



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Joint briefing for Second Committee mandated by UNGA resolution 67/212

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

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Secretary of the International Treaty

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Overview



1. Relationship with the CBD
2. ITPGRFA's Core ABS Systems
3. Ongoing Collaboration & Framework

Relationship with the CBD



Relationship with the CBD

The Treaty was adopted by the FAO Conference on 3 November 2001 and entered into force on 29 June 2004

The Request for cooperation with the CBD is in the text of the Treaty;

The Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing of the Treaty started to Operate in January 2007 accumulating experience with hundreds of daily operations;

The main infrastructure of the operation of the ABS system of the Treaty required legal and informatics arrangements;

The Treaty has since then accumulated lessons learnt and has been a model for other international instruments and it has provided inputs during the negotiation of the Nagoya protocol;



What are the Treaty's objectives?

Article 1



<http://www.planttreaty.org>

- The conservation 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



The scope of the Treaty is all plant genetic resources for food and agriculture



ITPGRFA's Core ABS Systems



Article 5: Conservation, Exploration, Collection, Characterization, Evaluation and Documentation



Each Contracting party shall ... , in cooperation with other Contracting Parties ..., promote an integrated approach to the exploration, conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture



Article 6: Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources

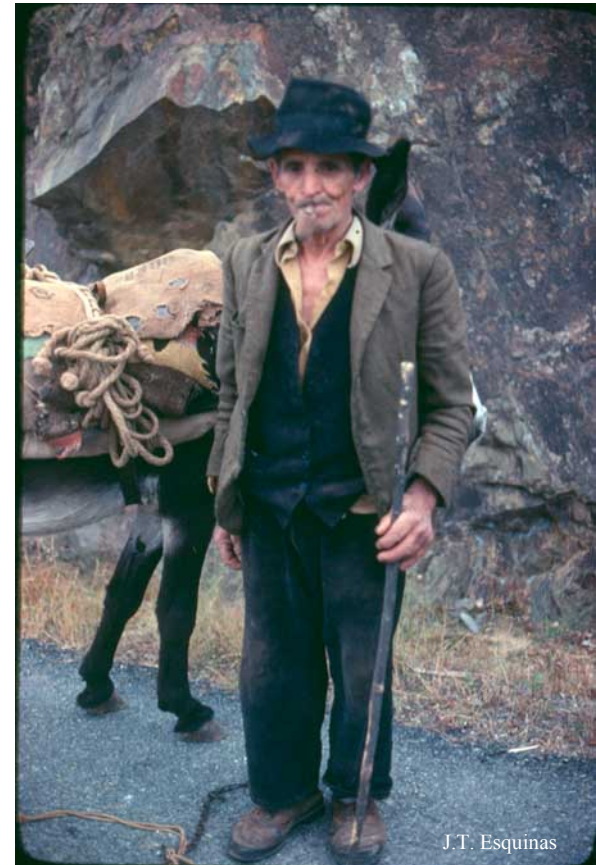


The Contracting parties shall develop and maintain appropriate policy and legal measures that promote the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.



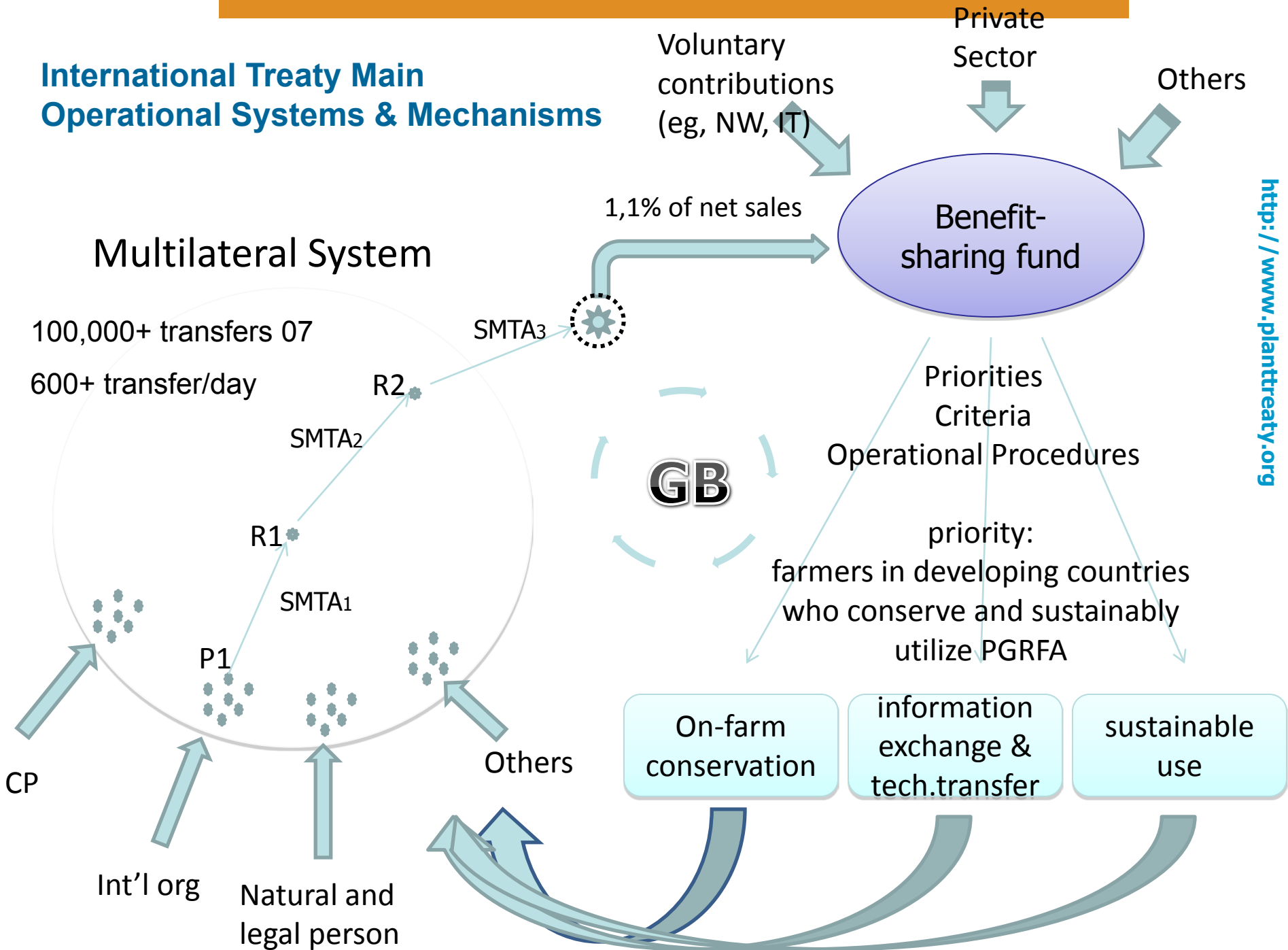
Article 9: Farmers' Rights

- Recognition of the enormous contribution that farmers and their communities have made and continue to make to the conservation and development of plant genetic resources.
- Farmers' Rights include the protection of traditional knowledge and the right to participate equitably in benefit-sharing and in national decision-making about plant genetic resources.
- Governments are responsible for realizing these rights.



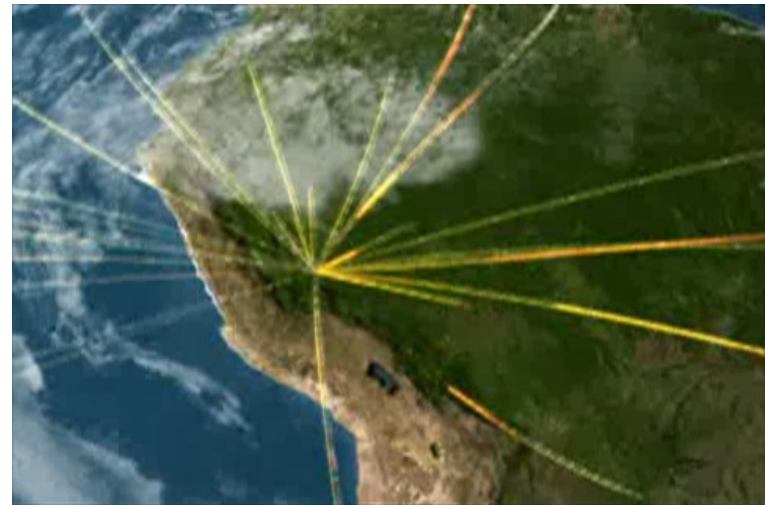
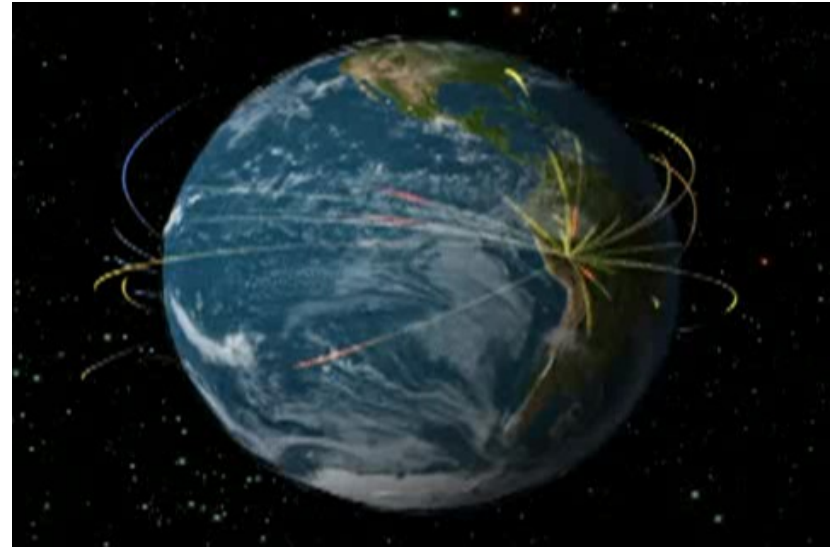
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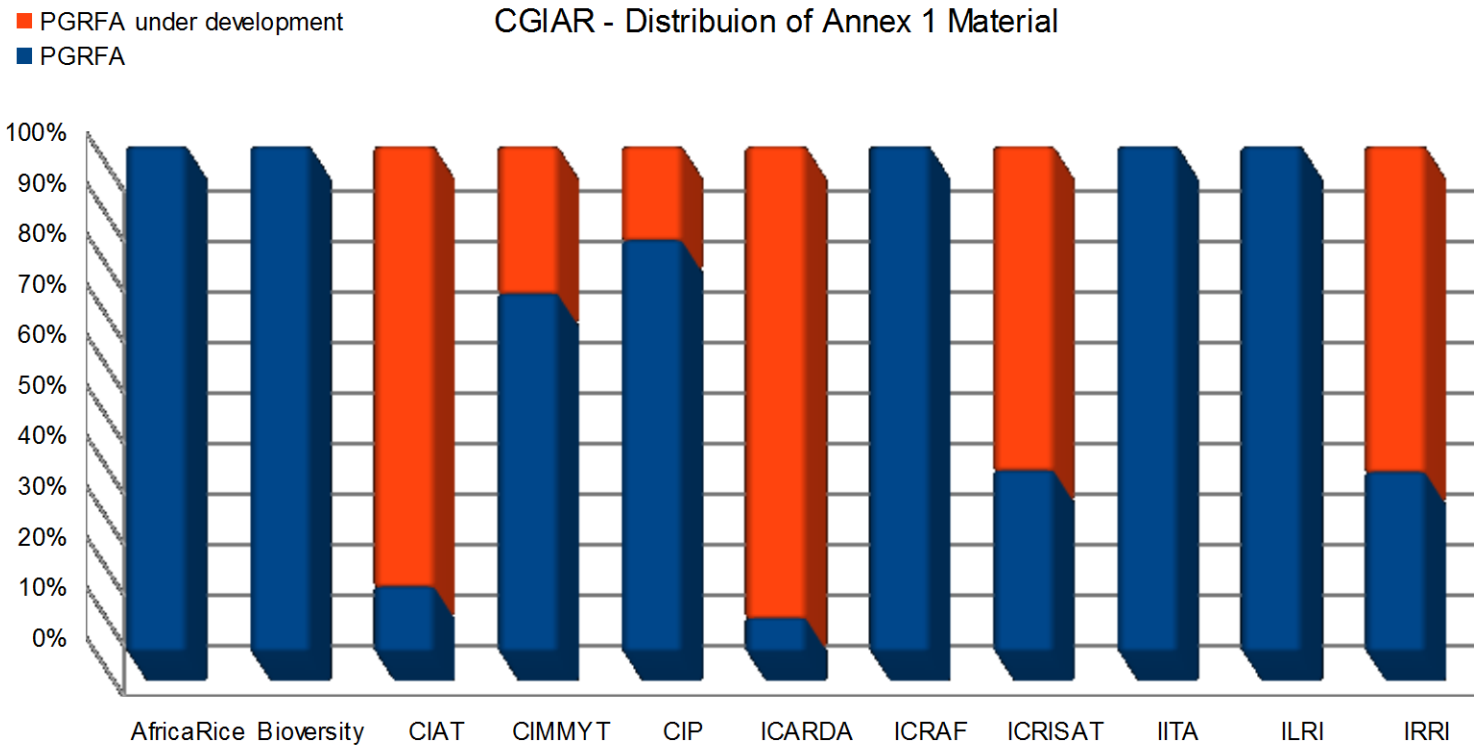
International Treaty Main Operational Systems & Mechanisms



MLS: Daily Transfers of PGRFA

- 1.5 million documented samples in the System, from CGIAR alone
- 600 – 800 documented transfers every day
- information technology tools for managing System operations



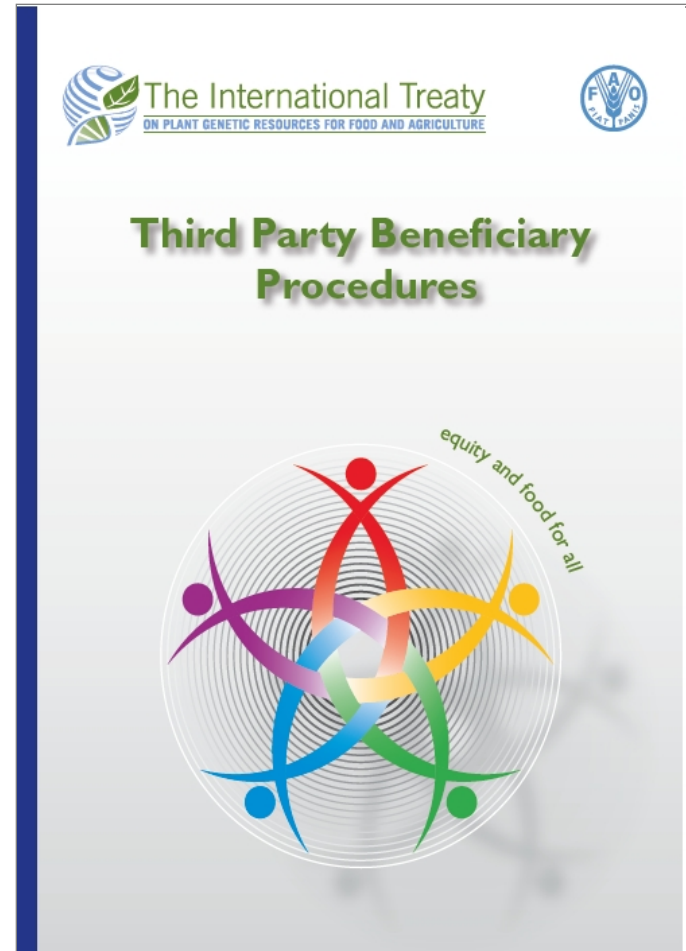


More than Museums

Dispute Resolution System

Dispute resolution system is now in place:

- The Third Party Beneficiary Procedures have been completed
- Rules for mediation of a dispute in relation to a standard material transfer agreement
- Administrator of the Mediation Rules has accepted
- The TPB Operational Reserve has been established

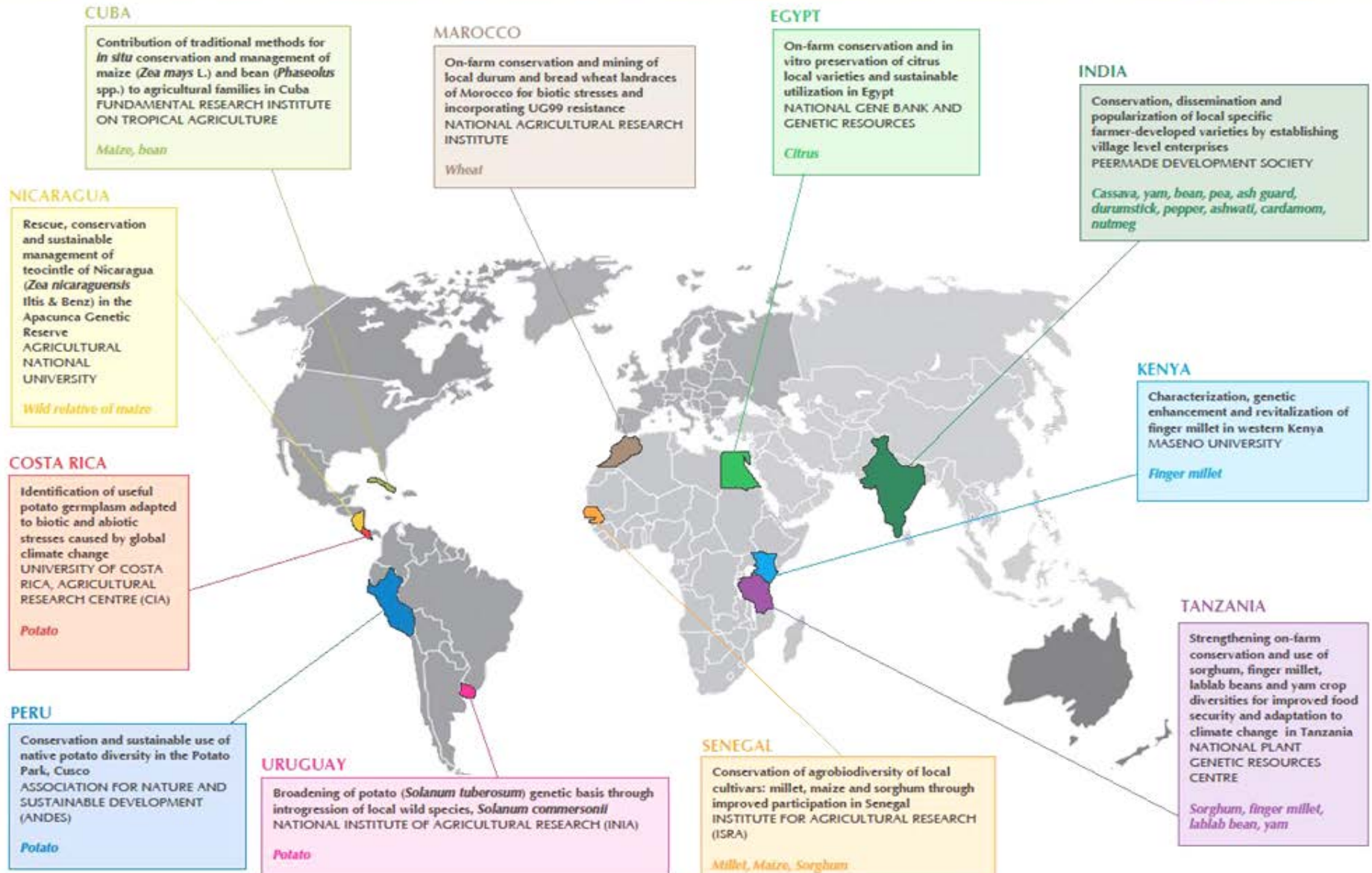


The Benefit-sharing Fund

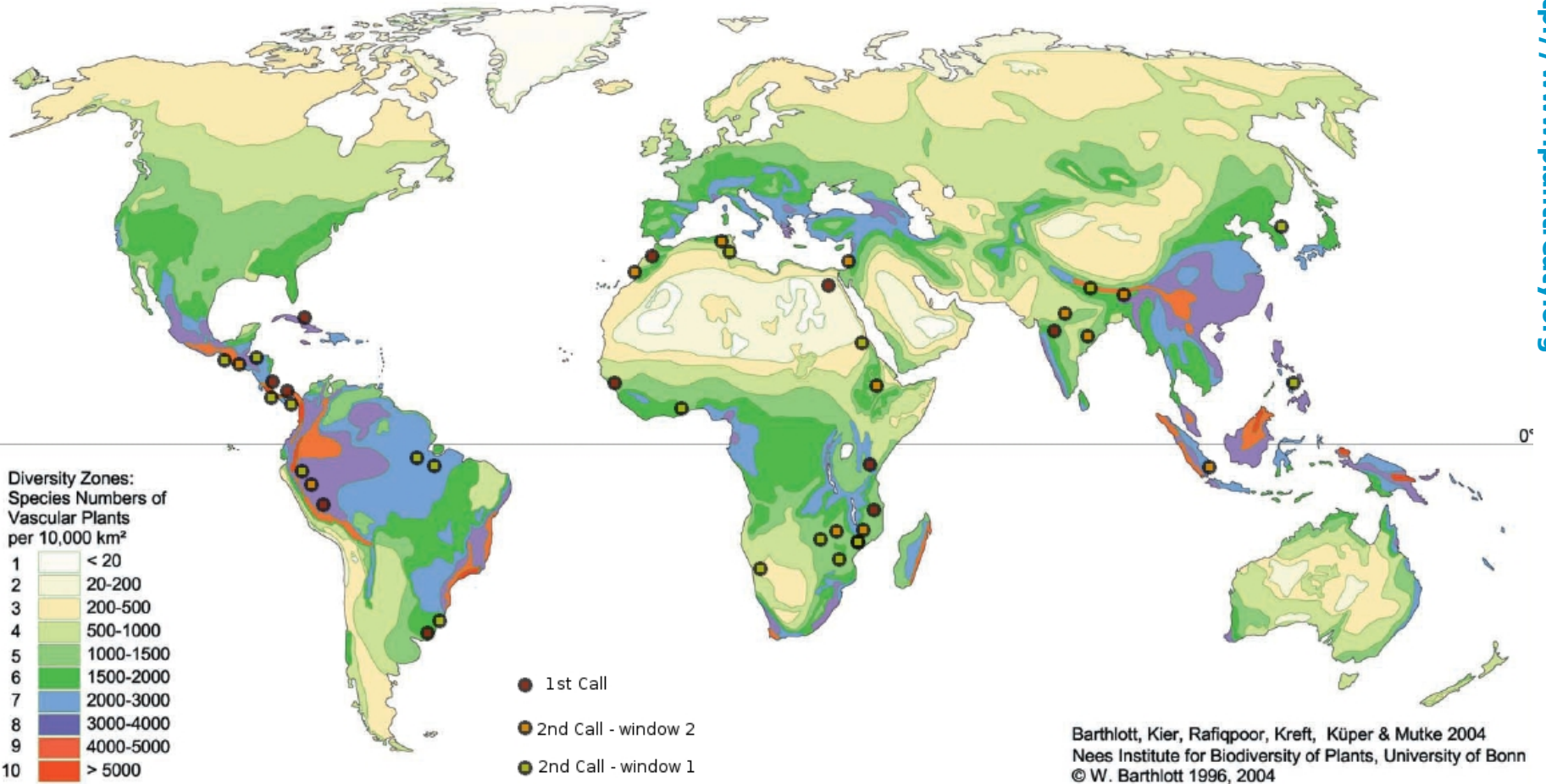
The Treaty's Benefit-sharing Fund:

- Supports projects aimed at smallholder farmers in developing countries who conserve and sustainably use plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
- Priorities of the Benefit-sharing Fund:
 - sustainable use;
 - on farm management and conservation;
 - information exchange, technology transfer and capacity building.
- First set of projects were approved by the Governing Body of the Treaty at its Third Session (Tunisia, 2009).

Projects 2009-2011 under the Benefit-sharing Fund



2010 – Second Call

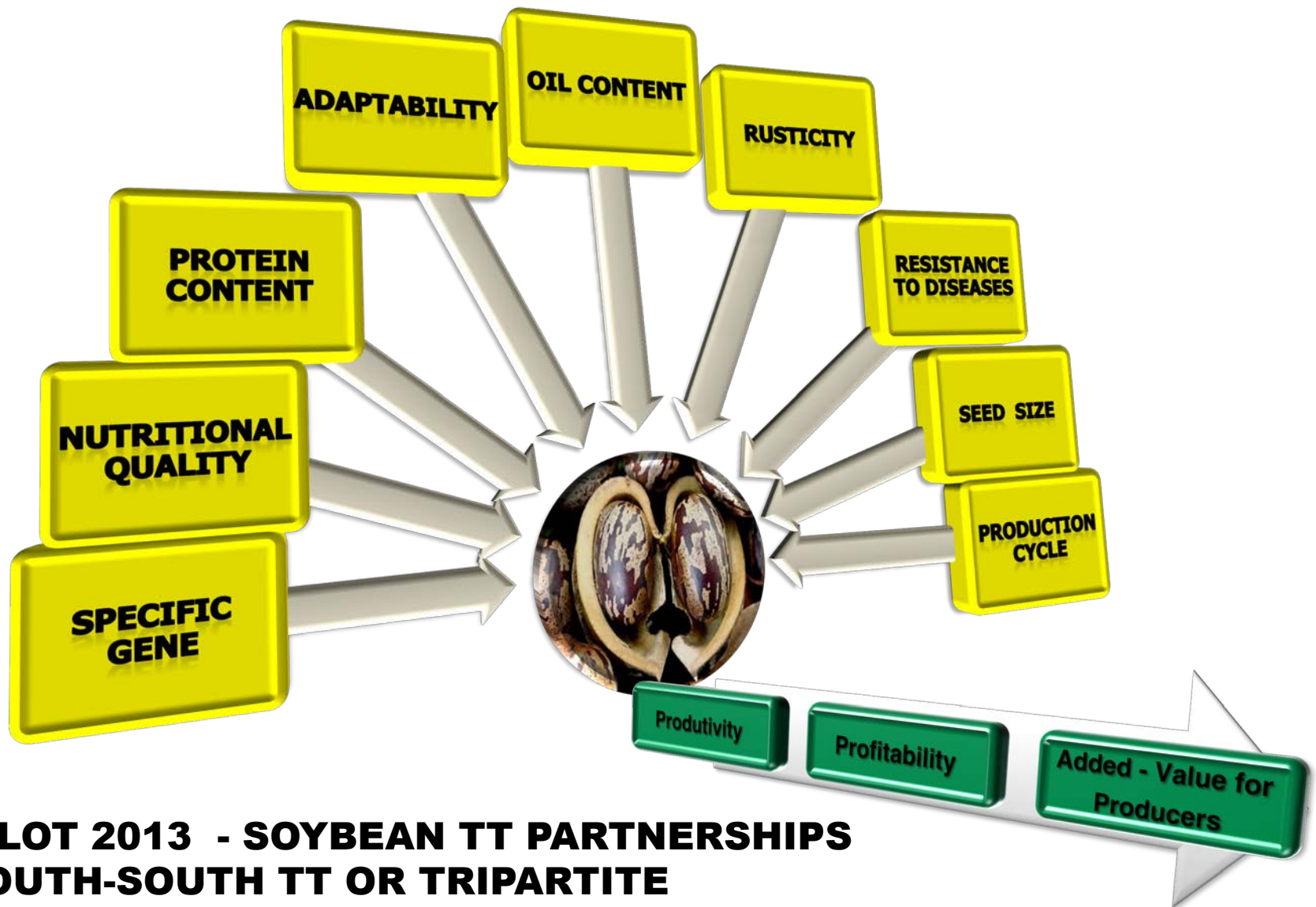




The Second 2nd High-Level Round Table

- At the UN Rio+20 Summit on 21 June
- organized under the patronship of the High Level Task Force of the Benefit-sharing Fund
- Co-organised by Brazil, Norway and Italy;
- Launched CBD-ITPGRFA Joint Initiative
- Focus of the discussion
 - interaction between economy, biodiversity and food security;
 - To showcase the Treaty and its Benefit-sharing Fund;
 - Facilitate the high-level discussion on the potential monetary and non-monetary benefits.

FROM RIO+20 - TREATY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PLATFORM



**PILOT 2013 - SOYBEAN TT PARTNERSHIPS
SOUTH-SOUTH TT OR TRIPARTITE
SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

Ongoing collaboration and collaborative framework

Implementation and Cooperation with the CBD

In adopting the Nagoya Protocol, the Conference of Parties, *inter alia*, recognized:

- the International Treaty as one of the complementary instruments that constitute the International Regime;
- that the objectives of the International Treaty are the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use, in harmony with the CBD, for sustainable agriculture and food security.

COP Decision X/1, *Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization*.

Cooperation with the CBD

- The Governing Body of the International Treaty has repeatedly emphasized the necessity for close cooperation and coordination between the two bodies, underlining the need to promote coherence and mutual supportiveness between the two bodies

Cooperation with CBD, Resolution 8/2011

R8/2011, Part I, the Governing Body:

- *Congratulates* the COP on the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol;
- *Appeals* to Contracting Parties to sign and ratify;
- *Takes note* of the Memorandum of Cooperation;
- *Requests* the Secretary to explore with the SCBD on practical means and activities to give effect to this cooperation;
- *Requests* the Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the SCBD;
- *Calls on* Contracting Parties to ensure mutual supportiveness in the implementation of the Treaty and the Nagoya protocol.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Cooperation with CBD

Memorandum of Cooperation

1. Institutional cooperation
 - Capacity Building Workshops and other events
 - Coordination of technical assistance
2. Exchange of information
3. Reporting and further guidance



Key Policy Challenges

- The concept of the international ABS regime is broader than the Nagoya Protocol or the Treaty individually;
- Recognizing the complementarity of the mandates & the links between the respective agreements;
- Establishing a common understanding of concepts and sectoral dynamics;
- Operational issues:
 - Mutually supportive implementation (national level);
 - Coordination (both horizontal and vertical);
 - Reporting (within and between the two processes);



Cooperation with CBD, Joint Activities 1/2

- A series of joint Capacity Building Workshops on access and benefit-sharing for the harmonious national implementation
- To contribute to the identification of the capacity-building needs and priorities of Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the Nagoya Protocol
- Organized June and October 2011
- New Delhi, India, 7- 8 April 2012



Cooperation with CBD, Joint Activities 2/2

- CBD Secretariat:
- Expert inputs into several Working Groups and Technical Expert Groups
- Collaboration with SCBD and capacity building providers on harmonious implementation of CBD and ITPGRFA



Resolution 5/2013

- Maintain cooperation;
- Entry into force of the NP;
- CPs to ensure legal administrative and policy measures are supportive;
- Focal points to enhance collaboration;
- Welcomed IPBES:
- Expand collaboration on on-farm and in-situ conservation and sust. use and on the SPB 2011 - 2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- Welcomed the *modus operandi* of the BLG;
- Secretariats to facilitate interactions and mutual supportiveness and harmonious implementation through workshops and other events
- Future further reporting on cooperation



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Thank you!

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