DAY ONE  Session 1: The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Instructions to Trainers

In this session, we examine a regulatory regime that emphasizes the importance of sharing and using plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), i.e., the multilateral system of access and benefit sharing of the FAO International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (hereinafter ‘the Treaty’). While fully consistent with the principles underlined in the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)—national sovereignty, mutually agreed terms and prior informed consent—the Treaty creates a system that minimizes the transaction costs and administrative difficulties of exchanging PGRFA, while simultaneously creating a mechanism for benefit sharing. PGRFA are different from other genetic resources and call for a different system of access and benefit sharing for the crops and forages that are most important to food security and on which countries are most interdependent. The Treaty is a dynamic instrument and many important decisions regarding its implementation need to be taken by the governing body. This session attempts to explain the rationale for the Treaty and its relationship with the CBD and illustrates this relationship with practical examples.

‘Instructions to Trainers’

Provides the trainers with specific information on the flow of the sessions and instructions on how to facilitate activities. Handouts and overheads are also referenced here.

PRE-SESSION

08:30 – 09:00 Opening of the Day’s Activities

• Overview of the day’s activities

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the pre-session, the participants will be able to do the following:

• List the objectives and describe the agenda for the day’s activities

OPENING

Distribute the overview and the schedule for Day One (Handouts 1 and 2).
Review the objectives and schedule using overheads (slides 1 to 3).
Ask if clarification is needed.
(10 minutes)

Make sure that all materials for Day One activities labelled ‘Handouts’ have been photocopied.
SESSION 1  The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

09:00 – 09:30  Rationale for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Presentation 1 – Part 1)

09:30 – 10:30  Introduction to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Presentation 1 – Part 2)

10:30 – 10:45  Tea/Coffee Break

10:45 – 12:30  Making Decisions about Access to Genetic Resources (Exercise 1)

12:30 – 13:00  More detailed consideration of some elements of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Presentation 2)

13:00 – 14:00  Lunch

14:00 – 15:45  Interpreting the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Exercise 2)

15:45 – 16:00  Tea/Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:30  Implementing the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Presentation 3)

16:30 – 17:00  Feedback on the Day’s Activities

OBJECTIVES  By the end of Session 1, participants will be able to do the following:

• Discuss the significance of the Treaty and its main elements.
• Identify which regime of access and benefit sharing will apply to individual cases of germplasm accession.
• Explain the relationship of the Treaty to the CBD.
• Understand what may be required to implement the Treaty

Use overhead 3 to present the session’s objectives. (5 minutes)
PROCEDURE

Learning Strategies: presentation, group work exercise and role-playing

Make sure that
- Handouts 5-9 and 24 are sent to the participants prior to the workshop. Prepare extra copies for distribution at the workshop.
- Copies of the CBD and the Treaty (found in the ‘Reference Materials’) are available for participants to consult during the exercises.

PRESENTATION

(experience) Give a presentation on the Rationale for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and an Introduction to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and facilitate interaction with the participants. Before you begin your presentation, distribute the Summary of Overheads for Session 1 (Handout 4). Background papers (Handouts 5 and 6) support this presentation. Overheads (slides 4-19 and 20-48) support Presentation 1, Parts 1 and 2. At the end of the presentation, be sure to ask the participants if they have any comments or questions, or if they need any clarification.

(1 hour, 30 minutes)

EXERCISE 1

Making Decisions about Access to Genetic Resources

(1 hour, 45 minutes)

Handout 14 provides ‘Practical Considerations’ regarding exercise 1. Please be sure to read these considerations before the session. Distribute the handout only after the participants have completed exercise 1.

Phase 1. Group work (60 minutes)

1. Distribute handouts 10-13b. Handout 10 gives clear instructions for the exercise and Handout 11 can be used as a worksheet. Ask a participant to read the instructions aloud. Go over the instructions with the participants step by step.

(5 minutes)

2. Form three groups of participants. Have each group elect a rapporteur.

(5 minutes)

3. (experience) Each group works on the case study assigned to it, as follows:
   - Group A: Hypothetical Case 1 (Handout 12)
   - Group B: Hypothetical Case 1 (Handout 13a)
   - Group C: Hypothetical Case 2 (Handout 13b)

(50 minutes)
Phase 2. Reporting and discussion (40 minutes)

4. (process, generalization) The rapporteurs present the results to the audience. Six minutes are available for each presentation, followed by another 7 minutes for discussion.

(25 minutes)

5. Distribute Handout 14 (‘Practical Considerations’) to the participants. The trainer analyses the responses, provides feedback on the context of the presentations and closes the session.

(15 minutes)

CLOSURE

Closure (5 minutes)

(application) Ask the participants ‘What might you do differently in your job as a result of what you have learned?’

Make a transition to the next session.

PRESENTATION

(experience) Give a presentation on the More Detailed Consideration of Some Elements of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and facilitate interaction with the participants. Before you begin your presentation, refer to the Summary of Overheads (Handout 4). Background papers (handouts 7 and 8) and overheads (slides 49 to 56) support the presentation. At the end of the presentation, be sure to ask the participants if they have any comments of questions, or if they need any clarification. (30 minutes)

EXERCISE 2

Interpreting the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

(1 hour, 45 minutes)

Handout 17 provides ‘Practical Considerations’ regarding exercise 2. Please be sure to read these considerations before the session. Distribute the handout only after the participants have completed exercise 2.

1. Distribute Handouts 15 and 16. Handout 15 gives clear instructions for the exercise. Ask a participant to read the instructions aloud. Go over the instructions with the participants step by step.

(5 minutes)

Phase 1. Group work (40 minutes)

2. Divide the participants into four groups and ask each group to elect a rapporteur.

3. (experience) Each group discusses the questions/concerns/problems related to the Treaty and provided in exercise 2 (Handout 15). Invite the participants to use the worksheet (Handout 16) to record their ideas. As they work, circulate from group to group to check progress. Clarify any concerns the groups may have while they are working. Be sure to remind them of the remaining time. The rapporteurs summarize the results of their groups’ discussions on a flipchart to present to the audience during Phase 2.
Phase 2. Presentation and discussion (55 minutes)

4. (experience, process) Each group has ten minutes to present their results. Stay on schedule.
   (40 minutes)

(process, generalization) After all presentations have been made, distribute Handout 17 (Practical Considerations) and stimulate a brief discussion. Finally, discuss the groups’ responses and provide feedback on the content of the presentations. Ask the participants questions such as, ‘How did you feel doing this exercise?’ and ‘What did you learn?’ to generate discussion of the process.
   (15 minutes)

CLOSURE

Closure (5 minutes)

(application) Ask the participants, ‘What might you do differently in your job as a result of what you have learned?’
Make a transition to the next session.

PRESENTATION

(experience) Give a presentation on Implementing the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and facilitate interaction with the participants. The background paper (Handout 9) and overheads (slides 57 to 65) support the presentation. At the end of the presentation, be sure to ask the participants if they have any comments or questions, or if they need any clarification.
(15 minutes)

NOTE: Session 1 continues to Day 2, beginning with Exercise 3 (‘Implementing the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture’).

FEEDBACK

Highlight positive and negative points of the day. Note areas that might need additional attention in the workshop. Participants can describe some strengths and weaknesses of this day on Handout 22.
(5 minutes)

Remember to invite a volunteer to prepare a brief report of this day, summarizing major lessons learned, for presentation during the next day’s pre-session.

Prepare a summary of the day’s evaluation for the next morning

REMINDER: Make sure that all materials for Day 2 labelled ‘Handouts’ have been photocopied.