

Progress Report 2012



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1. Executive Summary

In 2012 the ABS Capacity Development Initiative (ABS Initiative) built upon its former achievements and explored new approaches that led to progressive changes.

Relevant activities and tools once again have proven their usefulness in 2012, e.g., the Pan-African ABS Workshop, the Copenhagen ABS-Business Dialogue Forum and the trainings on the management of multistakeholder processes. Others have been conducted for the first time, e.g. integrating ABS in regional NBASP workshops in partnership with the CBD Secretariat and the workshop on interfaces between ABS, protected area management and forest governance. This workshop laid the basis to further study the linkages between ABS and protected areas management thus fostering the synergies between the ABS and protected area components of the EU funded Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) project.

The intensified support for the **ratification process** of the Nagoya Protocol in partnership with the CBD Secretariat is demonstrating impact: At least 26 ACP countries have initiated ratification processes and until the end of 2012 six of these countries have ratified the Nagoya Protocol. The inclusion of **stakeholder views** in ABS national strategies and policy documents has been strengthened. This is for example reflected in the recognition of Biocultural Community Protocols (BCPs) in (draft) ABS regulatory frameworks of seven countries.

Responding to the important **role of indigenous and local communities** as providers of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge the ABS Initiative is continuing to support the African BCP Initiative of Natural Justice and the ETC Compass. A synthesis workshop in Ghana provided guidance for the African BCP Initiative for its further work on establishing BCPs as linkage between customary and formal law in the ABS arena.

As the key financial and technical partner of the African Union Commission for ABS capacity development the ABS Initiative continued to support the drafting of the **AU Guidelines on a coordinated implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa**. In addition, a series of interlinked studies were initiated to assess the **business potential for the (commercial) utilization** of genetic resources in the six pilot countries (Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa) of the UNEP/GEF-4 ABS Capacity Building Project for Africa. Several exchange fora with the private sector – be it intermediaries in the value or supply chain or as end user producing consumer products – provided excellent opportunities for African National Focal Points to gain insight into the varying **business models of the relevant sectors** and better understand the need for an enabling environment to foster realizing the third objective of the CBD.

With the EU membership in the ABS Initiative becoming fully operational in 2012, a series of activities and ABS capacity building processes were initiated in **the Caribbean and the Pacific**. The Initiative's longstanding experience in Africa strongly helped to adapt its activities to the needs and demands of the two new regions. With strong involvement of regional organizations such as CARICOM, SPREP and SPC government representatives and other relevant stakeholders were informed and updated on the Nagoya Protocol and related international processes during regional workshops. Furthermore, in both regions the documentation and analysis of ABS cases was initiated. First results could be presented during the **regional workshops**. **Country visits** were used to engage with relevant stakeholders in analyzing the gaps in the relevant national regulatory frameworks for implementing the Nagoya Protocol.

In 2012 a number of **analyses and background papers** have been published by the ABS Initiative and its partners – among them a gap analysis of the AU model law on ABS and a FNI study on the lessons learned from the teff case in Ethiopia.

At a global level, the ABS Initiative was present with **side-events and targeted workshops** at the CBD COP 11, the Rio+20 Summit, and the IUCN World Conservation Congress. These events were

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great opportunities to **initiate new partnerships**, for example, with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). In order to build ABS related legal capacity in ACP countries, the ABS Initiative agreed to financially and technically support the work of IDLO and CISDL on the “Global Partnership on Legal Preparedness for Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets” towards Aichi Target 16.

In line with the regional extension the ABS Initiative underwent institutional changes by establishing three Steering Committees, one for each region, one joint Steering Committee and a General Assembly meeting biannually back-to-back with the CBD COP to promote South-South exchange between stakeholders from the three regions. The Initiative’s secretariat hired more staff, among others, with the goal to strengthen the communications and knowledge management component.

Donors renewed and further expanded their financial support to the Initiative. In 2012 the Initiative was funded with a total of 3.5 Mio Euro against an actual expenditure of 3.2 Mio Euro. Donors are the EU, Denmark, Norway, Germany, and IFDD. UNEP/GEF and Australia provided parallel funding for specific projects and activities. The Agence Française de Développement (AFD) announced to intensify the exchange with the ABS Initiative with a view to join the Initiative in 2013.

Despite visible success the ABS Initiative is still facing **challenges** such as political instability in many partner countries. While some capacity gaps have been filled and skills improved there still exists a lack of experience of stakeholders in the respective countries. Nevertheless, awareness of ABS has risen significantly, in particular at a high political level and in the private sector.

In this regard 2012 laid a strong basis for more targeted and effective activities that bring the process of ratification and national implementation closer to reality.

2. Formation of the ABS Initiative

2005-2008: The Dutch-German ABS Capacity-Building Initiative for Africa

Conscious of the capacity development needs associated with negotiating and implementing an international regime on ABS, and in line with the draft elements for an Action Plan for capacity-building for ABS adopted by COP-6 in 2002, the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and GTZ¹ came together in 2005 to discuss the joint promotion of capacity development on ABS in Eastern and Southern Africa. As a result, DGIS co-funded GTZ’s supra-regional programme “Implementing the Biodiversity Convention” in order to organize a regional ABS capacity development workshop. This multi-stakeholder workshop was held in October 2005 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 50 participants from 15 different countries took stock of bioprospecting in Africa and assessed ABS capacity development needs. Participants in particular noted the following challenges:

- lack of awareness of the potential of ABS at the political level;
- insufficient functioning of national ABS regulations;
- inadequate implementation of existing regulations;
- insufficient awareness and exchange among relevant stakeholder groups;
- insufficient regional harmonisation;
- unavailability of inventories and information on the value of genetic resources;
- not adequately developed negotiation skills.

The workshop’s results were presented at the 4th meeting of the CBD Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on ABS.

¹ At 1 January 2011 the Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst (DED) gGmbH (German Development Service), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH (German technical cooperation) and InWEnt – Capacity Building International, Germany merged to Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

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Based on the substantive workshop results, participants' encouraging feedback, and the overwhelming interest of stakeholders from all over Africa, DGIS and GTZ agreed to continue their cooperation until 2008 under the framework of the **Dutch-German ABS Capacity-Building Initiative for Africa**. Africa was retained as the priority region since by international comparison this region had the greatest need for capacity development. The Initiative was launched at CBD COP 8 in March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil, with a view to offer strategic capacity development to African countries regarding both, the implementation of ABS measures at national and sub-regional level as well as the negotiation of the international ABS regime "on eye level" with other negotiating parties. Main instruments at that time were consultative meetings to support necessary Africa-wide multi-stakeholder processes, as well as thematically specific and/or regionally focused studies, workshops and trainings.

2008-2011: The ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa

The Initiative has, besides kicking off initial national and regional ABS implementation processes in several African countries, significantly contributed to the increased preparedness of African delegates in the negotiations of the international regime on ABS. Already at COP 9 in Bonn in May 2008, the African Group officially expressed its gratitude for the Initiative's assistance to the region, underlining the necessity for continuous support of ABS capacity development in Africa. Taking into account this request, the Initiative was prolonged until 2011 with increased assistance from additional donors and partners. The *Institut de l'énergie et de l'environnement de la Francophonie (IEPF)*², for example, joined the Initiative that same year to advance the integration of Francophone African countries into the Initiative's activities by contributing 100.000 Euro per year for interpretation in pan-African meetings and workshops and translation of relevant documents and studies. With the commitment of IEPF / IFDD – so far prolonged until 2018 – a first step was undertaken to develop the initially Dutch-German partnership into a multi-donor initiative for concerted ABS capacity development for Africa. As such, the Initiative was renamed into the **ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa, with a core contribution by the BMZ amounting from 500.000 to 850.000 Euro per year since 2008**.

In 2009, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs joined the Initiative committing 20 Mio NOK (~2.4 Mio Euro) to the budget of the Initiative for the period 2009-2011. As integral part of this contribution the renowned Norwegian think-tank **Fridtjof-Nansen-Institute (FNI)** is funded with 150.000 Euro per year to provide its expertise on ABS and related issues such as intellectual property rights, forest laws and linkages to relevant international instruments. Besides FNI, the ABS Initiative co-operates closely with a further think-tank, the Montreal based **Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)** which is kindly offering analytical legal expertise and backstopping activities at special partnership rates.

Also in 2009, Denmark and the European Commission expressed their interest to become permanent donors of the Initiative. To that effect the Danish Government contributed in a first step 3 Mio DKK (~450.000 Euro) to the Initiative for the organization of a pan-African Minister Conference on ABS in partnership with the Namibian Government in 2010. With an additional 530.000 Euro contribution for 2010 and 2011 Denmark became a full member of the ABS Initiative in 2010.

In 2009 as well, the EuropeAid Co-operation Office (AIDCO) started to develop a project proposal which included a contribution of 5 Mio Euro over five years to the Initiative. The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) project was finally approved by the European Commission in December 2010 as part of the Annual Action Programme 2010 in favour of Intra-ACP³ Cooperation under the 10th European Development Fund. The corresponding financing agreement between the EU and the ACP Secretariat was signed in February 2011. With the signature of the delegation agreement between the EU and GIZ in **September 2011 the EU became full member of the ABS Initiative** and

² IEPF was renamed early 2013 into *Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable (IFDD)*

³ African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States under the Cotonou Agreement of 2000

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the regional scope of the ABS Initiative was extended to include beside Africa the Caribbean and Pacific member states of the Cotonou Agreement. As a consequence, the Initiative was again renamed into **ABS Capacity Development Initiative**.

2012-2015: The ABS Capacity Development Initiative

The anticipated extension of the regional scope of the ABS Initiative from Africa to include the Caribbean and the Pacific initiated a discussion about the future governance structure of the Initiative. Key issues at the special meeting of the Steering Committee in Wendake, Canada, in June 2011 were the varying regional scope of the different donors' contributions and the question of how to ensure relevant decision making of the Steering Committee. For more details refer to the meeting report which is available at the website of the ABS Initiative. Finally, it was decided by the Steering Committee during its meeting on 5 March 2012 in Limbé, Cameroon to establish **three Regional Steering Committees** – one for each of the three regions and that the existing Steering Committee would constitute the African Steering Committee. Furthermore, with a view to facilitate exchange of experiences between the three regions and to allow for a broad discussion of capacity development needs and appropriate approaches it was decided to establish a biannual General Assembly back-to-back with CBD COPs.

Based on an assessment by NORAD, the **Government of Norway agreed to a second funding allocation** to the ABS Initiative. Early August 2012 the Secretariat was informed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that 20 Mio Nkr (~2.6 Mio Euro) targeted funding for Africa have been committed as contribution to the Initiative for 2012-2014.

The **Government of Denmark** amended the initial financing agreement of 2009 in several steps and announced that it intends **to provide from 2013 onwards 5 Mio DKK (~670,000 Euro) per year** to the ABS Initiative:

- November 2010 - contributing an additional 2.5 Mio DKK (~335,000 Euro) core funding.
- October 2011 - contributing an additional 4 Mio DKK (~536,000 Euro) core funding.

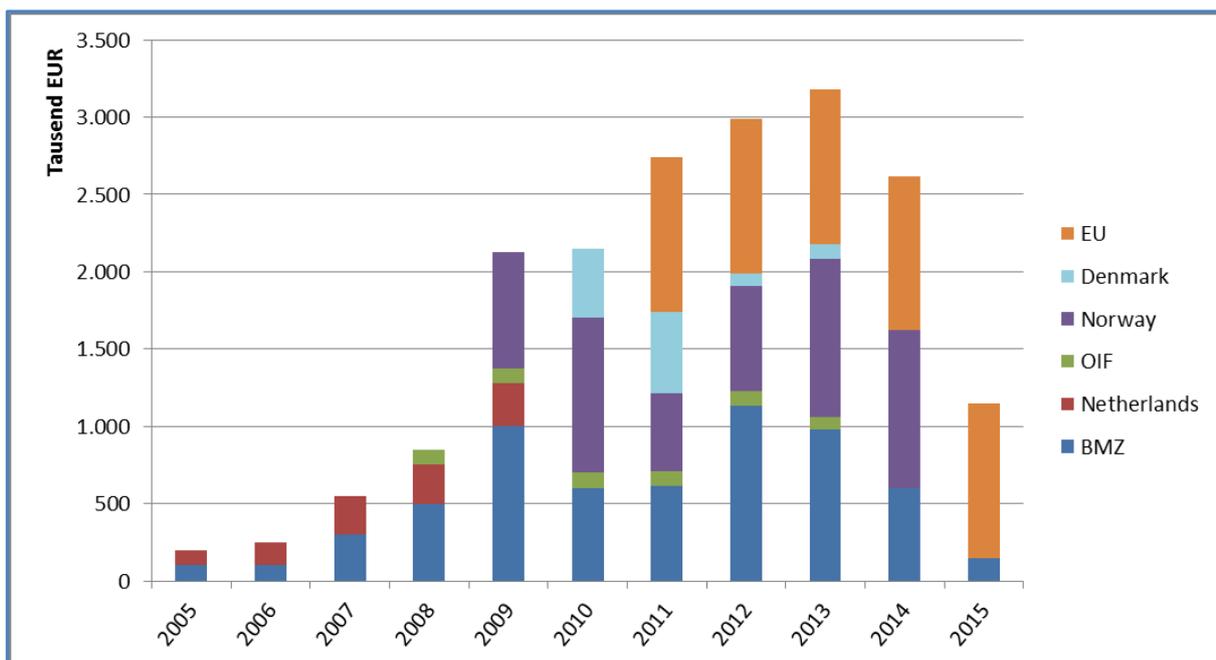


Figure 1 – Yearly funding commitments of the members the ABS Capacity Development Initiative since 2005. Until 2012 BMZ funds indicate the actual expenditure, from 2013 onwards estimates of minimum expenditure based on current planning cycles. Funds of other donors are included once financing agreements are signed, i.e. announcements for future commitments are not included.

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- December 2011 - contributing an additional 570,000 DKK (~76,000 Euro) targeted funding for organizing a business dialogue forum on ABS in mid-2012 in Copenhagen.
- December 2012 – contributing an additional 750,000 DKK (~100,000 Euro) targeted funding for Africa.

Based on the firm commitments and as illustrated in Figure 1 more than 3 Mio Euro per year are available to the Secretariat of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative with the prospect to reach 4 Mio Euro per year in 2014.

Further, it should be noted that initial discussions on financial support for ABS capacity development activities in the Pacific Region with the Australian Ministry of the Environment and AusAID took place in late 2011. Early 2012 the **Australian Government** finally committed parallel funding amounting to 300.000 AUD (~250.000 Euro) for 2012 activities of the ABS Initiative in the Pacific. In addition, the **Agence Française de Développement (AFD)** has expressed firm interest to join the multi-donor partnership and requested to participate as observer in the meeting of the African Steering Committee of the ABS Initiative in March 2013. AFD has started the necessary administrative in-house procedures to secure funding for the ABS Initiative from 2014 onwards.

As a multi-donor initiative, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative contributed to the implementation of some key aspects of the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action, notably to improve donor harmonization and aid effectiveness, and consequently to better valorise the potential for poverty alleviation at the interface of natural resources management, trade and governance. The Initiative is linked to relevant global biodiversity related environmental processes through established cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal and the United Nations Environmental Programme in Nairobi.

The importance of this regional capacity development initiative has officially been recognized at several occasions such as

- statements of the African Group at relevant CBD meetings since 2006 (WGABS 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and COP 9, 10, 11),
- letter of acknowledgement of the Executive Director of UNEP, dated 6 May 2009, on the role of the ABS Initiative in supporting the African Group in the negotiations for the Nagoya Protocol (see Progress Report 2011 of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative),
- letter of gratitude of the African chief negotiator, dated 20 November 2010, highlighting some of the positive impacts on the African negotiation team and the significance of the ABS Initiative's work (see Progress Report 2011 of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative),
- COP 10 decision on the Integration of Biodiversity into Poverty Eradication and Development (COP decision X/6, para. 12),
- the statement on the ABS Initiative in the Note of the SCBD Executive Secretary on ABS capacity building measures (UNEP/CBD/ICNP/1/4, para. 37): "Although limited to the African continent, this initiative constitutes the most comprehensive attempt to build capacity and awareness on ABS."
- the reference in ICNP-1 Recommendation 1/2 on measures to assist in capacity-building and development and the strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in developing countries and Parties with economies in transition : "*Taking note* of the previous and ongoing ABS capacity-building initiatives supported by the Global Environment Facility, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other organizations and institutions, including the ABS Capacity Development Initiative that has expanded from Africa to other regions, and of the experiences and lessons learned from those initiatives,"
- the reference in ICNP-2 Recommendation 2/5 on measures to assist in capacity-building, capacity development and strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in developing countries and Parties with economies in transition: "*Recognizing* the wealth of

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experiences and lessons learned as well as instruments and methodologies that have been developed under various ABS capacity development initiatives, such as the ABS Capacity Development Initiative that has expanded from Africa to other regions,”

- letter of acknowledgement of the UNEP Executive Director highlighting the negotiators' capacity building for ICNP-1 / ICNP-2 and calling donors to support the ABS Initiative's work towards capacity development for national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol (see Annex A)
- reporting of SCBD at the meeting of the African Steering Committee, 2-3 March 2013, held in Phalaborwa, South Africa, which re-affirmed the Initiative's significant role in supporting the SCBD in its ABS capacity building workshops and being a key partner to promote ratification of the Nagoya Protocol (see Report of the African Steering Committee Meeting 2013).

The high recognition is further reflected by the interest of other relevant players at the international level to collaborate with the ABS Initiative in various forms. For example, representatives of FAO/ITPGRF, UNEP, UNESCO, UNCTAD, WIPO, GEF, SCBD, UNU, IUCN, AFD, AusAID, SECCO, MNHN, or ICC are pleased to participate in the Initiative's various events and cooperate on relevant issues and projects. Further, relevant government authorities of Brazil and Mexico expressed their interest for an exchange on ABS policies and capacity development towards the national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

3. Finances: Budget and Expenditure in 2012 (see Annex B)

The projected budget for planned activities in 2012 amounted to 3,5 Mio Euro whereas the actual **expenditure amounted to a total of 3.2 Mio Euro**, composed of:

- Core-funding contributions of BMZ and the EU.
- Funding contributions of Norway and Denmark targeted for Africa.
- Targeted funding contribution of IFDD for interpretation and translation.
- Targeted and monetarised in-kind contributions of BMZ.
- Parallel funds of the regional UNEP/GEF project for ABS capacity development in Africa.
- Parallel funds of Australian Government for specific activities in the Pacific region.

Unfortunately, due to delayed administrative processes the newly committed Norwegian funds were only made available late in December 2012. Therefore, only remaining funds of the previous Norwegian allocations could be spend for the implementation of activities in 2012.

Further details about the expenditure are provided in the detailed account in Annex B. The yearly GIZ internal audit took place in April 2012 and was passed without prudential complaints.

All budget allocations for activities were managed by the Secretariat in accordance with the Work Plan 2012 endorsed by the Steering Committee during its meeting on 5 March 2012 in Limbé, Cameroon. Donors are always duly mentioned in all documents of the

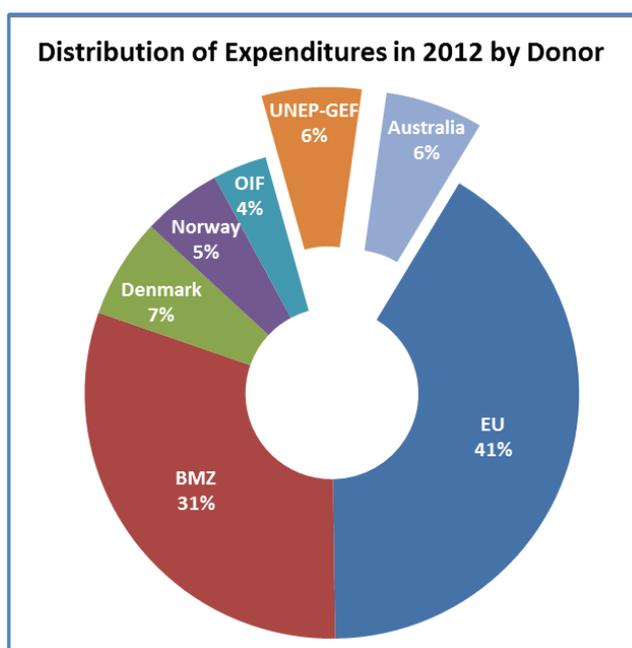


Figure 2 –Distribution of total expenditure (3,2 Mio €) of the ABS Initiative in 2012 by donor. UNEP/GEF and Australian funds are managed separately, i.e. parallel to the ABS Initiative budget.

ABS Initiative – by name and/or by logo as appropriate. Unexpected delays in processing donor contributions (see above) resulted in delayed availability of funds for the implementation of activities. This could be partly compensated by the additionally available funds of BMZ and the utilization of EU funds. However, the financial uncertainty forced the Secretariat to delay the hiring of one additional staff member until late 2012.

As in previous years, the SCBD contributed in-kind to the ABS Initiative by actively participating in and contributing to a number of workshops, with logistical support in the context of different meetings and providing substantive advice on technical documents being developed by the Initiative.

4. Implementation of the Work Plan 2012: Challenges and Changes

The major challenge of structuring the work plan for ABS capacity development lies in the fact that many activities contribute to more than one indicator or even to more than one outcome or one objective. Responding to the discussions at the meeting of the African Steering Committee in March 2013, the majority of activities are outlined in chapter “5. Assessment of Impacts”. This present chapter is highlighting activities with significant changes in either the timing or design as compared to the Work Plan 2012.

In addition, **new activities** which have not been included in the original Work Plan are also described here. A significant amount of additional funds was made available mid-2012 by the BMZ to GIZ implemented projects and could be accessed by the ABS Initiative. Some of these funds were targeted for South-South exchange involving BRICS countries. This was done without prior consultation of the Steering Committees, as concept papers had to be submitted at very short notice.

All relevant details about the different activities are documented on the Initiative’s website <http://www.abs-initiative.info>.

National / regional implementation

Côte d'Ivoire: Activities concerning the repatriation of data on the genetic resources of the Tai Park held by the French National Museum of Natural History (MNHN) in Paris had to be postponed to begin in 2013 due to delays in finalizing the project document and the change of the national ABS focal point of Côte d'Ivoire (see Chapter 6, Outcome 2.1).

Liberia: Cumbersome administrative processes and problems with communication slowed down progress towards the finalization of the draft national ABS bill and subsequent implementation by the Environmental Protection Agency (see Chapter 6, Outcome 2.1).

Malawi: The idea to develop a GEF NPIF project proposal in partnership with TreeCrops Ltd. was not pursued by the Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) in 2012. Instead bilateral consultations and a national workshop with all relevant government authorities was organized by EAD and TreeCrops Ltd. with the funding support of the GIZ implemented programme “Strengthening Public Finance and Economic Management” to discuss and clarify permitting procedures for access and utilization (incl. export) of biological and genetic resources (see Chapter 6, Outcome 2.1).

Within the framework of the **UNEP/GEF-4 African ABS Capacity Building Project** slow administrative processes and problems with communication prevented progress towards project implementation in **Mozambique**.

Value chain establishment

The delay in drafting the terms of reference for the assessment of ABS related business opportunities in the six countries under the UNEP/GEF-4 project (see Outcome 2.1) turned into a chance to significantly upscale the scope of the study, also due to BMZ funds that were made available at short

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notice mid- 2012. The study which will now be conducted by consultants during the first half of 2013 consists of three parts,

- assessment of transaction costs for users and providers,
- estimation of commercial value of genetic resources based on a patent analysis and market potentials, and
- assessment of enabling environments conducive for ABS agreements.

Amplifying ABS processes

Linking with capacity development processes for the ITPGRFA: As discussed with representatives of the ITPGRFA and the CBD Secretariats at the margins of the 4th meeting of the Working Group on the Review of Implementation (WGRI-4) in Montreal, Canada, in May 2012, an expert workshop hosted by Bioversity International in Rome was scheduled for early November. A concept paper was meant to be developed for the workshop by the ABS Initiative, as well as two stock-taking studies on the implementation of the ITPGRFA and CBD provisions on ABS were to be commissioned. Consultation on the concept paper with the two Secretariats and Bioversity International took longer than originally expected resulting in the **postponement of the workshop until the end of January 2013**, to also allow for sufficient time for the preparation of the studies and sufficiently early invitations to the experts.

However, a concrete first step towards common implementation oriented activities was a capacity development building workshop of the CBD and the ITPGRFA Secretariats jointly organized with Bioversity International and the ABS Initiative preceding the ICNP-2 meeting in India (June 2012).

Integrating ABS in the German bilateral development cooperation programme in Namibia is making slow progress. As a concrete outcome of the 2010 ABS Business Dialogue Forum in Copenhagen, Denmark, PhytoTrade Africa has proposed to the KfW Development Bank to financially support the development of a regional R&D platform in Namibia for improving research and product development in the provider countries of biological and genetic resources to enable more value creation in the provider countries. Finally, conducting a feasibility study on the platform has been approved in the Namibian-German consultations in February 2013 (to be finally negotiated between the partners in November 2013) – the work on the pre-feasibility part of the study has started already in December 2012.

(Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes

ABS and intellectual property rights (IPRs): Due to the lack of funds the three training courses in English, French and Portuguese for ABS National Focal Points on the basics of IP instruments and challenges of integrating IPRs in PIC and MAT had to be postponed to 2013.

Legal & Technical Skills Training Course: Due to the lack of funds the basic training course designed by the University of Cape Town (UCT) in close collaboration with the ABS Initiative had to be postponed from the last quarter 2012 until the first quarter in 2013.

5. Meetings of the Steering Committees and General Assembly

African SC

The annual meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) took place on 4 and 5 February 2012 in Limbé, Cameroon, back-to-back with the 6th Pan-African ABS Workshop. As in previous years, donor representatives used the opportunity to participate for at least a few days in the 6th Pan-African ABS Workshop, to intensify their exchange with African stakeholders and to get first hand impressions and feedback on the capacity development needs.

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The discussions during the meeting focused on (1) the role of the different donors in the different regions, (2) the need for a more elaborated monitoring framework, (3) the role of the ABS Initiative and the criteria for the engagement with the private sector, and (4) the need to support early ratification of the Nagoya Protocol. Regarding the governance structure, the SC agreed to establish three regional steering committees with the option to call a joint meeting. After the meeting, the work plan and the 2012 budget for Africa were revised accordingly by the Secretariat of the Initiative and approved by the SC via email.

Caribbean SC

At the 1st Caribbean ABS Workshop in September 2012 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, an Interim Steering Group was formed. It consists of five government and two non-government members, the Secretariats of the CARICOM, the OECS, the ABS Initiative, the CBD and of one donor representative. The group was informed periodically about the regional activities of the Initiative. The next meeting and the formal election of a Steering Committee is envisaged to happen back-to-back with the 2nd Caribbean ABS Workshop scheduled for 2013.

Pacific SC

Back-to-back with the Oceania Biodiscovery Forum, Brisbane, Australia, the Initiative organized the first meeting of the Pacific Steering Committee on 22 November 2012. Discussions highlighted the need for supporting the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol at national level which is a significant challenge for the countries in the region due to small administrations. Hence, the potential role and potential responsibilities of regional organizations need to be carefully assessed. Work plan and budget for the Pacific in 2013 were discussed. The documents were finalized after the meeting by the Secretariat of the Initiative and approved by the Pacific SC via email.

General Assembly

The 1st General Assembly of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative took place on 20 October 2012 back-to-back with COP 11 in Hyderabad, India, bringing together members of all three Regional Steering Committees, partners of the ABS Initiative and interested stakeholders. During the introductory round it was highlighted

- by several speakers that capacity development for ABS in Africa creates a significant spill over to the performance of the African negotiators on other CBD topics,
- by the representative of the AU Commission that during the last month several relevant bodies endorsed a coherent implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa,
- by the representative of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) that support for national implementation is key in the region and that the development of a common Pacific voice in relevant international negotiations would be needed,
- by the representative of the SCBD that support for early ratification is still very much needed and that the collaboration with the ABS Initiative is highly appreciated.

Furthermore, the representative of the IFDD announced that the support of IFDD to the ABS Initiative will be extended until 2018.

Participants suggested that the ABS Initiative should address more intensely

- the linkages of ABS and IPRs: need for more trainings; use of contracts to protect IP;
- the coherent implementation of the ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol at national level
- awareness raising, including at the local level.

Further discussions addressed the relationship between the ABS Initiative and the GEF, including the link to the NPIF and how the ABS Initiative should engage with the private sector. Considering the

broadened regional scope of the ABS Initiative, it was also suggested that South-South exchange between the regions should be facilitated by the Initiative in its further work.

6. Assessment of Impacts

Responding to the request of the Steering Committee, the report on the implementation of the Workplan 2012 is structured along the outcome indicators as listed in the Programme Document 2012-2015 and thus provides directly an overview on the **project impacts achieved until the end of 2012**.

6.1 Outcome 1.1 – Support for ratification

Objective 1: ACP countries have ratified the Nagoya Protocol and benefit after its entry into force from its compliance mechanisms at the international as well as national levels.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
1.1 Partner countries of the Initiative have acquired the analytical and communication skills as well as the essential information necessary for the timely ratification of the Nagoya protocol (in close cooperation with SCBD)	At least 8 African and 2 CP countries are using the CEPA material including the CEPA toolkit developed by the ABS Initiative. <i>MoV: Reports of meetings; Interviews</i> Status: CEPA Guide launched and copies distributed at COP 11; triggered by the Multistakeholder Training in Paris (see Outcome 5.1) a process for communication and the involvement of stakeholders in the development of the national ABS strategy has been initiated in Benin (see Outcome 2.1);
	At least 20 African and 6 CP countries have initiated ratification related consultation processes until 12/2013. <i>MoV: Number of ratifications</i> Status: Ethiopia, Gabon, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles – Fiji

CEPA materials: The 2011 developed animated short video “ABS simply explained” (5 minutes) as well as the 2012 finalized film “People, Plants and Profit” on three African bioprospecting cases and the Nagoya Protocol are widely used in national and regional events to sensitize stakeholders to the Nagoya Protocol and its national implementation. The Strategic Guide on CEPA for ABS was launched at COP 11 in Hyderabad, India and has been widely distributed as print copy and together with the video and film on USB cards.

By the end of 2012 the above listed countries from the three regions had **ratified or acceded** to the Nagoya Protocol. Numerous ACP countries have initiated ratification processes and one can expect a significant number of ratifications and accessions to happen in 2013.

Africa

As part of the Initiative’s awareness raising efforts, ABS was **integrated into the African regional NBSAP workshop organized by the SCBD** in February 2012 in Addis Ababa. Participants were national delegates of African states as well as selected regional and national representatives of indigenous peoples, academia, NGOs and industry as well as resource persons of the Secretariat of the CBD and the ABS Initiative. Main goal was to exchange information and experiences with regard to ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. At an **evening event, AU Ambassadors** were briefed about the Nagoya Protocol and the ABS potential for African countries.

In cooperation with the SCBD the Initiative participated and presented at **three parliamentarians briefings** informing about the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. The briefings took place in July in Benin (for the West African region), in August in Burkina Faso (national workshop) and in September in the Seychelles (for SADC countries). Preparations are on the way for similar workshops for Central Africa and the Maghreb region in 2013.

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As in previous years, the Initiative provided technical expertise on ABS at the **African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)** in Arusha, Tanzania, in September 2012. In their decision, ministers were calling upon the member states to ratify the Nagoya Protocol and endorsed the ABS Initiative supported process of developing Guidelines for a coordinated implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa.

These events, as well as the ABS related capacity development activities during the last years contributed to the fact that a large number of African countries initiated their ratification processes. Countries that actively participate in the events of the ABS Initiative since the beginning include:

- Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Zimbabwe

Caribbean

In April 2012, the ABS Initiative together with the SCBD, had the chance to brief the Expert Meeting of the **39th Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) - Environment and Sustainable Development** on the Nagoya Protocol and the capacity development support made available for national and regional activities. As a result the Ministerial Meeting of COTED adopted a recommendation welcoming the work of the ABS Initiative, encouraging the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol by CARICOM Member States and requesting the CARICOM Secretariat to collaborate with the ABS Initiative. Based on this political mandate, the cooperation of the Initiative and CARICOM took off during 2012.

As part of the Initiative's awareness raising efforts, ABS was integrated into the **2nd Regional Workshop for the Caribbean Region on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)** which was organized by the SCBD in September 2012 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago.

Back-to-back with this NBSAP workshop, the **1st Caribbean ABS Workshop** was organized by the Initiative in cooperation with CARICOM and the SCBD. The two-day workshop gathered national delegates of the Caribbean ACP Member States as well as selected regional and national representatives of indigenous peoples, academia, NGOs, SMEs and resource persons of the SCBD and the CARICOM Secretariat. The participants exchanged information and experiences with regard to ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. They also received an overview of CARICOM activities supporting the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). At the end of the workshop they formulated clear priorities for action, a precise road map and formed an Interim Steering Group (see also "4. Meetings of the Steering Committees and General Assembly").

These events and activities contributed to the initiation of ratification processes by the following Caribbean countries:

- Antigua & Barbuda, Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia

Pacific

Support for national consultation processes: Country visits in Palau, Samoa and Vanuatu provided ample opportunities to brief government representatives and other stakeholders, including research institutions and museums, traditional leaders and civil society representatives about ABS in general and the Nagoya Protocol specifically.

The three regional workshops in 2012 (see Outcome 3.1) provided, beside the formal update on the ratification process, many opportunities for the Focal Points to discuss and exchange about the challenges and practical approaches towards ratification.

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These events and activities contributed to the initiation of the ratification processes by the following Pacific countries:

- Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Palau, Samoa, Vanuatu

6.2 Outcome 2.1 – National political, legal and institutional environments

Objective 2: Enabling, transparent and accountable national ABS policies and regulatory frameworks are developed and implemented which allow stakeholders of Africa and ACP countries to enter into equitable ABS partnerships with the research community and the private sector.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
2.1 Partner countries have created and improved the necessary political, legal and institutional environments through national and regional dialogue processes involving relevant stakeholders for the valorisation of genetic and biological resources (government, private sector, research, ILCs, etc.).	At least 20 African and 6 CP countries have ABS related draft policies formulated. <i>MoV: Published policy</i> Status: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, Rwanda – Cook Islands
	At least 15 African and 4 CP countries have ABS regulations enacted. <i>MoV: Gazetted ABS regulations</i> Status: Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, Uganda
	At least 8 African and 2 CP countries are implementing ABS regulations. <i>MoV: Commercial and non-commercial bioprospecting agreements under negotiation and/or signed</i> Status: Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Uganda – Cook Islands
	At least 5 African and 2 CP (sub-)regional organizations or networks have developed ABS related strategies / policy recommendations. <i>MoV: Policy documents</i> Status: COMIFAC ABS strategy; SADC Biodiversity Strategy; AU Guidelines (draft under development; see Outcome 5.3); PhytoTrade Africa

The level of progress of the national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the types of support processes provided by the ABS Initiative vary from country to country.

Africa

Benin: The Initiative supports the national consultation process on ABS with the objective to raise awareness, initiate the development of a national ABS policy and move towards ratification of the Protocol. A financing agreement with GIZ for the implementation of a project developed by the national CBD Focal Point and executed by the national NGO CESAREN has been drawn up. Results/activities under this agreement included the development of an ABS communication plan, awareness-raising events with relevant stakeholders, the completion of administrative steps and the involvement of key actors, such as parliamentarians, for the ratification of the protocol.

Cameroon: With support of the Initiative, a national ABS Strategy has been developed and published. In this context the support for the development of a national NTFP approach will be continued and integrated into German bilateral development cooperation (see Outcome 4.1). Furthermore, the development of a proposal for a GEF funded project is being technically supported by the ABS Initiative.

Côte d'Ivoire: The Initiative continued to support the ABS approach for protected areas including the development of an ABS based funding strategy for the Tai National Park in cooperation with the French National Museum of Natural History (MNHN). A joint project between the Environment Ministry, the OIPR (protected areas agency), the MNHN, the bilateral GIZ programme PRODEMIR (see also Outcome 4.1) and the ABS Initiative was drafted and approved at a National ABS Workshop in August 2012 in Abidjan. Goals include the development of a national ABS framework, the integration of ABS into the management of the Tai National Park, the repatriation of data on the genetic resources on the Tai Park by the MNHN, and the use of this data to actively engage with potential commercial users.

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Technical details concerning the repatriation of data on the genetic resources of the Tai Park were discussed at a meeting at MNHN in December 2012. Activities are expected to start in 2013.

Liberia: A national consultant started to finalize the draft regulations based on the outcomes of the regional and national consultations which had been organized by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2011. In parallel the consultant began drafting implementing guidelines explaining the regulatory framework to the different stakeholders. It is expected that both documents will be finalized and approved in 2013.

Malawi: In order to facilitate the development of ABS agreements with foreign users of genetic resources from Malawi, the Environmental Affairs Department engaged in identifying appropriate approaches for streamlining the existing research approval process under the National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST) and related collection and export permitting processes involving different government agencies. The outcomes of a workshop in Mangochi in December 2012 with all relevant stakeholders provide a sound basis for identifying the permitting process related gaps as well as required changes and amendments in the existing draft ABS regulation of 2002 (see Outcome 4.1).

Morocco: see Outcome 4.1

Namibia: Funded by the GIZ implemented “Biodiversity and Sustainable Land Management” project (see also Outcome 4.1), the ABS Initiative supported the drafting of the implementing regulations for the “Access to Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge Act” of Namibia. After final stakeholder consultations, the Act and the Regulations are expected to be enacted in 2013 as a precondition for acceding to the Nagoya Protocol. Furthermore, ABS was identified by Namibia as a key component to be reflected in the NBSAP revision process.

UNEP/GEF-4 Capacity Building Project for Africa: Within the framework of the UNEP/GEF-4 Capacity Building Project for Africa, national measures for ABS regulations are being supported in Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Senegal and South Africa. Activities in the countries are being implemented based on financing agreements between GIZ and the respective national executing agencies.

- **Cameroon:** The national ABS strategy has been completed and validated. Activities for stakeholder consultation and information have largely been completed. The development of an ABS capacity development strategy and the training of key actors are underway.
- **Kenya:** For several reasons, including administrative delays in Kenya, activities had only just started at the time of reporting; a gap analysis on expertise and capacity needs has been conducted; terms of reference were developed and a call for consultants has been issued for the development of a manual/toolkit and information materials on ABS.
- **Madagascar:** Communication plans and targeted tools were developed and used for each stakeholder group, and trainings for key actors were held. A gap analysis of existing legislation was conducted. Discussions of the national framework and activities towards revising the existing draft law are well underway. In addition, activities towards a capacity development strategy, ABS toolkit and CHM have been started.
- **Mozambique:** Awareness raising activities of stakeholders about the national ABS regulations are expected to start in 2013.
- **Senegal:** National and provincial awareness raising workshops were held, a national ABS committee was created, and CEPA-activities were implemented including through national media. Activities towards ratification of the NP and the development of a national ABS strategy are underway.
- **South Africa:** The national ABS CHM has been established, and products such as best practice guidelines have been completed. Awareness raising and technical trainings of relevant

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stakeholders have been conducted. Further, analyses and consultations were held on the 2008 draft of the South African Bioprospecting and ABS Regulations in view of their amendment.

Caribbean

National implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the Caribbean is in its initial phase; Cuba reported to have drafted an ABS bill. Contacts with national authorities and the CARICOM Secretariat are ongoing, to identify opportunities for ABS capacity development. One obstacle for faster progress, particularly in the small islands countries, is the very limited number of staff responsible for environmental issues and hence for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol as well as for national priority setting, which focuses very much on climate change and marine issues.

Shelf countries: In Guyana, host country of the CARICOM Secretariat, the Initiative offered support to the Environmental Protection Agency in updating an existing ABS Bill to the requirements of the Protocol, aligning it with the Amerindian Act on e.g. resource rights and PIC related to biodiversity research, and integrating it into the national low carbon development strategy. Partnerships for promoting ABS in Guyana have been developed with KfW Development Bank (financial support to PA management), Justice Institute of Guyana (legal support for ILCs), Conservation International (support to ILCs in PA management) and IUCN (UNEP/GEF 4 – ABS support programme for Latin America / Caribbean). Concrete support activities of the ABS Initiative in Guyana are expected to start in 2013.

Island countries: Due to the slow progress in implementing the Nagoya Protocol, initial talks with governmental representatives on the various possible opportunities for capacity development did not result in proposals for collaboration in 2012. The ABS Initiative proposed marine bioprospection as the main topic that could support priority setting in favor of ABS issues. An example of marine bioprospection in The Bahamas with subsequent R&D, patents and a successful development of cosmetic products could be identified as a potential case study. Talks with experts from The Bahamas to conduct a case study were initiated.

With a view to promote the agenda setting of ABS in the national policy processes of the Member States, the **CARICOM Secretariat** is cooperating closely with the Initiative. A draft Joint Declaration of Intent is at a final stage and expected to be signed in 2013. Regional activities as a stocktaking study and capacity development workshops have been agreed upon and are scheduled for 2013.

Back-to-back with the ABS Workshop in Port-of-Spain in September 2012 (see Outcome 1.1), CARICOM convened for the first time a support activity for its Member States covering a range of biodiversity-related issues. the **Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting to COP 11 of the CBD** (see Outcome 4.1), CARICOM invited the ABS Initiative to prepare a Discussion Paper on the Nagoya Protocol and a Briefing Paper on the issues for consideration at COP 11 and for the ICNP-process.

Pacific

Palau: Based on a series of consultative meetings together with the Australian ABS NFP in May 2012, with stakeholders (government authorities, ministers, the President, the Traditional Council of Chiefs, research institutions and civil society), recommendations for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol were developed and submitted to the ABS National Focal Point of Palau.

Samoa: Briefing meetings with representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Scientific Research Organization of Samoa were held in March and May 2012 jointly with representatives of the SCBD and Institute of Advanced Science of the United Nations University (UNU/IAS).

Vanuatu: A series of consultative meetings with relevant government authorities was held in March 2012 jointly with a representative of UNU/IAS and a researcher of the University of New South Wales (UNSW) in order to identify support needs in Vanuatu on its way towards ratification and

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implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Further consultative meetings were held with civil society organisations jointly with a representative of the GEF Small Grant Programme (GEF SGP) in November 2012. A briefing meeting jointly organized by Vanuatu's NGO network (VANGO) and the Department of Environment and Conservation discussed the status of the draft ABS related amendments of the Environmental Management and Conservation Act of 2002 and the development of a GEF SGP funded ABS CEPA programme for Vanuatu's local communities.

6.3 Outcome 2.2 – Stakeholder views are reflected

Objective 2: Enabling, transparent and accountable national ABS policies and regulatory frameworks are developed and implemented which allow stakeholders of Africa and ACP countries to enter into equitable ABS partnerships with the research community and the private sector.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
2.2 Stakeholder views are reflected in ABS related national strategies and/or policy documents.	BCPs or equivalent community level procedures are recognized in ABS regulatory frameworks in at least 5 African / 2 CP countries. <i>MoV: Regulatory frameworks</i> Status: Liberia (draft), South Africa, AU Guidelines under development
	Interests of national research organisations, academia and the private sector are reflected in ABS regulatory frameworks in at least 5 African and 2 CP countries. <i>MoV: Interviews with stakeholder representatives (e.g. ILC, private sector, academia, negotiators, legislators)</i>

In partnership with **GEF SGP project proposals** for awareness raising on ABS (see Outcome 4.1), including the need to define community procedures, e.g. BCPs, are being discussed in

- Africa for Benin, Cameroon, Senegal and South Africa
- the Pacific for Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu

It is expected that at least one project per region will begin implementation based on GEF SGP funding in 2013.

Africa

Supported by the ABS Initiative, **Natural Justice and ETC-COMPAS** are implementing the **African BCP Initiative**. Lessons learned from pilot projects in Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa (with peer-to-peer exchange with Burkina Faso, Benin and Namibia) were presented and discussed in a synthesis workshop in Wa, Ghana, in June 2012 (see Outcome 3.2).

Furthermore, **support activities at national and regional level** are directed towards a better understanding of stakeholder perspectives and interests in regulatory ABS frameworks. Examples are:

- Consultative meetings with research institutions and private sector representatives involved in the **utilization of Argan in Morocco**.
- The development of the **Research and Development Platform for Southern Africa in Namibia** in collaboration with PhytoTrade Africa, relevant Namibian government authorities, and other SADC members' ABS National Focal Points.
- **The ABS Business Dialogue** in Copenhagen in June 2012 (see Outcome 3.1)
- **The Public-Private sector exchange** back-to-back with the Annual General Meeting of PhytoTrade Africa in August 2012 (see Outcome 3.1)

Pacific

The **Oceania Biodiscovery Forum** in November 2012 (see Outcome 3.1) contributed to improve the understanding of Pacific ABS National Focal Points and representatives of relevant regional organisations how academic biodiversity research, biodiscovery and development of commercial products, based on biological and genetic resources, are interrelated.

6.4 Outcome 3.1 – ABS partnerships between providers and users

Objective 3: Valuation of genetic resources in provider countries is improved and functioning ABS agreements contribute to biodiversity conservation and livelihoods of rural populations.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
3.1 Pilots and models for ABS partnerships between 'providers' and 'users' for specific value chains have been developed and disseminated.	ABS agreements are in place in at least in 5 African and 2 CP countries. <i>MoV: Commercial and non-commercial bioprospecting agreements</i> Status: Malawi (draft), Namibia, South Africa

The dialogue with users of genetic resources from the private sector and from applied research was intensified during 2012. Both, individual exchanges with companies and associations as well as targeted workshops and meetings such as the Copenhagen Business Dialogue or the Oceania Biodiscovery Forum, allowed for a better understanding of business models and R&D schemes with regard to the utilization of genetic resources. These deliberations lead to first reflections on common pilot projects in public-private partnerships in Africa to be further developed in 2013.

Africa

The dialogue and co-operation with the private sector on ABS has been enhanced. At the second **ABS Business Dialogue** "The Nagoya Protocol and Green Economy – how to make it work" in June 2012 in Copenhagen, Denmark, representatives from private business, research and governments sketched out realistic ways towards strategic and technical cooperation in order to establish ABS agreements. At the end of the workshop participants including many African regulators had a much clearer understanding of the different business models and R&D approaches existing within the ABS schemes and related biotrade activities.

Exchange with European private sector companies: Informal consultations with industry on opportunities in developing and using multilateral benefit sharing mechanisms framed by Art. 10 of the Protocol took place in May in Paris, organized by the International Chamber of Commerce. As the main outcome participants got an understanding of possible opportunities of such mechanisms for their business activities.

On several occasions at events organized by the private sector in user countries (e.g. the SusCon in Bonn), the ABS Initiative engaged in an open exchange with companies on Public Private Partnerships for the creation of ABS value chains. Some French actors (body care and cosmetics⁴) showed interest in partnering with the ABS Initiative in order to develop ABS compliant value chains for raw materials sourced from Burkina Faso, Madagascar and Morocco.

PPP project and Help Desk: The project implemented by UEBT and PhytoTrade Africa and supported by the ABS Initiative was designed to improve the business engagement for ethical sourcing of African biodiversity. The goal is to build ABS related capacities of the members of UEBT (European users of genetic resources) and PhytoTrade Africa (Southern African providers of genetic resources) and to integrate ABS requirements into at least three supply chains of UEBT member companies.

The Initiative jointly with PhytoTrade Africa organized a **Public-Private Sector Dialogue for Southern Africa** in July 2012 in Maputo, Mozambique. The goal was an informed exchange between the public and private sector on the development of regional value chains and regulations on the national level. The participants agreed on institutionalizing their exchange which is seen as a first step towards a regional ABS Help Desk that deals with real cases.

⁴ For confidentiality reasons names of individual companies cannot be disclosed in the report at the stage of initial discussions or exchanges with the Initiative.

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Assessing and identifying ABS related value chains and business opportunities: Terms of reference have been developed for a study assessing ABS related business opportunities in the six countries under the UNEP/GEF4 project (see Outcome 2.1). This study has three components: (1) assessment of transaction costs for users and providers, (2) estimation of commercial value of genetic resources based on a patent analysis and market potentials, and (3) assessment of enabling environments. Based on the study's results, experiences in the past and established contacts with the private sector at least two pilot initiatives will be identified for further specific support through the Initiative.

Biocultural Community Protocol project: The goal of this project, implemented by UEBT and supported by the Initiative, is to assess the potential of BCPs as a tool to establish a more balanced relationship between providers of genetic resources and business when accessing and utilizing genetic resources. At a synthesis workshop held in Cape Town, South Africa, in March 2012, the results of the assessment were presented and next steps outlined. A set of recommendations has been developed on how to conduct "biocultural dialogues" between BioTrade Companies and local communities.

Pacific

Oceania Biodiscovery Forum: The Australian Government, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the ABS Initiative organized jointly the Oceania Biodiscovery Forum at the Eskitis Institute of the Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia, in November 2012. The forum aimed to foster mutual understanding and collaboration between Australian state or federal government bodies, academic or research institutions and industry. Participants from the Pacific islands developed a better understanding of the global standards for the use of genetic resources and the need and interests of the respective parties.

6.5 Outcome 3.2 – BCPs or equivalent community level procedures

Objective 3: Valuation of genetic resources in provider countries is improved and functioning ABS agreements contribute to biodiversity conservation and livelihoods of rural populations.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
3.2 BCPs or equivalent community level procedures function as pilot interfaces between ILCs and bio prospectors acknowledging local level rights.	ABS relevant BCPs or equivalent community level procedures are in place in at least 5 African and 2 CP countries. <i>MoV: Signed BCP Documents</i> Status: Kenya, South Africa

Africa

Supported by the ABS Initiative **Natural Justice and ETC-COMPAS** are implementing the **African BCP Initiative** with the goal to support further development of biocultural community protocols in Africa and to work towards their legal recognition. Lessons learned from pilot projects in Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Africa (with peer-to-peer exchange with Burkina Faso, Benin and Namibia) were presented and discussed in a synthesis workshop which took place in Wa, Ghana, in June 2012. Building in addition on the findings of the UEBT/Natural Justice implemented BCP PPP project (see Outcome 3.1) it was agreed to continue with the funding support to the project for another two years and that focus should be set in this new phase of the **African BCP Initiative** on establishing BCPs as linkage between customary and formal law in the ABS arena.

Pacific

In partnership with **GEF SGP project proposals** for awareness raising on ABS (see Outcome 4.1) including the need to define community procedures including BCPs are being discussed in

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- Africa for Benin, Cameroon, Senegal and South Africa
- the Pacific for Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu

It is expected that at least one project per region will begin implementation based on GEF SGP funding in 2013.

6.6 Outcome 4.1 –Amplifying ABS Capacity Development

Objective 4: National, bilateral and international partners are supporting ABS implementation at national and (sub-) regional level.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
4.1 Government and non-government organizations including funding agencies have integrated ABS implementation in relevant sectors of their work programmes such as environment, agriculture, trade, governance, etc.	X institutions / organisations recognize ABS as an opportunity for (supporting) sustainable development. <i>MoV: Statements, integration in policy documents and concept notes, websites, etc</i> Status: AU, AMCEN, IUCN, CI, Danish Industry Association, German Biotech Association
	x institutions / organisations conduct support activities for ABS implementation <i>MoV: Reports</i> Status: AU, COMIFAC, CARICOM, Secretariat of the Pacific Environment Programme (SPREP) UEBT, PhytoTrade Africa, SEPDD
	x institutions / organisations are cooperating with the ABS initiative <i>MoV: Written agreements for cooperation, co-funding and/or parallel funding</i> Status: GEF Sec., GEF SGP, UNEP, UNDP, SCBD, SPREP, AusAID, KfW, IUCN, CI

Linking up with the GEF Secretariat and the GEF Implementing Agencies: Concrete options for aligning technical support activities of the ABS Initiative and financial support under GEF 5 and NPIF are being developed in Morocco, Cameroon, Namibia and the Cook Islands. Working relations with UNEP, UNDP and the GEF Secretariat have been strengthened.

Initial contact with the UNDP implemented **GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)** was intensified in 2012 and resulted in the secondment of a New York based staff member of Natural Justice funded by the ABS Initiative on a part time basis (one day per week) to the GEF SGP Head Quarter. The objective of the secondment is to integrate ABS capacity development at the local level into the national programming of GEF SGP and to fund national and regional NGOs which can provide the necessary support to indigenous and local communities to actively participate in a meaningful manner in the national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, including by developing ABS relevant BCPs or equivalent community level procedures. For impacts refer to Outcomes 2.2 and 3.2.

Linking up with capacity development processes for the ITPGRFA: Coherent implementation of the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) and the Nagoya Protocol at the national level is essential for the establishment of transparent regulatory ABS frameworks, which minimize transaction costs and contribute to legal certainty for providers and users. The Initiative, in collaboration with the CBD and the ITPGRFA Secretariats, conceptualized and organized an expert workshop in Rome in January 2013, hosted by Bioversity International. The expert workshop helped to better understand the inter-linkages between the instruments and identify approaches for a mutually supportive and coherent national implementation of both. Further joint workshops and capacity development activities at national and (sub-)regional level were agreed.

Consideration of ABS in the larger International Agenda – Rio +20: Upon request of the 2012 Steering Committee Meeting, the Secretariat of the Initiative actively participated in several Rio + 20 events conducted by donors and collaborating partners. Together with **IEPF / OIF** three side events to the official program were conducted in order to mainstream ABS in the sustainability agendas of French speaking countries (incl. launch of the French version of the ABS film "People, Plants and Profits" and a ministerial briefing on ABS). At the exhibition and dialogue space of the **Danish Industry Association** a technical and a high level event with participation of the Danish Minister of

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the Environment, Ms. Ida Auken, discussing the link between ABS and Green Economy were organized, Further, a briefing and discussion on ABS benefits for the local level in the context of the international development agenda took place at the Community Aldeia organized by the **UNDP – Equator Initiative**.

Africa

As a result of the Gap Analysis of the AU Model Law on ABS the **Department for Human Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union Commission** requested the ABS Initiative to extend its financial and technical support and to fund and coordinate the drafting of Guidelines for a Coordinated Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa (see Outcome 5.3). A Memorandum of Understanding with the AUC has been developed and is pending signature in 2013 to foster cooperation towards achieving the Aichi Targets and specifically Aichi Target 16 on ABS.

The ABS Initiative continued to provide technical input to the meetings of the **Central African Working Group on Biodiversity (GTBAC)** and advice for the national implementation of the **Regional ABS Strategy for the COMIFAC** (see Outcome 5.3).

Integrating ABS in bilateral development cooperation programmes: In the context of German bilateral development cooperation, ABS is being integrated in the following technical and/or financial development cooperation programmes:

- **Cameroon:** Sparked by a multi-stakeholder kick-off meeting in July 2011 (advised by the ABS Initiative, financed by UNEP/GEF) an interministerial process on ABS between the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife was initiated. Supported by the GIZ Project ProPSFE, which is in contact with both ministries, the ABS value chain potential of different non-timber forest products will be assessed. This process is being supported by initial discussions with the European private sector on developing pilot ABS compliant value chains, e.g. based on *Prunus africana*.
- **Côte d'Ivoire:** The bilateral GIZ programme PRODEMIR, which is supporting the management of the Tai National Park, started to support the building of ABS capacity at OIPR (the national parks agency) and the integration of ABS in the business plan of the Tai Park as part of its activities. This is an outcome of discussions around the development of an ABS based funding strategy for the Tai National Park in cooperation with the MNHN (see Outcome 2.1).
- **Morocco:** The Moroccan Government officially asked the BMZ for long term support for the national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol after an ABS advisory group, supported by the ABS Initiative and the BMZ funded "Biodiversity and Adaptation to Climate Change Programme in Morocco", had developed the cornerstones of a national ABS roadmap. A feasibility mission was conducted in early 2012 and the basic project structure was agreed upon with the Moroccan Ministry of the Environment and the High Commission for Combatting Desertification, Water and Forestry. The bilateral project will comprise two ABS components: one on developing a legal and institutional framework to implement the Nagoya Protocol, another on the development of value chains based on genetic resources originating from Morocco (exchanges with the French private sector active in body care are underway). Capacity development workshops on regulatory and institutional aspects regarding the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol are being planned jointly with UNDP in the context of a GEF 5 project. First joint briefings of Moroccan stakeholder took place in 2012 in the run up to COP 11.
- **Namibia:** As a concrete outcome of the 2010 ABS Business Dialogue Forum in Copenhagen, PhytoTrade Africa has proposed to the KfW Development Bank to financially support the development of a regional R&D platform in Namibia for improving research and product development in the provider countries of biological and genetic resources to enable more value creation in the provider countries. The conduction of a feasibility study on the platform has been approved in the Namibian-German consultations in February 2013 (to be finally negotiated

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between the partners in November 2013). The work on the pre-feasibility part of the study has already started in December 2012.

- **COMIFAC:** Having successfully supported the development of a regional ABS strategy in the context of the GIZ implemented COMIFAC Support Programme (see Progress Report 2011 of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative) the Initiative is backstopping the translation of the regional strategy into national ABS implementation programmes in the 10 member countries. At the GTBAC meeting in September in Libreville, the Initiative provided input on national ABS implementation strategies and options for financing through GEF. The present delegates were also prepared for ICNP-2 and COP-11. Initiated by the ABS Initiative a larger targeted ABS component within the continuation of German bilateral cooperation with COMIFAC and its member states will be assessed in 2013.
- **Maghreb:** In the context of the regional GIZ implemented SILVAMED programme – covering Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia – the ABS Initiative liaised with the other donors to explore practical approaches for integrating ABS in their bilateral development cooperation programmes. A workshop on integrating ABS in forest management and valorization within the sub-regional SILVAMED approach will take place in April 2013 in Algeria.

Caribbean

Based on its interest in ABS, CARICOM convened for the first time a support activity for its Member States covering a range of biodiversity-related issues. The **Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting to COP 11 of the CBD** was held back-to-back with the ABS Workshop in September 2012 in Port-of-Spain. CARICOM invited the ABS Initiative to prepare a Discussion Paper on the Nagoya Protocol and a Briefing Paper on the issues for consideration at COP 11 and the ICNP-process. The meeting contributed to the establishment of a regional network of professionals dealing with the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol. In addition, it provided a first opportunity for Caribbean Parties to the CBD to discuss regional concerns, formulate regional positions, and build consensus in advance of COP 11.

Pacific

Based on the initial exchange in 2011 the **Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC)**, the Competent National Authority for ABS in Australia, developed a proposal for parallel funding of the activities of the ABS Initiative encompassing the joint organization of two Pacific ABS Workshops (see Outcome 5.1) and the Oceania Biodiscovery Forum in 2012 (see Outcome3.1). The proposal was submitted by DSEWPaC to **AusAID** and approved.

The **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)** organised the two regional workshops as well as the participation of the Pacific stakeholders at the Oceania Biodiscovery Forum. Furthermore, SPREP organized national consultations and briefing meetings in Samoa on the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

6.7 Outcome 5.1 – Skills of Relevant Stakeholders Improved

Objective 5: Approaches for implementing the Nagoya Protocol are regionally coordinated and harmonized with other processes and fora relevant to ABS in order to increase transboundary cooperation and to address legal gaps.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
5.1 Concepts regarding the implementation of the NP are developed, experiences, lessons learned and best	Policy briefs on at least 5 ABS relevant topics. <i>MoV: Policy briefs published and disseminated</i> Status: BCPs (Natural Justice), IPRs (FNI), Forests and ABS (CISDL)
	At least 3 ABS relevant analyses and background studies. <i>MoV: Analyses published and disseminated</i> Status: Various publications and research papers by CISDL, FNI, Natural Justice, UNSW

Objective 5: Approaches for implementing the Nagoya Protocol are regionally coordinated and harmonized with other processes and fora relevant to ABS in order to increase transboundary cooperation and to address legal gaps.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
practices are exchanged.	Stakeholders are capacitated on ABS relevant topics. <i>MoV: Workshop evaluations</i> Status: to be assessed

Interfaces between the Protocol, PAs and Forests: As it was recommended at an informal expert meeting in the end of 2011, the Initiative organized a larger workshop on The Nagoya Protocol: Opportunities and Challenges for Protected Area & Forest Governance in November 2012 in Eschborn, Germany. As one of the results it was agreed to create **an analysis paper** in which the main issues serve as basis for further approaches and cooperation, as well as **policy briefs on the interfaces between the frameworks**.

In 2012 a number of **analyses and background papers** have been published by the ABS Initiative and its partners.

Munyi, Peter, Marcelin Tonye Mahop, Pierre du Plessis, Johnson Ekpere, Kabir Bavikatte. *A Gap Analysis Report on the African Model Law on the Protection of the Rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders, and for the Regulation of Access to Biological Resources*. Eschborn, ABS Capacity Development Initiative, 2012, 57 pp.

Based on the funding support of the ABS Initiative two analyses and background studies have been published by the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in 2012 and can be downloaded from the FNI website:

Andersen, Regine and Tone Winge, *The Access and Benefit Sharing Agreement on Teff Genetic Resources: Facts and Lessons*. FNI Report 6/2012. Lysaker, FNI, 2012, 159 pp.

Rosendal, G. Kristin, Ingrid Olesen and Morten Walløe Tvedt, *Access to, Equity and Protection of Genetic Resources in Ghana: The Case of Tilapia (O. niloticus)*. FNI Report 15/2012. Lysaker, FNI, 2012, 28 pp.

Several examples of biocultural community protocols which were developed by partners of the ABS Initiative such as ETC/COMPAS, Natural Justice or the UEBT have been described and analysed in the “participatory learning and action” series of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED):

Swiderska, Krystyna, Holly Shrumm, Wim Hiemstra, María Julia Oliva, Kanchi Kohli and Harry Jonas (eds.). *Biodiversity and culture: exploring community protocols, rights and consent*. Participatory Learning and Action 65, London, IIED, 2012, 223 pp.

With the parallel funding of AusAID (see Outcome 4.1) a descriptive analysis was prepared about four bioprospecting cases in the Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Vanuatu:

Robinson, Daniel. *Towards Access and Benefit-Sharing Best Practice – Pacific Case Studies*. ABS Capacity Development Initiative, AusAID and UNSW. Eschborn, ABS Capacity Development Initiative, 2012, 39 pp.

Africa

ABS and intellectual property rights (IPRs): After initial support in the previous years for the coordination of African negotiators in the WIPO IGC process, the interlinkage of ABS and IPRs has been extensively addressed at an expert meeting in September 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Following the recommendations formulated in this meeting the Initiative has taken the following steps in 2012:

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- Development of a checklist for integrating IPRs relevant issues in the PIC processes and MAT negotiations as input for the *AU Guidelines for a Coordinated Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa* (see Outcome 5.3).
- A training on “ABS and Intellectual Property Rights for ILCs” in June in Bujumbura, Burundi, familiarized representatives of indigenous and local communities with the opportunities and challenges IPRs may pose for holders of traditional knowledge and in some cases also genetic resources.

The training course “**Managing Multistakeholder Processes in the ABS Arena**” was slightly adapted based on the experiences in 2011 to accommodate teams of participants from five or six countries instead of individual participants from a larger number of countries. This modification improved the learning success of the course significantly. Due to the high demand two courses were held in 2012:

- Francophone, November 2012, Paris, France
- Anglophone, December 2012, Feldafing, Germany

Caribbean

1st Caribbean ABS Workshop: The regional ABS workshop organized back-to-back with the SCBD Regional NBSAP workshop for the Caribbean in September 2012 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, has led to a better understanding of the role of regional organizations and the linkages to relevant capacity development programmes of other donors, such as the GEF, and to the EU funded BIOPAMA programme. Further, a roadmap has been defined for future support by the ABS Initiative and activities have been prioritized. An Interim Steering Group for the Caribbean has been set up to give guidance to the ABS Initiative.

Pacific

The **1st Pacific ABS Workshop, March 2012 in Nadi, Fiji** focused on identifying and mapping the ABS related capacity development needs in the Pacific island states and to discuss with participants how to best address these needs. The **2nd Pacific ABS Workshop, June 2012 in Asau, Samoa** served mainly to develop with the participating country representatives road maps for ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

Back-to-back with the **Oceania Biodiscovery Forum, November 2012 in Brisbane, Australia** (see Outcome 3.1) a two day **training on PIC and MAT** was held to create a better understanding of participatory requirements in granting prior informed consent and the legal requirements in relation to drafting ABS agreements. Much of this training benefited from the work done in Africa towards the development of the AU Guidelines (see Outcome 5.3).

6.8 Outcome 5.2 – Interfaces to ABS relevant processes

Objective 5: Approaches for implementing the Nagoya Protocol are regionally coordinated and harmonized with other processes and fora relevant to ABS in order to increase transboundary cooperation and to address legal gaps.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
5.2 Interfaces to ABS relevant processes are established at international and national level	Joint training programmes are established with at least 2 ABS relevant international organisations. <i>MoV: Training reports</i> Status: IUCN/JRC, IDLO
	Coordination meetings are taking place between negotiators of relevant fora. <i>MoV: Meeting reports</i> Status: WIPO, CGRFA

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Objective 5: Approaches for implementing the Nagoya Protocol are regionally coordinated and harmonized with other processes and fora relevant to ABS in order to increase transboundary cooperation and to address legal gaps.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
	Approaches for the design and implementation of regulatory frameworks among relevant sectors at national level are developed. <i>MoV: Studies, policy papers, meeting reports</i> Status: to be assessed

The EU funded **BIOPAMA Project** provides an ideal platform to cooperate with IUCN and the Joint Research Center of the European Commission (JRC) to deepen the understanding of the interface between ABS and protected areas (PA) management and to integrate ABS into the training programmes for PA managers. Therefore, the ABS Initiative participated in:

- the inception meeting of the PA component of the BIOPAMA project in March 2012 in Gland, Switzerland. Besides creating a basic understanding of the two project components it was agreed to collaborate for capacity building and endeavour to identify pilot countries for joint implementation of ABS and PA related capacity development.
- the inception workshop for Southern and Eastern Africa in December 2012 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The Initiative gave an introduction into ABS for PA managers and policy makers and organized a side-event in which challenges and opportunities of bioprospecting in PAs were illustrated through concrete examples. Participants flagged high interest to learn more about ABS as an innovative financing instrument for PAs.
- at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in September in Jeju, South Korea, the BIOPAMA project was officially presented at high-level and media events and the ABS Initiative presented the ABS component. The Initiative also conducted a day-long training on ABS for conservationists in collaboration with the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and a thematic session on the ABS-PA interface.

At COP 11 the ABS Initiative was invited to participate in the Programme “**Legal Preparedness for Green Economy Aichi Targets with UN Convention on Biological Diversity**” which is being implemented by the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and the CISDL). In order to build the ABS related legal capacity in ACP countries, the ABS Initiative agreed to financially support the work of IDLO and CISDL towards Aichi Target 16 in 2013 and 2014.

The ABS Initiative and its partners are actively involved in, and in some cases even trigger, the development of **practical approaches for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol** at (sub-) regional and national level. The studies listed under Outcome 5.1 provide the analytical and scientific basis for this work, whereas the dialogue fora especially with the private sector, as mentioned under Outcome 3.1, and the work under the African BCP Initiative (see Outcome 3.2), provide input on e.g. business models and R&D models in different user sectors or the practicality and transparency of proposed PIC procedures. At the same time, the Initiative gets feedback on the practicality of any proposed approaches.

Africa

African ABS negotiators have been supported to participate in **relevant meetings under WIPO and FAO** to coordinate positions with their African colleagues.

6.9 Outcome 5.3 – Coordinated Approaches in Africa

Objective 5: Approaches for implementing the Nagoya Protocol are regionally coordinated and harmonized with other processes and fora relevant to ABS in order to increase transboundary cooperation and to address legal gaps.	
Outcomes	Indicators and Means of Verification (MoV)
5.3 African countries follow a co-ordinated approach in implementing and further developing the international regime on ABS.	Guidelines for a regionally harmonized approach approved by relevant regional bodies. <i>MoV: Meeting reports</i> Status: COMIFAC ABS Strategy, AU Guidelines (draft under development)
	Strategies for coordinated implementation of the NP are developed by relevant national institutions/organisations. <i>MoV: Strategy documents</i> Status: Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Rwanda
	Joint positions are developed and articulated in relevant fora. <i>MoV: Submissions and interventions by the African Group</i> Status: Coordination meetings prior to ICNP 2 and COP 11, ILC Preparatory WS prior to COP

As a result of the Gap Analysis of the AU Model Law on ABS which was presented at the 6th Pan-African ABS Workshop, February 2012 in Limbé, Cameroon, the Department for Human Resources, Science and Technology of the African Union Commission requested the ABS Initiative to extend its financial and technical support and to fund and coordinate the drafting of **Guidelines for a Coordinated Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa**. The drafting team presented the progress of its work during the African coordination meetings.

A **preparatory meeting for COP-11 for African ILC representatives** was organized and facilitated in June 2012 in Bujumbura, Burundi by the Secretariat of the Convention (SCBD), in close collaboration with the ABS Initiative, the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordination Committee (IPACC), the Indigenous Information Network (IIN) and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity. Indigenous and Local Communities, particularly women, were prepared to participate effectively in the work of the CBD, especially concerning issues relevant to Articles 8 (j), 10(c) CBD and the Nagoya Protocol.

Supporting the coordination of the African Group: In close collaboration with the AU Commission coordination meetings were organized by the ABS Initiative prior to ICNP 2 in New Delhi and prior to COP 11 in Hyderabad, India.

7. Lessons Learned

The multi-stakeholder approach remains useful to develop a common understanding and create an open, productive and bridge building learning environment. With national implementation in the focus, this approach has to be supplemented by specific training elements, building the relevant management and technical skills at the personal and institutional levels. In establishing links to other relevant topics, such as protected area management or ABS under the ITPGRFA, expert workshops proved to be a useful format for identifying key issues at the specific interface and developing initial ideas on how to address these in future work. As legal and technical advice needs to be very specific when developing national regulatory systems, tailored analytical studies are becoming more relevant.

Awareness on ABS at the high political level is significantly higher as compared to the beginning of the Initiative. However, political instability in some countries has delayed ABS implementation. The AUC has been mandated to take a stronger role in political coordination of biodiversity related negotiations and is taking a stronger role in political coordination and guidance for the harmonized implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa.

The engagement with the private sector is slowly but steadily developing to a point where the ABS Initiative is accepted as honest broker in the process of developing concrete ABS agreements and to

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facilitate the public-private dialogues on regulating and implementing ABS both at international as well as at country level. In this regard – in order to enable providers to negotiate successfully ABS agreements with adequate monetary and non-monetary benefits – enhanced understanding of the R&D and the business models of the different user sectors of genetic resources is indispensable. Thus, further and increased capacity development on private sector “functioning” for ILCs, academia and governments of ACP countries is required,

National ABS processes are slow and require considerable backstopping, in particular with a view to the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol. Some “old” ABS experts have left their positions (retirement / new assignments) causing capacity gaps in relevant line institutions, while new and inexperienced actors in this matter, for example, representatives of Foreign Affairs, Treasuries or Parliamentarians, who are involved in the relevant decision-making processes, have stepped in. They need to be briefed and informed accordingly. This entails long consultation and decision making processes in the development phase of ABS frameworks, which makes it often difficult for the private sector to engage effectively and this remains a challenge.

The capacity development work in the Caribbean and the Pacific is significantly benefitting from the African experiences and provides new opportunities for South-South exchange.

Annex A: Letter of acknowledgement of Achim Steiner, Executive
Director of UNEP



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement
البرنامج العالمي للبيئة
联合国环境规划署



Reference: DELC/GIZ/KY/bw/jw

26 March 2013

Dear Dr. Drews,

I wish to acknowledge the achievement and contribution of the Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources (ABS) Capacity Development Initiative towards raising the profile of access and benefit sharing. The Initiative has indeed been part of this process since the crucial stages of negotiations related to finalizing an international regime on access and benefit sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity. That regime is now in place, in the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization.

It is heartening to see an improved awareness of the potential of ABS at the political level. The Initiative's activities have culminated in an increased awareness and exchange among relevant stakeholder groups and the improved functioning of national ABS regulations. The laudable negotiation skills of African negotiators in the 1st and 2nd meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Nagoya Protocol, is a positive sign of the Initiative's contribution. The ABS Initiative has been extended to include beside Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific member states of the Cotonou Agreement.

UNEP is calling upon the Initiative and its partners to continue supporting the ongoing processes for ratifying the Nagoya Protocol, as well as its implementation with a view to the establishment of effective and efficient regulatory frameworks at national and sub-regional levels and functioning ABS agreements for the good of local development and biodiversity conservation. UNEP is keen to continue its engagement with the Initiative and encourages existing and new partners to support its outstanding work in the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific regions.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner
Executive Director

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Annex B: Budget and actual expenditure for the implementation of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa in 2012

	Overall Sum (€)	Expenditure (€) ABS Initiative						Parallel funds (€)	
		Total	BMZ	OIF	Norway	Denmark	EU	UNEP-GEF	Australia
0 Secretariat / Management									
0.1 Staff									
Manager (80%)	85.301	85.301	85.301						
Project Officers (3 x 100%, 2 x 50%)	140.908	140.908	140.908	51.931			88.977		
Travel and Workshop Manager (2 x 100%)	135.811	135.811					135.811		
Finance administrator (50%)	39.134	33.979	33.979					5.155	
Sub-total: Staff	401.153	395.998	171.211	0	0	0	224.788	5.155	
0.2 Consultants									
Co-Management and ExpertPool	127.122	127.122					127.122		
Sub-total: Consultants	127.122	127.122	0	0	0	0	127.122	0	
0.3 Running costs:									
Office rent, communication...(month)	29.996	29.996	24.883				5.113		
Sub-total: Running costs	29.996	29.996	24.883	0	0	0	5.113	0	
0.4 Travel secretariat:									
Tickets + travel secretariat staff	22.704	22.704	7.963			326	14.416		
Sub-total: Travel Secretariat	22.704	22.704	7.963	0	0	326	14.416	0	
0.5 Procurement:									
Office equipment (server, computer..)	17.005	17.005	15.278				1.727		
Sub-total: Procurement	17.005	17.005	15.278	0	0	0	1.727	0	
0 Sub total: Secretariat / Management	597.981	592.826	219.334	0	0	326	373.167	5.155	
- Secretariat / Management: Africa (70%)	479.481	474.326	175.467	0	0	326	298.533	5.155	
- Secretariat / Management: Caribbean (15%)	59.250	59.250	21.933				37.317		
- Secretariat / Management: Pacific (15%)	59.250	59.250	21.933				37.317		
1 AFRICA									
1.1 Support to ratification									
Development of the ABS CEPA Guide	50.481	4.387					4.387	46.093	
Integrating ABS to SCBD organized regional NBSAP workshops	14.219	14.219					14.219		
Support for national consultation processes	6.234	6.234					6.234		
Sub-total: Support to ratification	70.934	24.840	0	0	0	0	24.840	46.093	
1.2 National / regional implementation									
Consultants: General support for national implementation	63.117	63.117	63.117						
Benin	50.996	50.996					50.996		
Cameroon	49.435							49.435	
Côte d'Ivoire	21.605	21.605					21.605		
Kenya	3.707	3.707					3.707		
Madagascar	25.180							25.180	
Malawi	12.169	12.169					12.169		
Namibia	8.815	8.815					8.815		
Senegal	51.166							51.166	
South Africa	20.018							20.018	
Sub-total: National / regional implementation	306.208	160.409	63.117	0	0	0	97.293	145.799	
1.3 Value chain establishment									
BCP project implemented by UEBT and Natural Justice	5.098	5.098					5.098		
PPP project implemented by UEBT and PhytoTrade Africa	14.600	14.600	14.600						
Assessing and identifying ABS related value chains and business opportunities	16.144	16.144	10.880				5.264		
Sub-total: Value chain establishment	35.843	35.843	25.480	0	0	0	10.363	0	
1.4 Amplifying ABS processes									
Development of joint training modules on food security and ABS									
Tandem WS national implementation NP and ITPGRFA	40.638	40.638	29.307				11.331		
Integrating ABS in bilateral development cooperation programmes									
- Morocco	8.755	8.755	8.755						
- Namibia (R&D Platform)	12.467	12.467	12.467						
- COMIFAC	33.600	33.600	33.600						
Sub-total: Amplifying ABS processes	95.460	95.460	84.129	0	0	0	11.331	0	
1.5 (Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes									
Sub-regional workshops in 2011	20.500	20.500					20.500		
ABS and Business Dialogue ("Copenhagen 2")	67.349	67.349		8.319		45.998	13.032		
Trainings on ABS and intellectual property rights (IPRs)	72.512	72.512	58.613			68	13.830		
African BCP project implemented by COMPASS and Natural Justice	170.343	170.343	164.854				5.489		
Synergies in ABS, PA and forest governance and management	47.356	47.356	30.000	5.355			12.001		
Basic ABS training for "young" professionals	64.229	64.229				14.788	49.441		
Training courses "Management of Multistakeholder Processes"	61.916	61.916				1.058	60.857		
Training on IPR and preparatory meeting for ILC prior to COP 11	71.441	71.441		28.131		1.828	41.482		
6th Pan-African ABS Workshop incl. SC Meeting	246.958	246.958	841	39.440		3.030	203.648		
Consultants: Advice to African Group, reporting, translations etc.	136.715	136.715				117.553	19.162		
Coordination meeting prior to ICNP 2 and COP 11	60.693	60.693		17.859		247	42.587		
TK documentation study by MNHN	48.700	48.700	48.700						
Coordination by AUC and African NP Guidelines	89.276	89.276	89.276						
Studies by FNI	160.460	160.460			160.183	277			
Sub-total: (Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes	1.318.449	1.318.449	392.284	99.104	160.183	184.847	482.031	0	
Sub total: AFRICA	1.826.894	1.635.002	565.010	99.104	160.183	184.847	625.858	191.892	
- including Secretariat / Management: Africa	2.109.328	2.109.328	740.477	99.104	160.183	185.173	924.391		

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Sub total: AFRICA		1.826.894	1.635.002	565.010	99.104	160.183	184.847	625.858	191.892	
- including Secretariat / Management: Africa		2.109.328	2.109.328	740.477	99.104	160.183	185.173	924.391		
2 CARIBBEAN										
2.1	Support to ratification									
	Integrating ABS to SCBD organized regional NBSAP workshops							9.438		
	Sub-total: Support to ratification	9.438	9.438	0	0	0	0	9.438	0	
2.2 + 2.3	National / regional implementation + value chain establishment									
	* Guyana	13.307	13.307						13.307	
	* Initial support to selected countries	18.153	18.153						18.153	
	Sub-total: National / regional implementation	31.460	31.460	0	0	0	0	31.460	0	
2.4	(Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes									
	Kick-off ABS Workshop	7.424	7.424					7.424		
	Sub-total: (Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes	7.424	7.424	0	0	0	0	7.424	0	
	Sub total: CARIBBEAN	48.323	48.323	0	0	0	0	48.323	0	
	- including Secretariat / Management: Caribbean	107.573	107.573	21.933				85.639		
3 PACIFIC										
3.1	Support to ratification									
	Integrating ABS to SCBD organized regional NBSAP workshops	5.564	5.564					5.564		
	Sub-total: Support to ratification	5.564	5.564	0	0	0	0	5.564	0	
3.2 + 3.3	National / regional implementation + value chain establishment									
	* Stock taking study	36.739								36.739
	* Initial support to selected countries	30.709						11.807		30.709
	Sub-total: National / regional implementation	79.255	11.807	0	0	0	0	11.807	0	67.448
3.4	(Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes									
	ABS and Business Dialogue ("Copenhagen 2")	317						317		
	Follow-up ABS Workshop	139.584	2.055					2.055		137.529
	Oceania Biodiscovery Forum	178.911	178.911					178.911		
	Sub-total: (Sub-)Regional capacity development and coordination for relevant international processes	318.812	181.284	0	0	0	0	181.284	0	137.529
	Sub total: PACIFIC	403.631	198.655	0	0	0	0	198.655	0	204.977
	- including Secretariat / Management: Pacific	257.905	257.905	21.933				235.971		
4 Supra-regional (AFRICA, CARIBBEAN, PACIFIC)										
	Side events at ICNP-2, WCC and COP-11	4.288	4.288					4.288		
	General Meeting during COP-11	1.755	1.755					1.755		
	Knowledge management through the website	2.865	2.865					2.865		
	Sub total: Supra-regional (AFRICA, CARIBBEAN, PACIFIC)	8.908	8.908	0	0	0	0	8.908	0	0
Costs of projekt activities		2.885.738	2.483.714	784.344	99.104	160.183	185.173	1.254.910	197.047	204.977
GIZ overhead costs		313.819	301.939	193.043	14.057	7.048	25.046	62.746	11.880	
Total project costs		3.199.557	2.785.653	977.387	113.161	167.231	210.219	1.317.656	208.927	204.977

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Annex C: List of workshops, trainings and conferences organized and attended by the ABS Initiative

Events not organized by the Initiative are listed in blue italics.

- 30.01.-03.02.12 6th Pan-African ABS Workshop, Limbé, Cameroon
- 27.-29.02.12 CBD African WS on Review of the NBSAP, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*
- 29.02.12 High level briefing on ABS and the Nagoya protocol ratification in cooperation with the African Union Commission, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- 19.-22.03.12 1st Pacific ABS Workshop, Nadi, Fiji
- 19.3. 18.3.12 Feasibility mission on the integration of an Nagoya Protocol implementation component in the German-Moroccan “Climate Change and Biodiversity” Programme, Rabat, Morocco
- 17.-20.04.12 39th Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) - Environment and Sustainable Development, Georgetown, Guyana*
- 21.-24.05.12 2nd Pacific ABS Workshop, Asau, Samoa
- 29.-31.05.12 14th Meeting of the « Groupe de travail Biodiversité d’Afrique centrale » (GTBAC), Douala, Cameroon*
- 09.-13.06.12 Preparatory Meeting of ILC Representatives for COP-11, Bujumbura, Burundi
- 14.-15.06.12 Basic IPRs Training for African ILCs, Bujumbura, Burundi
- 18.-22.06.12 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development “Rio +20”, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*
- 20.-22.06.12 Evaluation Workshop of the African BCP Initiative, Wa, Ghana
- 28.-29.06.12 Preparatory Meeting of African Negotiators at ICNP-2, New Dehli, India
- 30.06.-01.07.12 SCBD ABS Capacity Development Workshop, New Delhi, India*
- 02.-06.07.12 ICNP-2, New Delhi, India*
- 24.-25.07.12 PhytoTrade Africa Annual General Meeting, Maputo, Mozambique*
- 26.07.12 Exchange Workshop Private Sector and ABS National Focal Points, Maputo, Mozambique
- 28.-30.08.12 National ABS Workshop, Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire*
- 03.-04.09.12 1st Caribbean ABS Workshop, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago
- 05.-07.09.12 2nd Regional Workshop for the Caribbean Region on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago*
- 08.09.12 Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting to COP-11 of the CBD, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago*
- 07.-11.09.12 IUCN World Conservation Congress, Jeju, South Korea*
- 10.-13.09.12 15th Meeting of the « Groupe de travail Biodiversité d’Afrique centrale » (GTBAC), Libreville, Gabon*
- 17.-18.09.12 SADC Parliamentarian Briefing on ABS, Victoria, Seychelles*
- 06.-07.10.12 Preparatory Meeting of African Negotiators at COP-11, Hyderabad, India

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- 08.-19.10.12 COP-11, Hyderabad, India*
- 14.-16.11.12 Expert Workshop “ABS, Protected Areas Management and Forest Governance”, Eschborn, Germany
- 19.-21.11.12 Oceania Biodiscovery Forum, Brisbane, Australia*
- 22.-23.11.12 PIC and MAT Training for the Pacific, Brisbane, Australia
- 27.-30.11.12 Francophone Training Course “Managing Multistakeholder Processes”, Paris, France
- 04.-06.12.12 BIOPAMA Inception Workshop for Southern and Eastern Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa*
- 10.-11.12.12 National ABS Workshop, Mangochi, Malawi*
- 11.-14.12.12 Anglophone Training Course “Managing Multistakeholder Processes”, Feldafing, Germany