



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESOLUTION 5/2022

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling its previous Resolutions and decisions on the Vision and the Programme of Work on the Global Information System (PoW-GLIS), and particularly Resolutions 3/2015, 5/2017 and 4/2019;

Further recalling the contribution of the Global Information System of Article 17 of the International Treaty (GLIS) to the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing, in particular to the provisions of Article 13.2.a;

Thanking the Government of Germany for the financial support provided for the documentation of crop wild relatives (CWR) conserved in situ;

Thanking the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System of Article 17 for the advice provided to the Secretary and their inputs to the various work tracks on GLIS;

1. **Takes note** of the progress made in the implementation of the PoW-GLIS since the last session of the Governing Body, in particular with the development of the GLIS Portal, and **requests** the Secretary to continue updating the catalogue of resources and tools linked in all the official languages;
2. **Takes note** of the progress made with the promotion of the Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) and **encourages** the Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to continue promoting their use, on a voluntary basis, and to expand the efforts to build the capacity of relevant stakeholders, especially in developing countries;
3. **Takes note** of the publication of the *Descriptors for Crop Wild Relatives Conserved In Situ* and the six new lists of characterization and evaluation descriptors for tropical fruit trees; **acknowledges** all the institutions and individuals who have contributed to their accomplishment; and **invites** the Secretary to facilitate the development of further descriptor lists, as appropriate, subject to the availability of financial resources;
4. **Takes note** of the limited availability of national databases of CWR conserved in situ and **invites** the Contracting Parties that have not done so to consider their development with a view to facilitating further research and use; in this context, it **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and in partnership with relevant stakeholders, to support Contracting Parties in the documentation, including building capacities in data collection from the wild, of crops and their wild relatives, and in making that information available, and to support the relevant programmes to increase public awareness about the value and role of CWR in plant breeding;
5. **Takes note** of the ongoing collaboration with Genesys, the World Information and Early Warning System (WIEWS), GRIN-Global, the European Search Catalogue for Plant Genetic Resources (EURISCO) and the SPGRC Documentation and Information System (Web-SDIS), and **requests** the Secretary to continue enhancing cooperation with relevant institutions and

initiatives, and to facilitate the exchange of information associated with plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA);

6. **Recalls** the opinion of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the usefulness of the voluntary application of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to PGRFA information, and **thanks** the stakeholders and users who have submitted information on the application of DOIs to digital sequence information / genetic sequence data (DSI/GSD)¹, including to link phenotypic and passport data with genomics data;²

7. **Requests** the Secretary to encourage and guide users to link scientific publications and datasets to PGRFA material, including by the voluntary use of DOIs, from which the information has been generated, and to support users in incorporating such information into information management systems;

8. **Takes note** of the conclusion of the memorandum of understanding and progress made with the DivSeek International Network, and **requests** the Secretary to update the Governing Body with a report on joint activities at the Tenth Session;

9. **Adopts** the revised PoW-GLIS, as contained in the *Annex* to this Resolution;

10. **Decides** to reconvene the Scientific Advisory Committee with the same terms of reference of the previous biennium, subject to the availability of financial resources, to hold at least one meeting in presence and, if necessary, additional virtual meetings and **requests** the Secretary to continue updating the Committee on progress in the implementation of the PoW-GLIS;

11. **Requests** the Scientific Advisory Committee to continue considering scientific and technical issues of relevance to DSI/GSD, and considering national legislation, as appropriate;

12. **Invites** the Scientific Advisory Committee to advise the Secretary on exploring collaboration and linkages with the Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity as relevant to the GLIS;

13. **Invites** the Scientific Advisory Committee to provide the Governing Body at its Tenth Session with advice on ways to increase the declaration of the country of origin/provenance;

14. **Invites** Contracting Parties, other governments and stakeholders to provide the necessary resources to implement the PoW-GLIS, in particular for the further development of the GLIS Portal, the review of crop ontologies and the support of training and capacity development activities in developing countries;

15. **Requests** the Secretary to follow up on implementation of the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee and submit a progress implementation report to the Governing Body at its Tenth Session.

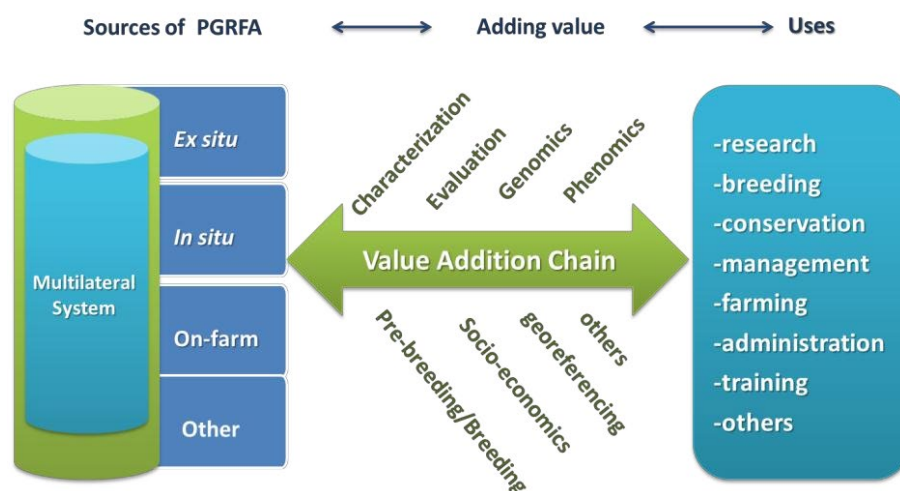
¹ The term 'digital sequence information' is used interchangeably with 'genetic sequence data', without any prejudice to the possible definition of terminology by the Governing Body.

² IT/GB-9/22/17.2/Inf.1, *Compilation of Additional Inputs from Contracting Parties on Digital Sequence Information*.

Programme of Work on the Global Information System (2023–2028)

The Programme of Work (PoW-GLIS) will cover a period of six years. It will be implemented through a phased approach and funded by a combination of core budgetary resources, as may be determined by the Governing Body, and extra-budgetary contributions.

The aim of the Global Information System (GLIS) is to bridge the gap in communication between the institutions serving as sources of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), conducting the research and added-value activities and those using PGRFA to develop products.



The PoW-GLIS has five objectives:

THE GLIS PORTAL

1. To manage and enhance the GLIS Portal

- to further develop and manage the GLIS Portal, with focus on a directory of links and services;
- to allow quick access to information sources on PGRFA material, in particular material available in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS);
- to make references to non-confidential information, in particular from research and development carried out on the material received from the MLS, by providing links to information sources storing these data;
- to define use case scenarios for target groups and set up mechanisms to regularly collect users' feedback and experiences.

INTEROPERABILITY

2. To promote interoperability among existing systems by documenting and facilitating access to principles, technical standards and appropriate tools to support their operations

- to promote the adoption of Permanent Unique Identifiers applied to PGRFA, including the voluntary use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs), and the creation of linkages between phenotypic and passport data with genomics data;
- to document and inform about PGRFA documentation standards for data and metadata (e.g. for phenotypic data such as crop-specific descriptors) and promote their dissemination and use;

- c. to establish connections with other initiatives relevant for the adoption of open data and PGRFA documentation standards;
- d. to document and inform about technical standards required for interoperability among selected PGRFA information systems, including crop ontologies.

ACCESS TO AND USE OF INFORMATION

3. To promote transparency on the rights and obligations of users for accessing, sharing and using PGRFA-associated information

- a. to document institutional, organizational, policy and legal factors in the context of Articles 12 and 13 of the International Treaty;
- b. to monitor policy developments in international fora of relevance to the GLIS Vision and the POW-GLIS and document the scientific and technical impacts of national legislation related to accessing and using PGRFA-associated information, including digital sequence information / genetic sequence data, in the context of Article 17.

INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

4. To create and enhance opportunities to increase knowledge about and add value to PGRFA

- a. to identify and create opportunities for information exchange among partners and users of the GLIS Portal (research, academia, genebanks, farmers, breeders, private sector, scientific journals, etc.);
- b. to encourage and guide users to link scientific publications and datasets to PGRFA material, and collaborate with reference publishers, dataset repositories and citation agencies.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

5. To inform about and support capacity development and technology transfer opportunities for the conservation, management and use of information and knowledge associated with PGRFA, paying special attention to the needs of developing countries

- a. to strengthen the capacity of genebanks and other providers to document their holdings, including areas such as taxonomy, information management and bioinformatics in collaboration with relevant partners;
- b. to strengthen the capacity of Contracting Parties to develop national and regional inventories and information systems, including for in situ and on-farm material;
- c. to facilitate the transfer of relevant technologies required for the management of PGRFA-associated information, including by convening and supporting regional meetings and scientific conferences;
- d. to provide access to training materials and e-learning products and to design mechanisms to promote training opportunities across institutions.