

UNEP's Capacity Building Activities in the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing



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UN Environment's Activities in Support of the Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol

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UN Environment's Activities in Support of the Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol

UN Environment is currently supporting 30 countries through several GEF projects for the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol at global, regional and national levels.

Projects	UN Environment's Support
Global Project (AFRICA and worldwide)	Support to 20 countries for the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol
Sub-regional Project (COMIFAC)	Support to 10 countries for the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol
National Project (Gabon)	Implementation of National Strategy and Action Plan on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Accruing from their Utilization : Gabon



Capacity building Activities for the projects implementation

Capacity development workshops were organized in the participating countries focused on:

- ❖ Promoting understanding and awareness of the obligations of the countries under the Nagoya Protocol and considering issues related to ratification and implementation.
- ❖ Discussion on compliance requirements including legislative, administrative, and policy measures.
- ❖ Improve the capacity of national focal point on the preparation of the interim national report on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

Resources :

International consultants recruited by UN Environment or national consultants recruited by national agency offering their services for a capacity building



Key areas of the Strategic Framework for Capacity-Building and Development on ABS the initiatives are addressing

Key area 1 : Capacity to implement and comply with the obligations of the Protocol:

The projects have successfully assisted 25 out of 28 countries in ratifying of/acceding to the Nagoya Protocol through the technical, legal and policy support.

Angola, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritania, Niger, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe Chad, Sao Tome and Principe, CAR, DR Congo, Congo, Cameroon, .

Three remaining countries are : **Nigeria/Bosnia Herzegovina/Equatorial Guinea**

Key area 2 : Capacity to develop, implement and enforce domestic legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit sharing (ABS):

Countries have developed or are in the process of developing ABS frameworks through amendments or new laws: Gabon, Cameroon, Congo

Main Challenges facing in terms of capacity development

Limited of ABS capacity building providers

- There was a very limited number of , national/international of experts with the ABS and expertise; skills and experience in conceptualising and delivering trainings and capacity building modules on ABS (broadly) particularly for Francophones countries

Political and administrative Challenges

- Election periods and change of government and high turnover of staff hindering or disrupting the capacity development.
- It can also lead to large-scale reorganization of stakeholders as well as the redistribution of respective roles of ministries and local authorities.

Lessons

- Adjust project related activities to make them adoptive to political changes and election processes. /Sensitization of new stakeholders.
- Training of national focal points on ABS and how to lobby higher authorities (Ministerial and Parliamentary).

Main Challenges facing in terms of capacity development

Stakeholders engagement

- Identifying and engaging with relevant stakeholders;
- Obtaining maximum attendance and appropriate participation at sensitization workshops.
- Assembling the same stakeholders involved in training throughout the course of the project for continuity.

Lessons

- Identify main stakeholders with an interest in the ABS project
- Organize brainstorming sessions and alliance meetings with all stakeholders to discuss what is needed for better implementation of the Protocol.
- National focal points nominated at the beginning of the process should be maintained as long as possible in their positions.
- The establishment of an ABS Committee has also been considered helpful in facilitating the national process of ratification.

Main Challenges facing in terms of capacity development

Policy/Legislative

- Policy makers not sufficiently or well informed on ABS and its relevance to the country's development interests.
- Lack of understanding and knowledge by government officials on ABS issues and coordination on how ABS legislation can be implemented.

Lessons

- Identify advocates, leaders and ABS focal points in all key decision making institutions to be the champions of ABS in their respective institutions.
- Undertake focus group consultation during the drafting process of the national legislation
- Translation of the Nagoya Protocol into national or local language(s) such in Portuguese in Angola.



Main Challenges facing in terms of capacity development

Limited financial resources

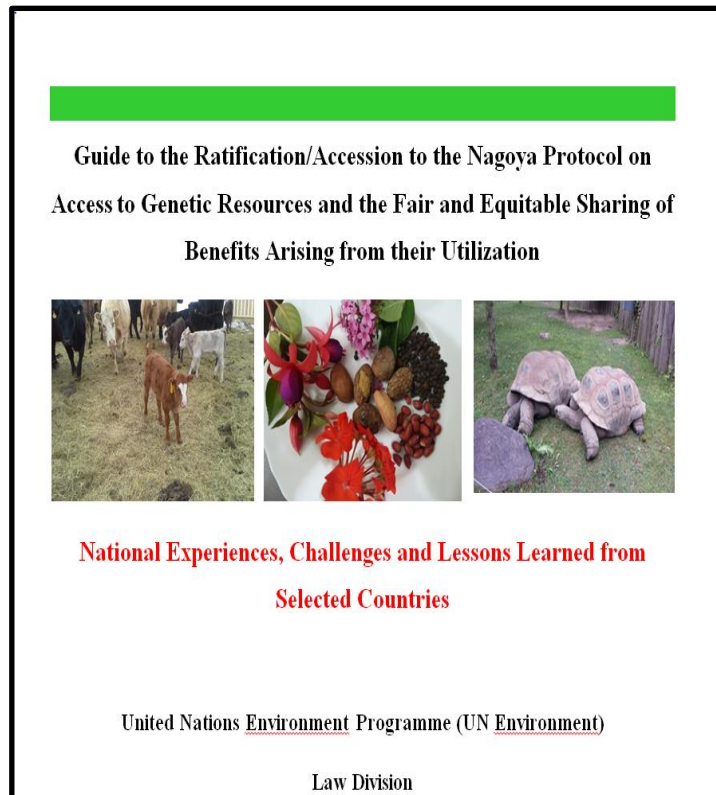
- For countries to carry out their own research and development into the plants that provide medicinal, cosmetic and nutraceutical properties.
- Limited resources to develop and offer legal training on legislation.

Lessons

- Discussions with key institutions (government departments and parliament) to increase funds for environmental issues through national budgetary allocations.
- Develop national genetic valuation strategies as tools to attract Governments' attention to the economic value of Genetic Resources from ABS.

Capturing, packaging and sharing lessons learned

The project implementation facilitated with regard to results-based management for capturing lessons learned and best practice examples to be compiled in **e-book** to support implementation approaches in other countries



In addition to knowledge sharing workshops between countries , an e-book formulated will be shortly available on-line



Additional capacity development needs in future project proposal

- Support to Biotechnology research and innovative projects based on genetic resources and traditional knowledge in compliance with national legislation on ABS and NP.
- Support the development of value chains of nature-based products in developing business models, and stimulating investment in genetic resources valuation.
- Determining how researchers and companies who utilize genetic resources and the traditional knowledge associated with them, will obtain access to them.
- Negotiation of MAT and Articulating of benefits (monetary /non-monetary) sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.





Planned Activities for new capacity building in Africa/other regions

Project 1 : Effective National Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol and Valuation of Medicinal Cosmetic and Nutraceutical Plants in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**

Project 2: Effective National Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in **Burkina Faso** and **Niger** in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol through regional collaboration.

Project 3 Under GEF 7 Preparation of PIF project for the effective implementation in national and or regional projects for countries which have ratified the Protocol as well as new countries to increase the number of the ratification (*Decision MOPII/IV*):

1. African countries (COMIFAC ,West and East African countries)
2. East Europe
3. Latin America

Thank you for your attention.

