



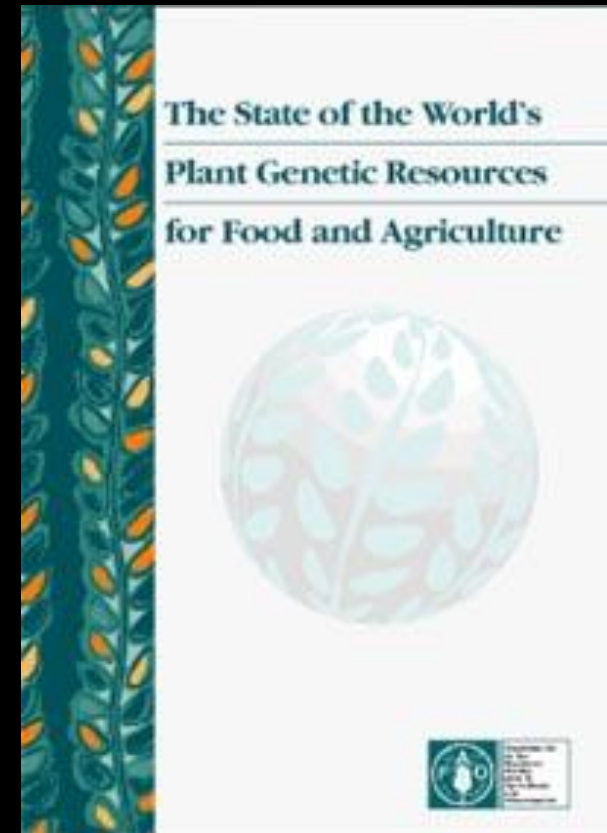
State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources and the Global Plan of Action

To Serve and Conserve
European Plant Genetic Resources Conference
2011, Wageningen, The Netherlands, April 5-7, 2011

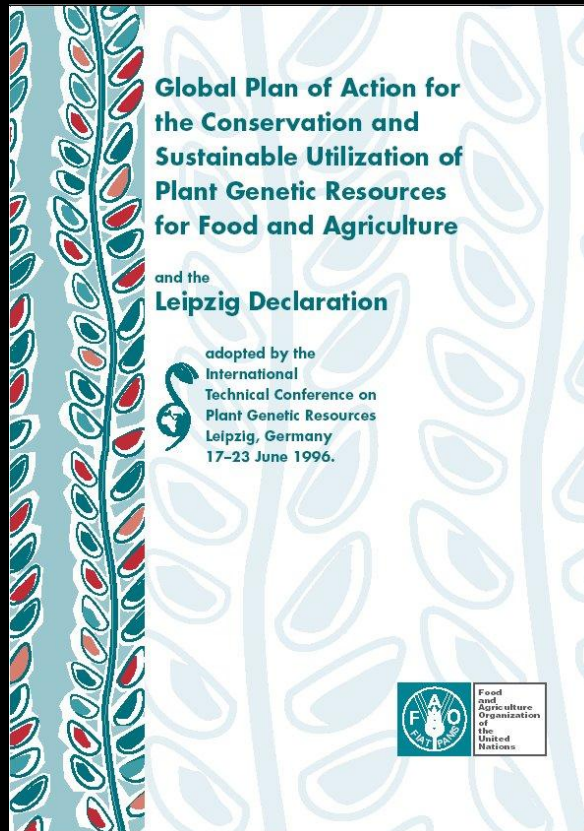
Eva Thörn, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

The State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

The SoW-1, received by 150 countries at the Leipzig International Technical Conference on PGR in 1996, is a comprehensive assessment of the status of plant genetic resources worldwide.



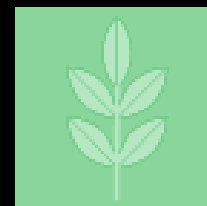
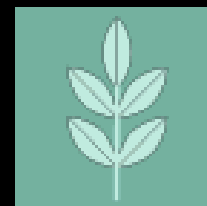
The Global Plan of Action



The GPA, adopted in Leipzig 1996, is a set of internationally agreed recommendations and priority activities, derived from the SoW-1

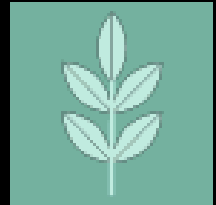
The Global Plan of Action

The GPA is a framework, guide and catalyst for action at national, regional and international level to create an efficient system for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources through better management, cooperation and coordination.



The Global Plan of Action

The Global Plan of Action is a supporting component of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources and an essential contribution to the Convention on Biological Diversity.



Objectives of the Global Plan of Action



ensure the conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture as the basis of food security



promote sustainable use of plant genetic resources to foster development and reduce hunger and poverty



promote the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of plant genetic resources



assist countries and institutions to identify priorities for action



strengthen existing programs and enhance institutional capacity.

Priority activities of the Global Plan of Action

20 related Priority Activity Areas are identified in the Global Plan of Action. These are grouped into four sections:

 ***In situ*** conservation and development

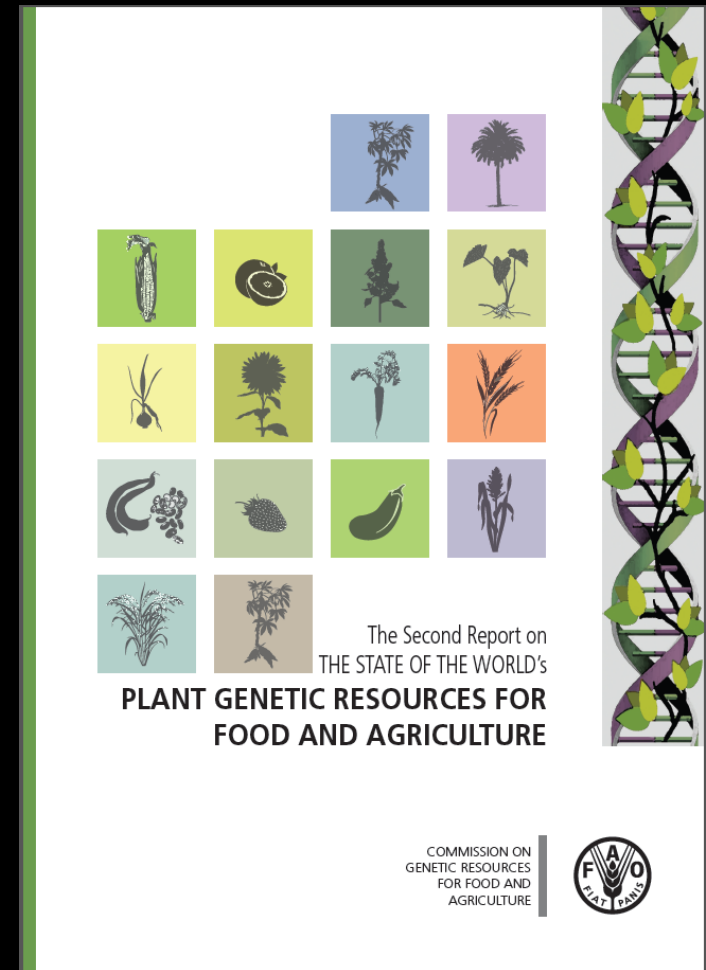
 ***Ex situ*** conservation

 **Use** of plant genetic resources

 **Institutions** and capacity building

The Second Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

The SoW-2, published in 2010, highlights the most significant changes that have occurred since 1996, as well as the gaps and needs that remain for setting future priorities.



Content of the SoW-2

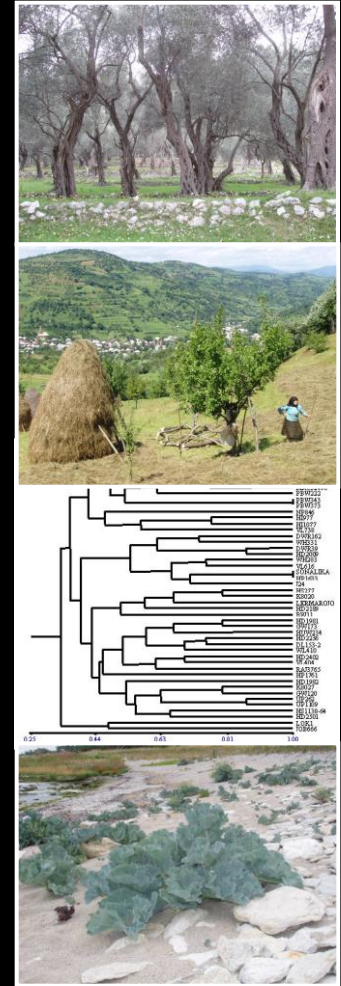
-  Diversity
-  *In situ* management
-  *Ex situ* conservation
-  Use
-  National programmes
-  Regional - International collaboration
-  ABS and farmer's rights

-  Contribution of PGRFA to Food Security and Sustainable Agricultural Development

The state of diversity

Changes

- Increased awareness and interest of the importance of both *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation
- Increased interest and awareness of the importance of conserving CWR
- Growing interest in neglected and underutilized species
- New tool for measure genetic erosion and vulnerability but no tools to predict and understand the magnitude and extent of the effects



The state of diversity

Gaps and needs

- Better understanding and support for farmer's management of diversity
- Greater attention for conservation and use of neglected and underutilized crops
- The draft global strategy on the conservation of CWR to be finalized and adopted
- Effective policies and legislative frameworks and closer collaboration between agriculture and environment sectors



The state of *in situ* management

Changes

- Large number of surveys and inventories conducted
- Increase in protected areas
- More attention to CWR
- More attention to increase diversity within production systems



The state of *in situ* management

Gaps and needs

- Strengthen farmers ability to sustainably manage agricultural biodiversity
- Effective policies, legislation and regulations governing *in situ* and on farm management
- Strategies for *in situ* and on farm management
- Early warning systems for genetic erosion
- Inventories and characterisation data on landraces and CWR



The state of *ex situ* conservation

Changes

- 1.4 million new and a total of 7.4 million accessions
- Increase in collection missions and growing interest to collect CWR
- Advances in regeneration
- Foundation of the GCDT in 2004
- Establishment of the SGSV



The state of *ex situ* conservation

Gaps and needs

- Many collections in danger
- Rational global systems for *ex situ* conservation
- Inadequate safety duplication especially for vegetatively propagated crops
- Regeneration capacities
- Strengthened documentation, characterisation and evaluation
- Linkage between *in situ* and *ex situ* strategies
- Promote use and stronger links between gene banks and plant breeding



The state of use

Changes

- Global plant breeding not changed
- Crop focus the same
- Increased use of molecular markers in characterisation
- Increased awareness of threats posed by climate change
- Increase in international seed trade
- Investment in public sector in seed production decreased
- A trend to harmonize seed regulations at the regional level
- A growing market for “niche” seeds and “heritage” varieties



The state of use

Needs and gaps

- Increase plant breeding capacity
- Stronger links between plant breeders, seed systems, public, private sectors
- Mainstream new technologies within plant breeding
- Improvement of underutilised crops
- Core collections, pre-breeding, base-broadening



The state of national programmes, training needs and legislation

Changes

- Progress in establishment of national PGR programs
- Participation of private companies, NGOs, farmers organisations has increased
- Universities increasingly involved in PGRFA research
- Regional harmonized seed laws
- PVP systems and bio-safety regulations



The state of national programmes, training needs and legislation

Gaps and needs

- Better coordination of PGRFA programmes
- Plans and strategies for conservation and use
- Training and education
- Development of appropriate, non-conflicting and complementary policies and legislation



The state of regional and international collaboration

Changes

- Entry into force of the ITPGRFA
- Establishment of new regional and sub regional networks
- Establishment of new crop-specific and thematic networks
- ECPGR strengthened through EURISCO and AEGIS
- Establishment of GCDDT



The state of regional and international collaboration

Gaps and needs

- Funding strategies for networks
- Collaboration between policy and funding bodies
- Implementation of the ITPGRFA and in particular the MLS and ABS and arrangements for crops outside Annex 1



Access to Plant Genetic Resources, the sharing of benefits arising out of their utilisation and the realization of farmer's rights

Changes

- MLS of ABS under the ITPGRFA (International regime on ABS – Nagoya declaration 2010)
- CBD Database on ABS measures
- Policy and legislations on farmer's rights



Access to Plant Genetic Resources, the sharing of benefits arising out of their utilisation and the realization of farmer's rights

Gaps and needs

- Awareness raising among governments
- Assistance in implementing ITPGRFA and ensuring a proper interface between the ITPGRFA and the CBD
- Assistance for implementing farmer's rights



The contribution of PGRFA to food security and sustainable agricultural development

Changes

- Growing efforts to strengthen the relationship between agriculture and the provision of ecosystem services
- Impact of climate change and importance of PGRFA as a response to its consequences
- Niche and high-value markets are expanding rapidly



The contribution of PGRFA to food security and sustainable agricultural development

Gaps and needs

- Indicators to monitor the specific role of PGRFA
- Better integration among conservation, utilization and delivery systems at national level



Updating of the Global Plan of Action

The GPA is currently being updated based on the gaps and needs identified in the SoW-2, and on inputs from regional consultations accomplished during 2010.




Updating of the Global Plan of Action

A first draft of the updated GPA was presented to the Treaty's Governing Body at the meeting in March 2011 and will be revised by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on PGRFA in April 2011.

CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/2 **E**

February 2011

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国粮食及农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
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Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda

COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Fifth Session

Rome, 27-29 April 2011

DRAFT UPDATED GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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GPA portal



http://www.globalplanofaction.org/index_en.jsp