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*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...*

Center for Smart Agriculture

Organic Farming



Module 6: Plant propagation

Session 3: Importance of traditional varieties



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The Importance and multiplication of Traditional Varieties : Traditional seeds are locally available because farmers collect good seeds from their own plots and keep them for the next season. Farmers either buy or exchange their seed with other farmers or grow their own seeds. Therefore the cost of seeds is minimal.



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According to the **Seed Law**, a **local** (traditional and/or creole) **variety** is a '**variety** developed, adapted or produced by small-scale, agrarian reform settlers or indigenous peoples), with clear phenotypic characteristics acknowledged by their own communities'.





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Native seeds are geared to a subsistence economy as the farmers first grow food for his subsistence and/or stock seed for the next season and market only the surplus. Native seeds embody indigenous knowledge.

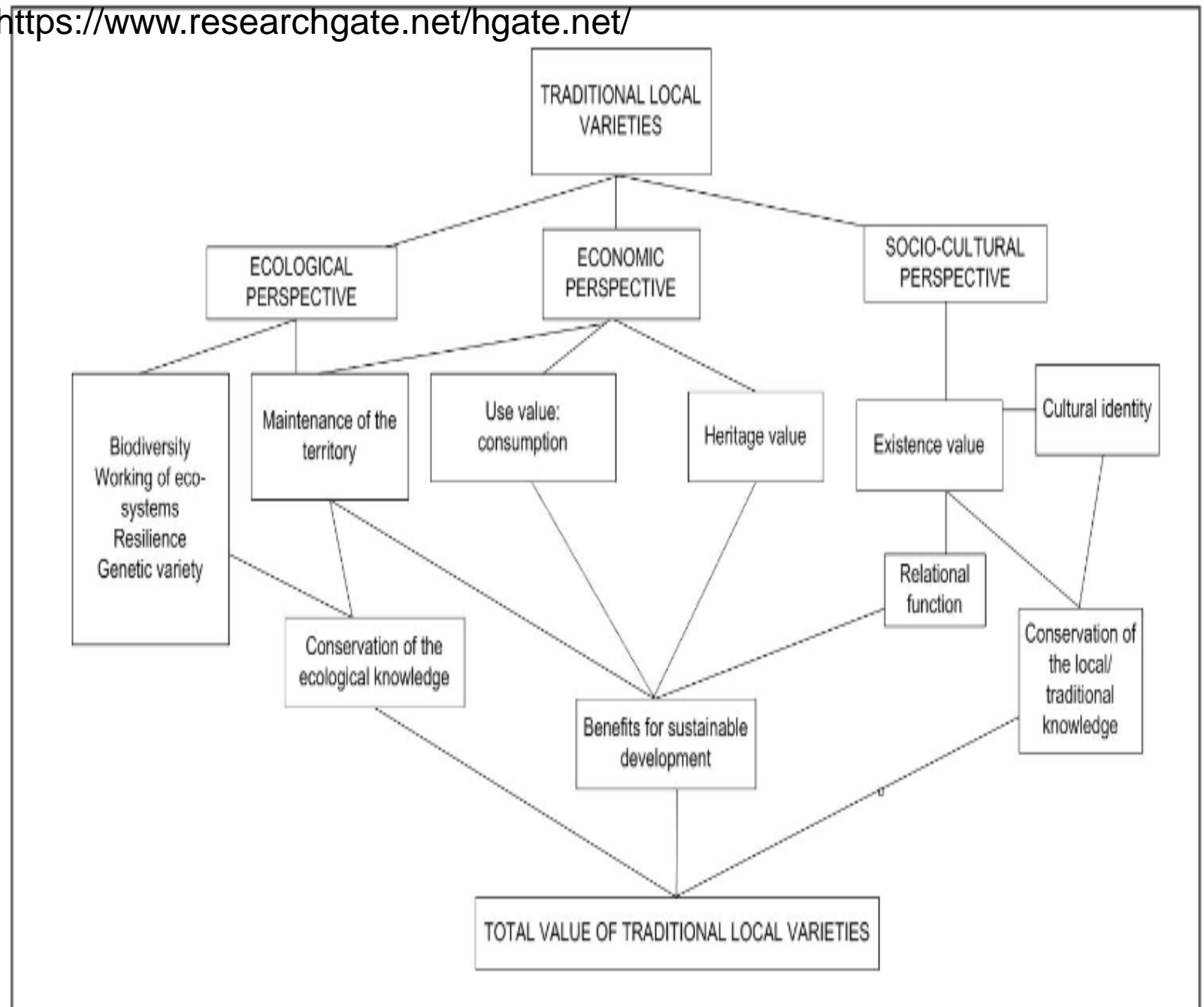
***Also known as local varieties.**



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<https://www.researchgate.net/hgate.net/>



Outline 1 – The Total Value of the traditional local varieties



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A farmer who uses native seeds use his/her traditional knowledge, skills and wisdom to grow them, promoting self-reliance. An outstanding feature of native seeds is diversity. Native seeds are hardy, as they have, over the years, developed resistance to the pests and diseases. Traditional seeds have high level of tolerance to conditions of stress and are adapted to local agro-climatic conditions.



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Areas in need for Research

- Gene flow, since there is uncertainty that natural hybridization and introgression have been occurred.
- Genetic evolution of traditional seeds related to resilience and adaptation on climate change.
- Conservation methods related to genetic evolution, genetic variety, seeds viability and seeds adaptation capacity and resilience to climate change.



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THANK YOU