Analytical framework for the comparison of use and exchange patterns regarding genetic resources for food and agriculture

General questions:

- Are there any other features you can think of that are specific to most or many GRFA?
- Do you want to modify any of the given features and if so how?

	Questions	
Features of GRFA	To which extent does this feature apply to genetic resources in the food and agriculture sector and its various sub-sectors?	Are there current or future developments that will change the degree to which this feature is true for some or all sub-sectors?
Section 1		
The majority of the GR used are not wild, but genetically improved.		
The improvement of genetic material is a process of incremental innovation, to which many people in many places have been contributing over a long period of time and continue to do so.		
It is often difficult to determine the country of origin of a specific GR or the place where it acquired its distinctive properties.		

One product is developed out of a broad range of genetic inputs.		
The use of intra-specific diversity plays an important role for research and development.		
Normal research and development practice implies a continuous need for new variation.		
The number and frequency of use and exchange of germplasm samples in normal research and development practice is high.		
The average value of an individual sample is often uncertain and rather low.		
A relatively high number of products with a relatively low profit margin per product are released.		
An important part of the benefits derived from the use of GR are of non-commercial character (environmental protection, rural development and poverty alleviation, food security, cultural diversity, etc.).		
Section 2		
Most products derived from the use of GR can themselves be used as GR. The products themselves are an input to further innovation.		

Many agricultural products reach the market place in a form in which they may be used as biological resource (i.e. for production) or as GR (i.e. for reproduction and further breeding). The ultimate purpose for which they will be used is often unclear and unpredictable at the time of accession. *(Depends on the level of specialization of a sector on breeding and production (inter alia determined by the reproduction system).* *Depends on the level of specialization on conservation (e.g. genebanks).)*		
Measures taken to protect innovation often imply the risk of restricting access to GR for further research and breeding. Establishing an adequate balance between rewarding innovation and not restricting access to GR is challenging. *(Depends on the different measures and tools used to protect innovation in the different sub-sectors.)*		
Section 3		
GR are held and used by a broad range of different stakeholders, under different types of ownership.		
An important part of GR is kept and can be accessed *ex situ*.		
An important part of GR is privately owned, i.e. an important proportion of the biological material that contains GR is under private ownership.		

Many users of GR have limited technical, legal, financial and administrative capacities to pursue ABS procedures.		
Section 4		
GR have been widely exchanged across countries and regions over long periods of time.		
A relevant part of the genetic diversity used in food and agriculture today is of exotic origin.		
Most countries need to access GR from elsewhere for their agricultural production and food security.		
The cross-boarder exchange of GR plays an important role for the normal functioning of the sector.		
Section 5		
To a large extend, GR are a product of human activity and cannot exist without continued human intervention.		
A relevant part of the GR needed for future research and development is at the risk of being lost. Conservation activities need to be enhanced.		
The use of GR is an important means to ensure their conservation.		