

**Technical Working Party for Vegetables****TWV/53/2****Fifty-Third Session  
Seoul, Republic of Korea, May 20 to 24, 2019****Original:** English  
**Date:** May 13, 2019

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**REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN UPOV***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

The annex to this document contains a copy of a presentation on “Reports on Developments within UPOV” to be made by the Office of the Union at the fifty-third session of the Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV).

[Annex follows]

Technical Working Party for Vegetables  
Fifty-Third Session

**REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN UPOV**

Office of the Union

*Seoul, Republic of Korea, May 20 to 24, 2019*

**UPOV**

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

**Preview**

- Membership & statistics
- Report on regular activities of UPOV
- Calendar UPOV meetings 2019
- Communicating the benefits of UPOV
- UPOV PRISMA

**UPOV**

### UPOV Membership

The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory

**1991 Act: 58 members [77 States]**  
**Other Acts: 17 members**  
**[94 States covered by UPOV Convention]**

**UPOV**

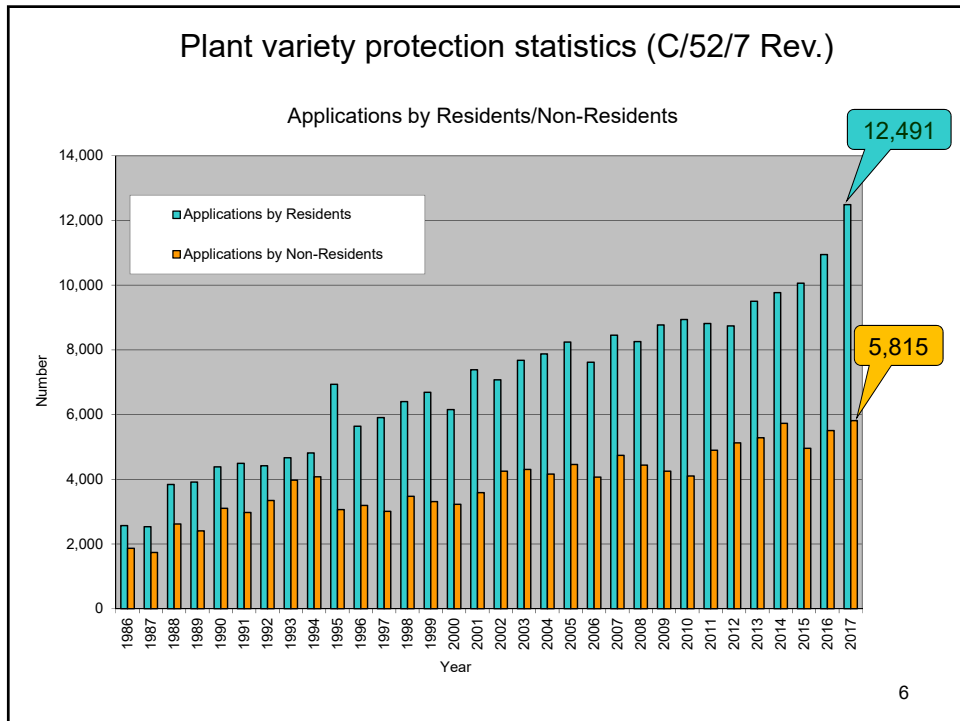
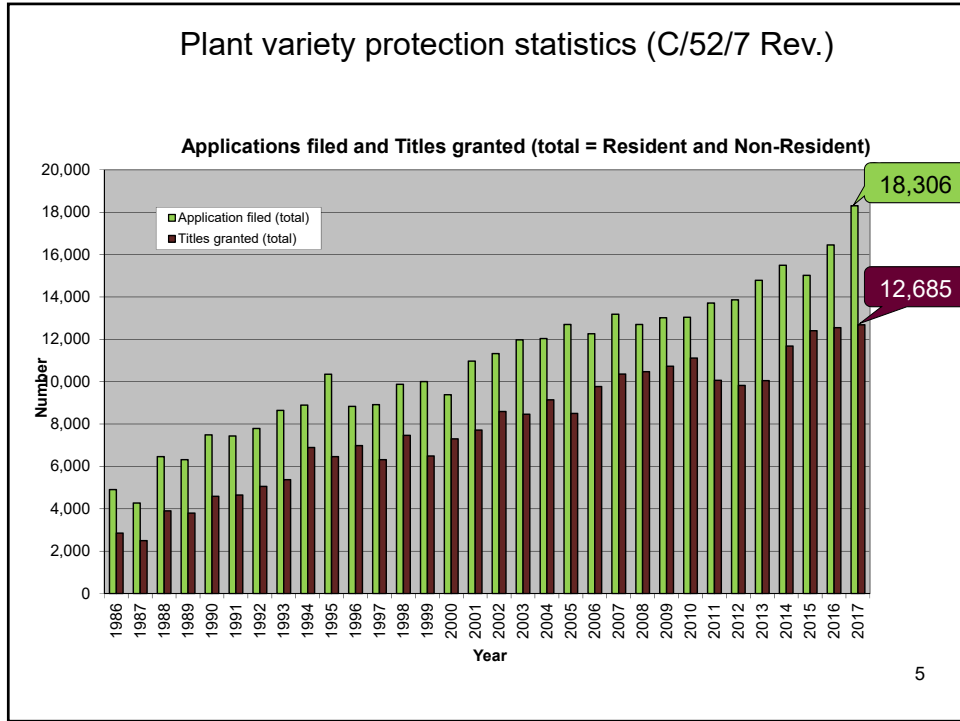
### UPOV STATUS

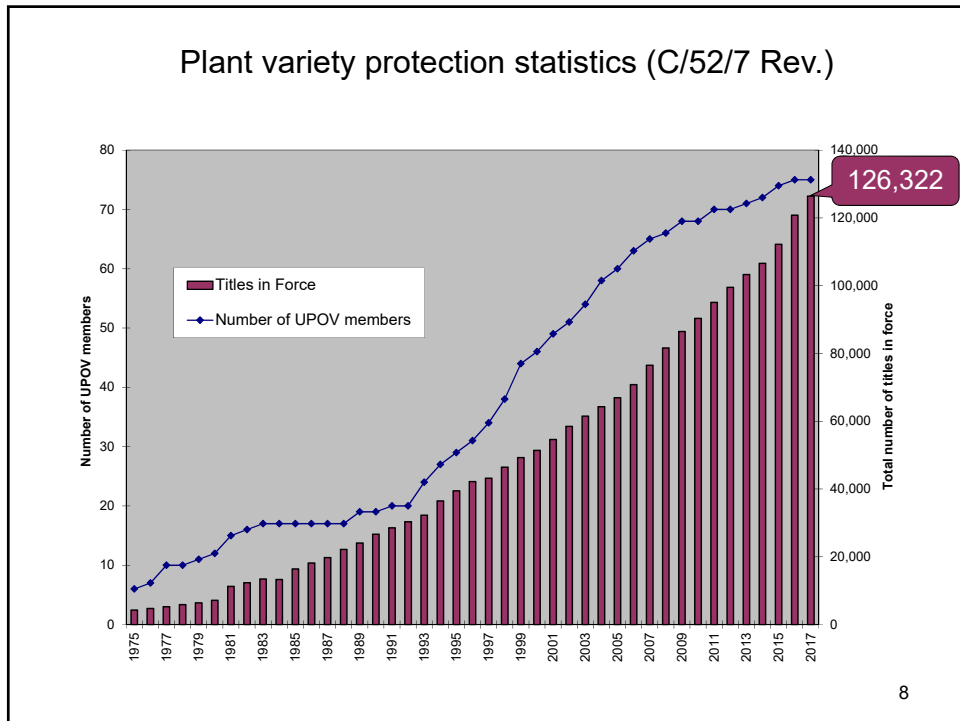
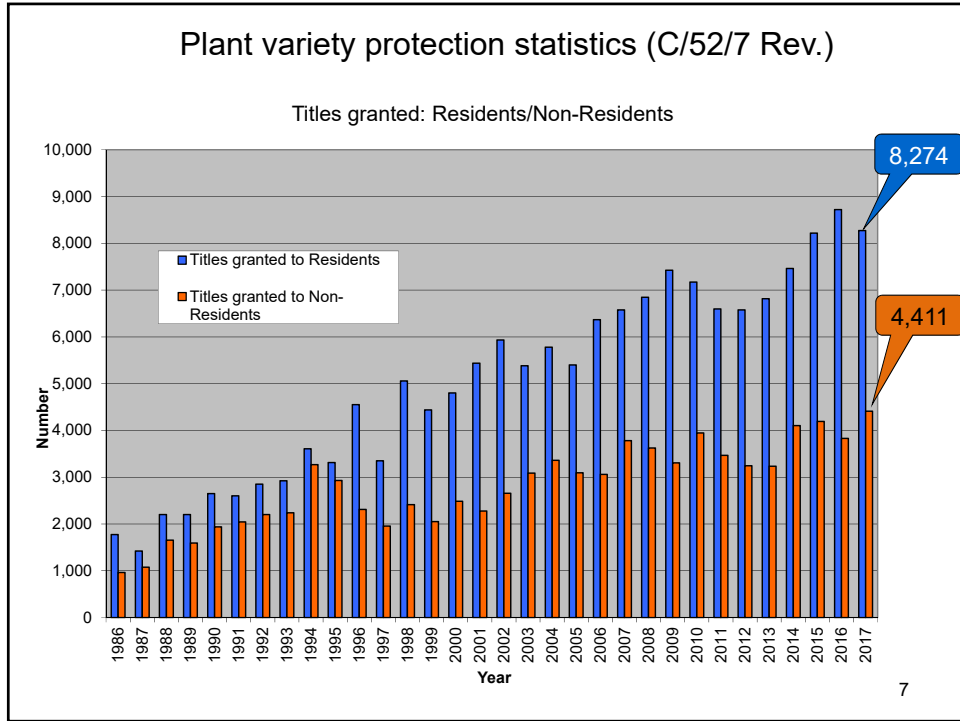
on April 30, 2019

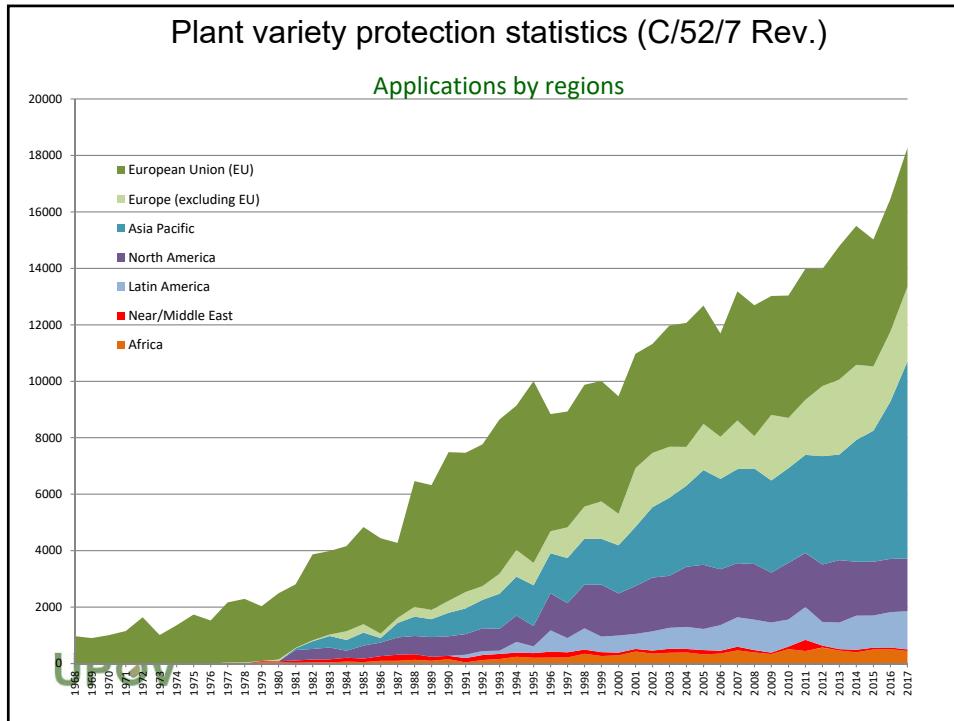
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- Members of UPOV (75) (covering 94 States)
- Initiating States (19) and Organization (1)
- States (24) and Organization (1) in contact with the UPOV Office

**UPOV**  
International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants







## Preview

- Membership & statistics
- Report on regular activities of UPOV
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UPOV SYSTEM | PVP DATA & STATISTICS | MEETINGS | NEWS

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Stakeholder features

- Breeders
- Farmers and Growers
- Policy makers
- General Public

UPOV PRISMA  
PBR Application Tool

GENIE Database

UPOV Lex

Plant Variety Database (PLUTO)

**Welcome**

The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

UPOV was established by the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants. The Convention was adopted in Paris in 1961 and it was revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991.

UPOV's mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society.

▲ Top of page

**Quick Links**

- Introduction to UPOV
- Benefits of UPOV
- UPOV Collection
- UPOV PRISMA (Information)
- Distance Learning Courses**
- FAQs

UPOV

11

## UPOV Training

### UPOV Distance Learning Courses

Code	Course	Session	Study period	Registration period
<a href="#">DL-205</a>	Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019
<a href="#">DL-305A</a>	Administration of Plant Breeders' Rights (Part A of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019
<a href="#">DL-305B</a>	DUS Examination (Part B of DL-305 course: Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights)	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019
<a href="#">DL-305</a>	Examination of applications for plant breeders' rights	Session 1	04-Mar to 07-Apr 2019	14-Jan to 15-Feb 2019
		Session 2	14-Oct to 17-Nov 2019	05-Aug to 13-Sep 2019

The UPOV Courses are hosted on the WIPO eLearning Center.

UPOV

## **DL-205**

**Introduction to the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection under the UPOV Convention**

## **DL-305**

### **Advanced Distance Learning Courses**

**Registrations can be made in three different categories:**

Category 1:

Government officials of members of the Union nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council  
No fee

Category 2:

Officials of observer States / intergovernmental organizations nominated by the relevant representative to the UPOV Council  
(One non-fee paying student per State / intergovernmental organization;  
Additional students: CHF 1,000 per student)

Category 3:

Others  
Fee: CHF 1,000

**UPOV**

13

## **Laws workshop**

### **Workshop on drafting legislation in accordance with the UPOV Convention**

**Purpose** To provide **guidance on drafting legislation** in accordance with the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention and

To provide an opportunity for **individual meetings** with the UPOV Office to address matters concerning the legislative process in the country of the selected participants

14



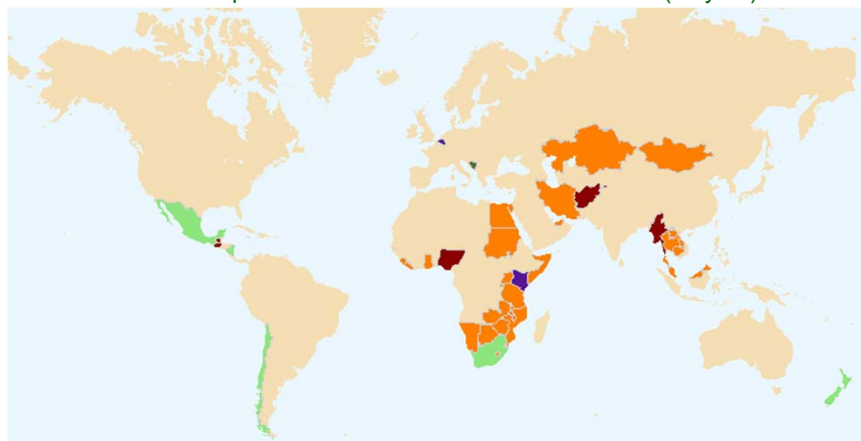
## Workshop on drafting legislation in accordance with the UPOV Convention



- Held in Geneva, from January 28 to 30, 2019
- 26 participants from 14 states

15

### Developments in relation to UPOV: 2016-2019 (May 15)




The boundaries shown on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UPOV concerning the legal status of any country or territory.

- States and organizations that became members of the Union during 2016-2019 (1)
- Members that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention during 2016-2019 (6)
- States and organizations that acceded or ratified the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention during 2016-2019 (3)
- States and organizations that initiated with the Council of UPOV the procedure for becoming members of the Union during 2016-2019 (6)
- States and organizations that contacted the Office of the Union for assistance in the development of legislation according to the 1991 Act of the UPOV Convention during 2016-2019 (20)

## Academic/regular training programs promoted by UPOV

### Current information on UPOV website

#### Other Training

 **Naktuinbouw - Plant breeders'rights for food security and economic development training course**  
**Wageningen, Netherlands**

from June 17 to 28, 2019



Deadline for application: May 6, 2019

Deadline for application for a NFP (KOP), MENA or StuNed scholarships is 16 October 2018

For more information please [click here](#) and visit [https://www.wur.nl/en/show/CDIcourse\\_PBR\\_2019.htm](https://www.wur.nl/en/show/CDIcourse_PBR_2019.htm)  
or contact Naktuinbouw: [I.pinan.gonzalez@naktuinbouw.nl](mailto:I.pinan.gonzalez@naktuinbouw.nl) or tel. +31 (0)71 332 61 34

#### Assistance offered by Naktuinbouw

 Helpdesk on practical technical questions

 Information on internship at Naktuinbouw  Internship application form

**UPOV**

### Criteria for UPOV promotion of selected regular academic/training programs

- ✓ Implemented in accordance with the principles in the UPOV training and assistance strategy
- ✓ Clear commitment to PVP in accordance with UPOV Convention
- ✓ Impact of the training or program for targeted countries and participants in relation to UPOV matters and the prioritization of the UPOV Council

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UPOV

19

## Calendar UPOV meetings 2019

JUNE	Monday, 24 to Friday, 28	<a href="#">Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)</a>	Budapest, Hungary
SEPTEMBER	Monday, 16 to Friday, 20	<a href="#">Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)</a>	Montevideo, Uruguay
OCTOBER	Monday, 14 to Wednesday, 16 (morning)	<a href="#">Technical Working Party on Automation and Computer Programs (TWC)</a>	Hangzhou, China
	Wednesday, 16 (afternoon) to Friday 18	<a href="#">Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)</a>	Hangzhou, China
	Sunday, 27 and Monday, 28 (evening)	<a href="#">Enlarged Editorial Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Monday, 28 and Tuesday, 29	<a href="#">Technical Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Monday, 28 (evening)	<a href="#">Meeting on the Development of an Electronic Application Form</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Tuesday, 29 (evening)	<a href="#">Working Group on Variety Denominations</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 30 (morning)	<a href="#">Seminar on the impact of policy on essentially derived varieties (EDVs) on breeding strategy</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 30 (afternoon)	<a href="#">Administrative and Legal Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Wednesday, 30 (evening)	<a href="#">Working Group on a Possible International System of Cooperation</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
	Thursday, 31	<a href="#">Consultative Committee</a>	Geneva, Switzerland
NOVEMBER	Friday, 1	<a href="#">Council</a>	Geneva, Switzerland

UPOV

## Technical Committee Fifty-fourth session - October 29 and 30, 2018

### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Program for the fifty-fifth session

1. Opening of the session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report on developments in UPOV including relevant matters discussed in the last sessions of the Administrative and Legal Committee, the Consultative Committee and the Council
4. Progress reports on the work of the Technical Working Parties, including the Working Group on Biochemical and Molecular Techniques, and DNA-Profiling in Particular (BMT)
5. Matters arising from the Technical Working Parties
6. **TGP documents**
7. Information and databases
  - (a) UPOV information databases
  - (b) UPOV PRISMA
  - (c) Exchange and use of software and equipment
  - (d) Variety description databases
8. Molecular techniques
9. Variety denominations
10. Preparatory workshops
11. **International cooperation in examination**
12. **Matters concerning variety descriptions**
13. Differences in notes for the assessment of distinctness
14. **Discussion on: Minimum distances between varieties** (presentations invited)
15. List of genera and species for which authorities have practical experience in the examination of distinctness, uniformity and stability
16. Test Guidelines
17. Program for the fifty-sixth session
18. Adoption of the report (if time permits)
19. Closing of the session

UPOV

21

## Technical Committee Fifty-fourth session - October 29 and 30, 2018

### Document TC/54/31 "Report"

#### Minimum distance between varieties

200. The TC considered discussions on minimum distances between varieties at the TWP's, at their sessions in 2017 and 2018, as set out in paragraphs 26 to 41 of document TC/54/3.

201. The TC noted that a follow-up project based on field trials was being considered with the participation of breeders of protected varieties and **agreed to include an agenda item for its fifty-fifth session for a report on developments.**

#### Technical Working Party for Agricultural Crops (TWA)

May 21 to 25, 2018, Naivasha, Kenya

#### Minimum distance between varieties

(document by the European Union)

#### Technical Working Party for Vegetables (TWV)

September 17 to 21, 2018, Beijing, China

No discussion on minimum distance

#### Technical Working Party for Fruit Crops (TWF)

November 19 to 23, 2018, Santiago de Chile, Chile

No discussion on minimum distance

#### Technical Working Party for Ornamental Plants and Forest Trees (TWO)

February 18 to 22, 2019, Christchurch, New Zealand

#### Minimum distances between vegetatively reproduced ornamental

No presentation received in 2019 but agenda item kept for 2020 session

UPOV

22

## Technical Committee

### Fifty-fourth session - October 29 and 30, 2018

**Document TC/54/31 "Report"**  
Cooperation in examination

252. The TC considered document TC/54/25.

253. The TC considered the results of the survey of the current situation of members of the Union with regard to cooperation in examination, as set out in document TC/54/25, Annex.

254. The TC agreed that it would be useful for UPOV members to identify contact persons for international cooperation in DUS examination and make this information available via the UPOV website.

255. The TC agreed to invite the **TWPs to explore the technical concerns that prevented cooperation and to propose how to overcome the technical concerns raised.**

256. The TC agreed that the topic of international cooperation should be included in the preparatory workshops for the TWPs to explain the existing possibilities for cooperation between UPOV members.

Session to facilitate cooperation

278. The TC noted that discussion groups had been formed at the sixteenth session of the BMT for: agricultural crops; fruit crops; ornamental plants and forest trees; and vegetables, for BMT participants to exchange information on their work and explore areas for cooperation.

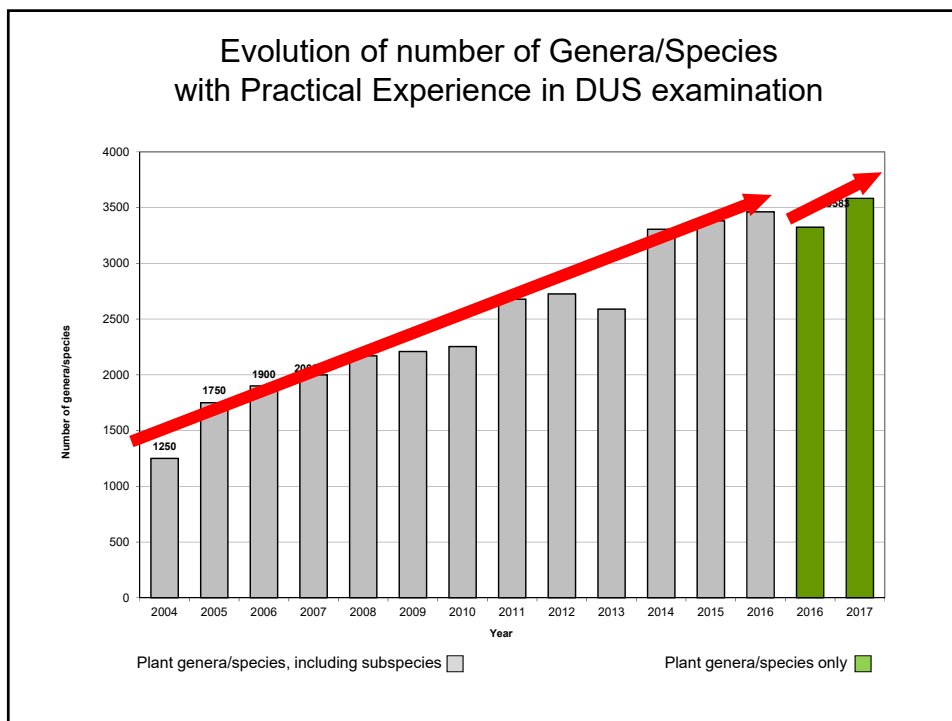
279. The TC noted that, at the seventeenth session of the BMT, discussion groups had been formed for: maize and soybeans; other agricultural crops; fruit crops and forest trees; ornamental plants; and vegetables, for BMT participants to exchange information on their work and explore areas for cooperation.

280. The TC noted that the BMT had plans to discuss, at its eighteenth session, issues concerning cooperation between partners and service providers, including confidentiality, access to data and material, authorization for work to be performed and availability of results and information to partners.

281. The TC agreed that the results of the coordination session in the BMT be reported to the other Technical Working Parties (TWPs). The TC agreed to invite the TWPs to undertake a similar session to build on the BMT outcomes and feed into the future work of the BMT. The TC agreed that discussion groups should be formed for the main crops at each TWP to allow participants to exchange information on their work and explore areas for cooperation.

282. The TC further agreed that the discussion groups could also consider issues concerning cooperation in DUS examination, to explore technical concerns that prevented cooperation and to consider how to overcome the technical concerns raised, as discussed under agenda item 7 "Cooperation in Examination".

23



## COOPERATION

**Cooperation between UPOV members is a key benefit of UPOV membership**



*Number of  
genera/species for  
which varieties  
protected by members  
of the Union: > 3,500*

*Practical DUS  
experience  
offered for >3,320  
genera and  
species*

*Agreements for  
cooperation between  
members of the  
Union: > 1,970*

**UPOV**

11

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- Communicating the benefits of UPOV
- UPOV PRISMA

**UPOV**

26

UPOV Distance Learning Courses:  
Registration open

Stakeholder features

- Breeders
- Farmers and Growers
- Policy makers
- General Public

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▲ Top of page

Quick Links

- Introduction to UPOV
- Benefits of UPOV
- UPOV Collection
- UPOV PRISMA (Information)
- Test Guidelines
- Distance Learning Courses
- Seminars & Symposia
- FAQs

UPOV [www.upov.int](http://www.upov.int)

HOME ► ABOUT UPOV ►

## Benefits of the UPOV System

VIDEOS

UPOV (Japan) Tsuyahime Rice

### UPOV

TSUYAHIME RICE  
THE SECRET OF ITS SUCCESS

Tsuyahime

A new rice variety bringing increased income for farmers in Japan

Alternative link [EU](#)

UPOV (Kenya) Rose Industry Blooming Ke...

### ROSE INDUSTRY BLOOMING IN KENYA

Rose industry blooming in Kenya

Discover how the UPOV system enabled Kenya to develop a \$500 million cut-flower industry that employs 500,000 Kenyans

Alternative link [EU](#)

UPOV (Canada) Can...

### UF

Canadian cherry grow...

See how the Government of Can...

UPOV (Colombia) UPOV system bringing b...

### DERECHO DE OBTENTOR DE PLANTAS EN COLOMBIA

Colombia's economy is based on agriculture...

UPOV (Argentina) Using the UPOV system...

UPOV (Ecuador) PVP...

## Videos in the pipeline



WHEAT – Agroscope, Changins, Switzerland



TOMATO – based on the presentation made at the TC meeting in April 2017 on the increased diversity of cultivated tomatos

UPOV



A new rice variety bringing increased income for farmers in Japan

Alternative link [EN](#)

Languages available:  
EN audio  
Subtitles: FR, ES (ZH, TH)

This new rice variety is enjoying a **30% premium**

Tsuyahime was developed by Yamagata prefecture, which has created a breeding station because they consider new rice varieties to be one of the most **effective means of providing benefits to farmers**.

They are willing to **invest time and resources** into the breeding process because they are able to **develop and protect varieties** that benefit their farmers.

**Atsushi Suginaka, Director, Intellectual Property Division, MAFF, Japan.**

For Japanese rice variety Tsuyahime, the breeder's right holder utilizes the **breeder's right to allow Tsuyahime production only to the farmers who can make environmentally friendly and high quality rice production**.

This is a good example that internationally harmonized PVP system can **contribute to the development of local agriculture**.

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The screenshot shows a webpage layout. At the top, there are three video thumbnails: Peter Button (UPOV) UPOV Worldw..., Anthony Parker (UPOV) Impact of U..., and Director Nguyen Thanh MINH of the... The central article is titled "The socio-economic benefits of UPOV membership in Viet Nam:" and is by Steffen Noleppa. A red diagonal banner across the article reads "Available in English and Vietnamese Thai translation available shortly!". The HFFA Research logo and "HFFA Research Paper 03/2017" are visible. At the bottom left is the UPOV logo.

This screenshot shows a video player interface. The video content is an interview with Nguyen Thanh MINH, Director of the Viet Nam PVP office. A red box highlights the video thumbnail in the top right corner of the page. The video player includes a title bar with "Director Nguyen Thanh MINH of the Viet Nam PVP office explains importance of UPOV", a progress bar, and a "WATCH MORE" button. The UPOV logo is at the bottom left.

## UPOV Social Media



Follow us to find out more about how the UPOV system benefits farmers, growers and breeders worldwide and news on events, videos, reports and more.

[UPOV@UPOVint](#)

[PeterButton@vsgupov](#)



**UPOV**

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

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Farmer incomes have increased by 24% since Viet Nam became a member of UPOV in 2006, because of plant breeding.

7:13 AM - 8 Apr 2019  
International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

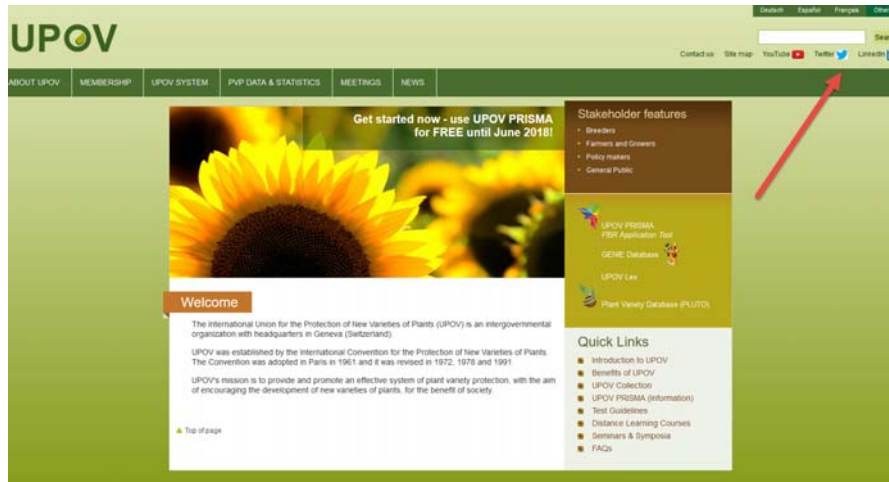
**UPOV** @UPOVint [Follow](#)

Young farmer, Yoshihiko Tsuchiya, explains that the better income from "Tsayahime" rice variety influenced his decision to continue in farming while other young farmers decide to leave farming altogether.

Yoshihiko Tsuchiya  
Director  
Shimizu Farm, Ltd.  
son of Kazuo Tsuchiya  
www.yoshimizu.com



## Accessible from UPOV Website




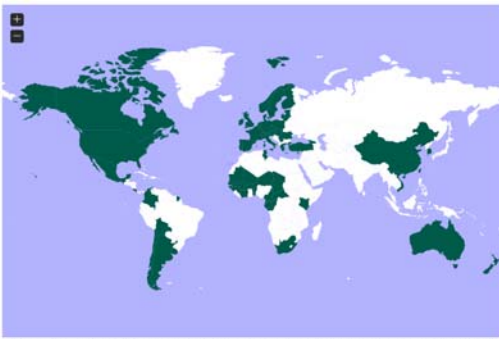

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UPOV


**UPOV PRISMA**   
*Online PBR Application Tool*



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- Online application tool to submit application data to participating PVP Offices in required format
- Easy access to PVP application forms, which can be displayed in a range of languages
- Much of the information provided in the Technical Questionnaire will be automatically translated
- Relevant data can be re-used in subsequent applications
- Different user roles can be specified (e.g. drafter, signatory, translator, agent)
- Controlled access, secure and confidential

**UPOV PRISMA**   
*Online PBR Application Tool*



- New Release planned beginning of June 2019
- With extension of coverage for authorities and crops
- With more functionalities
- To be presented on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> under TWV agenda item 7.d

**UPOV**