



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Workshop on Development Opportunity Crops Network for the promotion of Agro- biodiversity

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FAO

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PGRFA

<http://www.planttreaty.org>



Contents of the presentation

- 1. The objective and policy relevance of the IT-PGRFA;**
- 2. The benefit-sharing fund: the first and second call for proposals**
- 3. Provisions of the International Treaty relevant to research**



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What are the Treaty's objectives?



- The conservation (on farm, in-situ and ex-situ) and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture
- The fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for **sustainable agriculture** and **food security**



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Policy relevance of the Treaty

- It is an international Access and Benefit sharing System for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;
- It addresses several global challenges:
 - crop adaptation to climate change;
 - food security;
 - genetic erosion and biodiversity loss;
 - rural poverty of small-holder farmers;
 - **bottom-up approach to development policy in agriculture;**





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The Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing

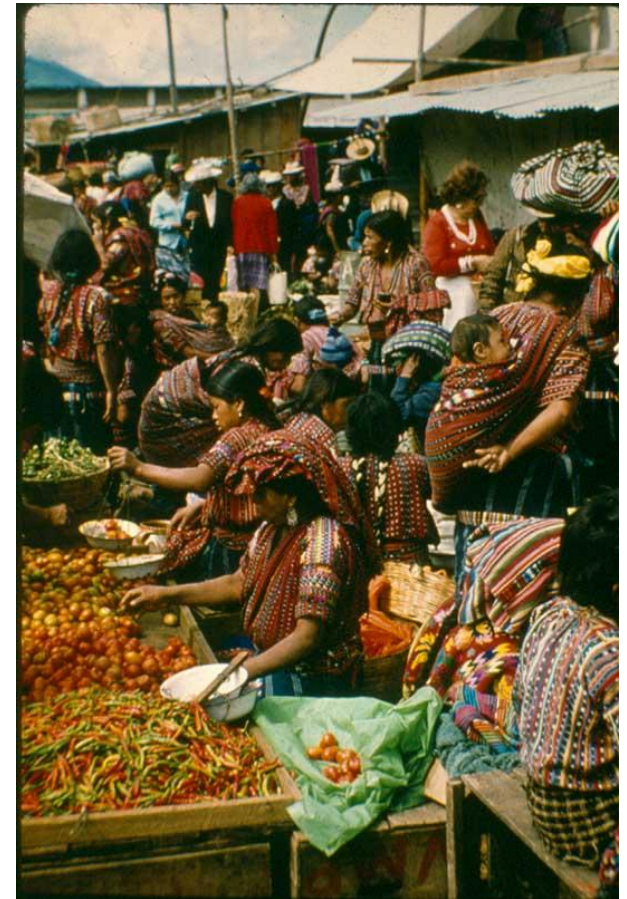


- The Treaty establishes a Multilateral System which can be understood as a global genepool to which all Contracting Parties agree to include their crop diversity, and in return have facilitated access to for purposes of research and breeding;
- The Multilateral System applies to a list of crops established according to criteria of food security and interdependence;
- These provide about 80% of our food from plants;
- The Treaty ensures that the benefits that arise from the use of the plant genetic resources for food and agriculture from the Multilateral System are shared in a fair and equitable way.



Benefit-sharing (BS) and the BS Fund

- The benefits derived from the use of the genetic material will be shared in a pooled, multilateral way
- The Benefit-sharing Fund invests directly in high impact projects supporting farmers in developing countries conserve crop diversity in their fields and assisting farmers and breeders globally adapt crops to our changing needs and demands.





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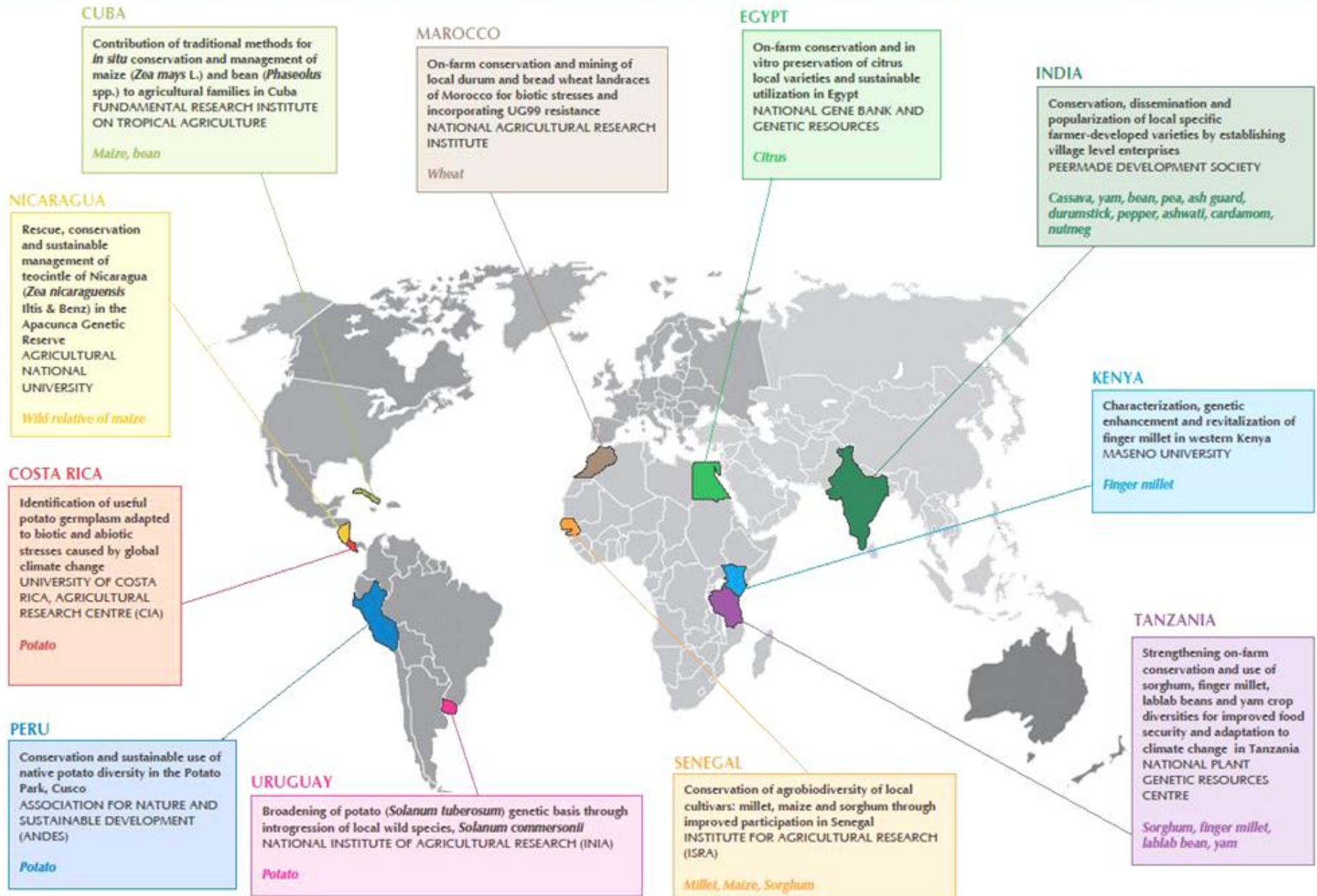
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Fund priorities in the 1st and the 2nd Call for proposal

- Sustainable use of plant genetic resources
- On-farm management and conservation of plant genetic resources
- Information exchange, technology transfer and capacity building for the conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture
- Participatory plant breeding and
- Distribution of appropriate seed and planting materials

Projects 2009-2011 under the Benefit-sharing Fund





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Blue: Projects implemented in one country Green: Multi-country projects (headquarters) Red: Multiregional project managed from Nepal





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Provisions of the International Treaty relevant to research



Article 13.2(a) of the Treaty

Exchange of Information

The Contracting Parties agree to **make available information** which shall, *inter alia*, encompass catalogues and inventories, information on technologies, **results of technical, scientific and socio-economic research, including characterization, evaluation and utilization, regarding those plant genetic resources for food and agriculture under the Multilateral System.**



Article 13.2(b) of the Treaty ***Transfer of technology***

A set of measures:

1. Crop-based thematic groups on utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture,
2. All types of partnership in research and development and in commercial joint ventures relating to the material received, human resource development, and effective access to research facilities.
3. Conservation as well as technologies for the benefit of farmers in developing countries,
4. Through partnerships in research and development under the Multilateral System.



Article 13.2(c) of the Treaty ***Capacity Building***

Agree to give priority to:

1. establishing and /or strengthening programmes for scientific and technical education and training in conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA
2. developing and strengthening facilities for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA
3. carrying out scientific research preferably, and where possible..... in cooperation with institutions of such countries, and developing capacity for such research in fields where they are needed



Article 17 of the Treaty ***Global Information System***

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate to **develop and strengthen a global information system to facilitate the exchange of information**, based on existing information systems, on scientific, technical and environmental matters related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, with the **expectation that such exchange of information will contribute to the sharing of benefits by making information on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture available** to all Contracting Parties.



Thanks for your attention

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