



## Socio-Economic Considerations

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety establishes the right of Parties to take into account socio-economic considerations arising from the impact of living modified organisms (LMOs) on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, especially with regard to the value of biodiversity to indigenous and local communities, in reaching a decision on whether to import LMOs. The inclusion of socio-economic considerations in Parties' decision-making on the import of LMOs must be consistent with their other international obligations. The Protocol also encourages Parties to cooperate on research and information exchange on any socio-economic impacts of LMOs, especially on indigenous and local communities.

The issue of socio-economic considerations under the Protocol was first considered by the Parties at their second meeting. The meeting requested Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations to provide their views and case studies concerning socio-economic impacts of LMOs. These views and case studies were considered by the Parties at their fourth meeting.

The sixth coordination meeting for governments and organizations implementing and/or funding biosafety capacity-building activities has also considered possibilities for cooperation in identifying needs for capacity-building for research and information exchange on socio-economic impacts of LMO.

The Division of GEF Coordination of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity conducted an online survey on the application of and experience in the use of socio-economic considerations in decision-making on LMOs





## Fast Facts

- According to the first national reports, some countries, such as Colombia, Indonesia and South Africa, have taken socio-economic considerations into account in their decision-making regarding LMOs.
- To date, Parties and other Governments are sharing information and experiences on socio-economic impacts of LMOs through the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH).

### Learn More

Socio-Economic Considerations under the Protocol:

[https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb\\_art26.shtml](https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art26.shtml)

Survey on Socio-Economic Considerations: <http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/socioeconomics.shtml>

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: <https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/>

Biosafety Clearing-House: <http://bch.cbd.int>

Frequently asked questions: [https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb\\_faqs.shtml](https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_faqs.shtml)

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