



# **IUCN's Capacity-Building efforts in support of the Nagoya Protocol's implementation**

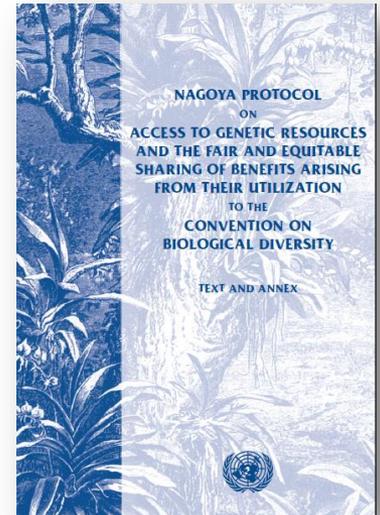
**Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building for the  
Nagoya Protocol on ABS  
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# The Nagoya Protocol on ABS

- An international agreement to celebrate!
- A step forward in the implementation of the CBD as a whole and of its 3<sup>rd</sup> Objective
- But... its provisions are not easy to understand, thus difficult to put them in practice
- Mismatch between expectations and reality?
- Many calls for guidance, support, capacity-building...





# IUCN Our understanding of capacity- building

- Based on specific **needs** – including those linked to lack of relevant information (no awareness)
- Response **on demand** – country specific (no size fits all!)
- Prioritise **short, medium, long term**
- Based on **IUCN's “niche”** and comparative advantage
- Complement existing efforts – working in **partnership**



# IUCN Overarching Key Message

- *Capacity-building in general is not short-term and one-off and capacity-building for ABS needs to be closely linked with even longer-term education*
  - Most ‘pure’ capacity-building projects are very brief, low funding levels
  - A series of one-off training events for different target groups that participants don’t remember even a few months later!
  - People tend to remember things they have learned when they have to apply them, and they generally need more than one opportunity to apply new knowledge for it to ‘stick’!
  - Projects that include a capacity-building/hands-on learning component are helpful, but their results are generally limited



# What have we done?

- Engage in **situation analysis and scoping exercises**
- Development of **technical information and awareness-raising material (ABS and the Protocol)**
  - A **clear understanding of the text and resulting obligations** of the Protocol is essential to ensure its future implementation at the regional, national, local level
  - There are still many open questions as to **what will change now that Protocol has come into force**
- Carry out projects and pursue capacity-building activities where **IUCN can add value**

# IUCN An IUCN Explanatory Guide

- Clarify text and obligations derived from the Protocol in simple language (no jargon!) and objectively
- Article by Article and sometimes “word by word”
- Different viewpoints included from a range of ABS experts – not an IUCN interpretation
- Some ideas for implementation



An Explanatory Guide to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing

Thomas Greiber, Sonia Piña Moreno, Mattias Åhrén, Jimena Nieto Carrasco, Evanson Chege Kamau, Jorge Cabrera Medaglia, María Julia Oliva and Frederic Perron-Welch in cooperation with Natasha Ali and China Williams



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# IUCN Awareness and information materials

- Role plays/ Simulation exercises / Scenarios
- Information briefs
- Presentations (general nature)
- Technical articles (and submissions)



# IUCN Example from LAC

**“Strengthening the Implementation of ABS in Latin America and the Caribbean” - (GEF 2011-2014)**

**To strengthen the capacities of eight countries (Cuba, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Panama and Peru) to develop and/or comply with national policy and legal frameworks regarding access to genetic resources, benefit sharing and the protection of traditional knowledge.**



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# IUCN Results and Lessons Learned

- **Results:**

- Compilation of National/Regional legislation and technical docs
- Identification of key actors/institutions
- Technical assistance provided (e.g. contracts)
- Information / awareness-raising materials produced
- Several studies and publications developed and published
- Knowledge Cafes in various countries

- **Lessons Learned:**

- Need to establish an inter-cultural knowledge dialogue
- A holistic approach and understanding is needed
- Better understanding needed regarding GRs (as opposed to BRs)
- Better understanding of access contracts in practice





# IUCN Example from the COMIFAC region

- ***“Supporting ratification and implementation of the Protocol in the COMIFAC region”***
- Short-term consultancy funded by the French Government:
  - Develop a situation analysis of status of ratification/implementation in the 10 countries, identify needs
  - Develop an analysis of the gaps/barriers and propose a way forward of areas where IUCN provide support
- Main **areas needing support** include: establishment of national ABS legal frameworks compliant with the NP; development of diagnostics and mapping of actors and sectoral policies; inventories of GRs and TK at national level...
- **Way forward:** Development of a project proposal (roadmap) proposing concrete actions to follow-up to the recommendations



# IUCN Example from Nepal

- ***“Strengthening Capacities for Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Nepal” (GEF MSP)***
- **Preliminary capacity assessment (ABS scorecard):**
  - Capacity to generate, access and use ABS information and knowledge is very limited (Even when information exists, it is not adequate for decision-making processes)
  - Capacity for engagement is limited (stakeholders initially mapped)
  - Capacity for developing ABS strategy, policy and legislation is also limited (lack of adequate frameworks; no implementation of existing ones)
  - Capacity related to management and implementation is very limited (lack of resources for programmes and projects, lack of skills and technology needed)

# IUCN Example from the Caribbean

- ***“Advancing the Nagoya Protocol in Countries of the Caribbean Region”*** (GEF project proposal, 2017-2018)
- Seeking uptake of the Nagoya Protocol in general and implementation of key measures to make the Protocol operational in Caribbean countries (A& B, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis, T&T)
- Initial assessment of national baselines carried out
- Planning a series of awareness-raising and training activities with national authorities, legal and technical support, development of national ABS frameworks, stakeholder identification...





# IUCN Next steps

- In general:
  - Match needs (and expectations) with existing resources
  - Establish partnerships for collaboration – increase fundraising (holistic approach to fundraising)
- For projects/ initiatives starting:
  - Continue to establish synergies with other ongoing activities in those regions (ensure value added, no duplication)
  - Make the best out of the short timeframes and start follow-up plans (ensure continuation of efforts including through NBSAPs)