



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
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**The International Treaty**  
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES  
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

# Preparatory Meeting for the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ACSU-5),

18 February 2021





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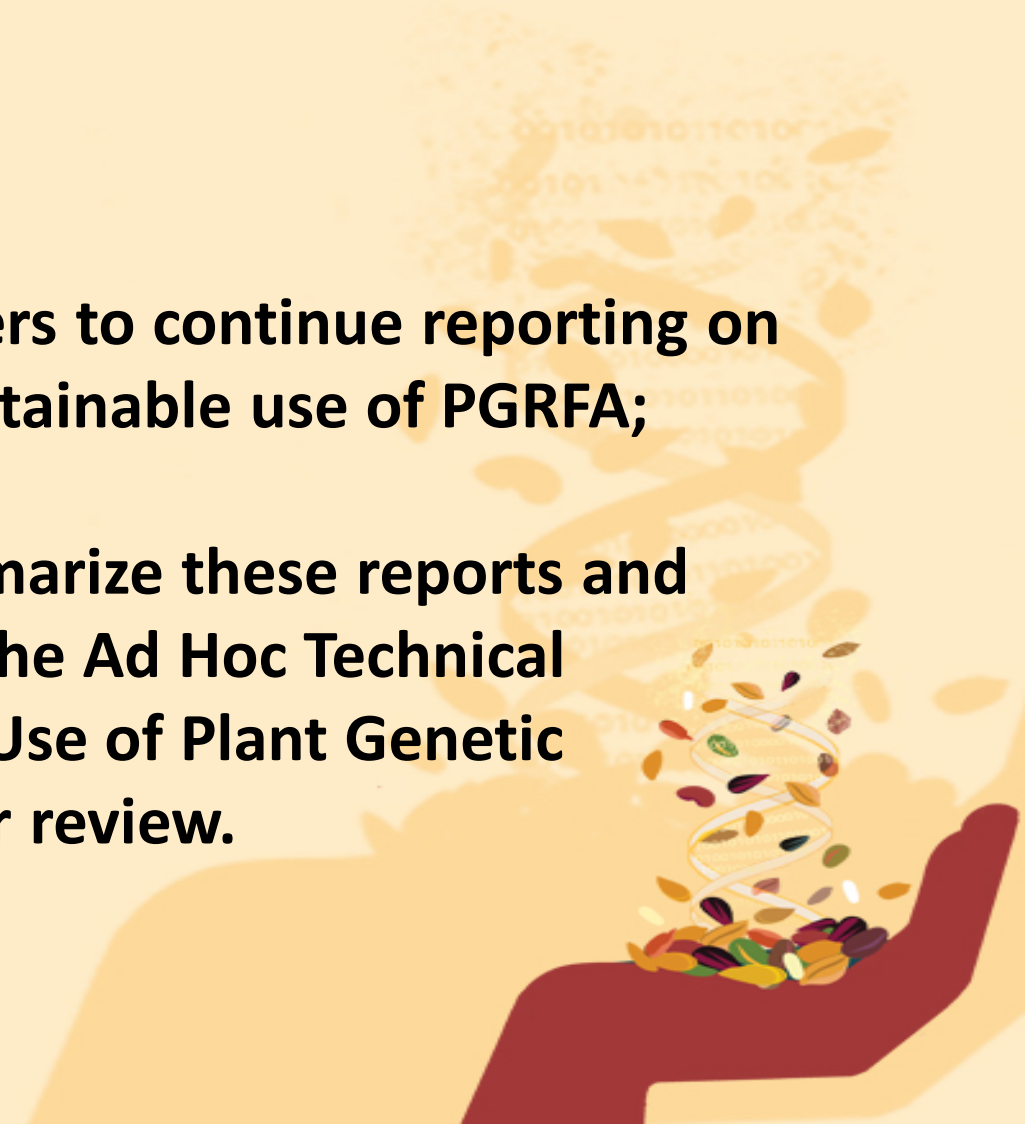
# 1. UPDATE ON THE SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLES 5 & 6



# Implementation of Articles 5 and 6, Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA

**At its Eighth Session, the Governing Body:**

- **Requested Contracting Parties and stakeholders to continue reporting on their implementation of conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA;**
- **Requested the Secretary to compile and summarize these reports and submit the compilation and the summary to the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture for further review.**



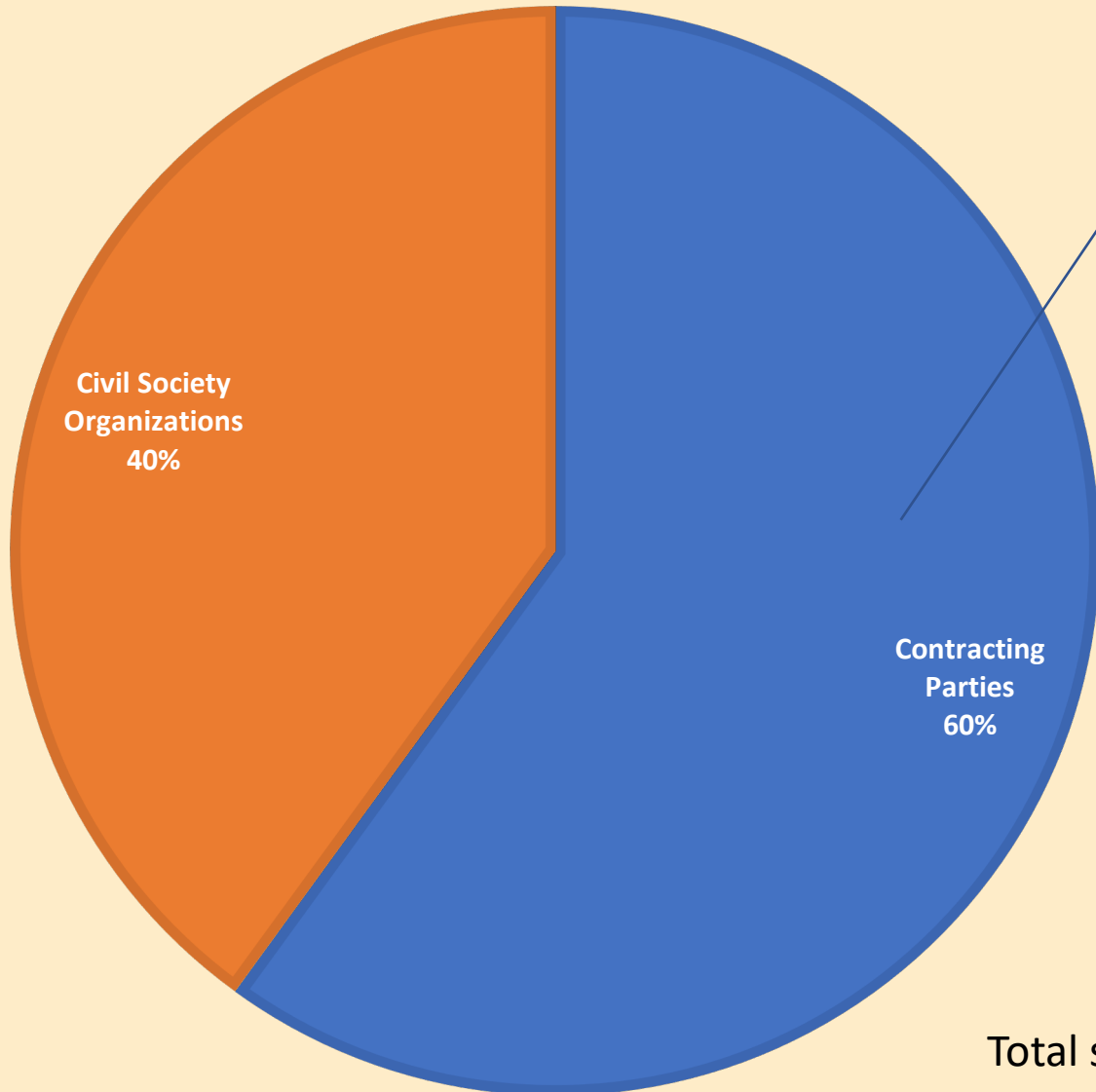
# COMPILATION OF SUBMISSIONS

1. Submissions received by the Secretariat on the implementation of Articles 5 & 6
2. Information extracted from the National Reports submitted in accordance with the Compliance Procedures
3. Presentations at Regional Training Workshops





# 1. Submissions Received by on the implementation of Articles 5 & 6



- Africa Region: 22,22%
- Europe Region: 55,55%
- Latin America and the Caribbean Region: 11,11%
- Near East Region: 11,11%

Total submissions received to date: 15

## 2. Information extracted from the National Reports

### Article 5

- 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?
- Have PGRFA been surveyed and inventoried in your country?
- Has any threat to PGRFA in your country been identified?
- 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?
- Have farmers and local communities' efforts to manage and conserve PGRFA on-farm been promoted or supported in your country?
- Has in situ conservation of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food production been promoted in your country?
- Are there any ex situ collections of PGRFA in your country?
- Has the development of an efficient and sustainable system of ex situ conservation of PGRFA been promoted in your country?
- Has the maintenance of the viability, degree of variation, and the genetic integrity of ex situ collections of PGRFA been monitored in your country?
- Has your country cooperated with other Contracting Parties, through bilateral or regional channels, in the conservation, exploration, collection, characterization, evaluation or documentation of PGRFA?

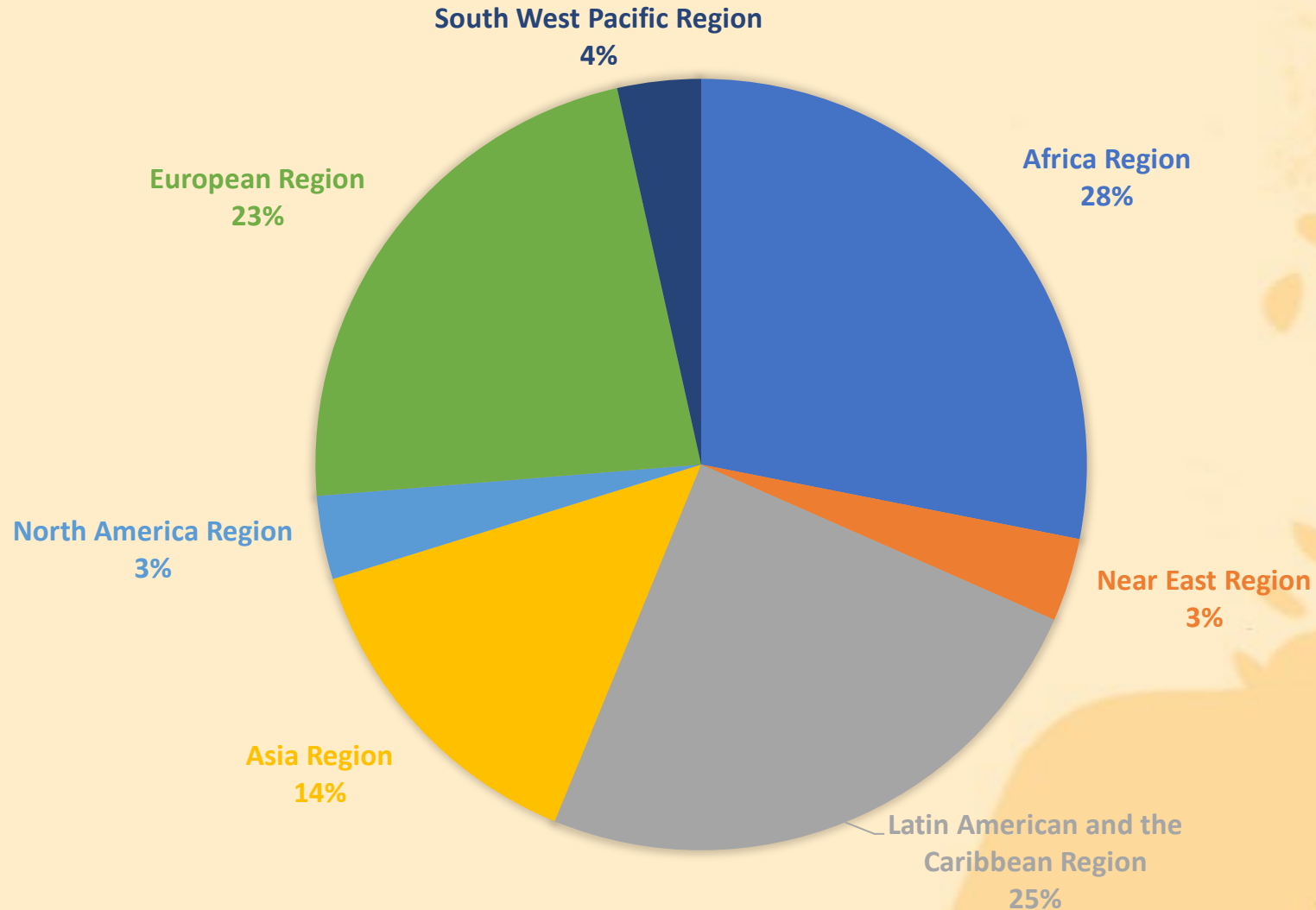
### Article 6

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



## On questions pertaining to Art. 5 & 6

The [reports](#) included 16 from the Africa Region, 13 from the European Region, 14 from the Latin America and the Caribbean Region, 8 from the Asia Region, 2 from the North America Region, 2 from the Near East Region and 2 from the South West Pacific Region. Source: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mn566e.pdf>



### **3. Presentations at Regional Training Workshops**

**1. Asia Region Training Workshop, 5-8 March 2019**

**2. Africa Region Training Workshop, 29 July-1 August 2019**

**3. Latin America and the Caribbean Training Workshop, 5 – 8 August 2019**





## Work in progress...

All the submissions received by the Secretariat including the presentations at the Regional Training workshops in 2019 held in Africa, Asia and LAC, will be compiled and summarized.





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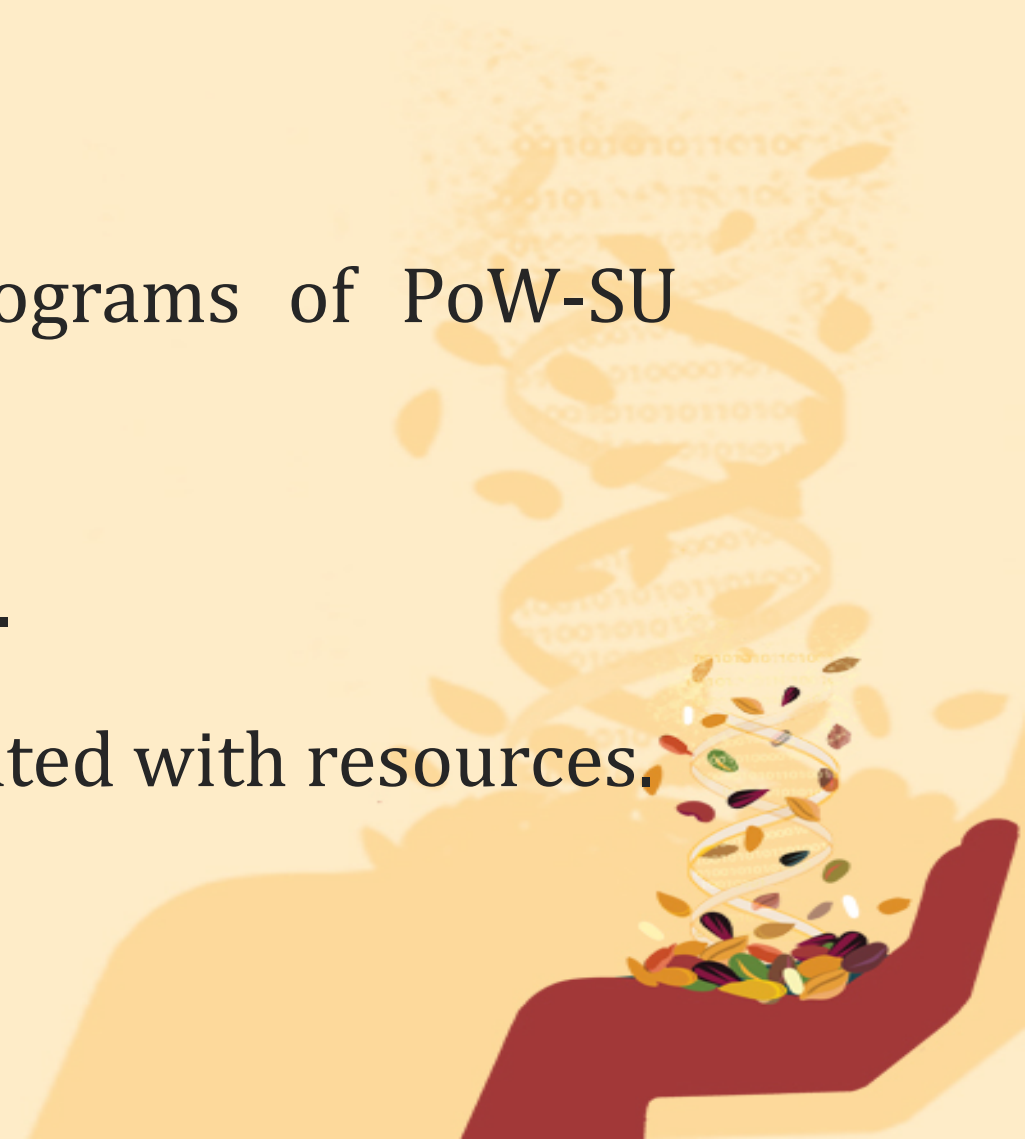
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# 2. Toolbox on Sustainable Use of PGRFA



# Background

- **2015**: Toolbox was one of the programs of PoW-SU (2016-2019).
- **2017**: Toolbox prototype was created.
- **2020-2021**: Toolbox has been populated with resources.



# Overview of the toolbox for sustainable use of PGRFA

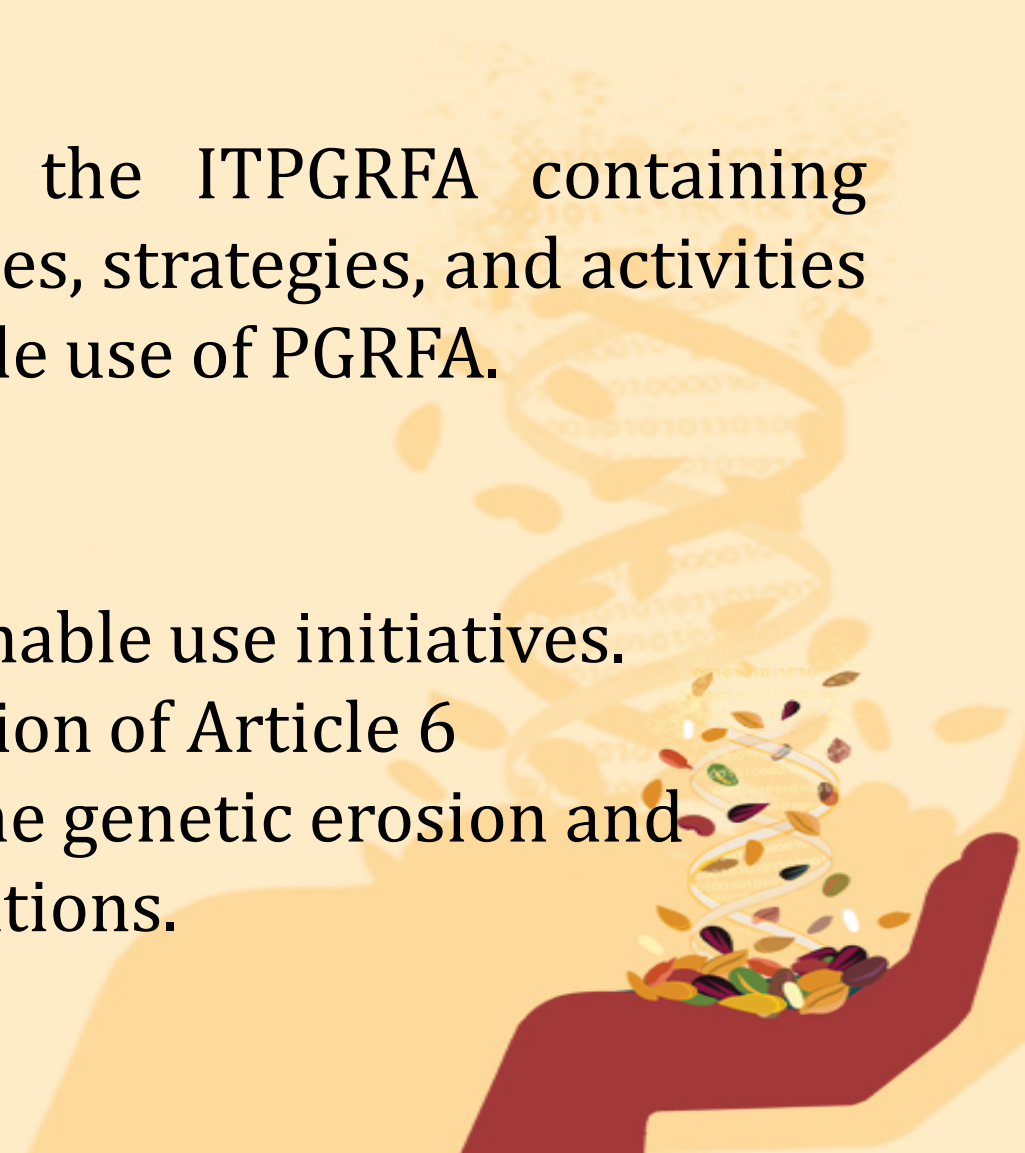
- What is the toolbox?

An online data system developed by the ITPGRFA containing information, examples, guidance on policies, strategies, and activities related to the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.

- What is its purpose?

It aids users in the development of sustainable use initiatives.

**Ultimate goal:** facilitate the implementation of Article 6 (Sustainable use) of ITPGRFA; decrease the genetic erosion and ensure the food security for future generations.



# Overview: The toolbox for sustainable use of PGRFA

- Who can benefit from the toolbox?

Wide range of stakeholders' groups, among them:



Farmers' Organizations



Gene banks



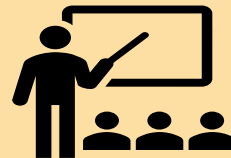
Public Research group



Government facilities



Plant breeding  
companies



Educational  
establishment



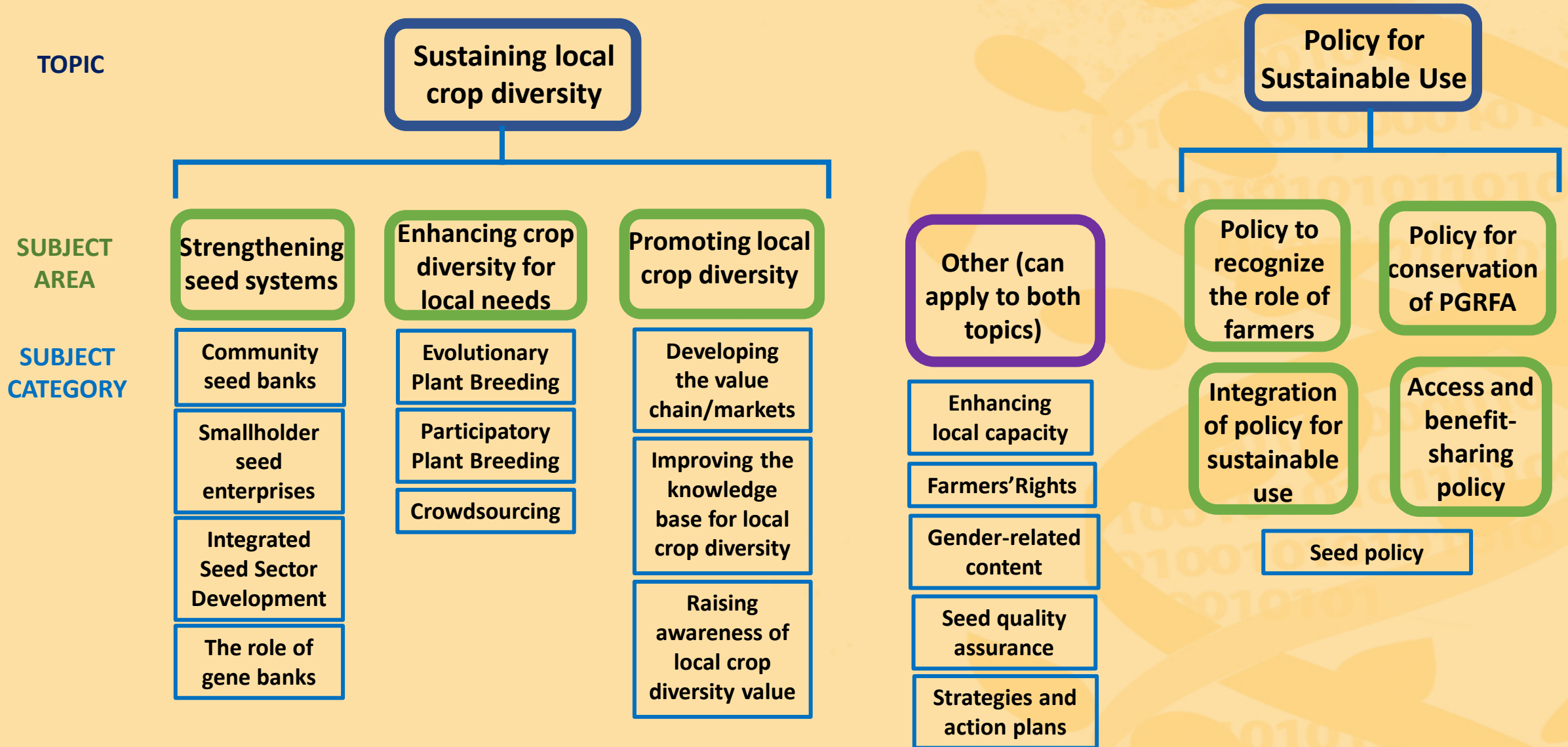
Agro-NGO's



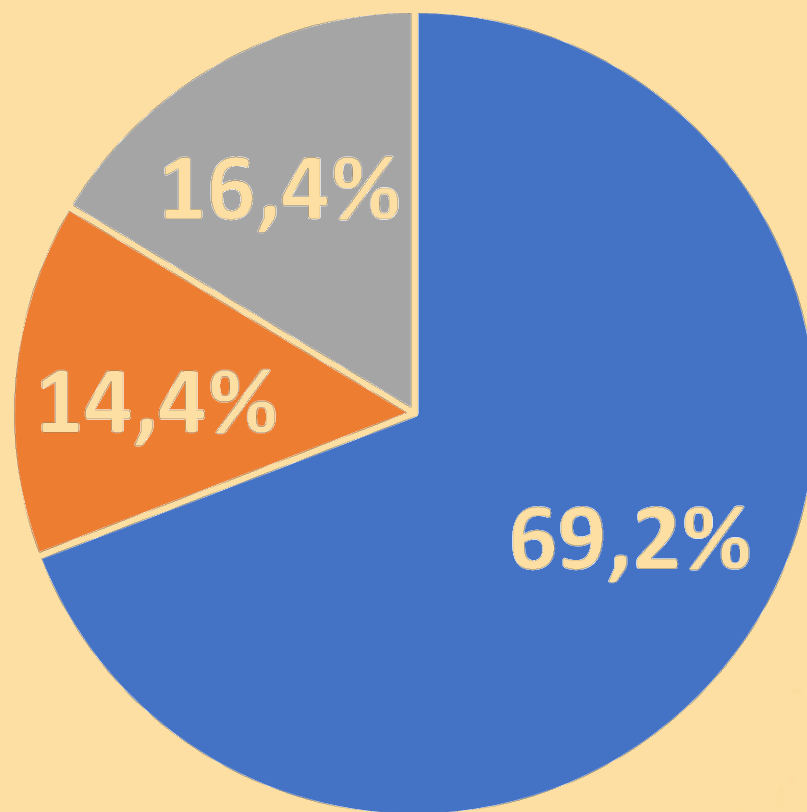
Seed networks



# Categories of the toolbox



## Resources in the toolbox by language



■ English ■ French ■ Spanish

Resources		
	Number	Percentage
English	940	69,2%
French	195	14,4%
Spanish	223	16,4%
Total numbers		<b>1358</b>

## **The need to evaluate and monitor the toolbox**

- Resolution 5/2019 requires the Secretariat to provide information about the toolbox's use to the ACSU.
- TORs ACSU: “prepare concrete recommendations on how the toolbox can be monitored, evaluated and improved”

# A possible way to evaluate the toolbox

- Through a brief Survey
- The questions could cover the following areas:
  - Content
  - Structure
  - Ease of browsing



# Possible ways forward

- “Toolbox for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA”
  - Include Article 5
- Strategy to raise awareness about the toolbox
- Update the toolbox
  - Browsing and format (more user-friendly, ITPGRFA website revamping)
  - Structure (e.g., more categories)





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# 3. JOINT PROGRAMME ON BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE FOR SUSTAINABLE USE OF PGRFA



# Background

- The Governing Body, at its Seventh Session, requested the Secretary, in collaboration with other stakeholders, and subject to the availability of financial resources, to:

*“explore the possibility of establishing a Joint Programme on biodiversity in agriculture for sustainable use of PGRFA involving relevant international organizations and other stakeholders, with a view to enhancing the mission and goals of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and its Supporting Initiatives beyond 2019 through the establishment of a long-term programme 2020-2030, for consideration by the Governing Body at its next session.”*

**(Resolution 6/2017)**



# Work carried out

- An informal meeting of experts was organized in Bari, Italy, from 23 to 25 May 2018.
- An online survey was conducted in 2019 & the results showed strong support for the overall objectives, as well as for all four thematic areas identified by the Expert Group.
- The outcomes was reported at the last Governing Body Session, Working Document IT/GB-8/19/11  
<http://www.fao.org/3/na397en/na397en.pdf>

Informal Meeting of Experts  
23–25 May 2018, CIHEAM Bari, Italy

Exploring possible elements of a  
Joint programme on biodiversity in agriculture for  
sustainable use of PGRFA 2020–2030

PROCEEDINGS



# Overall Goal of the Joint Programme

Contribute to sustainable food and nutrition security, poverty alleviation, resilience to climate change and other challenges through supporting the development of policies, measures and activities that promote the sustainable use of PGRFA.



# General Objectives

1. To promote awareness and capacity-building among stakeholders (decision-makers, institutions, farmers' organizations and other relevant institutions and sectors, scientists, local farmers, agribusinesses, and the general public) on the importance of/and sustainable use of PGRFA
2. To create an enabling environment for sustainable use of PGRFA through coherent policies, legislation, strategies and action plans
3. To strengthen market and financial mechanisms for the sustainable use of PGRFA through support and guidance to governments and relevant stakeholders
4. To facilitate the coordination, synergy and management of scientific and traditional knowledge for the sustainable use of PGRFA
5. To boost sustainable-use activities on the ground through an integrated approach to in-situ on-farm and ex-situ strategies, and through mainstreaming sustainable-use activities in on-going measures aimed at achieving SDGs.





## Thematic areas that cross-cut with the work of other institutions and stakeholders relevant as partners in a joint programme

1. A food-system approach to food and nutrition security and ensuring resilience to climate change
2. Disaster relief and the conservation of natural capital
3. PGRFA and an attractive rural life
4. Systemic and holistic approaches to the sustainable use of PGRFA in an enabling legal and institutional environment at all levels

The Joint Programme would be envisaged as a multi-sector, multi-stakeholders bringing together all interested organizations at all levels, whose work are relevant to PGRFA, and who recognize the fundamental importance of crop genetic diversity and promote the sustainable use of PGRFA.

