



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**Views, Experiences and Best Practices as an example of possible options for
the national implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty**

Note by the Secretary

At its [second meeting](#) of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights (AHTEG), the Expert Group agreed on a revised version of the [template](#) for collecting information on examples of national measures, best practices and lessons learned from the realization of Farmers' Rights

This document presents information on best practices and measures of implementing Article 9 of the International Treaty submitted by The Pacific Community (SPC), Fiji on 11 May 2021.

The submission is presented in the form and language in which it was received.



Template for submission of

Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty

Basic information

Project title: FAO ITPGRFA-PR363-Fiji Safeguarding threatened coconut diversity within the upgraded International Coconut Genebank for the South Pacific

Submitted: 6th May 2021

Countries in the Project: Fiji, Papua New Guinea Samoa

Lead Institution: Pacific Community, SPC - Private Mail Bag - Suva, Fiji. Tel: (679) 3370733 | Ext: 35522 | Mob: (679) 7204076 | Fax: (679) 3370021; www.spc.int; Contact; Dr Carmel Pilotti

Other collaborating institutions: Government and non-Government

Collaborating Institutions: Ministry of Agriculture Fiji, PNG Kokonas Industri Koporesen; Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Samoa,

Description of the examples

Mandatory information:¹

The Pacific Community (SPC) is focal point for the project which will be implemented by partners from Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and COGENT. The project agreement was signed in December 2020 and project activities will start in June 2021.

- The project objectives are to safeguard threatened germplasm within the ICG-SP by duplication in Fiji and Samoa and to empower farmers to implement *in situ* conservation of coconut diversity in each of the Pacific countries,
- Components of the project will involve training in-country, some virtual training, in vitro transfer and field genebank establishment in three countries.
- Key outcomes will be:
 - Characterisation and documentation of a number of priority cultivars in the three countries
 - Consultation and identification of women and men farmers and sites for *in situ* conservation of identified coconut diversity in three countries
- Project implementation will begin in June 2021.

Context: The collaborative work will contribute to achieving the specific goal of CFP4 as well as the wider goals of the TREATY, in the field of coconut genetic resources conservation and use. Selected farmers will also provide sites for conserving new germplasm identified and thus be involved in conservation and possibly subsequent participatory breeding efforts. They will also act as the initial evaluators of the coconut PGR supporting the selection of superior accessions for production and resilience against climatic condition

¹ This mandatory information is required in order for the measure/practice to be included in the Inventory.



in each site. The selection of farmers to receive coconut PGR will depend on the respective countries department of agriculture. In case where there is no farmers identified by the countries, SPC will work with farmers that are lead coconut producers and able to receive the said coconut PGR.

- To which provision(s) of Article 9 of the International Treaty does this measure relate
 - Art. 9.1
 - Art. 9.2a
 - Art. 9.2b
 - Art. 9.2c
 - Art. 9.3

Other information, if applicable

- Please indicate which category of the Inventory is most relevant for the proposed measure, and which other categories are also relevant (if any):

No.	Category	Most relevant ²	Also relevant ³
1	Recognition of local and indigenous communities', farmers' contributions to conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, such as awards and recognition of custodian/guardian farmers		Yes
2	Financial contributions to support farmers conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA such as contributions to benefit-sharing funds	Yes	
3	Approaches to encourage income-generating activities to support farmers' conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA		Yes
4	Catalogues, registries and other forms of documentation of PGRFA and protection of traditional knowledge		Yes
5	In-situ/on-farm conservation and management of PGRFA, such as social and cultural measures, community biodiversity management and conservation sites	Yes	
6	Facilitation of farmers' access to a diversity of PGRFA through community seed banks ⁴ , seed networks and other measures improving farmers' choices of a wider diversity of PGRFA.		Yes

² Please select only one category that is most relevant, under which the measure will be listed.

³ Please select one or several categories that may also be relevant (if applicable).

⁴ Including seed houses.



7	Participatory approaches to research on PGRFA, including characterization and evaluation, participatory plant breeding and variety selection	Yes	
8	Farmers' participation in decision-making at local, national and sub-regional, regional and international levels		
9	Training, capacity development and public awareness creation	Yes	Yes
10	Legal measures for the implementation of Farmers' Rights, such as legislative measures related to PGRFA.		Yes
11	Other measures / practices		

- In case you selected 'other measures', would you like to suggest a description of this measure, e.g. as a possible new category? _____
- Objective(s): Build capacity and help safeguard critical coconut germplasm in the three collaborating countries
- Target group(s) and numbers of involved and affected farmers⁵: Any number of women and men farmers are the targeted group in each country
- Location(s) and geographical outreach: Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Samoa.
- Resources used for implementation of the measure/practice Build capacity through training in characterisation and documentation and selection and maintenance of in situ collections; help safeguard critical coconut germplasm through participatory selection,
- How has the measure/practice affected the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture? Not yet applicable
- Please describe the achievements of the measure/ practice so far (including quantification) (max 200 words) Not yet applicable
- Other national level instruments that are linked to the measure/practice
- Are you aware of any other international agreements or programs that are relevant for this measure/practice? No.
- Other issues you wish to address, that have not yet been covered, to describe the measure/practice

Lessons learned

- Describe lessons learned which may be relevant for others who wish to do the same or similar measures/practices (max 250 words). Not yet applicable
- What challenges encountered along the way (if applicable) (max 200 words)
- What would you consider conditions for success, if others should seek to carry out such a measure or organize such an activity? (max 100 words)

Further information

- Link(s) to further information about the measure/practice

⁵ Any classification, e.g. of the types of farmer addressed, may be country-specific.



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