



Model terms of reference of the National Focal Points for plant, aquatic and forest genetic resources and for biodiversity for food and agriculture and the National Coordinators for animal genetic resources for food and agriculture

The National Focal Points for plant, aquatic and forest genetic resources and for biodiversity for food and agriculture and the National Coordinators for animal genetic resources serve as national contact persons for communication with FAO and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission) with regard to work on the respective genetic resources or components of biodiversity. They play a coordinating role at national level, including with regard to the preparation of inputs to the Commission's global assessments and, as appropriate, the implementation and monitoring of Global Plans of Action and other relevant instruments. In the execution/deployment of their function, National Focal Points/Coordinators may delegate to their alternates or other stakeholders.

The tasks of National Focal Points/Coordinators may include:

- responding to requests from the Commission and suggestions by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and FAO, including, as appropriate, by coordinating joint responses from relevant stakeholders at national level;
- coordinating the preparation of national inputs to the Commission's global assessments (country reports);
- supporting and facilitating national implementation of Global Plans of Action and other relevant instruments, as appropriate, at technical and policy level, including, as appropriate, the development or review of national strategy and action plans and other relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and programmes and the establishment or strengthening of national stakeholder networks;
- coordinating the preparation of national inputs to the monitoring of the implementation of Global Plans of Action and other relevant instruments, as appropriate;
- coordinating, as appropriate, the collection and management of national data on relevant genetic resources and components of biodiversity (including data relevant to the monitoring of relevant Sustainable Development Goal targets) and the reporting and management of these data at global level via appropriate information systems;
- coordinating national preparation for meetings of relevant subsidiary bodies of the Commission, as appropriate, including by ensuring that relevant stakeholders (ministry officials, technical experts, producers' organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, etc.) are informed in good time of the dates and agendas of these meetings, that relevant inputs are obtained from these stakeholders and that any necessary stakeholder consultations are organized;
- coordinating, as appropriate, the identification of experts and stakeholders to participate in meetings, consultations and assessment processes initiated by the Commission, its subsidiary bodies or FAO;



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- providing support to the Bureaus of relevant subsidiary bodies of the Commission to ensure effective two-way communication between national and the regional levels;
- strengthening links with the country's National Focal Point for the Commission and other National Focal Points/Coordinators to promote interagency and cross-sectoral communication and collaboration;
- collaborating, as appropriate, with National Focal Points/Coordinators in other countries, and regional focal points and networks where established, to facilitate sectoral and cross-sectoral work, including particularly the work of the Commission and the implementation of instruments developed by the Commission; and
- supporting and facilitating, as appropriate, the preparation of communication materials on relevant genetic resources and components of biodiversity and their contributions to food security and rural development, for relevant stakeholders, including government officials, producers, the media and the general public.