

## Sustainable use of plant genetic resources - Submission from Sweden

The Secretariat of ITPGRFA

This communication is in response to the *Invitation to submit report on the implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA and Supporting Initiatives* (Notification NCP GB 8-014, 24 October 2018).

Sustainable use of plant genetic resources is of paramount importance for their proper conservation. The concept “to use is to conserve” serves as a cornerstone in the national PGR programme of Sweden. While we wish to take this opportunity of recalling Sweden’s previous reporting on the subject matter (i.e. [monitoring of the implementation of GPA-2](#) in December 2014, and [reporting on compliance](#) in October 2016), we would also like to provide a brief update as regards certain activities.

Since 2016, several public-private projects have been initiated aiming at diversifying crop production, and exploring niche markets. These include, among others, heritage cereals (einkorn, emmer, spelt) and various pulses (lentil, sweet lupine, grey pea, field bean). In addition, the number of crop cultivars listed nationally as so-called conservation varieties, and traded under a specific trademark ([Grönt kulturarv](#)<sup>®</sup>, i.e. Green heritage), is increasing. Finally, dedicated farmer networks collaborate closely with the Nordic Genetic Resource Centre aiming at multiplying seed and maintaining heritage (or redundant) varieties in cultivation.

Sincerely yours

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