



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



**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)**

IRAQ

(31 December 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 Systems 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

>>> Qasim Mohammed Kareem, Senior Agronomist,

Institution(s) of affiliation

>>> Directorate of Seed Testing and Certification, Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Iraq.

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:

>>> A law the Seed Law No. 50 of 2014 in benefit sharing according to the Nagoya Protocol has been formulated by the Agriculture Committee in Iraqi Parliament council.

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:

>>> Law No. 15 of 2013 of Registration, Approval and Protection of Agricultural Varieties Protocol has been formulated by the Agriculture Committee in Iraqi Parliament council.

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.

>>> Aegilops spltoidea, Aegilops cylindrica, Aegilops triuncialis

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

Any difficulties encountered in surveying or inventorying 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;

>>> There is a threat to most wild species due to overgrazing and lack of maintenance operations in the natural site due to lack of support and lack of plans such as Aegilops tauschii, Aegilops neglecta, Vachellia gerrardii var. najdensis

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:

>>> A local Project was implemented to collect and characterize wild Triticum, wild hordeum and other genetic resources in addition to accessions present in the Department of the Plant Genetic Resources and at present in ICARDA from previous collection missions in Iraq that we can retrieve.

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:

>>>

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:

>>> Department of Plant Genetic Resources activities were started in 1977 by the ministry of Agriculture, on a limited scale and with few scientific staff. A genebank department was built at Abu-Gharib Baghdad with the assistance of FAO/IPGRI. The collection activities were started in 1977 by Iraqi team and then in 1989 by expedition.

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:

>>> Department of Plant Genetic Resources is mandated to survey, collect, characterize (phenotype), evaluate, regenerate, and also documentation of the data in a database.

12. Has the maintenance of the viability, degree of variation, and the genetic integrity of ex situ collections of PGRFA been monitored 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

>>> As previously mentioned genetic diversity is determined at germination tests, morphological, and in evaluation field trials.

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:

>>> Encouraging researchers and plant breeders in research centers and universities to find good varieties suitable for the local environment and supporting the agricultural product by providing seeds, fertilizers and subsidized equipment to farmers and preventing or reducing importation.

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:

>>> Intellectual property law provides protection for traditional knowledge related to a country's plant genetic resources.

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:

>>> We do not have any plant genetic resources listed in annexure 1.

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:

>>> We do not have any plant genetic resources listed in annexure 1.

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:

>>> All genetic material data will be entered and documented according to an agreement in and entered to form a database.

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:

>>> There are local organizations such as the Nu'man Organization for Environmental Protection and Desert Heritage, which is a local organization concerned with plant genetic resources.

30. Has your country provided for and/or benefitted from capacity building measures in respect of Annex 1 PGRFA?

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

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 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:

>>> Through the conduct of detection, investigation, evaluation, phenotypic characterization, conservation and ex situ conservation.

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:

>>> ICARDA

The number of SMTAs is not recorded at the department of plant genetic resource as it was provided to research institutes.

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

>>>

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:

>>> This will be done after completing the entry of the input data available in the department of plant genetic resource.

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:

>>>

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:

>>>

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:

>>>

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:

>>> Available support should be provided such as capacity building and technology to develop this area.

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:

>>> Lack of government support and poor security conditions in some areas.

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:

>>> Providing expertise and training courses in the field of genetic resources as well as opportunities to attend international conferences, workshops, financial support to the local collecting missions and supporting local training courses.

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:

>>>