

NOTIFICATION**Invitation to participate in the clearing-house mechanism virtual/poster knowledge fair at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Starting at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Executive Secretary has recognized progress made by Parties in the development of national clearing-house mechanisms through the clearing-house mechanism (CHM) awards. In decisions [15/16](#) and [16/9](#), the Conference of the Parties decided to continue the CHM Awards programme up until 2030.

To make the CHM Awards programme more interactive, the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation, has redesigned it as part of a broader knowledge fair. Consequently, a virtual/poster display CHM Knowledge Fair will be organized during the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 17) to provide an opportunity for showcasing efforts to implement the CHM programme of work, pursuant to decision 16/9. Furthermore, the Fair will include the CHM Award ceremony which will be held during COP 17 to recognize selected contributions and highlight good practices in the implementation of the CHM programme of work.

Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations, including the Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centres, are invited to participate in the CHM Knowledge Fair and to share their experiences in implementing the goals of the CHM programme of work by submitting digital posters that demonstrate progress made towards one of the four goals of the programme of work, namely: promoting technical and scientific cooperation; facilitating the exchange of information; supporting monitoring; and facilitating networking and collaboration in relation to the CHM programme of work.

The modalities for the CHM Knowledge Fair and the CHM Award, including information on the poster theme, submission requirements and template, are available at: <https://www.cbd.int/chm/award>. Virtual copies of posters will be published on the CHM portal prior to the start of the Fair and will also be printed and displayed at COP 17.

Parties and observers are requested to send their poster entries by **20 August 2026**, by uploading their submissions on the CHM portal at [this link](#). It is strongly recommended to use the poster template provided in the above-mentioned modalities when making submissions.

For further information or assistance in completing the poster template form, Parties and observers may contact the CHM Team by e-mail at chm@cbd.int.

I look forward to your participation in the process and wish all applicants the best of luck.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary

To: CBD national focal points, CHM focal points, Cartagena Protocol focal points, ABS focal points, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, other relevant organizations, and Technical and Scientific Cooperation Support Centres of the Convention