1. **Objective and relevance**

**1.1. Main purpose: Strengthening communication and collaboration between seed producers in Paraguay**

The main purpose of the intervention is to strengthen the capacity of the Native and Traditional Seeds Network in Paraguay (the Seed Network) in their efforts to promote the production and sharing of traditional and indigenous seeds amongst small scale food producers (SSFPs) and indigenous communities in Paraguay. This will be done by improving the communication tools available to the Seed Network, allowing for a closer and more continuous collaboration between the members in different parts of the country. Concretely, the intervention focuses on developing an app which allows seed producers to share data on seed availability in real time, thus allowing for exchange and trade with indigenous seeds.

Increasing the production and distribution of traditional seeds is an important way to strengthen the autonomy of SSFPs, increase their resilience to the effects of climate change and break the dependency on inputs from agribusiness enterprises in a country dominated by large scale, export oriented agriculture. The intervention consists of four main components that will lead to an increased capacity of the seed network to promote the production of traditional seeds and advocate for national policies supporting local, traditional seed production: The development of a phone app allowing for exchange and/or sale of traditional seeds between seed producers, farmers and consumers (1), monitoring of the production of traditional and indigenous seeds (2) documenting how climate change and industrial agriculture is affecting small scale farmers and their access to human rights (3) and advocacy efforts towards local and national government to support indigenous seed production (4). The project will culminate in a seed fair, connecting seed producers and farmers to exchange seeds and knowledge and to strengthen and coordinate their common advocacy efforts.

By providing a communication platform (the phone app), the intervention will improve the communication and strengthen the collaboration between SSFPs and seed producers in Paraguay. Thus, by creating a platform for sharing of knowledge, experiences and know-how, the intervention will promote and improve the use of native and traditional seeds in peasant and indigenous agriculture in Paraguay. By producing and distributing traditional seeds, the intervention will contribute to face the serious food crisis evidenced in Paraguay during the Covid-19 pandemic (see 1.2.), and it will contribute to the recovery of food security and -sovereignty in the country. The intervention has four main aims (objectives) which will contribute to the overarching goals of Heñói and the Seed Network, extending beyond this intervention: to create food sovereignty in Paraguay as a means to empower rural communities and achieve climate justice for Paraguay’s peasant population. The project will contribute to the Seed Network’s efforts to empower SSFPs to organize their local food production in sustainable ways independent of inputs from agribusiness and to protect the right to a healthy environment and a dignified and safe living environment for Paraguay’s rural population.

The four main goals of the intervention are: Register the availability of native and traditional seeds in peasant hands and indigenous communities and facilitate improved communication and information sharing between seed producers (1). More peasant and indigenous seed producers are involved in the production and multiplication of native and traditional seeds (2). The Seed network has increased public awareness of the human rights violations associated with large scale agricultural expansion, the importance of seed production and food sovereignty (3). The Seed network has created a body of knowledge documenting human rights violations towards indigenous and peasant communities and is monitoring the situation (4).

**1.2. The context of the intervention:**

***Paraguay's food system: Exacerbating climate change and increasing food insecurity and inequality***

Paraguay is a land-locked country located in the heart of South America with immensely rich biodiversity and water resources. Despite the abundant natural resources, the socioeconomic inequalities are amongst the highest in the world[[1]](#endnote-1). Decades with economic policies that can be characterized as extractivist and export oriented, has resulted in a high concentration of power and wealth in the hands of a few elites. This tendency is particularly visible in Paraguay's food and agriculture sector. Paraguay has one of the worst Gini Index for land ownership in the world (0,93): 12,000 people own 90 per cent of Paraguayan land; the remaining 10 per cent is split between more than 280,000 small- and medium-sized producers. Beyond that lies a destitute hinterland of 300,000 small-scale farming families without access to land. A staggering 8 million hectares of land has been illegally usurped by political or violent means, “tierras malhabidas”, through a practice started during Stroessner’s dictatorship, but is still in use[[2]](#endnote-2). The government has for decades prioritized industrial, export oriented agriculture, which has led to concentration of land, capital and income, as well as one of the highest deforestation rates in the world. Today, almost 95% of the arable land is dedicated to the production of export commodities, and only around 4% is devoted to food production for the local demand[[3]](#endnote-3).

Paraguay is currently the second largest exporter of beef and the 4th largest exporter of soybean in the world. However, this agricultural production has not achieved food security for the majority of Paraguay’s population. Today, 840,000 people are undernourished and 2.5 million people live in conditions of nutritional vulnerability (FAO[[4]](#endnote-4)). Paraguay is now dependent on import of many foods, leaving the poorest vulnerable to price changes on the international market. Food production has been decreasing for decades, and the local population, especially the urban and peri-urban, depends on imported food; in some cases, such as potatoes and onions, up to 100% of the local demand[[5]](#endnote-5).

Peasant and indigenous communities are amongst those who are most negatively affected by the promotion of industrial, export oriented agriculture and extractivism. Many of the poorest in Paraguay are peasants and indigenous people[[6]](#endnote-6). SSFPs are being pushed off their lands to give room for agribusiness projects, such as soy plantations or beef production, or they lose access to the nature they depend on when forests are destroyed, either by (illegal) logging, or to give room for large plantations, such as eucalyptus. Communities also experience negative health impacts or crop destruction from the heavy use of pesticides and herbicides in the industrial agricultural production, especially related to spraying of GMO soy crops. This grave situation is exacerbated by climate change, which makes seasons less predictable, and SSFPs’ livelihoods more vulnerable. Paraguay is one of the regions that is already experiencing mean temperature rises of more than 2°C over broad areas of its territory. Despite these multiple stresses experienced by SSFPs, they do not receive any support from the state.

***The COVID-19 has increased the inequalities caused by the current food system***

The COVID-19 pandemic has shed light on the severity of dependency of food imports and how it is disproportionately affecting the food security of the poorest part of the population. Border restrictions led to rapid increases in basic agricultural products: A few days after the restrictions began, the price of onions increased 148% and potatoes by 138%. As a consequence, an increasing part of Paraguay’s poor became dependent on community soup kitchens to survive. During the pandemic, another fragility of the national agricultural system was noted: the low availability of seeds, both for self-consumption and some for income crops. This situation stems from the great dependence on foreign companies for access to seeds, a situation created by the lack of public policies that allow the recovery and strengthening of the national seed production and development. The food shortage, after two years of drought, is aggravated by the shortage of seeds, and therefore hindering horticultural production, including essential items for the national diet such as corn, cassava, beans and peanuts, traditionally produced by peasant and indigenous families.

There is therefore a need to create and support more localized food systems with shorter supply chains in order to alleviate poverty and ensure food security for the most marginalized parts of the Paraguayan population. Access to a variety of traditional seeds without patents or other restrictions is key to support more localized food production. However, farmers’ abilities to save and produce traditional seeds have been drastically limited through different seed laws and regulations over the last 30 years. These seed laws are in many instances introduced as part of trade agreements, such as the upcoming EU-Mercosur deal which if ratified, will oblige Paraguay to adhere to the UPOV 91 regulations, which will prohibit farmers from reusing seeds from privatized seed varieties. There is therefore also a need for a stronger collaboration between seed producers to stand stronger as a civil society actor creating change and social justice, and to do effective advocacy.

***Peasant’s alternatives: Creating climate change resilience and food sovereignty through traditional seeds***

Despite the neglect from the state, SSFPs are key in producing food for Paraguay’s people: Moreover, SSFPs using agroecological production techniques contribute to mitigating climate house gas emissions as well as adapting to climate change. Through farming techniques involving diversification and avoiding industrial inputs, SSFPs improve their own resilience to the effects of climate change and build up the organic material in the soil. This way of farming has a significant potential for carbon sequestration compared to inorganic farming, and could offset 5-15% of global emissions compared to inorganic farming if widely implemented.[[7]](#endnote-7) A 2019 study comparing a conventional farmland with a similar piece of land grown by SSFPs, shows that SSFPs produce more food, generate more wealth, employment and biodiversity than the conventional farm.[[8]](#endnote-8) It is therefore crucial to promote and support SSFPs in order to increase food security, protect biodiversity and mitigate and adapt to climate change in Paraguay.

The Seed Network organizes SSFPs who promote food sovereignty: an alternative food system focusing on the right of each community to define and control their own agricultural systems. Food sovereignty can be defined as the right of every community to healthy, culturally appropriate food produced in a sustainable way. Seeds are at the core of this food system: Cultivation- and protection of traditional seeds that fit local climatic conditions is an essential step towards local food security and food sovereignty as well as climate change resilience for Paraguay’s SSFPs. The protection of traditional seeds means that the productive capacity and decision making power about what to produce will stay in the hands of the peasants themselves. By utilizing a range of different indigenous seeds, farmers are more resilient towards the effects of climate change, while also being financially independent from agribusiness. Saving, storing and sharing seeds among communities allow crops to adapt to different climates, conditions and typographies, which is essential to increase resilience towards climate change and secure food for rural communities. The ability to save and exchange seed is crucial to achieve food sovereigntyin atime characterized by multiple crises: biodiversity, water, food, economy and the climate - and the COVID-19 pandemic on the top of it.

***Challenges for SSFPs: Farmers and seed producers lack a communication platform***

While the Seed Network organizes SSFPs in large parts of Paraguay, many of the farmers and seed producers are mainly organized at a local level. There is no central coordination or structure for communication between the different local groups. There are several factors that create this decentralized scenario: Large physical distances, lack of infrastructure for transportation and many rural areas in the country have little phone service. These factors make it challenging for the members to stay updated about what seeds are produced where, and to to exchange seeds and to plan seed production. It is challenging for seed producers to communicate what seeds they are exchanging and/or selling, and equally challenging for farmers to know where they can buy seeds. The Seed Network currently provides technical support for seed production to their members on a non-regular basis and organizes regional encounters and seed fairs for seed exchange. An important task of the Seed Network, is to connect individual seed producers for seed exchange, a task that would be greatly improved with the development of the app and by regular technical assistance on seed production.

Moreover, there is also a need for more knowledge sharing and communication between the different local groups, in order to do advocacy in a more coordinated and effective way. There is a lack of systematized knowledge about how the expansion of industrial agriculture and tree plantations in Paraguay are affecting SSFPs and indigenous communities. In order to do advocacy work in a more systematized way towards the government, and to empower members of local communities to claim their rights, there is a need for more research on how the agricultural expansion is affecting the human rights situation of SSFPs in Paraguay. By building up a knowledge base on the situation of seed production in the country as well as how the government’s current economic policies affect SSFPs, the Seed Network is better suited to effective advocacy towards the government.

***Focus area of the intervention: Región Oriental***

Paraguay is divided into two regions: the Eastern Region (Región Oriental), and the Chaco Region in the west. Heñói’s work focuses on the Región Oriental, the agricultural base of the country, and home of the majority of the peasant population. This is the region most affected by the industrial agribusiness, and the problems described above are especially severe here: Many SSFPs have been displaced by producers of GMO soybean and corn, and the spraying of GMO crops is affecting the health and crops of neighbouring peasants. Poverty rates are high, particularly in rural areas [[9]](#endnote-9).

The intervention will be implemented amongst SSFPs and indigenous communities across 9 nodes in the oriental regions of Paraguay. The 9 nodes are located by departments (Paraguayan equivalents of provinces), and the subnodes correspond to organizations or producers in each department. The nodes are: Caaguazú (5 sobnodes), Caazapa (1), Central (2), Cordillera (1), Guairá (3), Itapua (6), Paraguari (8), Presidente Hayes (1), and San Pedro (1). These nodes were chosen, as they are particularly affected by the problems described above. The departments are amongst the ones with the highest rural poverty, and around half of the country's rural poor live in the area covered by these nodes.[[10]](#endnote-10). Although poverty rates are high, smartphone usage is widespread, and the great majority of the population has access to at least one smartphone with internet connection[[11]](#endnote-11). In the long term, the Seed Network hopes to expand and implement the strategy of the intervention at the national level, covering both the eastern and western regions of the country.

**1.2.2. Risks and fragility**

Referring to CISU position paper 7, this intervention is not considered to be set in crisis context or a fragile context as such. However, the context of the intervention has elements of fragility: the deep socioeconomic inequalities, which have been exacerbated during the pandemic, can be seen as a social and economic fragility. The consequences of climate change are already affecting SSFPs and their livelihoods in Paraguay, thus representing climate- and environmental fragility. Although the context is not considered to be politically fragile, the repression of social leaders and territorial defenders in the country, and the government’s failure to protect their basic human rights, represents an increasing political fragility in the country. These tendencies highlight the importance of a rights-based approach to the multiple challenges facing SSFPs in Paraguay in a holistic way. Therefore, the while the intervention focuses on providing the target group with concrete tools to increase their resilience towards the economic and environmental challenges they face (the app to facilitate seed production and exchange), it will also increase the body of documentation of their human rights situation, thus building the foundation for more rights-based advocacy among the members of the Seed Network[[12]](#endnote-12). It is likely that the COVID-19 situation can cause some changes to the activities, especially to the physical meetings and trainings. The COVID-19 situation will be monitored during the whole intervention, and activities will be adjusted if needed. An online training structure will be implemented for field technicians to later implement “radio” schools, telephone consultations, weekly newsletters and a detailed manual on “Traditional rural and indigenous knowledge” that will be available to producers. For details, see Appendix 1: Risk matrix.

**1.3. How this intervention will strengthen civil society organising**

Active citizenship and a well-functioning civil society requires a minimum of material well being for its citizens, which in turn requires access to basic rights. Securing the right to food and strengthening the food sovereignty in the country is therefore an important step to creating a more active civil society in Paraguay. As Paraguay has a high percentage of rural population, peasants and farmers are important civil society actors pushing for social and environmental justice. As described in the first section, food sovereignty is a means to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate, but also to strengthen local democracy and citizen participation decision making processes. Thus, the intervention plays into Heñói’s work to strengthen civil society in Paraguay, especially amongst the rural population. Moreover, by facilitating seed trade amongst SSFPs, the intervention will create new economic opportunities for the target group. This material basis is an important step to strengthen SSFPs as an active voice in Paraguayan civil society.

The Seed Network is a grassroot network of seed producers who work not only to preserve seeds, but also to protect and defend SSFPs basic rights, such as the right to food and land. Strengthening the Seed Network by improving their communication and creating a body of knowledge thus means to strengthen SSFPs as advocates for human rights and for political change to reduce the enormous inequalities in the country. The establishment of the app will lay the ground for closer collaboration between the Seed Network members on a more frequent basis, which is a first step to a closer political collaboration between the Seed Network members. The information gathered by the observatory will feed into a communication campaign targeting policy makers, but also increasing the member base of the seed network and paraguayan citizens, thus directly engaging more citizens in the work towards social justice.

**1.4. Climate- and environmental conditions relevant to the partnership**

Climate change and environmental conditions are at the core of this intervention. The Seed Network’s efforts to create food sovereignty and preserve indigenous seeds is in itself an effort to combat (mitigate) climate change by building up organic material in the soil, thus sequestering carbon and reducing GHG emissions. Moreover, food sovereignty means dependence on a large variety of different crops, suitable for the local climatic and environmental conditions, increasing resilience and climate change adaptation. Climate change is no longer a scenario in the future, but a reality facing SSFPs in Paraguay today through less predictable seasons, rising soil temperatures, rain patterns alterations, with alternance of droughts and floods, incidence of new diseases and plagues, among others. Increasing the production and use of traditional seeds is therefore an important climate adaptation and mitigation tool for SSFPs.

1. **The partnership**

**2.1. The partner organization: Heñói**

Heñói, Centro de Estudios y Promoción de la Democracia, los Derechos Humanos y la Sostenabilidad Socio-ambiental is a Paraguayan NGO, which started as a grassroot network of peasants, activists and researchers working to strengthen democratic participation, human rights and social and environmental sustainability. Heñói and the Seed Network were founded at the same time 10 years ago, Heñói as an NGO, administering the collaboration and securing funds, the Seed Network as a practical and political network of seed producers. Through the Seed Network, Heñói unites all traditional producers involved in the rescue and promotion of native seeds. The Seed Network has three main functions: Protecting and promoting traditional seeds (1), uniting seed producers in a political alliance that unveil and confront the violence in territories imposed by the agribusiness model, and to fortify the capability of incidence in public institutions (2). Lastly, the network aims to improve the economic conditions for the members, as it connects seed producers, farmers and consumers in a way that creates local markets for their seeds and crops (3).

Heñói has since its founding been working closely with local and national peasant organizations on capacity building and political advocacy. Among the success stories, at the national level Heñói was a key player in the campaign to reject the creation of DINACARE, a public office of land registration that would legalize illegally owned land violating the Constitution chapter on Land Reform. At the international level, Heñói wrote the main report that served as basis for the rejection of funding by the European Investment Bank of the Treenewable Forestry and Climate Fund to develop eucalyptus plantations in Paraguay. Heñói has implemented several projects with partner organizations based in the Global North, such as Brot für die Welt, the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, the European Union (through Global Forest Coalition), and Fondo Socioambiental CASA. Moreover, Heñói is part of several national and international networks and campaigns, such as the Global Forest Coalition, CODEHUPY (Coordinator on Human Rights in Paraguay).

**2.2: The Danish Organization: NOAH - Friends of the Earth Denmark**

NOAH is the oldest grassroots environmental organisation in Denmark and has more than 50 years of experience with campaigning, political advocacy, environmental policy formulation and popular education around environmental issues. In particular, NOAH’s program “Grøn Dannelse” has designed new approaches to environmental education, emphasising the importance of combining practical knowledge and sustainable alternatives with political visions and activism. This led to the establishment of a semester-long course “Grøn Guerilla” at the Danish folk high school Jyderup Højskole, which has been running continuously since 2015. The experiences and competences developed in the design and evaluation of this program will be used actively in the design of the communication work in Denmark. NOAH is a member of Friends of the Earth (FoE) International, has solid experience in campaigning and political advocacy in collaboration with allied organisations from within and outside the FoE network, such as the “Rights for People, Rules for Corporations - Stop ISDS” campaign, or “Act4CAP - Change the Common Agricultural Policy”. The capacity for strategic campaigning and advocacy will feed into the information work in Denmark. NOAH has also been proactive in pushing the Danish government to establish the “climate law”.

NOAH has extensive experience working on the topic of food sovereignty in Denmark. The organization was among the first actors to introduce the concept in a Danish context, through the foundation of the Forum for Food Sovereignty (Forum for Madsuverænitet) in 2015. Moreover, NOAH has experience from developing projects in partnership with organizations in the Global South, e.g. from the project “Reclaim the Soil”, showing women’s perspectives on food sovereignty in Denmark and Ghana[[13]](#endnote-13), and the current collaboration between NOAH and Friends of the Earth Latin America and Caribbean (ATALC) addressing shrinking civic space in the region.

 **2.2. Previous acquaintance or cooperation between the partners**This will be the first collaboration between NOAH and Heñói, but the two organizations have previously participated in the same international campaigns and/or coalitions, such as and the current transatlantic campaign against the EU-Mercosur trade agreement. Both organizations are members of the Global Forest Coalition (GFC), a coalition of NGOs and Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations, where they have participated in common policy campaigns advocating for effective, rights-based forest policies. The two organizations are founded on a similar approach to environmental problems, as well as a similar approach to political change: Both organizations treat environmental problems as a systemic problem and they focus their work around the pillars of documentation, education and advocacy. Both Heñói and NOAH have a strong focus on engaging the public through creating and practicing alternatives to the current food system.

**2.3. Contributions, roles, and responsibilities of the partners**

Heñói is responsible for the day-to-day execution of the activities in the intervention taking place in Paraguay, as well as for budget and accounting. Heñói will coordinate the project and is responsible for developing the activities in accordance with the concrete needs of the beneficiaries. NOAH will mainly be responsible for monitoring, reporting, evaluation and the information work in Denmark. Moreover, NOAH will contribute with input to the development of the research and communication material that will be used by Heñói and the Seed network in their advocacy efforts, and NOAH is responsible for developing the material so that it can be used for information work in Denmark. NOAH and Heñói will stay in close contact during the entire intervention, and the two organizations will together evaluate the progress, and adjust activities if needed. The two organizations will collaborate to develop communication and advocacy strategies for international solidarity actions and will maintain a permanent coordination process, to ensure that the work in Paraguay also feeds into the information and advocacy work in Denmark.

**2.4. How the intervention will contribute to developing the relationship between the partners**

The collaboration with NOAH will strengthen Heñói’s regional incidence and visibility in Europe and internationally. It will strengthen NOAH’s understanding and expertise of the global dimension of environmental justice, as well as NOAH’s understanding of global value chains how European consumption of agricultural goods affect peasants’ livelihoods in the Global South. This increased capacity on global topics will feed into NOAH’s work on environmental justice and food sovereignty in Denmark. Moreover, it will increase the capacity of both organizations to participate in- and develop cross-atlantic advocacy work, which is important as the issues both organizations work with have structural causes requiring international collaboration.

1. **Target groups, objectives, and expected results (our intervention)**

**3.1. The target groups:**

The main target group of the intervention, are peasant and indigenous agricultural families who are part of - and potential members of the Seed Network. Heñói has identified, during the 10 years of work with the fairs, 9 main areas where seed producing families are located. These nodes will be the departing point of data collection and training targets. In some cases, the nodes are organized around an organization[[14]](#endnote-14), or through committees of individual producers. The number of members varies a lot between the different nodes, from one producer in the smallest nodes, to 250 families in the bigger nodes. In some regions, the main producers of seeds are women, especially in the indigenous communities. Consequently, women compromise at least half of the members, and most of the leaders of the nodes are women. Currently, approximately 100 producers are directly involved in the network, while a little more than 400 individuals and almost 500 families are loosely associated with the network. Our hope is that once the app is developed, the number of directly involved will grow to around 300 farms. The secondary beneficiaries are the Paraguayan population in general, and especially the poor, since the establishment of a seed network will improve the conditions to advance towards the implementation of the right to adequate food and nutrition.

**3.2. Target group participation**

The target group is participating directly in most aspects of the intervention, and the strategy is based on inputs from Seed Network members on their current needs. The idea to develop a phone app came after several Seed Network members requested a tool to share live information about seed availability. The fair is largely based on the engagement and direct participation of seed network members. The app will give the target group an opportunity to get an income from seed trade, thus improving their economic situation and resilience, as they will have a more diversified income than before. The target group will benefit by gaining greater capacity to produce seeds and to sell and/or exchange them. Moreover, they will gain an increased knowledge about their rights (through the human rights observatory), thus giving them a tool to use in their advocacy efforts as a network.

**3.3. Objectives and expected results**

The overall goal of the intervention is to protect indigenous genetic material and make it available to more SSFPs. The protection and promotion of indigenous seed production is a step to achieve food sovereignty and climate justice for Paraguay’s rural population.

The immediate objectives of the intervention are:

1. Register the availability of native and traditional seeds in peasant hands and indigenous communities and facilitate improved communication and information sharing between seed producers.
2. More peasant and indigenous seed producers are involved in the production and multiplication of native and traditional seeds.
3. The Seed network has increased public awareness of the human rights violations associated with large scale agricultural expansion, the importance of seed production and food sovereignty.
4. The Seed network has created a body of knowledge documenting human rights violations towards indigenous and peasant communities and is monitoring the situation.

**3.4. Strategy**

*For more details, we have also attached an appendix 2: Specification of activities.*

The strategy of the intervention consists of a combination of service delivery, advocacy and capacity building and the strategy rests on Heñói’s two-legged approach: Documenting and denouncing the negative effects agribusiness has on peasants’ livelihoods, food sovereignty and the environment, and the human rights abuses committed by or related to agribusiness and agricultural expansion (1). Creating, practising and spreading sustainable alternatives to extractivism and industrial agriculture (2).

This approach is used because given the enormous growth of the industrial food system and the human rights violations committed towards the rural population, it is imperative to strengthen communities’ rooting on their territories and their capabilities of organization to resist the invasion on their lands. Moreover, to connect rural and urban population it is necessary to overcome the discourse of victimization dominating the discussion about peasants. This is done by offering tangible and realistic solutions to the food supply monopoly, organizing local alternative distribution channels, e.g. through seed fairs.

***Objective 1: Register the availability of native and traditional seeds in peasant hands and indigenous communities and facilitate improved communication and sharing of updated information between seed producers.***

*Expected outputs:* The app is used by seed producers in all nodes, the observatory is established and monitors the situation of traditional seeds, the effects of climate change on seeds availability, distribution and resilience.

*Activities:*

* Development and implementation of a phone app which connects producers and allows for real time sharing of seed availability. This includes regularly updating an existing database on seed availability.
* Four training seminars on app usage
* The establishment of an observatory which monitors the situation of traditional seeds in the hands of SSFPs and peasant communities.

*MoV:* Survey on user satisfaction, data on app usage, attendance records, trimestral reports on seed availability.

***Objective 2: More peasant and indigenous seed producers are involved in the production and multiplication of native and traditional seeds.***

*Expected outputs:* The Seed network has increased its member base and the members of the Seed network have increased capacity to produce and preserve seeds.

*Activities:*

* Technical agricultural support on seed production in the local communities
* 4 trainings on seed production with members of all nodes

The app and the trainings also play into this activity, as it will involve both current and potential new seed network members.

*MoV:* Number Seed Network members, attendance records and feedback from participants in trainings.

***Objective 3: The Seed network has increased public awareness of the human rights violations associated with large scale agricultural expansion, the importance of seed production and food sovereignty.***

*Expected output:* The seed network’s campaign on the importance of seed conservation has gained attention in the public and among its members. A nationwide event on Native and Traditional seeds is arranged, and agroecological production, serving as a link between producers and consumers.

*Activities:*

* Communication campaign towards the public and SSFPs advocating for the conservation and use of traditional seeds, denouncing “false solutions” and promoting peasant alternatives (includes participation in radio programs, information through social networks, one podcast, printed materials distributed to members of the seed network and other stakeholders)
* Native and Traditional Seed fair with participation from civil society, SSFPs and consumers.
* Seminar on sustainable production and food sovereignty. This seminar is part of the Seed fair.

*MoV:* Records of public communication, printed materials, “views” of podcast, fair records, records of publications and press coverage, attendance records.

***Objective 4: The Seed network has created a body of knowledge documenting human rights violations towards indigenous and peasant communities and is monitoring the situation.***

*Expected output:* The Seed network has established a human rights observatory, which provides information on the human rights situation of SSFPs, and feeding into the Network’s advocacy work.

*Activities:*

* The establishment of a human rights observatory, with the mandate to monitor and denounce human rights violations related to industrial agriculture.

*MoV:* Trimestral reports on human rights situation.

**3.5. Plans for systematising experiences**

The intervention is built on a strategy which emphasizes training of SSFPs so that they have the capacity to continue producing seeds after the end of the intervention. The seed network is based on information sharing, so that the members who participate in workshops will bring into practice what they have learned, and pass it on to more peasants. The seed production and app training will spread information and increase the amount of SSFPs with knowledge of seed production. Moreover, the research will result in reports that can be used for advocacy work as well as popular educational material (flyers, pamphlets) which easily can be distributed to peasant communities, and reprinted if needed.

1. **Intervention-related information work in Denmark**

NOAH will conduct information work in Denmark based on the information Heñói gathers through the intervention, particularly the monitoring of the human rights violations and seed situation. The purpose of the information work in Denmark is to create awareness and engage the target group to take action on their new knowledge (engagement can take different forms, e.g. through online/physical actions, petitions, workshops, community kitchens). The content will focus on challenges facing SSFPs in Paraguay and the link to European consumption, but with a strong emphasis on the solutions the peasants have to achieve food sovereignty and environmental justice. The target group is politically aware danes, particularly youth, such as folk high school students and members of youth driven climate organizations. NOAH will use a mix of different means of communication including social media, workshops and educational material.

1. **References:**

 Paraguay is 17 in the socioeconomic inequality index. Index Mundi - GINI Index (World Bank estimate) - Country Ranking https://www.indexmundi.com/facts/indicators/SI.POV.GINI/rankings [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.earthsight.org.uk/paraguays-looted-lands> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Agrotóxicos en América Latina [livro eletrônico] : violaciones del derecho a la alimentación y a la nutrición adecuadas / Juan Carlos Morales González... [et al.]. -- 1. ed. -- Brasília, DF : FIAN Brasil, 2020. ISBN 978-65-88708-06-4 [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. FAO, FIDA, UNICEF, PMA y OMS, 2018. El estado de la seguridad alimentaria y la nutrición en el mundo. Fomentando la resiliencia climática en aras de la seguridad alimentaria y la nutrición (Roma: FAO, 2018). Versión en pdf disponible en http://www.fao.org/3/I9553ES/i9553es.pd [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. Francescelli, Inés. El modelo agroexportador pone en riesgo la existencia del Paraguay. Memoria del Simposio Internacional “Controversia científica: transgénicos, plaguicidas y salud humana”

Francescelli, Inés. ¡Ovalema! ¡Ore Ñembyahyima! (¡Basta! ¡Ya tenemos hambre!) Derecho a la alimentación. In: CODEHUPY. Yvypóra Derécho Paraguáipe – Derechos Humanos en Paraguay 2017. Asunción: Codehupy, 2017, p. 203-218. http://codehupy.org.py/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/DDHH-2017\_Web.pdf [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. Verónica Serafini Geoghegan, *Pobreza rural en Paraguay.* Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Documento de Trabajo-253 (ISSN 2225-3572), N/D. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. Liu, C., Cutforth, H., Chai, Q. *et al.* Farming tactics to reduce the carbon footprint of crop cultivation in semiarid areas. A review. *Agron. Sustain. Dev.* **36,** 69 (2016). https://doi.org/10.1007/s13593-016-0404-8 [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. Heñói (2019). “Asentamiento Crescencio González. No sólo rentabilidad: Una patria nueva”. Fundación Rosa Luxemburgo. [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
9. Verónica Serafini Geoghegan, *Pobreza rural en Paraguay.* Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Documento de Trabajo-253 (ISSN 2225-3572), N/D. [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
10. Ibid. [↑](#endnote-ref-10)
11. The numbers vary a bit depending on research design, but recent numbers estimate that internet coverage in the country reached 74 percent in 2020: <https://www.lanacion.com.py/negocios_edicion_impresa/2020/05/04/penetracion-de-internet-aumento-a-736-este-ano-tras-pandemia/> According to recent numbers, 94,2 percent of the population has access to a smartphone, and in 2016, 95,5 percent of the population used internet from their phones. <https://www.ultimahora.com/el-43-del-pais-tiene-internet-el-hogar-y-94-smartphones-dice-capli-n1104268.html>. <https://www.abc.com.py/especiales/fin-de-semana/el-95-accede-al-internet-movil-1619477.html> [↑](#endnote-ref-11)
12. For more information, see Annex 1: Risk matrix [↑](#endnote-ref-12)
13. https://reclaimthesoil.org/ [↑](#endnote-ref-13)
14. Such as Federación Nacional Campesina, CONAMURI (National Coordination of Rural and Indigenous Women), and CULTIVA, all members of Vía Campesina. [↑](#endnote-ref-14)