



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



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Outline

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UNEP'S ABS RELATED WORK

- UNEP handles a big portfolio of ABS projects that are both pre- Nagoya Protocol and focus on ratification & implementation of the Protocol.
- Focus of this presentation is on activities in support of the Protocol
- UNEP responds to requests from countries for:
 - Support to review national legislation, policy and institutional frameworks relating to ABS in order to identify gaps.
 - Technical assistance and legal advice to countries that have not yet included ABS measures in their national legislation and policies.
 - Technical assistance and legal advice to countries to strengthen existing ABS frameworks in line with Nagoya Protocol provisions.





Capacity Building Activities at the Global Level

Capacity building workshop under the Global Project to support the ratification and entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2013. The workshop:

- Initiated discussions among the twenty participating countries to promote awareness on the obligations under the Protocol.
- Focused on assisting the countries to develop ABS measures to expedite ratification or accession to the Nagoya Protocol.
- Promoted further understanding of the core provisions of the Nagoya Protocol.





Activities at the Global Level (Cont.)

- Supported preparation of national roadmaps and action plans towards the ratification of the Protocol.
- The workshop also served as a platform for the exchange of experiences and lessons learned on ABS and was an opportunity to launch the UNEP-GEF Project on the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol.
- The twenty participating countries conducted training workshops, roundtable discussions and seminars targeting stakeholders to ensure understanding of the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol. *(13 countries have ratified the Protocol so far)*
- From the Project funds, several countries translated the Protocol into their local languages for outreach activities.





Capacity Building Activities at the Regional Level

A capacity building workshop was organized for ten Central African countries in Kigali, Rwanda in March 2015. The workshop focused on:

- Analysis of policy and legal gaps, as well as implications of being party to the Protocol in order to take informed decisions.
- Exchange of experiences and lessons learned on steps taken and progress made by countries that have already ratified or acceded to the Nagoya Protocol and those countries still in the process.





Activities at the Regional Level (Cont.)

- Discussion on compliance requirements including legislative, administrative, and policy measures.
- Developing work plans towards ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.
- The project participating countries plan to conduct training activities supporting integration of the Nagoya Protocol into legal, administrative and policy frameworks, as well as:
 - Training of ILCs, farmers and other stakeholders on the importance of the Protocol.
 - Public awareness and advocacy campaigns, and dissemination of outreach material.





Capacity Building Activities at the National Level

Various activities under a project to develop Microbial Biotechnology industry from a Soda lake in Kenya, in line with the Nagoya Protocol were undertaken.

(1) Road map towards domestication and development of effective ABS laws was held in Naivasha, Kenya in January 2015. The workshop brought together key stakeholders and focused on:

- Reviewing ABS national legislation, policies and administrative frameworks, while noting existing initiatives on benefit sharing at the national and county levels.
- Creating a roadmap for domestication and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol through the development of an effective ABS framework.
- Developing measures to increase the capacity of relevant stakeholders in relation to ABS.



Activities at the National Level (Cont.)

(2) Workshop on Soda Lakes Community Structures for ABS agreements was held in Naivasha, Kenya in March 2015 and focused on:

- Community ownership in ABS and the Nagoya Protocol obligations.
- Discussions on the Biocultural Community Protocols and the benefits to the communities.
- Bioprospecting, associated research and taxonomic studies.
- Development of measures to increase the capacities of ILCs with emphasis on enhancing the capacities of women within the communities in relation to ABS.





Activities at the National Level (Cont.)

(3) Soda lakes Microbial Bioprospecting training was held in Nakuru, Kenya in April 2015 and focused on:

- Operationalization of microbial culture collection.
- Establishment of model ABS agreements between providers and users in compliance with the Nagoya Protocol.
- Fast tracking the processing of soda lake products.



Activities at the National Level (Cont.)

(4) Workshop conducted on Ex-Situ Conservation in Kenya was held in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2015. The workshop focused on:

- Sharing experiences on establishing standards for ex-situ collections with emerging issues and effective policy/legislative development.
- Establishing a road map to culture collections in Kenya.
- Discussing the current policies and legislations for establishing ex-situ collections.

Activities at the National Level (Cont.)

National workshops on Community Protocols have taken place and focused on:

- Seeking greater protection for traditional knowledge (TK), traditional territories and natural resources.
- REDD+ schemes and payment for ecosystem services.
- Enhancing negotiation skills.
- Protecting and revitalizing cultural traditions and TK.



Activities at the National Level (Cont.)

- Promoting conservation and customary sustainable use of natural resources, including medicinal plants and traditional breeds.
- Seeking recognition and protection of ILCs genetic resources (GR) and associated TK.
- Improving access to traditional territories to continue traditional practices.
- Regulating access and benefit sharing of community resources and associated TK, both within the community and for third parties.





Capacity Building Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean

To facilitate efforts of countries in LAC to domesticate the Protocol, UNEP-ROAP will provide:

- Support to review national legislation, policy and institutional frameworks relating to ABS .
- Training on ABS and Protection of Traditional Knowledge to Promote Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in Guatemala.



Capacity Building Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean (Cont.)

- Capacity building to advance the Nagoya Protocol in ten countries in the Caribbean.
- Sensitization workshops for the members of parliaments and other governmental institutions involved in the ratification process
- Development and use of methods to establish value of genetic resources.





Planned Activities in Africa

Workshop under the Project on the Implementation of National Strategy and Action Plan on Access to Genetic Resources will be held in Gabon in Q4 2015 with the following objectives:

- To gather legal and baseline information and identify the gaps that need to be addressed.
- To strengthen the capacity of stakeholders on ABS including indigenous and local communities.
- To develop a national regime on ABS and implement the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol.
- To develop and use valuation methods for genetic resources.





Planned Activities in Asia and Pacific

Under the China Fund Project on ABS, there are three main components for support to be provided to three selected ASEAN countries:

(1) National ABS regulatory and institutional frameworks for three selected ASEAN countries are initiated or further developed

The following activities will be organized under this Component:

- One national consultation per selected ASEAN country relating to the adoption and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.
- Review and prepare a report on status of ABS regulatory and institutional frameworks in selected ASEAN countries.
- Technical support for developing ABS regulatory and institutional frameworks.





Planned Activities in Asia and Pacific

(2) Human and institutional capacity of key stakeholder groups is enhanced to promote their participation in the implementation of community protocols, bioprospecting and biotechnology research aligned to the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, depending on the needs of each selected country

The following activities will be organized under this Component:

- A national capacity building workshop per selected ASEAN country on issues related to community protocols, bioprospecting and biotechnology research aligned to the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, depending on the priorities identified in each country.
- Piloting of administrative or policy measures to implement community protocols, bioprospecting, biotechnology research, depending priorities identified in each country.





Planned Activities in Asia and Pacific

(3) Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing and learning on ABS within ASEAN countries and China enhanced.

The following activities will be organized under this Component:

- A regional workshop focusing on national ABS regulatory and institutional frameworks, as well as specific thematic areas such as community protocols, research, bio-prospecting and biotechnology. This workshop will also serve as a forum to disseminate outcomes of activities implemented in selected pilot countries under components 1 and 2.



Planned Activities in Asia and Pacific (Cont.)

Three pilot countries (ASEAN) will be selected and national consultations/capacity building workshops are being scheduled in September/October 2015 focusing on discussions of current status of the implementation of Nagoya Protocol & training on the latest updates on the Protocol, especially on areas identified by each country.

A workshop will be held in early 2016 to enhance regional cooperation, knowledge sharing on ABS within ASEAN countries and China.



Emerging Experiences

- Support to biotechnology research and innovative projects based on genetic resources and traditional knowledge in compliance with national legislation on ABS and NP.
- Support to development of value chains of nature-based products in developing business models, and stimulating investment to genetic returns.
- As a result of the legal certainty brought by the Nagoya Protocol, even countries that had ABS legislation or regulations in response to the Bonn Guidelines, are now reviewing their ABS laws to be fully compliant with the requirements of the Nagoya Protocol.





Lessons Learned

- There is lack of capacity in several countries in formulating ABS legislation, as well as setting up the necessary infrastructure in support of the implementation of the Protocol.
- Need to develop capacity to negotiate Mutually Agreed Terms.
- Need to develop capacity in research capabilities to add value to the genetic resources.
- Need for Francophone ABS/legal experts to train trainers in Central & West African countries.
- Strong political will coupled with mobilizing key policy and decision-makers is crucial to move the ratification process forward.





Potential Opportunities for Cooperation

ABS projects in different regions provide opportunity to work in complementary manner in order to avoid duplication of efforts

- Each project should fill gaps already identified by participating countries.
- Experience sharing and regional cooperation in the ratification and implementation of the Protocol is necessary.

Through capacity building workshops, collaboration can be fostered with entities such as ABS Initiative/GIZ, IUCN and UNDP.

- Opportunity for collaboration in developing e-book on experiences of countries and lessons learned.





Thank you for your attention.

