



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Second Reporting Cycle
**Report on the implementation of the International
Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and
Agriculture (ITPGRFA)**

ARMENIA

(04 May 2021)



ONLINE REPORTING SYSTEM

Second 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 System 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

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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:

>>>

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 Law of RA "On Flora" (1999);

The "Strategy and National Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia on Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity" (BSAP) for 2016-2020, (2015);

The "Strategy and State Program Conservation and Use of Specially Protected Nature Areas of the Republic of Armenia" (2014);

"The concept, strategy and the list of activities on reforms in the forest sector" (2017);

"The Natural Resources Management Strategy and the Program of measures ensuring the implementation of the natural resources management strategy" (2018).

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:

>>>

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.

>>> The surveying and inventoring of PGRFA are of continuous nature and are being implemented within frames of state funded research programmes. PGRFA surveys are conducting mainly by the Institute of Botany of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia, especially in terms of crop wild relatives and wild food plants, and also by the Research Center for Plants Gene Pool and Breeding and the Scientific Center of Agrobiotechnology of the Armenian National Agrarian University.

The surveys/inventories are carried out every year and aimed at the study of certain taxa or floristic regions. The species registered in the Red Book are in the focus of surveys. The number of species or geographical areas to be surveyed depends on the available financial resources. The allocating financial resources are not enough to conduct extensive studies on a regular basis. The number of surveys and inventories of farmers' varieties is limited. The results of the surveys carried out serve as a basis for the compiling a national Red Book of plants and for replenishment seed collections.

Among species surveyed and inventoried during last years are: *Lactuca saligna*, *Lactuca sibirica*, *Spinacia oleracea*, *Spinacia tetrandra*, *Aegilops crassa*, *Aegilops mutica*, *Beta macrorhiza*, *Beta corolliflora*, *Lactuca tatarica*, *Asparagus officinalis*, *Asparagus persicus*, *Asparagus verticillatus*, *Spinacia oleracea*, *Daucus carota*, *Pisum sp.*, *Vitis sylvestris*, 8 wild species of *Hordeum*, 3 species of *Triticum*, 2 wild species of *Secale*, *Rumex confertus*, *Chaerophyllum bulbosum*, *Falcaria vulgaris*, 6 species of *Trifolium*, *Vicia sepium*, *Vicia sativa*, *Rumex acetosa*, *Rumex tuberosus*, *Cuscuta sp.*, landraces of *Phaseolus vulgaris* and *Cucumis melo*, etc.

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

Any difficulties encountered in surveying or inventoring 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;

>>> The state of PGRFA in the country is quite worrying. 452 vascular plant species (11.89% of Armenian flora) are listed in Armenian Red Book, including such species of global importance as wild wheat, wild barley, wild rye and others. The main factors that seriously threaten PGRFA include human impact, climate changes and environmental disasters, increased pests and diseases virulence, increased density of alien species. The mining, construction and climate change driven expansion of the arid ecosystems that lead to the loss of habitats of PGRFA. About 25% of arable lands is abandoned and covered by aggressive weeds that cause decrease in natural populations of crop wild relatives and valuable plants of pastures and grasslands. Non-regulated, untimely and unsustainable harvesting of wild food plants affects their natural regeneration. Over exploitation of pastures and grasslands results in replacement of alpine carpets with alpine meadows, active

penetration of sub-alpine weeds to alpine ecosystems.

In the forest areas the loggings result in extinction of the plant cover species of the forest, including those registered in the Red Book, such as *Galanthus* and *Colchicum* species.

A significant decrease in the populations of *Spinacea tetrandia*, *Beta lomatogona* has been detected.

Among threatened PGRFA identified there are: *Aegilops crassa*, *Hordeum hrazdanicum*, *Aegilops mutica*, *Beta macrorrhiza*, *Centaurea hajastana*, *Hordeum spontaneum*, *Triticum araraticum*, *Triticum urartu*, *Lactuca altaica*, *Beta lomatogona*, *Secale montanum*, *Vaccinium myrtillus*, *Lathyrus cassius*, *Lathyrus setifolius*, *Onobrychis hajastana*, *Trifolium angustifolium*, *Trifolium grandiflorum*, *Vicia pisiformis*, *Vicia cappadocica*, *Trifolium sebastianii* and others.

To minimize identified threats the activity aimed at the carrying out the assessment of flora and fauna species by IUCN criteria, preparation of GIS maps of habitats of endangered species is envisaged by the BSAP. The "Concept paper on management of natural resources of the Republic of Armenia" defines the principles, key issues and directions of management of natural resource.

"The Natural Resources Management Strategy and the Program of measures ensuring the implementation of the natural resources management strategy for 2018-2025" was adopted in 2018. The document includes identification of widely used wild plant species, assessment of their reserves and determination of quotas of their collection.

The measures taken to mitigate the threats to Red Book plants species include the adoption of the Governmental Decree on "Protection of flora objects of the Republic of Armenia and their use for the purpose of reproduction in natural conditions" which defines the measures for the protection of plants under threat of extinction as a result of economic activity. Such measures include establishment of protection belts, the temporary restriction of certain types of economic activity in isolated protected areas, plants transportation of plant species under the threat of extinction to any specially protected areas or botanical gardens with favorable climatic conditions to ensure the natural reproduction of plants.

In order to reduce the risk of overuse of natural resources, including wild berries and wild food plants, the "Natural Resources Management Strategy of the Republic of Armenia" was developed and approved in 2018. The action plan of the strategy envisages the identification of species distribution, composition, current habitat status and the determination of collection quotas.

The development and implementation of an action plan on restoration and conservation of old traditional varieties of cultivated plants, in particular those which are out of cultivation, and of their gene pool is envisaged by the Strategy and National Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia on Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity.

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 collection of PGRFA and relevant associated information on those plant genetic resources that are under threat or are of potential use is promoted in the country in some extent through financing research programmes of the relevant state scientific institutions targeted on study of flora of the Republic and maintenance of seed collection of Armenian flora (the Institute of Botany), seed collection, replenishment, maintenance and use in breeding programme for creating high productive, climate resilient varieties of crops (the Scientific Center of Vegetable and Industrial Crops, the Scientific Center of Agrobiotechnology).

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:

>>> The area of Specially protected nature areas (SPNAs) is being gradual increased, the total area of SPNAs is increased by 76.3 thousand hectares in the last ten years.

Due to state funded and donor-supported programs, the effectiveness of conservation of threatened species is gradually increasing, in particular, the boundaries of state reserves and sanctuaries are being mapped, financial and technical resources are being improved, conservation staff is being trained, and scientific research is being expanded.

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:

>>> The seed collections of PGRFA are currently maintained at the six state institutions in line with their mandates and targeted activity.

- The PGRFA Gene Bank of the “Scientific Center of Biotechnology” of the Armenian National Agrarian University currently maintains 2750 accessions (of which 1932 are under long-term conditions) of agricultural crops and their wild relatives which are of primary importance for the country, paying particular attention to the varieties of Armenian origin. The PGRFA Gene Bank maintains also in-vitro collection for crops with recalcitrant seeds, which contains 71 accessions of different crops

- The Seed collection of the Research Center of Plant Gene Pool and Breeding of the Armenian National Agrarian University has 5523 accessions, 80% of those are crop wild relatives. Because of a lack of adequate storage facilities only 303 accessions at present are maintained under long-term conditions.

- The Genetic Bank of Seeds of the Institute of Botany of the NAS RA includes 2464 accessions maintained under long-term conditions, of which 1200 accessions belong to PGRFA.

- The seed collection of the Scientific Centre of Vegetable and Industrial Crops of the Ministry of Economy contains 3800 accessions of vegetable crops, out of those so far 805 are stored under medium and long-term conditions.

- The Gyumri Breeding Station has seed collection of 806 accessions, out of whose 60 accessions currently are put for long term conservation, others are stored in room conditions and serve as an initial material for breeding.

- The seed collection of the Scientific Center of Agriculture of the Ministry of Economy contains 1580 accessions of cereals and grain-legumes maintained under the room conditions.

- The field collection of apricot includes 82 local and 12 imported foreign varieties. It is worth to mention that out of 82 local apricot varieties 73 are represented by traditional farmers' varieties.

- The collection vineyard established contains around 300 varieties collected from all regions of Armenia.

At present in the botanical gardens (Yerevan Botanical garden and its two branches in Sevan and Vanadzor) and arboreta of Armenia about 6000 plant species are conserved, out of them 5000 are grown in the Yerevan Botanical Garden, where there are about 1200 tree-bush species and about 2000 species of flowering plants growing on open ground and about 1000 tropical and sub-tropical species growing in a green-house condition.

The arboreta of the Yerevan Botanical Garden has been established mainly by the ecological-geographical principle with the exposition collections of dendroflora of the Caucasus and Crimea, Euro-Siberia, East Asia and Far East and Northern America. Among living collections of the Botanical garden the exposition of the native flora of Armenia with about 800 species is of special importance. Established arboreta are distributed within different administrative and floristic regions of Armenia.

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:

>>>

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

>>> The monitoring of the viability, degree of variation, and the genetic integrity of ex situ collections of PGRFA are being implemented by seed collection holders within their annual research programmes targeted on

maintenance, study and use of seed collections accessions. Viability tests are carrying out in line with FAO/Bioversity Genebank standards. A degree of variation and the genetic integrity is monitored in limited extent during accessions regeneration and multiplication.

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:

>>>

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:

>>>

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 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:

- Conservation
- Exploration
- Collection
- Characterization
- Evaluation
- Documentation
- Sustainable Use

Please indicate into which type of programmes and policies:

- Agriculture and rural development
- Food security
- Biodiversity conservation
- Climate change
- Other

Additional details:

>>>

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:

>>>

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
- Not applicable

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

- Exchange of information
- Access to and transfer of technology
- Capacity building

Please explain:

>>>

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

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

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

- Exchange of information
- Access to and transfer of technology
- Capacity building

Please explain:

>>>

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:

>>>

Article 11: Coverage of the Multilateral System

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

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:

>>>

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:

>>> An official letter notifying the Treaty about inclusion of PGRFA listed in Annex I in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing was not sent to the Treaty Secretariat. However, the country has included 2504 accessions of PGRFA in the MLS indicating them in the European online catalog (EURISCO).

The crops incorporated in MLS include wheat, barley, beet, chickpea, grass pea, carrot, beans, pea, rye, eggplant, astragalus, species of Lathyrus, Megicago, Trifolium, Onobrychis, Lotus, Melilotus.

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

- Lack of guidelines for the identification and inclusion of material;
- There is no national genebank;
- Lack of catalogue of PGRFA in the country;
- Lack of specialised human resources;
- Limited economic resources and the need for capacity building;

Other, please explain:

>>>

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:

>>>

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:

>>> There is no special needs to encourage legal persons holding Annex 1 PGRFA accessions to include those resources in the MLS, activities in that direction are carried out along with seed collections replenishment and update.

There is no natural persons in the country holding PGRFA resources to be included in 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:

>>> Facilitated access to Annex 1 PGRFA, in accordance with the conditions set out in Article 12.4 of the Treaty is assured through EURISCO on line catalogue on European ex situ collections

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

>>>

23. Has facilitated access been provided in your country to Annex 1 PGRFA using the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA)?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

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

>>>

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
 No, but the issue is under consideration

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?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

28A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details of any information made available regarding Annex 1 PGRFA:

- Catalogues and inventories
 Information on technologies
 Results of scientific and socio-economic research, including characterisation, evaluation and utilisation
 Other

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

Please select only one option

- Yes
 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.

Please provide details:

>>>

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:

>>>

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
 Other actions

Please provide details:

>>> The priority activities of GPA were taken into consideration in development of the Strategy and National Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia on Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity (NBSAP v.2, 2015)

Among actions included in the Plan of Action enclosed to the strategy there are actions Promoting GPA implementation, in particular

- Develop a procedure on exchange of data between collections of ex-situ collection holders and include passport and characterization data on accessions of the collections in national and international catalogues
- Develop and implement an action plan on restoration and conservation of old traditional varieties of cultivated plants, in particular those, which are currently out of cultivation.

FAO promoted the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture through implementation of two TCP projects in Armenia, namely "Apricot Genetic Resources Conservation and Utilization" and vineyard (2011) and "Grape Genetic Resources Conservation and Sustainable Use" (2016).

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:
>>>

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

>>> MLS accessions are indicated in EURISCO European catalogue, however there is no interest from IARCs and other international institutions side expressed in having access to local accessions.

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:

>>> Non-Annex I PGRFA accessions with not restricted access are indicated in EURISCO European catalogue as MLS accessions, IARCs and other international institutions are not interested in access to Armenian PGRFA accessions.

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:

>>> Republic of Armenia is a member of the Regional Programme for Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia and the Caucasus which operates as a consortium of eight National Agricultural Research Organizations, eight Centers of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research and three additional advanced research institutions (non-CGIAR consortium members). The Program assists the country in developing the national research systems for sustainably increasing the productivity of crops, adoption and transfer of technologies, natural resource management, conservation strategies and socio-economic knowledge. Through this network Armenia cooperates with CGIAR centers in the area of seed exchange and trails of new varieties in the different agro-ecological conditions of the country for selection and further release of the selected best varieties.

The Republic cooperated for many years with the Central Asia and the Caucasus Regional Network for Vegetable Systems Research and Development (CACVEG), established by AVRDC - the World Vegetable Center. The activities implemented within the network were focused on the introduction and evaluation of improved germplasm, regional varietal trials, development and adoption of new vegetable crop varieties, and the introduction of innovative technologies.

In the recent years several institutions (Voskehat Educational and Research Center for Enology and Scientific Center for Agrobiotechnology of the Armenian State Agrarian University and Yerevan State University) of the Republic cooperate with the COST Association, European Cooperation in Science and Technology.

Five national institutions (Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development, International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education, Federation of Agricultural Associations - Union of Legal Entities, Lukashin Farmers Association, Yerevan State University) are members of the Central Asia and the Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAARI) established in 2000 to facilitate regional cooperation in agricultural research by providing a platform for sharing ideas and experiences.

Article 18: Financial Resources

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

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

35A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide the estimated amount of funds provided during the last five years, including government resources:

>>> The financial resources for national activities for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA are being provided by the government within the frames of state supported base research projects of the relevant state scientific institutions targeted on study of flora of the Republic and maintenance of seed collection of Armenian flora (the Institute of Botany), seed collection, replenishment, maintenance and use in breeding programme for creating high productive, climate resilient varieties of crops (the Scientific Center of Vegetable and Industrial Crops, the Scientific Center of Agrobiotechnology).

FAO support was provide to the Republic for establishment of field collection of apricot (2011) within the frames of the FAO project on "Apricot Genetic Resources Conservation and Utilization" and vineyard (2016) within the frameworks of the FAO project on "Grape Genetic Resources Conservation and Sustainable Use". Since governmental programmes besides PGRFA conservation and use activities include other actions directed on development seed production and cultivation technologies an exact estimation of amount of funds allocated for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA is difficult.

35B. Please indicate if your country has developed a strategy or other measures to enhance the availability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of financial resources to implement the International Treaty:

>>> NO

36. Has your country provided financial resources for the implementation of the International Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

36A. If your answer is 'yes', where possible, please provide details of such channels and the amount of the financial resources involved during the last 5 years::

>>>

36B Channel:

- Bilateral
 Regional
 Multilateral

36C. Please provide details:

>>>

37. Has your country received financial resources for the implementation of the International Treaty?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

37A. If your answer is 'yes', where possible, please provide details of such channels and the amount of the financial resources involved during the last 5 years:

>>>

37B. Channel:

- Bilateral
 Regional
 Multilateral

37C. Please provide details:

>>>

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:

>>> There is a need in awareness activities on ITPGRFA importance and mechanisms functioning within the Treaty especially with regard to the Multilateral system of access and benefit-sharing.

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:

>>> So far, none of national inventories on ex situ collections of PGRFA is publicly available. An integrated national information system on germplasm holdings does not exist. There is a strong need in the country in establishing a comprehensive web-accessible information system for PGRFA to facilitate access to PGRFA accessions more sustainable use.

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:

>>> There is a need in awareness activities on ITPGRFA importance and mechanisms functioning within the Treaty among policy-makers.

About this reporting

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

Please select only one option

Yes

No

41A. If your answer is 'yes', please provide details on such difficulties:

>>>

41B. If you have suggestions for improvement of this reporting format, please share them:

>>>