Adaptive governance for the coexistence of crop diversity management systems

Addressing the institutional misfit in crop diversity management

The overall ambition of the CoEx project is to improve our understanding on the gap between seed and genetic resources policies and laws, and crop diversity management (CDM) practices. Such gap is detrimental to the mobilization of diversity by a whole range of actors for their livelihood and/or in their innovation processes. CoEx also aims to propose innovative governance mechanisms that better account for the coexistence of diverse CDM practices and address the institutional misfit.

An interdisciplinary approach
Reconciling the various dimensions of seeds

Seed is considered in its multiple dimensions, as a political, social and biological object. Interdisciplinary collaborations are implemented to integrate these three dimensions: law, anthropology, ethnobiology, economy, sociology, geography, policy science, agronomy, genetics.

A multi-scale approach
Reconciling policy and practice

The complexity of the interactions between CDM practices at different scales will be tackled through a multi-scale approach from the international to the farmer scale by focusing in West Africa sub-region, in particular in Senegal, Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

A multi-actor approach
Opening spaces of dialogues among stakeholders

Several multi-actor fora are established for action-oriented dialogues among farmers, civil society and research organizations to develop and propose new governance mechanisms for enhanced collective and dynamic management of crop genetic diversity at the institutional level.

Funding

> CONCLUSION

CoEx lays the foundation for addressing the complex challenge of scaling up the diversity of local CDM practices at higher levels of governance. It develops conceptual, methodological and institutional approaches for increased recognition, at various scales, of the coexistence of diverse CDM practices.