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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

Twentieth Regular Session

Rome, 24–28 March 2025

REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE AD HOC EXPERT TEAM ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Note by the Secretariat

The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission), at its last session, established the Ad Hoc Expert Team on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (Expert Team)¹ and adopted the Statutes for the Expert Team.² The Council, at its 174th Session, endorsed the establishment of the Expert Team.³

The First Session of the Expert Team was held in Rome from 2 to 4 July 2024. The Expert Team was tasked to (i) review the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (FA BFA)⁴ in light of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF)⁵ to identify gaps and possible work on biodiversity for food and agriculture, including the development of policy tools and guidance as needed and appropriate; (ii) advise and make recommendations to the Commission on these matters, avoiding duplication, in particular with the other Working Groups; and (iii) develop recommendations to implement the FA BFA in a mutually supportive way with the KM GBF, including in updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, as appropriate.

The report of the Expert Team's First Session is contained in this document, for consideration by the Commission.

¹ CGRFA-19/23/Report, paragraph 130.

² CGRFA-20/25/5.1/Inf.1.

³ CL 174/REP, paragraph 33.

⁴ FAO. 2022. Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture. FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb8338en>

⁵ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf>

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

NQ451/e



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

**COMMISSION ON
GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE**

CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/Report

First Session of the Ad Hoc Expert Team on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture

Rome, Italy, 2–4 July 2024

COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**REPORT OF THE
AD HOC EXPERT TEAM ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

First Session

Rome, Italy, 2–4 July 2024

The documents prepared for the First Session of the Ad Hoc Expert Team on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture are available on the Internet at the following address:

<https://www.fao.org/cgrfa/meetings/detail/first-session-bfa/en>

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I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The First Session of the Ad Hoc Expert Team on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (Expert Team) was held in Rome, Italy, from 2 to 4 July 2024. The list of experts attending the session is given in *Appendix C*.

2. Ms Maria Helena Semedo, Deputy Director-General, opened the session and welcomed delegates and observers. She noted that the significance of biodiversity in the context of agrifood systems cannot be overstated and that the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (FA BFA), endorsed by the FAO Council in 2021, is advancing work in this field and contributing to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF). She further noted that, under the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors, FAO is stepping up its efforts to reduce the negative impact of agricultural practices on biodiversity, promote sustainable agricultural practices and enhance, preserve and restore biodiversity as a whole. She stressed that if biodiversity commitments are to be met, they must be supported by financial, human and infrastructure capacity, and by expert policy and technical guidance. She noted that the recommendations from the Expert Team would guide the Members of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission) in their decision-making on biodiversity for food and agriculture (BFA), guide FAO's work on biodiversity and help Members meet their biodiversity commitments.

3. Mr David Cooper, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), welcomed the establishment of the Expert Team. He noted that collaboration between the CBD and FAO and the Commission is exemplary and has been appreciated and encouraged in numerous decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD. He highlighted the importance of FAO's contributions to furthering the objectives of the CBD, including by supporting the implementation of the KM GBF. He stressed that the future of biodiversity depends on how we manage agriculture and food systems and that implementing the KM GBF is vital to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 2, "Zero Hunger". He also stressed that the outcomes of the Expert Team's deliberations would further bolster synergies in the implementation of the KM GBF and the FA BFA.

II. ELECTION OF CO-CHAIRPERSONS AND *RAPPORTEUR*

4. Ms Mariana Marshall Parra (Brazil), Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, welcomed participants and called for the election of the Co-Chairpersons and the *Rapporteur*. The Expert Team elected Ms Linn Borgen Nilsen (Norway) and Mr Desterio Nyamongo (Kenya) as Co-Chairpersons of the Expert Team. Ms Lamis Chalak (Lebanon) was elected *Rapporteur*.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Expert Team adopted the Agenda, as given in *Appendix A*.

IV. REVIEW OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

6. The Expert Team considered the document *Review of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*.¹

7. The Expert Team highlighted the importance of BFA and the mutual supportiveness of the FA BFA and the KM GBF and recommended that the Commission continue its work on BFA and follow closely the implementation of the two frameworks, including with a view to identifying areas where synergies may be strengthened and the coordination of activities taken to implement the two frameworks improved.

8. The Expert Team recommended that the Commission continue to raise awareness of its work in relevant fora, including at the forthcoming sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

¹ CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/3.

9. It also recommended that FAO continue to support countries, at their request, in the implementation of the FA BFA and relevant targets of the KM GBF, *inter alia* by coordinating relevant activities, including through agroecological and other innovative approaches, under the 2024–2027 Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors (2024–2027 Action Plan).

10. In noting the high degree of mutual supportiveness of the two frameworks, the Expert Team also recommended that FAO continue to report to the Commission on activities relevant to their implementation, including FAO’s work on agroecology and activities covered by the 2024–2027 Action Plan.²

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

11. The Expert Team considered the document *Implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*³ and took note of the document *Draft guidelines for the implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*⁴ and the reports of regional consultations held in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, the Near East and North Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean.⁵

12. The Expert Team reviewed the *Draft guidelines for implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* (Draft Guidelines) and provided comments, as contained in *Appendix B*. It requested the Secretariat of the Expert Team to revise the Draft Guidelines, based on the comments provided, for consideration by the Commission at its next Session.

13. It further recommended that key resources of the kind mapped for Strategic Priority 1 in the Draft Guidelines should also be provided for each of the other strategic priorities. It welcomed the newly established Biodiversity Knowledge Hub⁶ as an important resource supporting the implementation of the FA BFA.

14. It recommended that the Secretariat compile experiences of Commission Members with the implementation of the FA BFA, including synergies with the implementation of the KM GBF and the Global Plans of Action, for the information of the Commission.

15. Furthermore, it recommended that the Secretariat report to the Commission on the level of alignment with the strategic priorities of the FA BFA of the revised or updated National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), including national targets, submitted prior to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

16. The Expert Team stressed the importance of supporting the implementation of the FA BFA and recommended that the Commission continue work in this regard. To this effect, it also recommended that the Secretariat identify possible major outputs and milestones for the Commission’s future work on BFA for consideration by the Commission at its next Session based on the Expert Team’s discussions.

17. The Expert Team recommended that the Commission invite FAO to support countries, at their request, in line with the 2024–2027 Action Plan, in the implementation of the FA BFA, including by assisting in the review, development and implementation, as relevant, of their NBSAPs.

² FAO. 2024. *Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity Across Agricultural Sectors 2024–2027*. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cd0709en>

³ CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4.

⁴ CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.1.

⁵ CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.2 ; CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.3 ; CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.4 ; CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.5.

⁶ <https://www.fao.org/biodiversity/knowledge-hub/en>

VI. MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

18. The Expert Team considered the document *Monitoring the implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*.⁷
19. The Expert Team reviewed the compilation of existing indicators and databases in the light of the strategic priorities and actions of the FA BFA,⁸ noting that for some actions there are no available indicators. It noted the importance of monitoring the status of BFA and the implementation of Commission instruments, including the FA BFA.
20. The Expert Team stressed the need to support countries with the monitoring of existing indicators. Given the high reporting burden countries currently experience, the Expert Team cautioned against the development of new and additional indicators for monitoring the implementation of the FA BFA. However, it recommended the development of a limited number of process indicators, primarily addressing Strategic Priority Area 3 of the FA BFA, the type of instruments used to implement the FA BFA, the status of implementation and synergies with NBSAPs.
21. The Expert Team requested the Secretariat to develop, in addition, a questionnaire directed to National Focal Points for BFA based on the topics identified by the Expert Team, for consideration by the Commission at its next Session.

VII. CLOSING STATEMENTS

22. Mr Dan Leskien, Senior Liaison Officer, thanked the Co-Chairpersons, *Rapporteur* and facilitators for having guided the Expert Team's work. He thanked all the experts for their participation, noting the very busy time of year. He highlighted that each component of BFA interacts with those in other sectors and that therefore collaboration is key. He noted that, to date, the Commission has achieved many milestones in the field of BFA, notably the publication of *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* and the development of the FA BFA. Furthermore, he expressed his confidence that the Commission at its next session would appreciate the recommendations of the Expert Team and make further progress on the Commission's workstream on BFA. He thanked the donors, Canada, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, Germany and Switzerland, for their continued support.
23. Ms Borgen Nilsen, on behalf of Mr Nyamongo and herself, concluded the meeting by thanking all delegates and the *Rapporteur* for their contributions to the success of the session. She also thanked the Secretariat on behalf of the Expert Team.

⁷ CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/5.

⁸ CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/5.

APPENDIX A

**AGENDA OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE
AD HOC EXPERT TEAM ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

1. Election of Co-Chairpersons and *Rapporteur*
2. Adoption of the agenda and timetable
3. Review of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture
4. Implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture
5. Monitoring the implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture
6. Any other matters
7. Adoption of the Report

APPENDIX B

COMMENTS BY THE AD HOC EXPERT TEAM ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ON THE DRAFT GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.1)

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE OVERALL GUIDELINES

- The draft is very useful but is a bit lengthy: the text should be streamlined, and some redundancies, for example in the boxes, should be eliminated.
- The structure of the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Integration of Genetic Diversity into National Climate Change Adaptation Planning could be a relevant model to be considered in the further development of the guidelines.
- The guidelines should explicitly indicate that they are voluntary.
- The guidelines should include text that encourages their utilization.
- Consideration could be given to including practical examples from countries in the guidelines.
- The guidelines should include a stronger focus on implementation, in addition to the existing material on strategy formulation.
- The objectives of the guidelines should be clearly indicated in the text.
- Resources related to cryoconservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) and to microorganism conservation should be added to the relevant lists of key resources.
- The guidelines should provide guidance on how implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (FA BFA) can be integrated into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
- Some of the terms used in the guidelines, for example “associated biodiversity”, need to be further clarified.
- The further revision of the guidelines should take into account the need for the provision of technical expertise to support countries with the development of regional and national plans for BFA.
- The guidelines should be tested in a few countries to assess their effectiveness and generate experience with their use.
- The list of key resources should be regularly updated through the Biodiversity Knowledge Hub (see comments on Section IV for further discussion).
- In the further revision of the guidelines, consideration should be given to the potential establishment of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the actions (baseline and gap analysis).
- An annex containing relevant examples of best practices should be added to the guidelines.
- The work done on the table showing the links between the FA BFA and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF) is to be commended.
- The Secretariat should allow for feedback from the Expert Team on the further revision of the guidelines.

Would additional tools and guidelines be needed to facilitate the implementation of the FA BFA, the GPAs and the KM GBF in a mutually supportive, coherent, consistent and non-duplicative way? If so, what?

- A tool for reviewing the level of alignment of NBSAPs to the FA BFA could be useful.
- Consideration needs to be given to the provision of support for the integration of the FA BFA and the KM GBF by engaging National Focal Points at national level (consider starting with the global level, i.e. the Commission and Convention on Biological Diversity), possibly via the organization of workshops for National Focal Points.

I. INTRODUCTION

- The structure of the first part of the document (Sections I and II) needs to be reconsidered (see other comments for further details).
- Consideration should be given to adding background information on what has been done in the past, providing evidence of which approaches have worked and which have not.
- There is a need to clarify the objectives of the guidelines and indicate how they are intended to be used at the very beginning of the document (revising paragraph 3 of the introduction).
- The expected outcomes of implementing the guidelines should be indicated.

II. THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

- The section requires streamlining it needs to be more focused and where necessary shortened.
- It may not be necessary to reintroduce the FA BFA in detail in this section. Consideration could be given to shortening the text and referring to key themes.
- Box 1 could be replaced with a shorter summary of the findings of *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* in the introduction. Consideration could be given to providing the text from the FA BFA currently included in Box 1 as an annex.
- If Box 1 is retained, examples of biodiversity-friendly practices provided in Target 10 of the KM GBF and the SDGs should be referred to.
- The guidelines should contain a comprehensive glossary.
- The issue of the lack of BFA-related data needs to be mentioned among the constraints to policy development and implementation (in Box 1 if retained or elsewhere where this theme is addressed).
- If the list of operative principles is retained, protected area authorities need to be mentioned.
- In the subsection on the task of national implementation, consideration should be given to introducing the two options of a) implementing the FA BFA through NBSAPS and b) (possibly in the longer term) developing a specific national action plan for BFA.

III. STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

- The purpose of the step-by-step guide needs to be clarified.
- The material provided is detailed and helpful.
- The source of the model terms of reference needs to be made clear.
- The material on the role of the National Focal Points needs to be clarified (streamlined and made less elaborate).
- In the second paragraph of page 14, the need for external support for National Focal Points needs to be recognized.
 - The material provided in Box 4 could be briefly covered in the introduction.

- The step-by-step guidance is sufficient for the option of developing a national strategy, but guidance is needed on the above-mentioned option of integrating the national implementation of the FA BFA into NBSAPs
- Under Step 1, the text should stress the involvement of the Commission Focal Points (an option would be to state that all National Focal Points/National Coordinators, and in particular the National Focal Point for BFA, are key players).
- Editorial issues need to be addressed.
- The guidance needs to be holistic and consider different country contexts and situations.
- Mention needs to be made of mechanisms for providing support to countries/regions with the development of national strategies and action plans by strengthening technical and financial capacities.

IV. GUIDANCE ON THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

General feedback on the structure of Section IV

Concepts:

- The material on the concepts should be included as a glossary in an annex (*inter alia* to avoid duplications).

Links:

- The material on the links between instruments (including at national level) should be expanded and made more detailed, putting the FA BFA first. The table below could serve as a model.

Action area of FA BFA	GPA	KM GBF and/or NBSAP	FAO Biodiversity strategy	Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans (possibly)	Other policies (rural development, food security, etc.)	Level of inclusion/coverage/gaps
1.1.1						
1.1.2						

Guiding questions:

- The questions need to focus on implementation at national level and consider farmer perspectives and farm-level implications, especially the perspectives of women and implications for them.
- It would be useful to test the questions in a particular context to see how relevant and “answerable” they are.
- The questions should focus on implementation at national level: they should support assessment of the level of implementation and not just policy coverage. This should help identify areas where action (or more action) is needed.

Key resources:

- The material is very useful. It would be sufficient to make it available online, which would allow it to be kept up to date. The potential for having a FA BFA filter under the FAO Biodiversity Knowledge Hub could be explored (although it is noted that the Knowledge Hub is currently limited to FAO’s own publications). Concrete examples should be included.

Strategic Priority Area 1: Characterization, assessment and monitoring of biodiversity for food and agriculture

Comments on Section IV, Strategic Priority Area 1

Rationale:

- It is appreciated that different production systems are described. The uniqueness of the FA BFA as a bridge between the environment and agriculture sectors should be highlighted.

List of concepts:

- Use of the terminology on indigenous/traditional/local knowledge should be checked.
- The term “ecosystem services” should be clearly defined.
- More clarity is needed on the concept of “integration”, as this concept can be understood in various ways. Guidance on integration should be practical and should support the translation of policy into action on the ground.

Guiding questions:

- The questions should have a national perspective.
- Soil health may need to be better considered (e.g. under the second bullet point).
- The following issues should be addressed under the individual bullet points:
 - 1st bullet: “operational” should be explained, reworded or deleted.
 - 2nd bullet: “operational” should be added before “information system(s)”.
 - 3rd bullet: microorganisms and invertebrates should be included.
 - 4th bullet: mentioning IUCN Red Lists should be considered.
- Reference should be made to financing opportunities and/or incentives supporting implementation of the FA BFA (possibly under Strategic Priority Area 3 rather than here).

Are the key resources useful to support implementation?

- The following examples could potentially be added under key resources:
 - EMBRAPA’s Alelo system in Brazil; and
 - Fiji’s completion of a BFA mainstreaming strategy.
- Resources related to benefit-sharing should be included under the relevant strategic priority area.

Other inputs

- Overall, more weight should be given to the FA BFA, as it has a more specific scope and provides more details than the KM GBF: this should be emphasized in the introduction.
- Guidance on national integration/convergence of relevant institutions should be included, for example on how to set up cross-sectoral national committees or similar bodies.
- Consideration should be given to providing guidance that is relevant to the regional level (referring not just to the FAO regions): it could be noted, for example, that regions tend to share similar drivers, ecosystems, etc.
- The question of financial support and capacity-building in-country, including education and awareness raising, should be included transversally across the strategic priorities of the FA BFA.
- The material on Strategic Priorities 2.1 and 2.2 is less developed and should be fleshed out.
- Under Priority Area 3, attention should be given to the valorization of biodiversity-friendly products in markets/value chains, possibly linking to FAO’s work on sustainable value chains.

Strategic Priority Area 2: Management of biodiversity for food and agriculture

General comments on Section IV, Strategic Priority 2.1

List of concepts:

- The list should be checked for duplications, for example in the entries on rangeland management and overgrazing, and those on integrated management and production approaches.

Links:

- More links to the Global Plans of Action are needed, as done for Strategic Priority 2.2.
- Links to KM GBF Targets 18 (key policy issue to look at, whether incentives positive or negative), 19 (especially with regard to financing) and 20 should be checked. This should also be looked at under Strategic Priority Area 3, where “all targets” are mentioned.

Guiding questions:

- A table like the one shown above under “links” could be used to develop guiding questions for assessing the level of implementation (which might lead to the development of further guidance on this).
- The question referring to “poor grazing and rangeland management” needs to be clarified editorially.
- More explicit references should be made to research.

Should a mapping of key resources of the kind provided for Strategic Priority 1 in the Draft Guidelines be also provided for each of the other strategic priorities?

- The Global Information System (GLIS) and the Toolbox for the Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) should be checked for relevant resources for inclusion.

General comments on Section IV, Strategic Priority 2.2

Glossary:

- *Ex situ* conservation: a specific reference to genebanks should be added.
- *In situ* and on-farm conservation: the references to domesticated and cultivated species under the definitions for both these terms should be checked (terminology may differ depending on the sector).
- Restoration: under the guiding questions, examples that go beyond the agreed definition should be included (e.g. on biological corridors or hotspots, mycorrhizae or nesting areas for pollinators).

Links:

- Much clearer references to the Global Plans of Action should be included (a similar approach should be taken under Strategic Priority 2.1).

Guiding questions:

- As under Strategic Priority 2.1, it is crucial to include questions that can be used for gap analysis.
- Concerning *in situ* conservation of BFA, it is important to make a link to the governance of protected areas. More guiding questions on this are needed.
- Concerning designated/protected areas, crop wild relatives and their active conservation should be mentioned.
- Most of the questions relate to conservation: more guiding questions on restoration are needed.
- More guiding questions on the connection and complementarity between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation are needed.

Should a mapping of key resources of the kind provided for Strategic Priority 1 in the Draft Guidelines be also provided for each of the other strategic priorities?

- The Toolbox for the Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the ITPGRFA should be considered as a potential source of resources for inclusion.

Strategic Priority Area 3: Institutional frameworks for biodiversity for food and agriculture

General comments on Section IV, Strategic Priority 3.1

- Issues that need to be taken into account in the further development of this section of the guidelines include the following:
 - the importance of strengthening political will to facilitate the implementation of BFA-related programmes;
 - the importance of involving ministries of education in BFA programmes;
 - the need to formulate comprehensive recommendations at ministerial level to increase support for BFA-related activities;
 - the need to raise awareness of NBSAPs;
 - the potential to learn from the experiences of climate change programmes in terms of how to facilitate the sourcing of funds for BFA activities;
 - the importance of strengthening capacity at regional level to effectively carry out BFA-related activities and programmes (e.g. those on plant breeding);
 - potential links to work on Farmers' Rights under the ITPGRFA; and
 - the need for improved financial and technical capacity and resources for BFA management.

Should a mapping of key resources of the kind provided for Strategic Priority 1 in the Draft Guidelines be also provided for each of the other strategic priorities?

- Yes, a mapping of key resources should be provided for the other strategic priorities, as this would contribute to better-informed decision-making.

Other inputs

- The following points should be noted regarding the guiding questions and potential list of key resources in this section of the guidelines:
 - The guiding questions are useful.
 - The organization of the key resources needs to be user-friendly.
 - The list of key resources could potentially be presented in online form (possibly via the FAO Knowledge Hub, although it is recognized that this currently covers only FAO resources).
 - Examples could potentially be provided in the form of electronic links to relevant resources.
 - The key resources should include those that provide user-friendly and actionable information about best practices.
- As in other sections of the guidelines, different options for national implementation of the FA BFA need to be covered (e.g. the option of integrating implementation into NBSAPs and the option of developing a stand-alone national strategy on FA BFA implementation).

General comments on Section IV, Strategic Priority 3.2

- Issues that need to be taken into account in the further development of this section of the guidelines include those of circular economy, bioeconomy, “holistic approaches” to BFA mainstreaming, and innovative approaches to agricultural production.

Should a mapping of key resources of the kind provided for Strategic Priority 1 in the Draft Guidelines be also provided for each of the other strategic priorities?

- Yes, a mapping of key resources should be provided for the other strategic priorities, as this would contribute to better-informed decision-making.

Other inputs

- The guidance and resources provided in this section are generally relevant and useful.
- Issues that need to be taken into account in the further development of this section of the guidelines include the following:
 - the need for a greater focus on BFA at all levels in national legal and policy frameworks;
 - the need for a greater focus on BFA in national activities related to food security and nutrition (to move beyond the focus on increasing yields and areas under production that has characterized policies in many countries);
 - the presence of customary landownership in some countries; and
 - the need to improve incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of BFA (e.g. related to the marketing of unique or organic products).
- It would be useful to add a question on whether there are any legal frameworks that constrain the conservation and sustainable use of BFA to the list of guiding questions.

Other inputs, Section IV, Strategic Priority 3.3

- Issues that need to be taken into account in the further development of this section of the guidelines include the following:
 - the importance of public–private partnerships in the management of BFA;
 - the importance of partnerships within and between government agencies and between government agencies and communities in the management of BFA;
 - the need to ensure that there is awareness at decision-making levels of the importance of a holistic approach to BFA management that involves all public agencies and the private sector;
 - the need for a “business model” that provides financial support for the conservation and use of BFA, for example through agritourism, botanic gardens or the sale of plant materials;
 - the need for projects focused on implementing the FA BFA and other instruments relevant to the sustainable use and conservation of BFA;
 - the need to obtain donor funding for such projects;
 - the need for governments to take ownership of the implementation of the FA BFA;
 - the contributions of NGOs to BFA-related work;
 - the potential need for national financial strategies for overall BFA management (as opposed to concentration on a limited number of selected economic crops); and
 - the need for incentives to ensure the sustainability over time of efforts to sustainably use and conserve BFA.
- Potential additions include a list of funding sources for work on the various sectors of genetic resources for food and agriculture and for BFA in general.
- As reference is made to the role of the Multilateral System in facilitating access, reference should also be made to the issue of benefit-sharing under the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing of the ITPGRFA.

APPENDIX C

LIST OF EXPERTS

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APPENDIX D**LIST OF DOCUMENTS****Working and information documents**

Election of Co-Chairpersons and <i>Rapporteur</i>	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/1</u>
Statutes of the Ad Hoc Expert Team on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/1/Inf.1</u>
Provisional agenda	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/2</u>
Provisional annotated agenda and timetable	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/2/Add.1</u>
List of documents	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/2/Inf.1</u>
Review of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/3</u>
Implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4</u>
Draft guidelines for the implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.1</u>
Report of the Regional Workshop on Taking Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture in Latin America and the Caribbean	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.2</u>
Report of the Regional Workshop on Taking Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture in Near East and North Africa	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.3</u>
Report of the Regional Workshop on Taking Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture in Africa	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.4</u>
Report of the Regional Workshop on Taking Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture in Asia and the Pacific	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/4/Inf.5</u>
Monitoring the implementation of the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	<u>CGRFA/ET-BFA-1/24/5</u>

Other documents

Report of the Nineteenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture

The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture

Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity Across Agricultural Sectors 2024–2027

FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors