

### Factsheet for the Protocol on Biosafety

## Biodiversity is life





## Biodiversity is our life

# Capacity-Building

The Protocol requires Parties to cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in biosafety for the purpose of the effective implementation of the Protocol. This includes cooperation on scientific and technical training in the proper and safe management of biotechnology, and in the use of risk assessment and risk management for biosafety, and the enhancement of technological and institutional capacities in biosafety. Since the adoption of the Protocol, a number of measures have been taken at the global, regional and national levels to facilitate the strengthening of the capacities of Parties.

COP-MOP adopted an Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol to guide and streamline the capacity-building efforts. The Action Plan identifies priority capacity-building areas/ elements requiring urgent action and outlines a series of steps and activities to be undertaken. To date, there is a revised set of indicators for monitoring the Action Plan.

A Coordination Mechanism has also been established to promote partnerships, complementarities and synergies between various capacity-building initiatives through: sharing of information on existing initiatives, opportunities, training courses and resource materials and organization of coordination meetings for governments and organizations implementing and/or funding biosafety capacity-building activities to share information, experiences and lessons learned.

Over the years, a roster of biosafety experts has been established and recently revised to "provide advice and other support, as appropriate and upon request, to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, to conduct risk assessment, make informed decisions, develop national human resources and promote institutional strengthening.

The Secretariat has held a number of regional capacity-building workshops on the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH), risk assessment and risk management and other issues.









#### **Fast Facts**

- To date, more than 136 capacity-building projects have been initiated in different countries/regions, according to the information registered in the BCH.
- COP-MOP 4 adopted new criteria and minimum requirements for experts to the roster of experts for a period of four years.
- The total international financial assistance for biosafety capacity development in developing countries over the last 10 years stands at over US\$ 135 million, according to a study carried out by the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies. The largest proportion of this is provided by the Global Environment Facility.

### Learn More

Capacity-building under the Protocol: https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb\_art22.shtml

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/

Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) http://bch.cbd.int

Biosafety Protocol News (newsletter) http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb newsletter.shtml

Register your initiative for the IYB: Capacity-building opportunities databases in theBiosafety Clearing-House, materials and information on opportunities for supporting projects related to public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms <a href="http://bch.cbd.int/database/activities">http://bch.cbd.int/database/activities</a>