

16th Annual Meeting Vientiane, Lao PDR, 2 August 2023

EAPVPF/16/06

REPORT

adopted by the 16th East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum Annual Meeting

Opening of the meeting

- East Asia Plant Variety Protection Forum held its 16th Annual Meeting hosted by Lao PDR on 2 August 2023 chaired by Mr. Santisouk Phounesavath, Director General of Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR and co-chaired by Ms. Akiko Nagano, Deputy Director of PVP Office, Intellectual Property Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
- 2. The list of participants is reproduced in Annex I to this report.
- 3. The meeting was opened by the Chair and received welcome remarks by, Mr. Santisouk Phounesavath, Director General of Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR.
- 4. The meeting received opening remarks by Ms. Akiko Nagano, Deputy Director of PVP Office, Intellectual Property Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan
- 5. The meeting received opening remarks by Mr. Peter Button, Vice Secretary-General, UPOV.

Adoption of the agenda

6. The draft agenda as presented in document EAPVPF/16/01 Draft 1 was adopted by the meeting.

Report on recent development in UPOV

7. The meeting noted the report on recent development in UPOV reported by the UPOV Office.

Report of the Cooperation Activities in 2022-2023

8. The meeting noted the report of the Cooperation Activities in 2022-2023 as provided in document EAPVPF/16/02 presented by the Forum Office as provided in Annex II to this report.

Presentation on Country Report

9. The meeting noted the country report as presented by Brunei Darussalam, Kingdom of Cambodia, People's Republic of China, Republic of Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Union of Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam as provided in Annex III

The list of the Cooperation Activities in 2023-2024

- 10. The meeting adopted the list of the Cooperation Activities in 2023-2024 as provided in document EAPVPF/16/04 Draft 1 presented by the Forum Office as provided in Annex IV to this report.
- 11. The meeting noted that implementation of the adopted Cooperation Activities in 2023-2024 will be subject to the availability of the financial resources and experts provided that the conditions described in the note are met.

Host country for the 17th EAPVP Forum Annual Meeting

12. The meeting agreed with the proposal by Cambodia to host the 17th EAPVP Forum Annual Meeting in August, 2024.

Other matters

- 13. The proposal of the schedule for submission of IIS and cooperation activity proposals as presented in document EAPVPF/16/05 was agreed by the meeting as provided in Annex V to this report
- 14. The meeting adopted this report at the close of the 16th Annual Meeting on 2 August 2023.

[Annexes follow]

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Members

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Nicholas Brian Lim (Mr.), Deputy Head of BruIPO, Brunei Darussalam Intellectual Property Office (BruIPO), Attorney General's Chambers (e-mail: Nicholas.brian.lim@agc.gov.bn)

Siti Nuramni Aiman Bahar (Ms.), Legal Officer, Brunei Darussalam Intellectual Property Office (BruIPO), Attorney General's Chambers (e-mail: nuramni.bahar@agc.gov.bn)

Siti Sundussiah Abdullah Sani (Ms.), Agronomist, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (e-mail: sundussiah.sani@agriculture.gov.bn; sitimonne@gmail.com)

Khairunnisa Omar Ali (Ms.), Senior Plant Breeder, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (e-mail: Khairunnisa.omarali@agriculture.gov.bn)

CAMBODIA

Op Pich (Mr.), Director of Department of Crop Seed (DCS), General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (e-mail: Oppich1970@gmail.com)

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<u>CHINA</u>

Yumei GONG (Dr.), Vice director, Science and Technology Development Center (New Plant Varieties Protection Office), National Forestry and Grassland Administration (e-mail: gongyumei@cnpvp.net)

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<u>JAPAN</u>

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Kaho Terayama (Ms.), Technical Official, Plant Variety Protection Office, Intellectual Property Division, Export and International Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (e-mail: kaho_terayama650@maff.go.jp)

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MYANMAR

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<u>PHILIPPINES</u>

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Natthaporn Siang-on (Ms.), Agricultural Research Officer, Professional Level, Department of

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VIET NAM

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2. Guests - related organizations

Peter Button (Mr.), Vice Secretary-General, International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) (e-mail: peter.button@upov.int)

Manabu Suzuki (Mr.), Technical/Regional Officer (Asia), International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) (e-mail: manabu.suzuki@upov.int)

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3. Guests - Mekong US Partnership(MUSP)

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4. EAPVP Forum Office

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[Annex II follows]

Annex II

REPORT OF THE COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN 2022-2023

The following cooperation activities were adopted at the 15th EAPVP Forum Meeting which was held online on 13 July 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the activities were conducted in a manner of online or hybrid.

- 01. DUS training and Report Writing on cucumber and yard long bean (proposed by Cambodia/Online)
- 02. Translation and publishing the DUS examination on major crops and development of harmonization description of new variety of plants in Cambodia language (proposed by Cambodia)
- 03. Workshop on PVP e-application system including security issues (proposed by Indonesia/Online)
- 04. Capacity Building Workshop1: Introduction of PVP & UPOV TG1/3 (proposed by Japan/ online)
- 05. Capacity Building Workshop2: Technical Training for PVP Senior Staff (proposed by Japan/ online)
- 06. Dissemination Workshop on UPOV Convention (proposed by Lao PDR)
- 07. Legal Consultation Workshop on UPOV Convention (proposed by Lao PDR)
- 08. On-Job Training on Establishment of Chrysanthemum DUS Trials with Experienced PVP Office (proposed by Malaysia)
- 09. Participating of Myanmar PVP examiners in DUS test trainings to be held among the regions (proposed by Myanmar)
- 10. Participating of Myanmar PVP Office staffs in Database trainings to be held among the regions (proposed by Myanmar)
- 11. Participating of Myanmar PVP examiners in Development of National TG to be held among the regions (proposed by Myanmar)
- 12. Awareness Raising Workshop on UPOV PVP System among the relevant policy makers and stakeholders (proposed by Myanmar)
- 13. Organizing meeting/seminar/forum to introduce the actual information about the UPOV system (proposed by Thailand/Hybrid)
- 14. Printing brochures in Thai language presenting information about the UPOV system and the benefits significantly occurred in its country members (proposed by Thailand)

Instead of dispatching some experts, the online DUS training workshops and meetings were held and invited EAPVP Forum member countries to join. Some proposals were carried over to the next fiscal year or later due to the COVID-19 pandemic and circumstances in the proposing country.

Cooperation activities which were carried out during the fiscal year 2022 (April 2022- March 2023) were as follows:

1. Support for Translation and Printing of UPOV TGs for Cucumber, Yard Long Bean, Lettuce, Tomato, Watermelon, Soya Bean (proposed by Cambodia)

2. Online Training Course on DUS Examination on Cucumber and Yard Long Bean (hosted by Cambodia)

- 2-1. Date: 10-12 January 2023
- 2-2. Participants: 29 participants from Cambodia, 15 participants from EAPVPF Member countries, namely, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and the Philippines.
- 2-3. Lecturers: Experts from Japan and Viet Nam

3. Online Workshop for PVP e-application system (hosted by Indonesia)

- 3-1. Date: 29 September 2022
- 3-2. Participants: 24 participants from Indonesia, 12 participants from EAPVPF Member countries, namely, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand.
- 3-3. Lecturers: Experts from China, Indonesia, Japan and Korea

4. Capacity Building Workshop 1: Introduction of PVP & UPOV TG1/3 (Online / hosted by Japan)

- 4-1. Date: 1-2 November 2022
- 4-2. Participants: 28 participants from 6 EAPVPF Member countries, namely, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand.
- 4-3. Lecturers: Experts from Center for Seeds and Seedlings (NCSS) National Agriculture and Food Research Organization, Japan

5. Capacity Building Workshop2: Technical Training for PVP Senior Staff (Online / hosted by Japan)

- 5-1. Date: 16-17 November 2022
- 5-2. Participants: 26 participants from 7 EAPVPF Member countries, namely, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- 5-3. Lecturers: Experts from Center for Seeds and Seedlings (NCSS) National Agriculture and Food Research Organization, Japan

6. Seminar on the benefits of the UPOV System of Plant Variety Protection for farmers and growers (hosted by Lao PDR)

6-1. Date: 28 March 2023

- 6-2. Participants: 58 Representatives from Department of Intellectual Property(DIP), Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC), Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.
- 6-3. Lecturers: Experts from UPOV, CPVO, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Viet Nam

7. The Meeting to Introduce the Actual Information about the UPOV system (hosted by Thailand)

7-1. Date: 28 February 2023

- 7-2. Participants: 131 Breeders, Seed companies, research institutes and journalists in Thailand.
- 7-3. Lecturers: Experts from UPOV, VINASEED, Kasetsart University, Ghana, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam

8. Support for Printing brochures in Thai language presenting information about the UPOV system and the benefits

[Annex III follows]

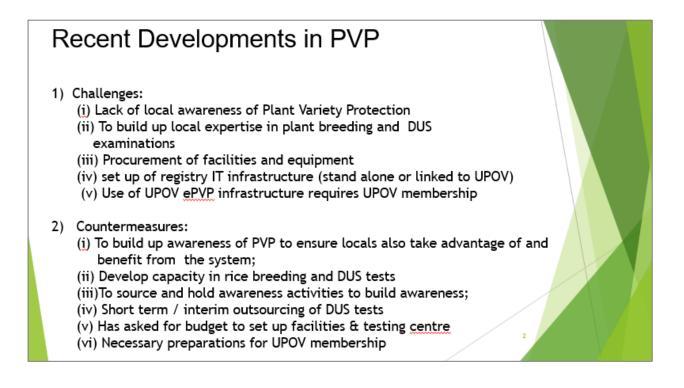
Annex III

COUNTRY REPORT

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Recent Developments in PVP

- 1) Brunei Darussalam is not yet a member of the International Union for the protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) .
- 2) Brunei Darussalam has ratified the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) on 13 May 2023. Under the CPTPP, Brunei Darussalam has a transition period of 3 years to become a member of UPOV from the date of coming into force of the CPTPP (60 days after notification)
- Brunei Darussalam has passed its laws on Plant Varieties Protection in 2016. The Legislation is in force but not yet in operational as administrative matters are in the process of being set up.



PVP Management Structure

NOTE: Not currently taking any applications .

- BruIPO is in discussion with Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism in sharing the set up and organization of the PVP registry and DUS test facilities.
- Personnel, facilities and equipment for the registries and DUS tests are yet to be confirmed. BruIPO and Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism have been attending courses and meetings on PVP in recent years to better understand requirements.
- BruIPO has also approached external dialogues partners to discuss outsourcing of DUS tests for the short term. The long term goal is for Brunei Darussalam to have its own examiners, facilities and equipment to carry out DUS tests.

Statistics	
Number of Application(domestic/foreign & Registered variety) - NIL	
Application by plant category - NIL	
Application by Applicant category - NIL	

CAMBODIA

Recent Developments in PVP

- 1) Movement toward UPOV membership (for non-UPOV member)
 - Government of Cambodia is being consideration to become UPOV members,
 - Cambodia is the observer country, and is still lack of human resources on PVP and lack of the plant breeders
 - New Plant Variety Protection for granted certificate for intellectual property is being carried out by the MISTI and MAFF is responsible the technical aspect on the DUS and VCU tests
 - MAFF and MISTI is still <u>need</u> more time to discuss among the Ministries on this matter.

Recent Developments in PVP

2) Revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations The Seed Law content 9 chapters and 84 articles.

Chapter1: General provision Chapter2: New Plant Variety Protection Chapter 3: Seed Management Chapter 4: Import, Export and Transit Chapter5: The National Fund for Seed Development Chapter 6: Seed Inspector Chapter 7: Penalties Chapter 8: Transitional Provision Chapter 9: Final Provision



2) Revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations

- The law on seed management and Plant Breeder's Right (2008): To regulated production and trade of seeds, and protect breeder's right
- The law on Bio-safety (2006): To monitor and evaluate the transgenic varieties
- Sub-degree No.163 (2019): To officially establish the Department of Crop Seed(DCS) as Seed Management Units(SMU)
- Sub-degree No.178 (2020): To descript the uniform and insignia of seed inspector as a judicial police officers and agents

Recent Developments in PVP

2) Revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations

- Seed Policy for Cambodia (2016): To ensure that farmers have access to high quality seeds and a range of varieties through the most reliable and economic supply channels.
- <u>Prakas</u> No.103 (2017): To officially establish of the National Seed Councils as a Seed Management Unites(SMU)
- Prakas No.104 (2017): To officially establish of the National Variety Released Committee(NVRC) as a Seed Management United (SMU)

2) Revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations

- <u>Prakse</u> No.374 (2017) on Seed testing, sampling, classification, standardization and seed quality control procedure.
- <u>Prakas No.375 (2017)</u> on Model forms and procedure to grant the certificate
- Prakas No.378 (2017) on Packaging or the labeling
- <u>Prakas</u> No.232 (2021) on Procedure for determining transitional punishment and the market value of the seed

Recent Developments in PVP

2) Revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations

- Prakas No.021 (2021) on Lists of Seed Inspector Agents
- Prakas on a National lists of existing and new plant varieties (progress)
- Joint-Prakas No.231 (2021) on a New Plant Variety Protection

Certification with Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation

(MSTI) and Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

Recent Developments in PVP

3) Challenges and countermeasures

- Limitation of PVP procedure and DUS test guideline for some potential crops aligned with UPOV guideline,
- Limitation of facilities in stations/experiment farms related the seed quality control and DUS testing
- Lack of hand-on experience and knowledge on PVP, DUS test and seed quality control system in the region and the world,
- Limitation of the technical support and cooperation in capacity building in DUS examination and development of test guideline,

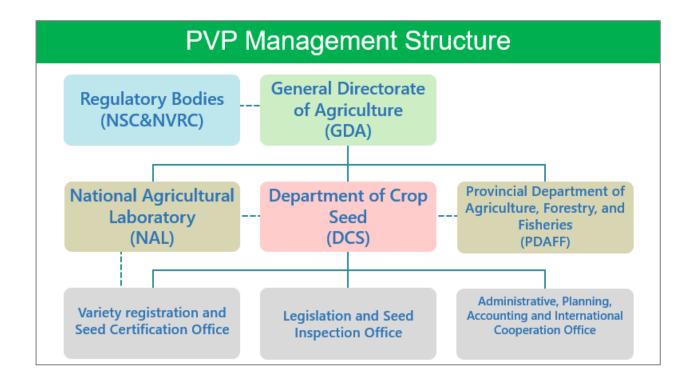
3) Challenges and countermeasures

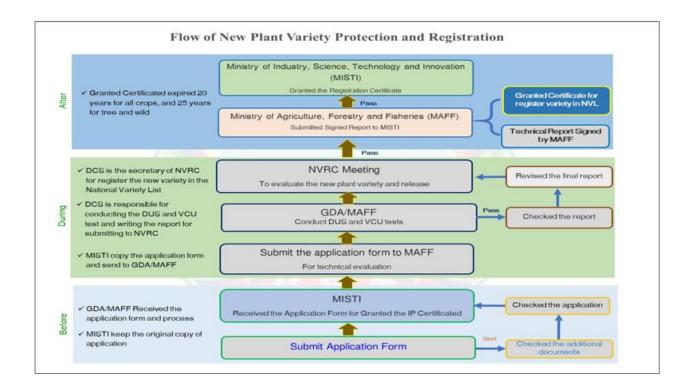
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- Limitation of facilities in stations/experiment farms related the seed quality control and DUS testing
- Lack of hand-on experience and knowledge on PVP, DUS test and seed quality control system in the region and the world,
- Limitation of the technical support and cooperation in capacity building in DUS examination and development of test guideline,

Recent Developments in PVP

3) Challenges and countermeasures

- Limitation of human resource related to PVP, DUS test and quality control system to relevant stakeholder at national and sub-national level
- The plant breeder right, seed producer, NGO and other relevant stakeholder are not awareness of the role and responsibilities of government regulatory bodies and endorsed law, regulation and declaration related to New Plant Variety Protection



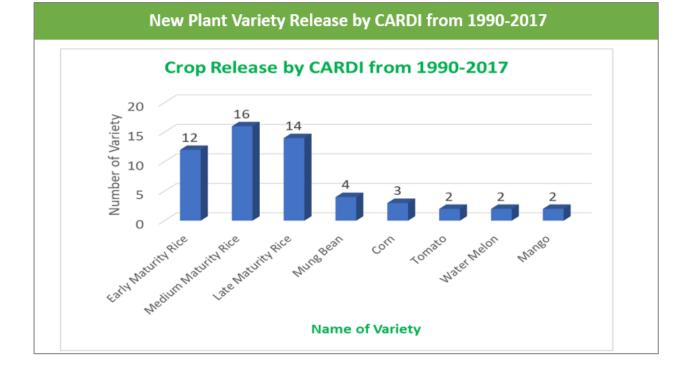


Ministry and intra-ministry including DUS test

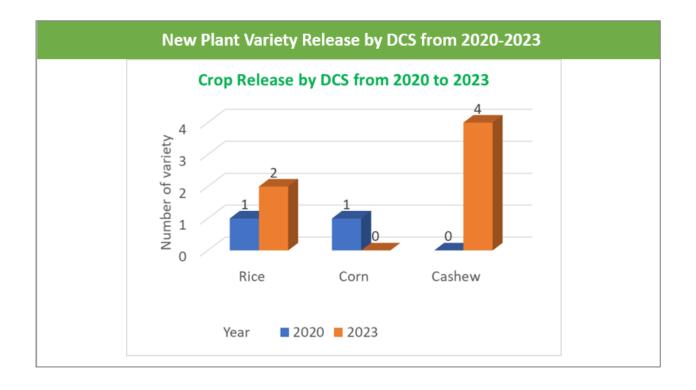
Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation(MSTI):

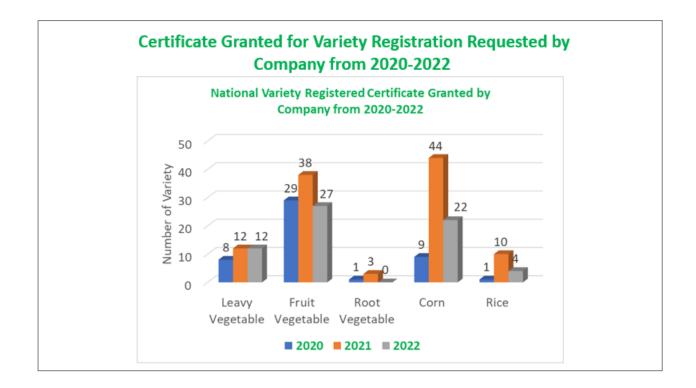
- Grant protection in the form of plant breeder's right
- Change right owners
- Declare nullity and cancellation
- Receive application and change or cancel variety denomination
- Issue compulsory license
- Record licensing contracts

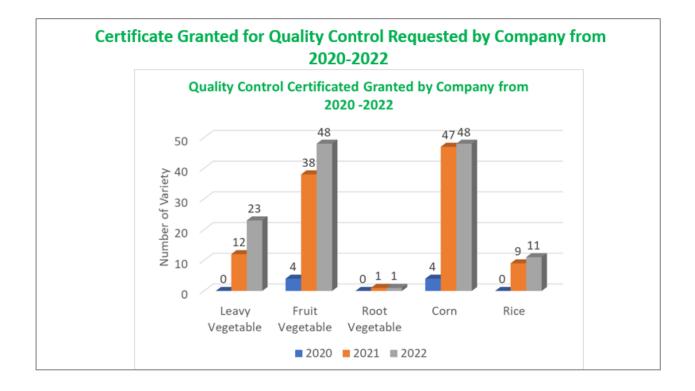
- >Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF):
 - Determine the variety description or passport data from origins
 - Determine the field experiment data for a new plant varieties from origins
 - Conduct DUS test and VCU trials for verification the reference data from the applicants
 - Facilitate the NVRC meeting for evaluation and decision making to include in the national variety lists
 - Issue the official approval letter to provide the result of technical tests.
 - 10 staff in charge and they are full time or government staff at National Level



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Proposal of Cooperation Activities_1

- **Title of program:** Translation and publishing the DUS examination on major crops and development of harmonization description of new variety of plants in Cambodia language.
- Objectives: To Develop and translate for documenting the DUS examination guideline for some potential crops such as asparagus, avocado, banana, bitter gourd, cabbage, carrot, potato and broccoli aligned with International UPOV guideline,
- Proposed Date: <u>December</u>, 2023 to February 2024

• Proposed activities:

- Searching the document from the UPOV web site relevance to the major crop propose for developing the DUS guideline.
- Communicate and contracting with the company for the translation the DUS examination guideline on major crop align with the UPOV guideline.
- Translation DUS examination guideline on major crop aligns with the UPOV guideline.
- Final review the DUS examination guideline on major crop align with the UPOV guideline.

Proposal of Cooperation Activities_2

- Title of program: Conduct the DUS growing test and the DUS training on corn
- **Objectives:** To increase the capacity and skill of DCS staff and DUS examiner on the DUS growing test will be increased and well understood on the conducting of DUS growing test on corn.
- Proposed Date: January to March, 2024

Proposed activities:

- Identify the resource person or specialist on the DUS growing test
- Prepare the date and detailed schedule for the training
- Planting the crop at appropriate time for the training,
- Prepare the hand out and lesson for participants
- Conduct the training

Proposal of Cooperation Activities_3

- **Title of program:** Organize the dissemination workshop on New Plant Variety Protection to relevance stakeholder
- **Objectives:** To raise awareness on the New Plant Variety Protection in Cambodia for the relevance stakeholder such as researchers, agriculture cooperative, seed producers, private sector, millers, research institution,
- Proposed Date: February- March 2024

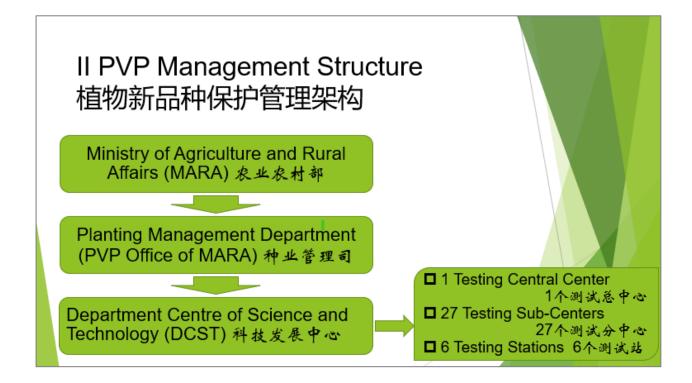
• Proposed activities:

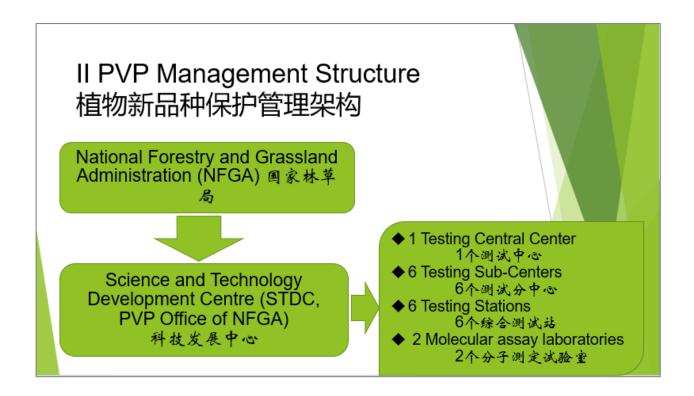
- Meeting to discuss the schedule of the workshop
- Identify the speakers for the workshop,
- Prepare the invitation letter both resource person and participants,
- Organize the Dissemination Workshop

<u>CHINA</u>









III Number of Applications accepted and authorized 申请授权量

In 2022, China accepted a total of 13,027 applications for Plant New Variety Rights, ranking first among UPOV members for the sixth consecutive year in terms of annual application quantity; 4,026 Plant New Variety Rights were granted, ranking first among UPOV members for the third consecutive year. By the end of 2022, China had accepted a total of 71,472 applications and granted 27,156 Plant New Variety Rights.

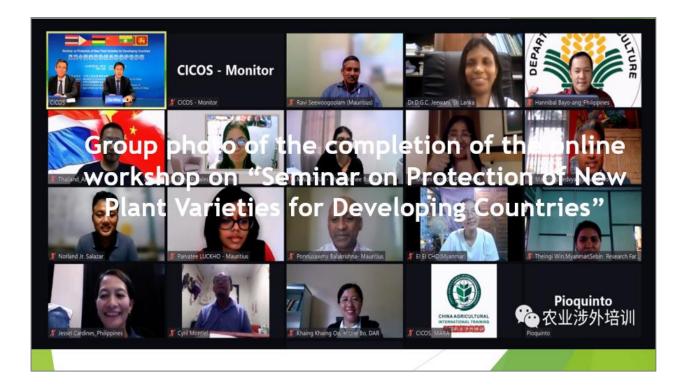
▶ 2022年,中国共计受理植物新品种权申请13027件,年度申请量在UPOV成员中连续6年居首位;授予植物新品种权4026件,在UPOV成员中连续3年第一。截至2022年底,中国共计受理植物新品种权申请71472件,授予植物新品种权27156件。

III Number of Applications accepted and authorized 申请授权量

- Number of Agricultural Application accepted and authorized:
- In 2022, China's agricultural sector accepted 11,199 applications for Plant New Variety Rights and authorized 3,375. By the end of 2022, the total number of applications for Plant New Variety Rights in China's agricultural sector was 62,636, with a total of 23,101 authorizations.
- 2022年,中国农业受理植物新品种权 申请11,199件,授权3,375件.截至 2022年底,中国农业植物新品种权申 请总量62636件,授权总量23101件。

- Number of Forestry Application accepted and authorized:
- In 2022, China's forestry sector accepted 1,828 applications for Plant New Variety Rights and authorized 651, with a 27% increase in application quantity compared to the previous year. By the end of 2022, the forestry sector in China had accepted 8,836 applications for Plant New Variety Rights and granted 4,055.
- 2022年,中国林业受理植物新品种权申请 1828件,授权651件,申请量同比增加 27%。截至2022年底,中国林业受理植物 新品种权申请8836件,授权4055件。





1) movement toward UPOV membership (for non-UPOV member)

- Cost and benefit Study of UPOV membership (2021)
- Public Discussion on UPOV membership (2022)
- Legal Analysis/ Study of UPOV membership (2024)
- FGD Strengthening the UPOV Indonesia Membership Plan with the Penta helix approach involving 5 (five) elements of Government, Academics, Industry or business entities, society or communities, and Media (2023-2024)

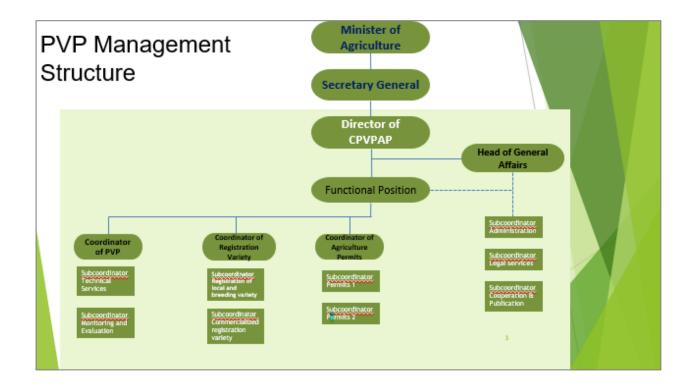
2) revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations

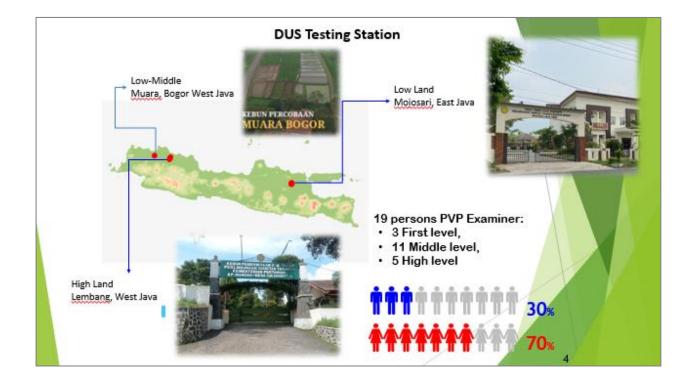
 Compiling an inventory list of PVP problems in regulation (review existing law of PVP) – 2021

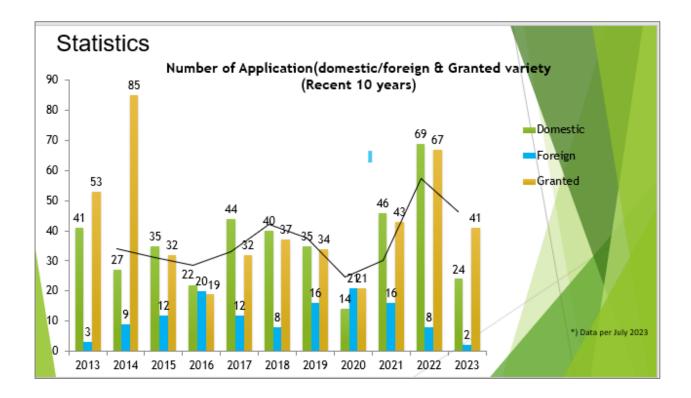
Recent Developments in PVP

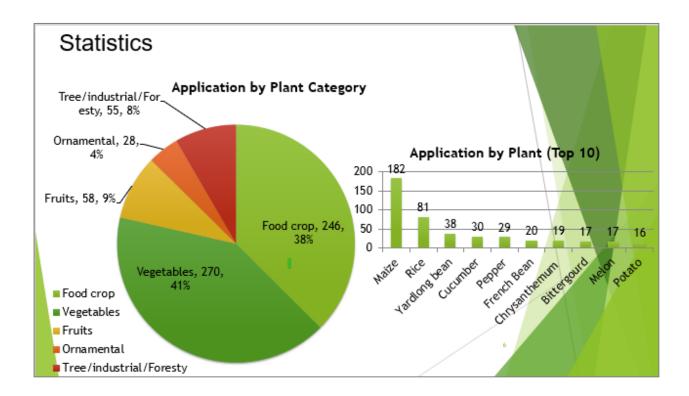
3) challenges and countermeasures

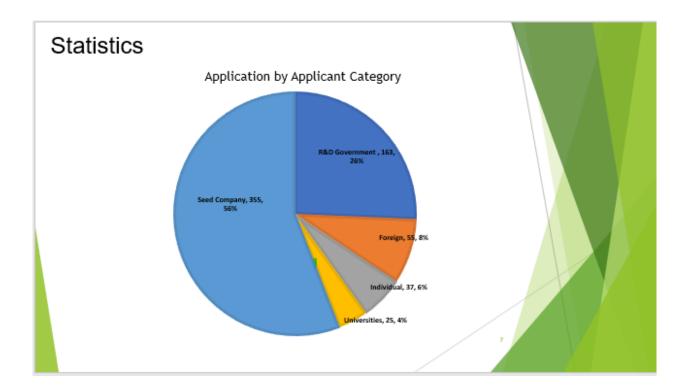
No) .	Challenges	Countermeasures
1	I	Lack of awareness of importance and utilization of PVP	Massive outreach about the importance of PVP
2	2	Stagnation in number of applications for PVP in Indonesia (around 50 varieties every year)	Improve PVP services to stakeholders to strengthen national administrative procedures for implementing PVP system from filing of application to granting rights
3	3	There are some inharmonious seed regulations other than PVP.	Simplification of regulations and harmonization efforts with related parties
			2











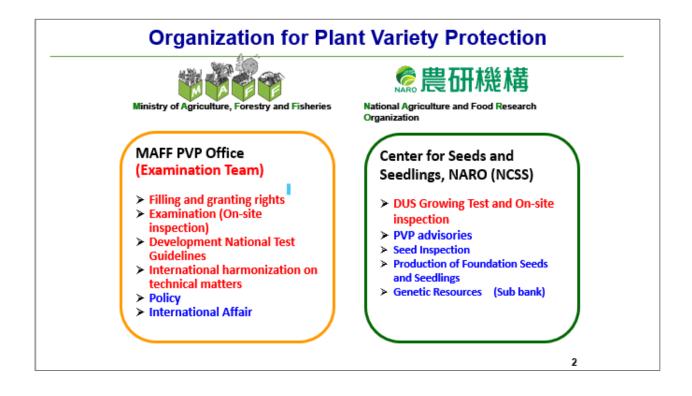
<u>JAPAN</u>

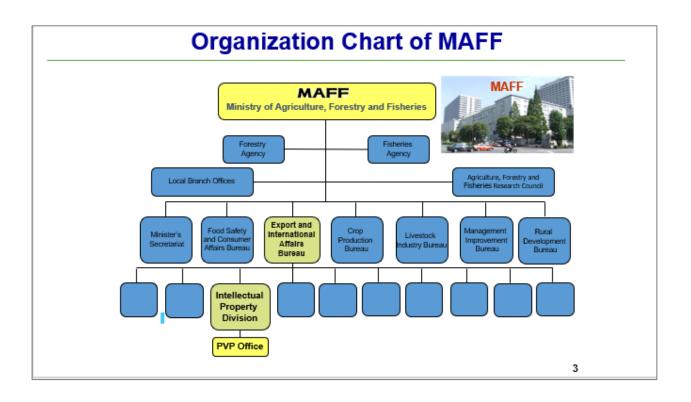
Recent Developments in PVP Japan

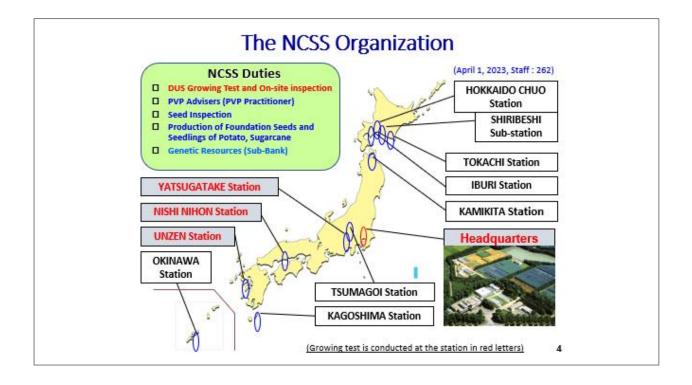
- 1) Organization
- 2) Current fees (PVP and Seed Act was amended in April 2020)

1

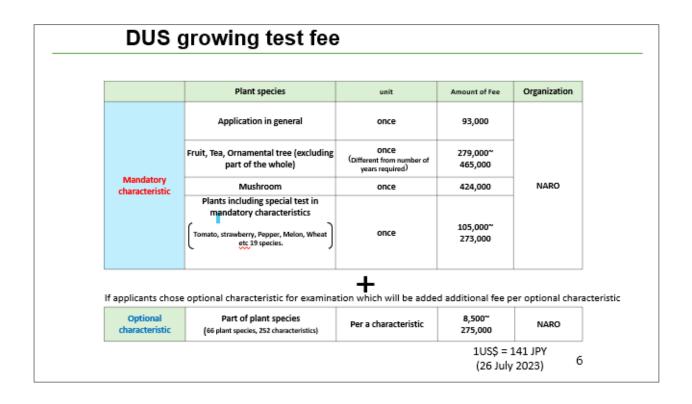
3) Challenges

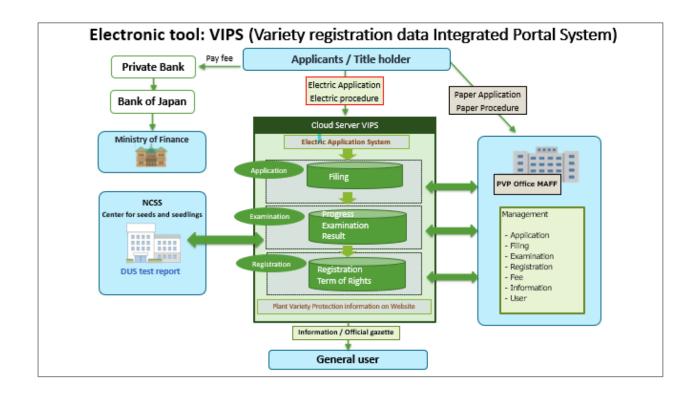


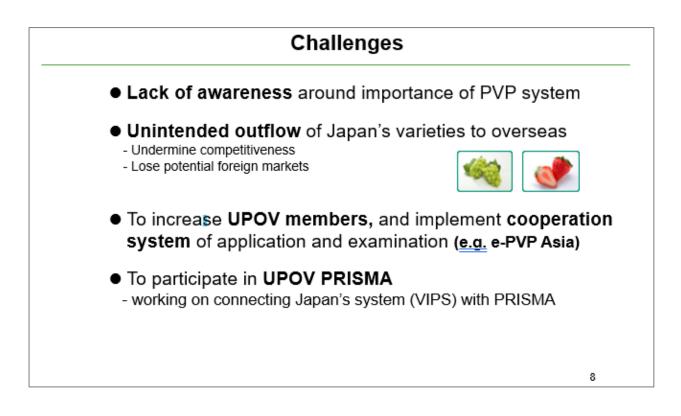


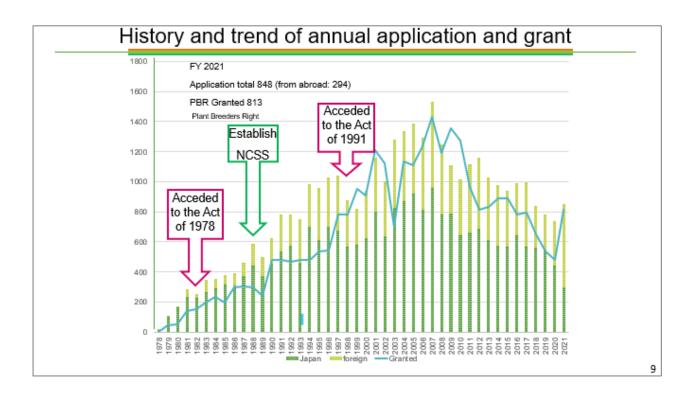


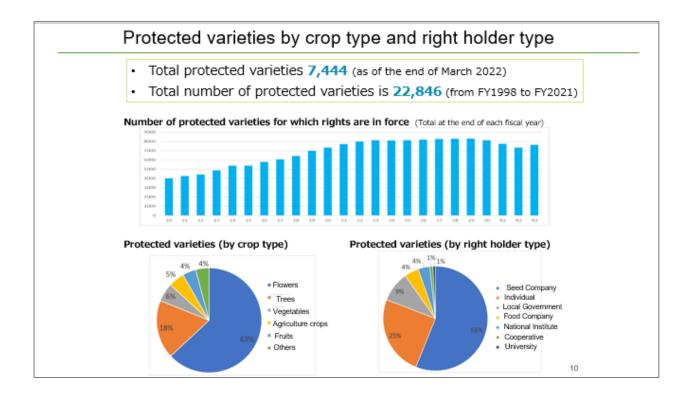
		Previous	Current
		(Application before March 31, 2022)	(Application after April 1, 2022)
Applicatio	n Fee	47,200 JPY	14,000 JPY
Examination Fee			DUS growing test : 93,000 JPY~ On-site inspection : 45,000 JPY~
	1-3 years	6,000 JPY / year	
Registrati	4-6 years	9,000 JPY / year	4,500 JPY / year
on Fee	7-9 years	18,000 JPY / year	
	From 10 years	36,000 JPY / year	30,000 JPY / year
	ycoro		
			1US\$ = 141 JPY (26 July 2023)

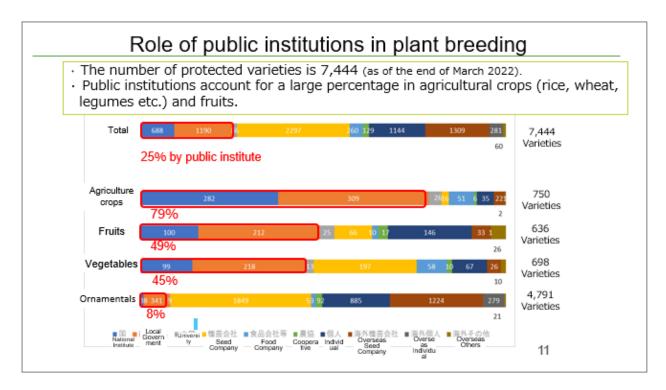






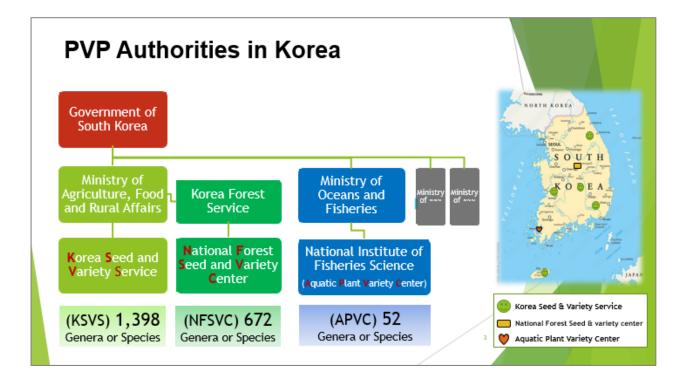


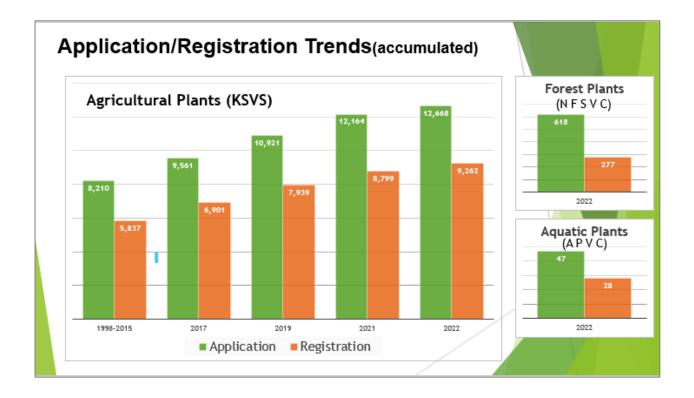


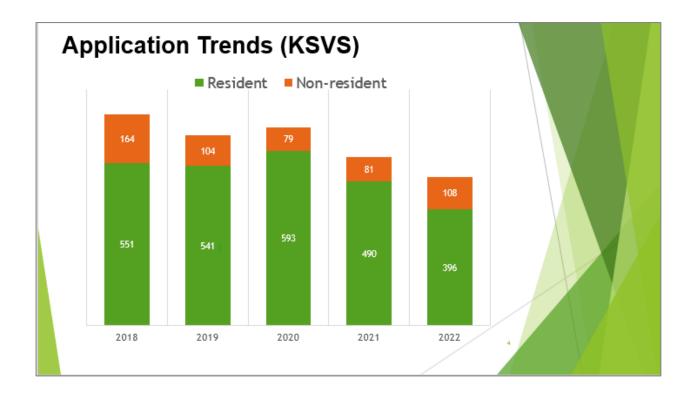


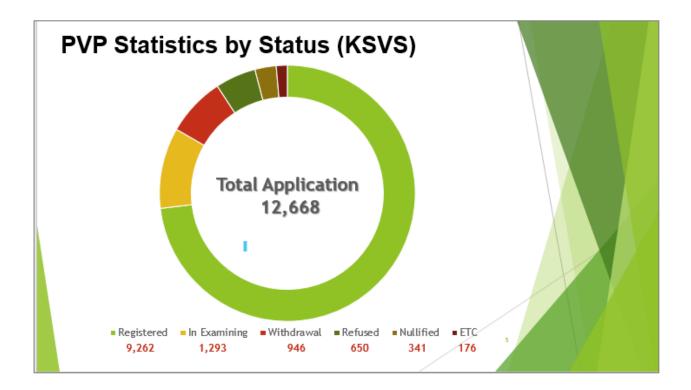
<u>KOREA</u>

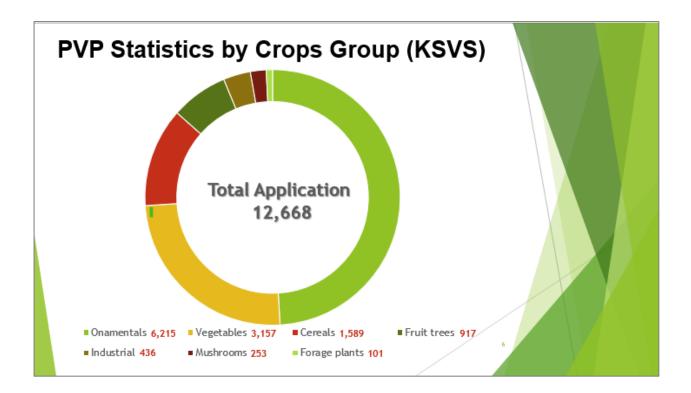
Contents
PVP Authorities in Korea
Recent PVP Statistics
New Challenge (Digital Image Analysis)

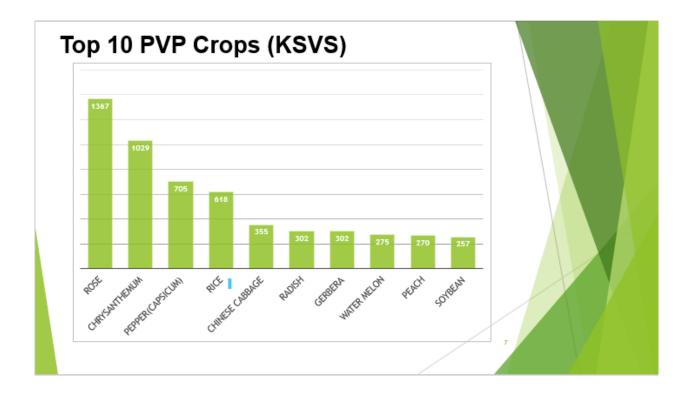




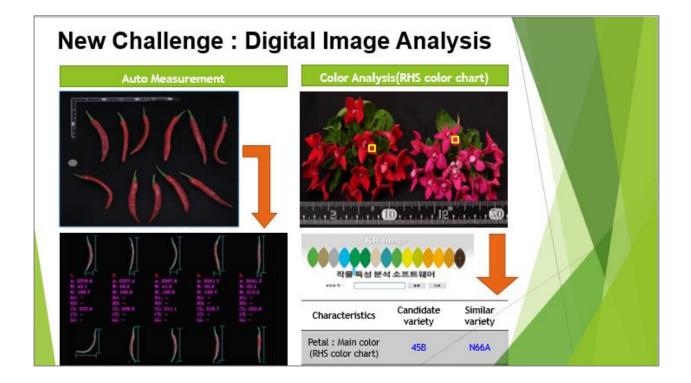








PVP Statistics by Applicants & Status (KSVS)				
	Application	Registration(A)	Extinction(B) (Public domain)	Rate(B/A)
Individuals	2,079	1,264	685	54%
Private Company	2,624	1,726	784	45%
Government	4,894	4,119	553	13%
Foreign Country	2,575	1,817	1,235	68 %
E.T.C.	496	336	71	21%
Total	12,668	9,262	3,328	36%

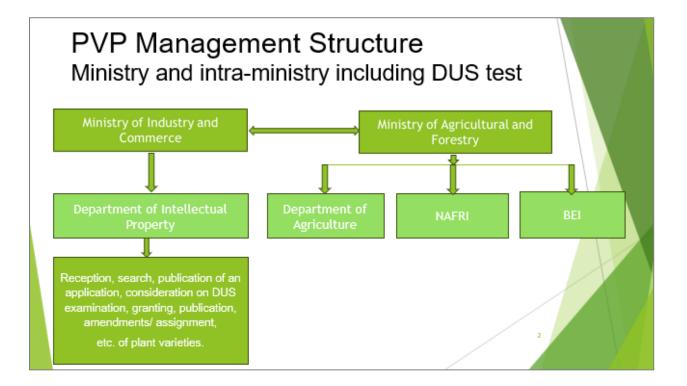


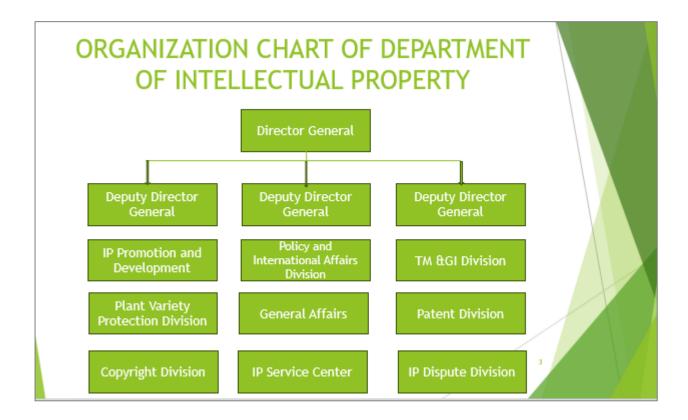
LAO PDR

Number of persons in charge of each department, including the number of examiners

The Department of IP has 63 people:

۰.	Director General:	1
٠	Deputy Director General:	3
٠	Patent Division:	8
٠	Trademark and GI Division:	13
٠	Copyrights Division:	3
٠	General Affairs Division	б
٠	Policy and International Affairs Division:	5
٠	IP Promotion and Development Division:	8
٠	IP Dispute Settlements Division:	5
٠	New Plant Variety Protection Division:	5
٠	IP Service Center:	б

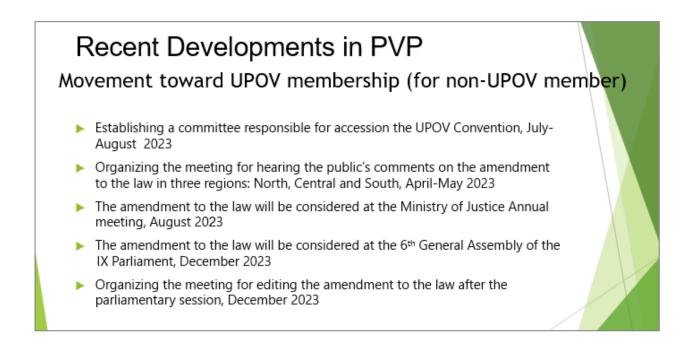


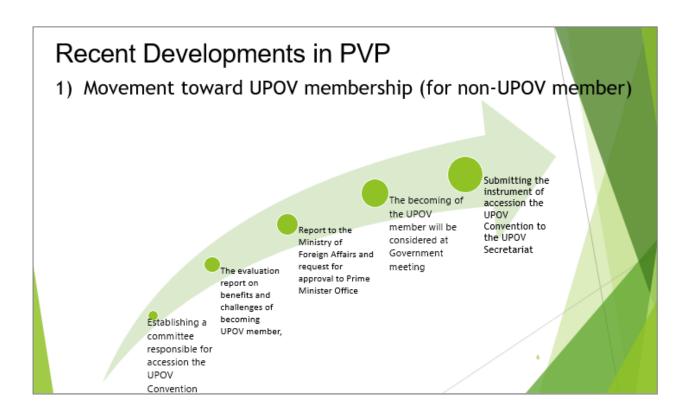


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۰.	New Plant Variety Protection Division:	5
٠	IP Service Center:	6





Revision of PVP-related Laws and Regulations

- Establishing a committee responsible for amending the Law on Intellectual Property, November-December 2022
- Organizing the meeting for hearing the public's comments on the amendment to the law in three regions: North, Central and South, April-May 2023
- The amendment to the law will be considered at the Ministry of Justice Annual meeting, August 2023
- The amendment to the law will be considered at the 6th General Assembly of the IX Parliament, December 2023
- Organizing the meeting for editing the amendment to the law after the parliamentary session, December 2023

Challenges

- Difficult to arrange the DUS testing.
- Insufficient technical expertise and facilities to conduct DUS examination.
- Limited amount of PVP applications due to lack of awareness on the Plant Variety Protection System.

FURTURE DIRECTION

- Raising Awareness on Lao plant variety protection system and UPOV system
- Strengthening the national administrative procedure and DUS examination
- Setting up the organization which conduct on testing of DUS
- Seeking a cooperation in capacity building particularly in DUS testing/examination