partners
- ▶ MEL will be further developed under the guidance of Funding Committee
- ▶ MEL will links outcomes and outputs within the BSF storyline and Theory of Change with clear targets and indicators for monitoring and evaluation
- ▶ Reporting to the GB on the implementation of MEL framework



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BSF during the 2020-2021 biennium

- ▶ 2020-2021 is first biennium where the Committee has full responsibility for BSF
- ▶ Work of Committee critical to give a new direction to the BSF in areas of both resource mobilization and operation
- ▶ Important to utilize innovations set out in the new Manual
- ▶ Goal to launch the BSF fifth call for proposals for the BSF during the biennium



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Summary

- ▶ Approved as Annex 2 to the revised Funding Strategy (Res. 3/2019)
- ▶ Reflects evolving nature of BSF and lessons learnt
- ▶ Brings together resource mobilization, allocation and disbursement in an integrated manner
- ▶ Develops a programmatic approach with clear beneficiaries, priorities and theory of change
- ▶ Recognizes that MLS User-based income is expected to generate a predictable stream of funding to the BSF
- ▶ BSF should adapt to the evolving donor and recipient needs (increase potential to attract adequate and diverse funding)
- ▶ BSF contribution to programmatic approach of Funding Strategy subject to review and continuous improvement
- ▶ Brings important novelties and efficiencies in terms of decision making process for the BSF, operational modalities, reporting, monitoring and learning processes



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Thank you



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