



UNEP's Briefing to the 2nd Committee of UNGA 30 October 2013

Supporting the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity regarding

Access to Genetic Resources and Sharing of Benefits Arising out of their Utilization



UNEP's Briefing to the 2nd Committee of UNGA on Access and Benefits Sharing

Previous involvement of UNEP in the negotiations leading to the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol

- Providing financial support to Co-Chairs of the CBD's Ad-Hoc Open Ended Working Group which negotiated the text of the Protocol.
- Organizing capacity building workshops for negotiators.
- Facilitating regional coordination meetings prior to negotiating sessions
- Producing technical publications



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Institutional involvement of UNEP

The Nagoya Protocol was negotiated under the Convention on Biological Diversity, for which the UNEP carry out the functions of the Secretariat:

- CBD CoP Decision 1/4: “1. Designates the United Nations Environment Programme to carry out the functions of the Secretariat of the Convention while ensuring its autonomy to discharge the functions referred to in Article 24.”
- Nagoya Protocol article 28: “1. The Secretariat established by Article 24 of the Convention shall serve as the secretariat to this Protocol.”



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Programmatic involvement of UNEP

UNEP Strategic Framework and Programme of Work 2014-2015:

- “UNEP will support efforts of Governments to develop and enforce environmental laws and comply with relevant international environmental standards and obligation including, through legal technical assistance and training and other legal capacity-building activities.” (Sub-programme of Work on Environmental Governance)
- “Special attention will also be given to equity issues including, but not limited to, access and benefits sharing and how vulnerable and disadvantaged communities could be compensated or rewarded for their ecosystem stewardship.” (Sub-programme of Work on Ecosystem Management)



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Strategic objectives of on-going initiatives of UNEP

- Carrying out the functions of the Secretariat of the Protocol.
- Supporting and building capacity of Member States for the early ratification and entering into force of the Nagoya Protocol, in particular by developing/reviewing/updating national regulatory frameworks for the implementation of the Protocol.
- Supporting Member States in the valorization of genetic resources.
- Supporting the integration of the Protocol in broader national planning instruments and in particular supporting 60+ Member States in developing their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) where ABS issues are being incorporated.



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UNEP's involvement in other related initiatives

- Member of the Joint Steering Committee of the ABS Capacity Building Initiative for Africa.
- MoU with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) aiming at facilitating the implementation of the Treaty in harmony with the Nagoya Protocol.



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UNEP projects supporting and providing capacity building to Member States for the early ratification and entering into force of the Protocol

- SCBD GEF project
- GEF Global support project
- GEF project for Africa
- GEF project for COMIFAC
- GEF project for Asia and Pacific
- GEF project for Latin America and Caribbean
- GEF Project for Guatemala
- GEF project for Mozambique



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UNEP projects supporting Member States in the valorization of genetic resources

- Ethiopia project
- India project
- Kenya project



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SCBD GEF project

Capacity Building for the Early Entry into Force of the Protocol on
Access and Benefit Sharing

Objectives: To assist GEF-eligible Parties to prepare for ratification
and the early entry into force of the Protocol through targeted
awareness raising and capacity building

Countries involved: Global

Budget: 2,104,150 USD

Timeframe: 2010-2012





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GEF Global support project

Global Support for the Entry into Force of the Nagoya Protocol on
Access and Benefit Sharing

Objectives: Providing technical support to countries for developing or reviewing/updating national legislative frameworks for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

Countries involved: 30 countries worldwide

Budget: 1,627,500 USD

Timeframe: 2012-2014



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GEF project for Africa

Supporting the development and implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing Policies in Africa

Objectives: Development, implementation and review of ABS frameworks in six African countries

Countries involved: Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa

Budget: 2,179,350 USD

Timeframe: 2009-2011



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GEF project for COMIFAC

Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol for the Member countries of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC)

Objectives: Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and the implementation of its basic provisions by the member countries of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC)

Countries involved: Cameroon; Chad; Central African Republic; Equatorial Guinea; Gabon; Republic of Congo; Rwanda; Sao Tome and Principe

Budget: 10,126,500 USD

Timeframe: 2013-2016





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GEF project for Asia and Pacific

Building Capacity for Regionally Harmonized National Processes for Implementing CBD Provisions on Access to Genetic Resources and Sharing of Benefits

Objectives:

- To strengthen the capacity of Southeast countries to implement the CBD provisions on ABS through the development of full and effective national ABS frameworks.
- To increase understanding of ABS issues among stakeholders and the general public and strengthen national capacity for country negotiators to have full understanding of issues and preferred options in the negotiations on the international ABS regime in a way that protects national interests and promotes equitable benefit sharing .
- To improve public understanding of the contribution ABS can make to biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

Countries involved: Regional Asia-Pacific

Budget: 1,500,000 USD

Timeframe: 2011-2014



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GEF Project for Latin America and the Caribbean

Strengthening the Implementation of Access and Benefits Sharing Regimes in Latin America and the Caribbean

Objectives:

- To strengthen the capacity of eight countries to develop, put in place and implement national policy and legal framework to comply with the provisions of the CBD regarding access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of those resources and of the associated traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities.
- To increment the understanding of ABS agreements and the negotiation skills of countries, in a way that will contribute to align bio prospecting projects and national ABS decisions with the CBS, while also benefiting the definition of the CBD's international ABS regime.

Countries involved: Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, and Peru.

Budget: \$ 1,802,166

Timeframe: 2011-2014





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GEF Project for Guatemala

Access and Benefit Sharing and Protection of Traditional Knowledge
to Promote Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use

Objectives: To strengthen the subsystem of wetland protected areas to respond to existing and emerging threats to their globally significant biodiversity with a focus on ABS.

Countries involved: Guatemala

Budget: 972,014

Timeframe: 2013-2017





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Mozambique project

Objectives: Development of the National Clearing House Mechanism and Capacity Assessment for ABS and taxonomy.

Countries involved: Mozambique

Budget: 195,200 USD

Timeframe: 2010-2011



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GEF Ethiopia project

Capacity Building for Access and Benefit Sharing and Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal plants

Objectives: To ensure conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and associated traditional knowledge through conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants and the effective implementation of a revised national access and benefit sharing.

Countries involved: Ethiopia

Budget: 4,682,000 USD

Timeframe: 2012-2015





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GEF India project

Strengthening the Implementation of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules on its Access and Benefit Sharing Provisions

Objectives: Institutional, individual and systemic capacities of stakeholders are increased to effectively implement the Biological Diversity Act and the Rules to achieve biodiversity conservation through implementing ABS agreements in India.

Countries involved: India

Budget: 9,889,000 USD

Timeframe: 2010-2012





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GEF Kenya project

Objectives: The utilization of microbial genetic resources within the protected Kenyan Soda lakes for research, development and commercialization of industrial enzymes and bio-pesticides for improved resource management and livelihoods in compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing.

Countries involved: Kenya

Budget: 1,200,868 USD

Timeframe: 3 years



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NEP/GEF Projects aiming establishment of Legal and regulatory frameworks, and administrative procedures that enable access to genetic resources and benefit sharing in accordance with the CBD provisions

Integrating traditional crop genetic diversity into technology: using a biodiversity portfolio approach to buffer against unpredictable environmental change in the Nepal Himalayas

Objective : To mainstream the conservation and use of agricultural biodiversity in the mountain agricultural production landscapes of Nepal to improve ecosystem resilience, ecosystem services and access and benefits sharing capacity in mountain ecosystems

ABS component: Promoting an enabling environment for access and benefit sharing of local agricultural biodiversity planting materials

Countries involved: Nepal

Total project budget: US \$ 7,705,000

ABS component budget: US \$ 1,819,891

Timeframe: 2014-2018



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NEP/GEF Projects aiming establishment of Legal and regulatory frameworks, and administrative procedures that enable access to genetic resources and benefit sharing in accordance with the CBD provisions

Conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity to improve regulating and supporting ecosystem services in agriculture production in Uzbekistan

Objective : To mainstream the conservation and use of fruit tree biodiversity to enhance ecosystem services and thereby improve the resiliency of traditional agricultural production systems in water-scarce landscapes

ABS component: Promoting an enabling environment for access and benefit-sharing mechanisms that recognize and enhance the custodians of ecosystem services.

Countries involved: Uzbekistan

Total project budget: US \$ 5,385,845

ABS component budget: US \$ 929,480

Timeframe: 2014-2019 including project design phase



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THANK YOU!