

August 2018



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**TENTH MEETING OF THE *AD HOC* ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
FUNDING STRATEGY AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

Rome, Italy, 5 – 7 September 2018

**SUBMISSION RECEIVED FROM THE EUROPEAN SEED ASSOCIATION ON
INFORMATION ON BILATERAL PROGRAMMES AND FUNDING FOR
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PGRFA ACTIVITIES**

This document contains the submission received from the European Seed Association in response to the notification issued to National Focal Points on 13 July 2018 by the Secretary of the ITPGRFA, requesting information be submitted on bilateral programmes that are supporting the implementation of the International Treaty, as well as on financial resources for national activities for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Submission from the European Seed Association: Information on bilateral programmes and funding for national and regional PGRFA activities

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to the notification dated July 13, 2018 with reference NCP GB8-07-ITPGRFA-ACFSRM, ESA, the European Seed Association would like to draw your attention to a couple of initiatives, which – in our opinion – are relevant to mention with regard to the subject of the mentioned notification.

Seed companies alone or together, or under the umbrella of their national or regional seed associations have always been active partners in programmes and projects directed towards the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA. Moreover, seed companies are often the initiators of such projects, in some cases in collaboration with public partners in the form of public-private partnerships.

Recently, ESA has decided to collect such projects and initiatives and to make them more visible on a dedicated website: <https://www.euroseeds.eu/voluntary-benefit-sharing-activities-european-seed-industry>

Some of these bilateral and multilateral initiatives include direct funding for PGRFA activities related to conservation and sustainable use, whereas most of them take place in the form of in-kind (i.e. non-monetary) benefit-sharing. We believe that these initiatives are good examples of bilateral or multilateral programmes for national and regional PGRFA activities.

These non-monetary benefit-sharing activities greatly contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the Treaty and as such, should be given the importance that they deserve by being taken into account in the future structure of the Funding Strategy.

We therefore kindly invite you to visit our abovementioned website and consider the initiatives presented there when reporting on the present notification to the Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization.

We are confident that you will give due attention to our present answer.

Sincerely your,

Szonja Csörgő

Director IP & Legal Affairs
European Seed Association