



Policies, programmes and activities related to biodiversity for food and agriculture

Reports from international instruments and organizations

1. Contact information

Name and position of respondent

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Name of organization

IFAD

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Geographical coverage of your organization

Global

2. Components of biodiversity for food and agriculture covered by your organization

Note: For a complete definition refer to Annex 1 of: <http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/biodiversity/guidelines/en/>

Sectoral genetic resources for food and agriculture

Animal genetic resources



Aquatic genetic resources



Forest genetic resources



Plant genetic resources



Associated biodiversity of relevance to food and agriculture

Micro-organisms (including bacteria, viruses, protists and fungi)



Invertebrates (including insects, spiders, worms)



Vertebrates (including amphibians, reptiles and non-domesticated birds and mammals)



Wild and cultivated terrestrial and aquatic plants other than crop wild relatives



Please provide details on the components of biodiversity for food and agriculture involved (species, breeds, varieties):

N/A

PRIORITY AREA 1: ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

1. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes that contribute to the assessment of the status of biodiversity for food and agriculture?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries and species involved and indicate whether the population trends of these species are monitored:

As a GEF implementing agency IFAD supports countries in implementing agro biodiversity components in few projects. These projects would include an agro biodiversity assessment for the project area as required by the GEF Tracking Tools.

2. Is your organization involved in surveying and monitoring population sizes of and/or threats to associated biodiversity species that are known to contribute to regulating or supporting ecosystem services in and around agricultural and food production systems?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries and species and ecosystem services involved:

3. Is your organization involved in surveying and monitoring population sizes of and/or threats to wild food species?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries and species involved:

4. Has your organization identified major obstacles to assessing and monitoring components of biodiversity for food and agriculture that are part of its mandate?

Yes

No

If yes, please list these obstacles, being as specific as possible regarding the species involved:

5. What are the priority measures that need to be taken to address these obstacles?

N/A

6. Please describe any additional activities relevant to the implementation of Priority area 1: Assessment and monitoring

N/A

PRIORITY AREA 2: CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE

Conservation

1. Does your organization take or support actions to protect components of biodiversity for food and agriculture that are at risk from climate change, invasive alien species and natural or human-induced disasters?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries and species involved, the actions taken, the impacts and the lessons learned:

Most of this work is undertaken through GEF grants and other IFAD grants. Examples of countries are Iran (evolutionary plant breeding for barley and wheat); Nepal, India, Egypt, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador (Neglected and underutilized species); Malawi (participatory land races variety selection and local seed banks). IFAD has recently signed an agreement with Bioversity international under the EC/CGIAR programme for a grant that looks specifically at climate change impacts. The grant is entitled Linking Agro biodiversity Value Chains Climate Adaptation and Nutrition: Empowering the Poor to Manage Risk under the programme Putting Research into Use for Nutrition, Sustainable Agriculture and Resilience (PRUNSAR). Its objective is to strengthen the capacities of vulnerable women and men, farmers, value chain actors and NARS to deal with climate change through participatory research focusing on underutilized stress-tolerant crops and varieties and associated management practices, for improved climate adaptation, nutrition and marketing opportunities. It will be implemented in Guatemala, India and Mali.

2. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of conservation measures for associated biodiversity and/or wild food species?

In situ

Yes

No

Ex situ

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries, measures and species involved:

In projects including IFAD support to indigenous people, there are in some cases support to the conservation of wildlife including wild food species. Examples are Guyana (indigenous people protection of forest and savannah biodiversity); India (tribal people creation of biodiversity reserves providing food from wild species of plants and animals); Peru (recovery of traditional knowledge on dietary and medicinal biodiversity)

3. If your organization maintains *ex situ* collections of biodiversity for food and agriculture components could you please provide further information on these collections?

4. Has your organization identified major obstacles to enhancing the conservation of biodiversity for food and agriculture, and in particular of associated biodiversity and wild foods?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

This is not an area of work often demanded by our member governments, therefore it is mostly financed by grant resources.

5. What are the priority measures that need to be taken to address these obstacles?

Building capacities, awareness raising and mainstreaming of the importance of biodiversity conservation in national and local policies

Sustainable use

6. Does your organization promote management practices that support the maintenance and use of biodiversity for food and agriculture?

Note: For examples of such practices, please refer to Annexes 5 and 6 of <http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa/biodiversity/guidelines/en/>

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries and practices involved:

See response to question 2 above

7. Does your organization promote the application of ecosystem, landscape and/or seascape approaches?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries and approaches involved:

As part of our natural resources management components of our projects a landscape approach would often be applied. Hence this approach is used in many of our countries .

An IFAD grant to ICRAF and Bioversity International focus specifically at agro-biodiversity as a component for landscape restoration for food security and nutrition in East Africa. It aims at diversifying food tree species and crop varieties to support sustainable production under changing climatic conditions while also promoting diversified diets to reduce malnutrition. The project builds on previous work of ICRAF and Bioversity to promote local species for improved nutrition and landscape restoration.

8. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes on the use of biodiversity for food and agriculture to cope with climate change, invasive alien species, or natural or human-made disasters?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

As part of our support for CCA diversity in cropping systems is increasingly used as a risk management and adaptation strategy. This include in some countries to look for drought resistant and short cycled varieties and reintroduce under utilized species.

9. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of projects or programmes on the maintenance and use of traditional knowledge of associated biodiversity and wild foods?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

Please see response to question 2 above and for further information <https://www.ifad.org/documents/10180/2a1e3eb4-51a3-4746-8558-2fc1e6d3e645>

10. Has your organization identified any major obstacles to improving the sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture, and in particular of associated biodiversity and wild foods?

Yes

No

If yes, please list and describe them:

Please see response to question 4 above

11. What are the priority measures that need to be taken to address these obstacles?

Please see response to question 5 above

Access and benefit-sharing

12. Does your organization contribute to the development of mechanisms to improve access to and ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of biodiversity for food and agriculture?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details on the countries, mechanisms and species involved:

13. Please describe any additional activities relevant to the implementation of Priority area 2: Conservation and sustainable use.

PRIORITY AREA 3: POLICIES, INSTITUTIONS AND CAPACITY

1. Does your organization support countries in developing, reviewing and adjusting their national policies affecting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture, and in particular of associated biodiversity and wild foods?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries involved:

2. Does your organization contribute to the development of regulatory frameworks or legislation for biodiversity for food and agriculture, and in particular for associated biodiversity, wild foods and ecosystem services?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details and specify the countries or regions involved:

3. Does your organization collaborate with other stakeholders involved in the management of biodiversity for food and agriculture (e.g. farmers, fisher folk, forest dwellers, the breeding industry, government agencies, research institutes and civil society organizations)?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

We collaborate with all of the above in our portfolio. With our grants we in particular support research institutes on agrobiodiversity research with farmers participation

4. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of programmes to increase public awareness on the roles and values of associated biodiversity and ecosystem services in and around food and agriculture production systems?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

Yes, increasing public awareness would be a part of the projects mentioned above and at the global level we have publications as the one linked to above

5. Does your organization implement or support the implementation of training or capacity-building programmes for the management of associated biodiversity and ecosystem services in and around food and agriculture production systems?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details and specify countries involved:

Yes, as part of our projects

6. Has your organization identified priorities for future capacity-building and education on associated biodiversity and ecosystem services in and around food and agriculture production systems?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide details:

7. Please describe any additional activities relevant to the implementation of Priority area 3: Policies, institutions and capacity.

PRIORITY AREA 4: REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

1. Has your organization contributed to the establishment or strengthening of regional and international research and/or education programmes to assist countries to better manage biodiversity for food and agriculture?

Yes
No

Please provide details:

IFAD engagement is though very limited so far. However, IFAD has provided a grant to FAO to support its global work in the project "Leading the Field" Initiative of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

2. Has your organization contributed to the establishment or strengthening of regional and international programmes to assist countries to obtain training and technologies or develop information systems related to biodiversity for food and agriculture and related ecosystem services?

Yes
No

Please provide details:

3. Please describe any additional activities relevant to the implementation of Priority area 4: Regional and international cooperation

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