



# The importance of plant breeding to food security. Recent policy development in Norway

Bell Batta Torheim,  
Senior Advisor,  
Ministry of Agriculture and Food,  
Norway



# National strategy (2019): Securing the Gene Pool for Future Agriculture and Food Production

- climate-resilient crops adapted to the growing conditions in all parts of the country.
- farmers able to use farm-saved seeds
- international cooperation: access and benefit sharing and Farmers' Rights.
- Svalbard Global Seed Vault.

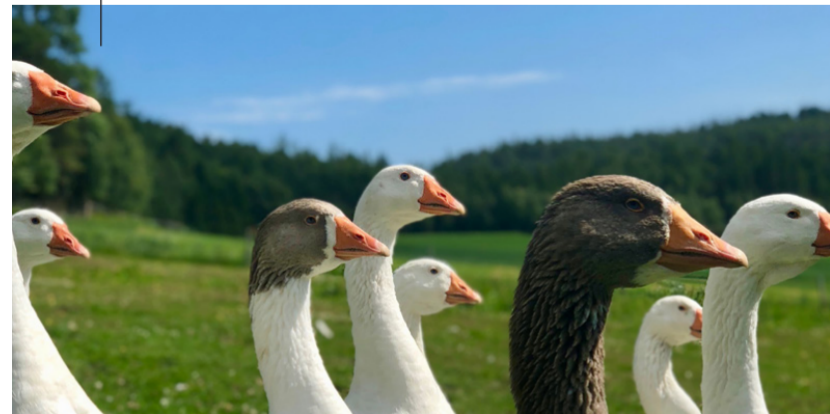


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Strategi

Forråd av gener  
– muligheter og beredskap  
for framtidens landbruk

Nasjonal strategi for bevaring og bærekraftig bruk av  
genetiske ressurser for mat og landbruk



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## Options to enhance, promote and guide the implementation of Farmers' Rights

- Expert Group on Farmers' Rights set up by the Governing Body of the International Treaty.
- Norway has shared several experiences, including balancing farmers' rights and plant breeders' rights by keeping UPOV 1978.



First meeting of the Expert Group. Co-chaired by India and Norway.

# White paper (2021): Goals with a purpose. National Action Plan to implement the SDGs

Goal 2- Zero Hunger and Goal 15 -  
Life on Land:

Strengthen climate adaptation of food  
production by conserving genetic  
diversity, promote plant and animal  
breeding and protect agricultural land.



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UN Secretary General's Advocacy Group for the Sustainable Development Goals  
Arctic Call to Action on Food Security and Climate Change (2020)





# Food, People and the Environment

The Norwegian Government's  
action plan on  
sustainable food systems  
in the context of foreign and  
development policies,  
2019–2023



# Biodiversity in food production has increased

- Strengthen the management of genetic diversity of crops, livestock and fish at local, national and global level.
- Increase small-scale producers' knowledge about plant varieties and animal breeds, and provide access to a greater variety of both.
- Strengthen plant and animal breeding at both local and national level.



#FoodSystemsNorway



# Seed security at the UN Food System Summit



## Solution Cluster 1.1.2b

### **Put farmers' and Indigenous Peoples' access to crop diversity first in seed policy and practice**

The diversity of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture is crucial for farmers' ability to adapt their food production to the effects of climate change and ensure access to safe and nutritious food. This proposal calls for a fundamental re-think of how seed system development is supported globally. Our proposal is to ensure and promote – through legislation, seed policies, and action – farmers' access to a diversity of well-adapted varieties of crops that meet agroecological and nutritional needs and preferences. Farmers' seed systems are key to providing farmers with access to both local varieties developed over millennia of farmer selection and modern varieties developed with modern plant breeding. We call for a bottom-up demand-driven approach to seed security to complement the currently dominant top-down supply-side approach, thereby supporting farmers' agency and recognising farmers' seed systems contribution to global food security.





*Thank you for your attention*  
[sto@lmd.dep.no](mailto:sto@lmd.dep.no)

