



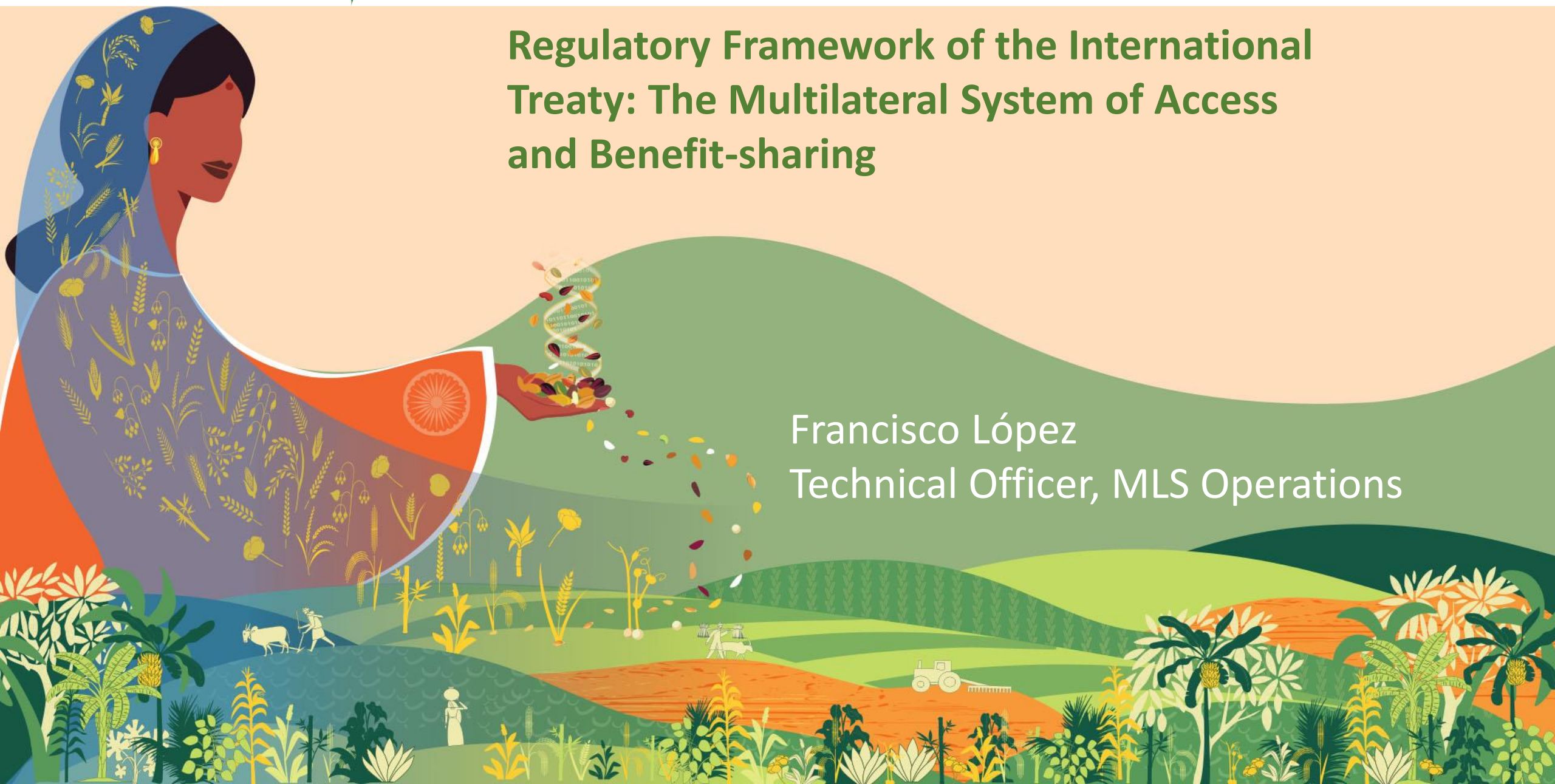
Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations




International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture

Regulatory Framework of the International Treaty: The Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing

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- 1) **Brief Introduction**
 - 2) **Scope, Coverage and Purpose of the MLS**
 - 3) **Access, IPRs Claims and Related Practical Questions**

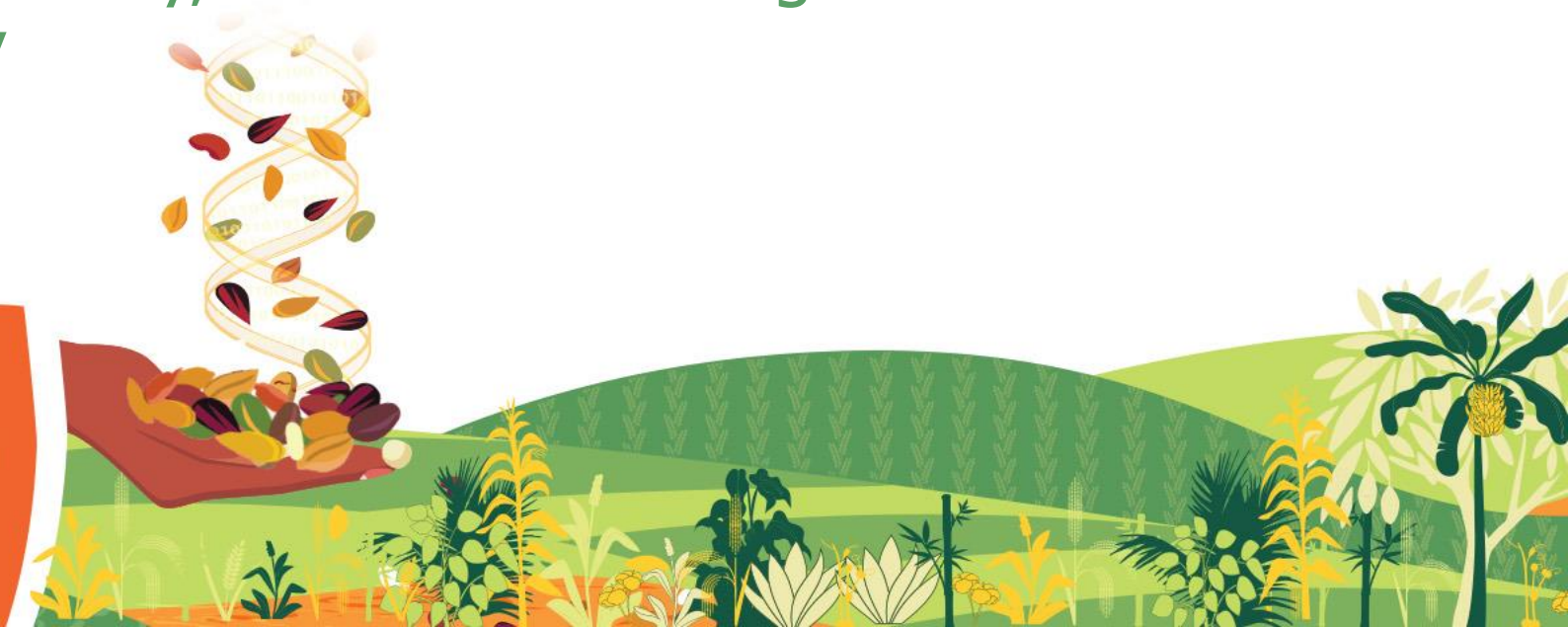
- ITPGRFA adopted in 2001
- In force since 2004
- Treaty Systems made operational since 2007
- Membership: 150 Contracting Parties so far





Objectives:

- 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**





Article 3: the **scope of the Treaty** is all plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

The Treaty establishes a ABS **Multilateral System**, both to facilitate access to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and to share, in a fair and equitable way, the benefits arising from their use.

Scope of the Multilateral System:

List of Annex I - 64 crops and forages

That are in the public domain and under the direct control of the Contracting Parties

The key **purposes** are therefore conservation and use within the food and agriculture sector, for:

- research
- breeding
- training

Coverage of the Multilateral System: the material that is included by Contracting Parties and other holders of material: around **2.3 million materials**



1-Are there any **costs** associated with implementing the MLS?
Free, **only minimum transaction costs**

2-How **quickly** is access provided?
Swiftly or **“expeditiously”**

3- What is the **Material under development?**
Plant breeders can decide whether or not to facilitate access, if they do, the SMTA has to be used

4- Do **IPRs** limit facilitated access under the MLS?
No IPRs claims by the recipient over the PGRFA, **not in the form received**



5-Is facilitated access also provided to crops found in **in situ conditions**? Access to crops found in in situ conditions will be provided according to **national legislation**

6-What **agreement** needs to be signed to obtain access?
Standard Material Transfer agreement or **SMTA – Contract**

7-There are provisions for **information exchange** in the SMTA
Non-confidential information like Multi-crop passport information
Global Information System on PGRFA – GLIS



8- Two payment options:

Standard rate: Article 6.7 – Annex 2 – 0.77 %

Crop-based option. Article 6.11: 0.5 % of the Sales of any Products belonging to the same crop

9- Payments- Annual reports – Amount to be paid per product and material that triggered the payment





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The Multilateral System

The Multilateral System of the International Treaty offers the largest global exchange mechanism for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Sharing crops sustainably, fairly and equitably through the Multilateral System means conserving crop diversity for all of us, now and in the future.

OVERVIEW

- » What is the Multilateral System?
- » Benefits of the Multilateral System
- » Annex I: List of crops covered under the Multilateral System
- » Basic Features of the SMTA
- » The Third-Party Beneficiary
- » Reviews of the MLS
- » The Enhancement Process

KEY DATA, FIGURES AND REPORTS

- » Report on the implementation of the MLS and on the Availability of Material in the Multilateral System
- » SDG Indicator 15.6
- » Data Store statistics

SUBSIDIARY BODIES

- » Working Group on MLS Enhancement
- » Advisory Committee on the SMTA and the MLS
- » Third Party Beneficiary Committee

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

- » Article 15 Agreements – CGIAR and others
- » The CGRFA
- » The Svalbard Global Seed Vault

HELP-DESK FOR USERS

- » The Standard Material Transfer Agreement
- » Compile your SMTA and Report
- » Notifying material available in the MLS
- » Search Material in the MLS
- » FAQs
- » Educational Module on the MLS
- » Ask for support

Thank you for your attention