

2nd Pacific Access and Benefit Sharing Workshop

hosted by

Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa

organized in partnership with

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Australian Government



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NATURAL SOLUTIONS
PACIFIC

This workshop was facilitated and documented by Natural Solutions Pacific

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Acronyms

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
AusAID	Australian Government Overseas Aid Program
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CTI	Coral Triangle Initiative
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU	European Union
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
GR	Genetic resources
JICA	Japanese International Aid Agency
ICNP 2	Second Meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on ABS
IEA	Integrated Environmental Assessment
ITPGRFA	International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Areas
MAT	Mutually Agreed Terms
MLS	Multilateral System
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCA	National Competent Authority
NP	Nagoya Protocol on ABS
NZAID	New Zealand Agency for International Development
PIC	Prior Informed Consent
R&D	Research and Development
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
TK	Traditional Knowledge
SMTA	Standard Material Transfer Agreement
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNSW	University of New South Wales
UNU	United Nations University

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UPNG

University of Papua New Guinea

USP

University of the South Pacific

1 Background

The ABS Capacity Development Initiative in partnership with SPREP is hosting a series of workshops and stocktaking exercises in the Pacific region in 2012. The first of these workshops took place from 19 to 22 March in Nadi, Fiji. This report documents the second workshop in the series that took place in Asau, Samoa from 22 to 24 May 2012. One further workshop is planned for November 2012 in Brisbane, Australia.

The ABS Capacity Development Initiative – a multi-donor initiative hosted by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) – has been implemented by GIZ (German Development Cooperation) since 2006. Following the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol in 2010, the European Union tasked and funded GIZ to expand the ABS Initiative beyond its initial focus on Africa to include the Caribbean and the Pacific countries of the ACP Group of States. The Australian Government has generously agreed to provide parallel funding to the activities of the ABS Initiative in the Pacific region in 2012.

An initial assessment of the ABS implementation and related capacity development needs in the Pacific region highlighted the important role of the regional organisations in providing support to national implementation of international treaties and agreements. Marine bioprospecting and cutting edge research on marine genetic resources are highly relevant for the region. Food security depends on safeguarding the genetic diversity of relevant crops such as taro in gene banks as well as in situ. Coherent implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) at the national and regional level is therefore of importance to ensure that, on the one side the sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources, and on the other side allow for the exchange of germplasm in the case of emergencies as well as for the adaptation of varieties/breeds in light of climate change included environmental changes.

The workshop agenda can be found in Annex 1 and the list of participants can be found in Annex 2.

1.1 Workshop Objectives

- To update Pacific Island Country representatives about recent developments in relation to ABS at the international level and the relevance to Pacific Island Countries,
- To deepen participant's understanding of the biodiscovery industry through demonstrating business models and presenting Pacific case studies and building understanding of the interaction between ABS and the Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture,
- To get an update on the status of ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Pacific Island countries and to initiate the development of national road maps, including how regional organisations can support this work,
- To enable ABS National Focal Points of Pacific Island Countries to plan for regional coordination at the upcoming ICNP 2.

2 ABS in the Pacific – State of Play

This session allowed the group to hear updates from each of the National ABS Focal Points about the status of ratification and implementation in each of the countries represented at the meeting. Furthermore Olivier Rukundo of the CBD Secretariat gave an overview of recent developments at the international level in relation to the Nagoya Protocol and ABS that have relevance to the Pacific. A copy of the latter presentation is included in Annex 3. Notes from the verbal updates provided by each country representative are included below.

2.1 Updates on the status of ratification/accession and national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the Pacific

FSM: The NP has been sent for approval of ratification to the current meeting period (early May until early June) of the Congress.

Palau: A decision of Congress on NP ratification is pending – hoping for news by June/July.

Tonga: Currently the ratification of two other conventions (Ramsar, CITES) is pending; the NP is next on the list. Tonga has research permits in place, which not specifically address ABS. Stakeholders consultations on ABS have been initiated.

Samoa: ABS policy is in place, the existing research permitting process doesn't work well for Samoa with researchers coming in but nothing coming back, i.e. no reports and no benefits, – that is why this workshop is important for Samoa. The ratification process of the NP has been started.

American Samoa: Can't sign up to treaties as they are a US territory although people understand the potential benefits of ABS and the NP. Interested to explore this during this workshop how a US territory could implement the NP under the right to enact local legislation.

Niue: How to implement NP? Put ABS into the Biosafety Bill? Parliamentary process is now in budget mode, i.e. slowing down. Niue has work done on a flora and fauna book that could be updated now as part of the ABS initiative to potentially include medicinal plants.

Cook Islands: Drafted ABS legislation; would like to ratify the NP but concerned that there has been no action in the past to enact the draft legislation. Therefore want to put the legislation and relevant processes in place first; looking for assistance in getting legislation up. Have been engaging with stakeholders who are keen to adopt the NP and establish processes even though they are not law yet. Research permitting process however doesn't really apply to local scientists, i.e. problem to capture research / access to GR by locals. Locals are asked to share traditional knowledge (TK) but on a case by case basis – they worry about misuse and are concerned that the TK is exported for unknown use abroad. Also need to reflect spiritual dimension. There is a local NGO promoting TK us in traditional settings.

Kiribati: Since March workshop – information paper developed on ABS and distributed to key stakeholders in agriculture, fisheries, culture. Plan to convene a stakeholder meeting in June and discuss way forward; develop a draft cabinet paper – probably later this year. This process may take a year or two.

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Nauru: Nothing done so far. There is nevertheless quite some interest in the NP. Technical support for ratification would be useful. There is no legislation – a bill drafted earlier was inadequate and needs an update.

Marshall Islands: Pushing towards accession – this aligns with the national area conservation plan. Need to review legislation on TK protection and for recognition of indigenous community conserved areas (ICCAs) as legislative framework is still lacking. Stakeholder consultations (with experts) needed. Next steps: preparing a briefing paper for cabinet and looking to take a bill to cabinet by August.

Fiji: Working on accession based on work done after COP 10; establishing stakeholder committees; working on consultation with NGOs, business etc.; drafting policy guidelines; a Multistakeholder committee of different government agencies has been established and a draft cabinet paper has been finalized.

PNG: Background on biosafety and earlier work with SPREP meaning that draft bills and policies in place for a while now, e.g. draft ABS bill since 2007, but limited political support. Question how to progress with NP implementation – currently absence in regulatory framework. PNG is working with Nautilus, a deep sea mining company, on marine species samples collected for environmental impact assessment. Private sector lawyers don't acknowledge ABS as relevant. There is no legal framework which made it much more difficult.

In 1998, the post-Kyoto government approved a policy framework for biodiversity which provides the policy structure through which ABS is being addressed in PNG but without a legal framework: as a fundamental basis PNG owns samples collected; built in benefit sharing structure; samples are checked by CITES officers etc. ...

Australia: Signed the NP and is working toward ratification; research and private sector stakeholder involvement through the Oceania Biodiscovery Forum in November; working to establish relevant and functioning checkpoint.

Andreas Drews from GIZ commented that EU intends to ratify the protocol before COP 12 in 2014. France is looking to allow territories to establish their own requirements for meeting prior informed consent requires under the NP.

Ndeme Atibalentja from American Samoa commented that the local government is allowed to pass local laws which should not contravene US federal law. So they could potentially pass local regulations which would be consistent with ABS requirements of the NP. Lohi Matainaho of UPNG commented that even though US is not a signatory, US institutions are increasingly abiding by the ABS principles of the CBD, i.e. looking for permits showing PIC and MAT.

Ben Phillips from the Australian Government asked whether US as a provider would not be able to access the CHM, i.e. is there any capacity for non-parties to access the CHM? Olivier Rukundo from the CBD Secretariat replied that one could see circumstances where this could work – under mutual agreement for example and possibly on a case by case basis. Geoff Burton of UNU added that a non-party could volunteer information to the CHM with the request that it be uploaded.

3 The Business of ABS

At the previous workshop, many of the participants requested more information about how the nature of the biodiscovery industry so that they can use this knowledge to better design national regulatory systems.

3.1 Business Models of relevant sectors for ABS

In this workshop session, two of the ABS experts that attended the workshop gave a presentation on some of the different business models found in the ABS industry. Geoff Burton (UNU) spoke about the pharmaceutical industry. The handout that he provided for this talk is included in Annex 4. Dr Daniel Robinson of the University of New South Wales (UNSW) then talked about the cosmetics, healthcare and agricultural-biotech sectors, his hand-out is included in Annex 5.

Plenary discussion following presentations:

Q: After Cognis/Loreal accepted the need for ABS agreements – what changed? How are ABS requirements different to existing 'fair trade' requirements?

A: They accept the need for this and will develop agreements for future situations. Currently it is very complex to get appropriate PIC and MAT as Morocco does not have ABS legislation in place. Furthermore, it is important to make the distinction between biodiscovery and 'bio-trade' where ABS is only triggered when R&D is involved, i.e. the sale of pure oils extracted from source wouldn't trigger ABS, but when R&D is involved in analyzing and extracting specific fractions of the pure oil then there would be a requirement to follow ABS regulations. The 'intention' for use is the trigger: trade of a commodity requires no ABS, but possibly a statement limiting the use attached to the export permit. If the intention is to sample and export for the purposes of R&D as defined in the NP then PIC and MAT is required.

Q: What is the definition of a GR?

A: The definition in the NP focuses on the 'utilisation of GR' and includes R&D on the genetic and/or biochemical composition of GR, including through the application of biotechnology.

3.2 Biodiscovery Experiences in PNG

Prof Dr Lohi Matainaho (UPNG) and Dr Eric Kwa of the PNG Constitutional and Law Reform Commission then shared experiences of establishing and regulating biodiscovery in PNG over the last ten years. Their presentation can be found in Annex 6.

Plenary discussion following presentation:

Q: How do you address the issue of shared resources and shared TK between clan groups?

A: The first clan that gives PIC will get a special share of benefits, but in the breakdown of benefits there will be a share for the local community / government to invest in benefits for the community.

Q: Regarding a 'bank' of PIC – at the next stage there must be an authority to grant PIC on the basis of the 'bank'. Hence need for the NCA to hold an oversight role.

A: The bank / NCA helps to direct researchers to the right area / clan grouping for the resource they are looking for.

Q: This creates effectively a system of community protocols which provides a degree of broad-based consent, but can on that basis a full prior informed consent can be developed?

A: We facilitate access, we don't put up a fence, we don't want to lose research opportunities and the benefits that come with it. We negotiate and come to a practical arrangement.

Q: PNG seems to be aiming for the high end, low probability products in the pharmaceutical sector. Why no biotrade related ABS?

A: Any product is good, we focus on non-monetary benefits at the time of access. The key is to maximise these benefits, looking at the long-term benefits which can arise from these research partnerships.

3.3 The Agricultural Sector

Valerie Tuia (SPC) shared the experiences of SPC's Centre for Pacific Crops of Trees in relation to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. She also gave a briefing on the relevance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources For Food & Agriculture (ITPGRFA). Her presentation can be found in Annex 7.

Plenary discussion following presentation:

Q: What is pandanus being used for?

A: For food, juice and as a timber tree in the atolls. CePaCT develops adapted cultivars and sends them to the atolls.

Q: CePaCT has put its accessions into the multilateral system. How did this happen? Who gave the authorization?

A: The relevant ministers approved, but only the Annex 1 crops are put into the multilateral system.

Q: How vulnerable is the collection to extreme events, e.g. cyclones or tsunamis?

A: The *ex situ* collection is replicated in three different countries and we have agreements with a number of different countries to access their genetic material if needed. There are also connections with international seed banks including the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway.

Q: Annex 1 crops are available under the multilateral system. Are you giving access to non-listed crops also using the SMTA?

A: We are not distributing pandanus, but holding. We are looking at mass production of Pandanus varieties with the Tree Seed Centre. For non-Annex 1 crops we seek the consent of the original provider country, i.e. NFP authorisation before sharing. The same applies for Annex 1 crops of non-members to the Treaty, e.g. sharing FSM taro with Tuvalu – upon agreement of FSM NFP transfer via SMTA to Tuvalu. The list of accessions is published on the CePaCT website.

Q: New taro varieties are replacing the old ones because the new are better and faster growing resulting in the loss of traditional Taro. How do you protect the old varieties?

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A: Part of our work is conservation of traditional varieties. But note these are often susceptible to disease. PNG has many taro varieties, but also many taro diseases. Because people are concerned about food security new varieties have high disease tolerance. There are, nevertheless, many traditional varieties that are still good and being grown. Farming communities have to judge and decide.

Q: How do you deal with the threats associated with genetic engineering in developing new varieties?

A: We are simply breeding and cloning; we aren't doing genetic engineering. We don't have the infrastructure. Furthermore, the environment is fragile and the potential threats are not fully understood. We understand some benefits, but we are not going there.

3.4 Linkages between the ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol

The day concluded with a panel discussion facilitated by Andreas Drews involving Oliver Rukundo of the CBD Secretariat and Francisco Lopez of the ITPGRFA Secretariat about the interrelationship between the Nagoya Protocol and the Multilateral System established under the ITPGRFA.

Conceptualizing and implementing a national ABS system where crops are held in *ex situ* collections, cultivated in farmers' fields and are found in the wild is a significant challenge for national administrations with split responsibilities for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA. The discussion highlighted

- The ITPGRFA relates only to GR for food and agriculture, meaning that the utilization of a GR is determining whether the Treaty or the NP is relevant for ABS. ABS for any GR which is not utilized for the purpose of food and agriculture is regulated by the NP.
- The ITPGRFA established the multilateral system (MLS) for crops listed in Annex 1 to the Treaty and held by *ex situ* collections. ABS to such crops, if utilized for food and agriculture, is regulated by the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA), which has been developed by the Governing Council of the Treaty.
- The decision which crops are listed in Annex 1 of the Treaty is the result of a "last minute" political negotiation before the Treaty was adopted in 2002.
- Land races, varieties and wild crop relatives found *in situ* and are not included in the MLS of the Treaty. Since the ITPGRFA clearly puts such GR under the national sovereignty national ABS regulations apply.
- It is important when establishing national ABS systems to make sure that internal discussion takes place between environment, agriculture, innovation and other relevant departments.
- Use the definitions in the NP as a guide. Nevertheless, some grey areas remain and ongoing collaboration between the NP and the Treaty will address these issues.

4 Case study and Field Trip: Mamala (*Homalanthus nutans*)

The participants were presented with a detailed case study of a bioprospecting project that has been underway for several years in relation to a medicinal plant found on Savai'i called Mamala (*Homalanthus nutans*). The presentation about the case study is included in Annex 8.

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After a welcoming kava ceremony with the chiefs of the Faleolupo community participants were taken to Falealupo village to meet traditional owners of the plant, to see the plant in the wild and some of the generated benefits for the community.

This was followed by a panel discussion with community members including the village chief and traditional healer Seumanutafa Falemai and his wife Filipo Falemai that allowed the participants to ask detailed questions. Following are records of some of the key points that were made by the panel:

- Seumanutafa is a member of the Samoan Traditional Healers Association. The Association was established by government in the last two years, with 30 members on the island of Upolu and only 3 members on Savai'i.
- Paul Cox explained in an official meeting in the village of Faleolupo where all the chiefs were present his intention: His father died of cancer and he's been searching for a cure for cancer so that his other family members will not suffer from this disease. He requested to see whether any of the traditional healers know about medicinal plants that cure certain diseases. He also explained he would assist the village development through financial benefits going towards the building of the school.
- The village agreed that Paul Cox could carry out his research using 15 different plant species which were collected by Seumanutafa based on instruction from elder chiefs of the village. The village also requested Paul Cox if he could pay for the village debt for the construction of a new school building. Paul Cox entered into an agreement with the village that the village would not to cut down the Faleolupo forest for 50 years and that he will find ways to support village development.
- Already Seumanutafa's grandparents used mamala and their recipe for the traditional medicine was passed down to him and his wife. Their recipe is different from other traditional healers medicines. He also uses another plant called "matalafi".
- According to Seumanutafa, the last update on the mamala research was in 2001 when Paul Cox explained that clinical tests on mamala are still continuing and it will take time. The medicine developed from mamala has been put on trials for HIV tests, with some promising news, but not yet complete with the tests. They also searched for drugs to be used as an anesthetic and tested this on two mice.
- Seumanutafa was told by a friend that in Hawaii a big mamala growing farm was set up. He has no information whether this farm will supply the Seacology company that deals with Paul Cox.

5 The ABS CHM and the International Certificate of Compliance, status and modalities that would work in the Pacific

Geoff Burton (UNU) and Ben Phillips of the Australian Government presented about the status of development of the ABS Clearinghouse Mechanism (CHM) and the differences between mutually agreed terms (MAT), access permits and certificates of compliance. These presentations are included in Annex 9. A plenary discussion followed in relation to how the

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mechanism would work for the Pacific region. Some of the questions raised during this discussion are included below.

Plenary discussion following presentation:

Q: Is there a risk of impeding research by over-regulating? For example Dr Cox did not know what he was looking for when he found the mamala.

A: It's not necessary to specify a species. All what the form requires is information about where the researcher is going and what the researcher will be doing (sample methods, indicate higher taxa as appropriate). Furthermore, the form creates a commitment for the researcher to report back on any findings. These reports on e.g. biodiversity surveys are valuable to government institutions as data basis for conservation planning. The starting point is for governments to encourage research, rather than treating researchers as 'biopirates'.

Q: How to deal with research based on material obtained prior to the adoption of the CBD?

A: While there is no obligation (and often no authority) to deal with material sourced prior to the CBD, benefit-sharing arrangements may nevertheless be developed, particularly with *ex situ* collections. In terms of making the system operational the usefulness of the information going up onto the CHM needs to be considered. Information relevant to new and subsequent utilization of earlier sourced GR would be useful information as would be information about access to GR for which PIC and MAT is not required. Such example would be the invasive alien mynah bird in Australia where Australia would issue an "anti-permit" stating that PIC and MAT is not required PIC confirming to the researcher and the ABS CHM that the GR was sourced in compliance with the regulatory ABS requirements in Australia.

Q: Are there options to claim benefit-sharing for material collected prior to the NP?

A: Some *ex situ* collections treat their whole collection, irrespective of when it was collected, as subject to the conditions of the CBD/NP, thus requiring PIC and MAT. Furthermore, a number of countries is considering the aspect of 'new use' as trigger for benefit-sharing and are looking at the application of NP to all GR materials collected irrespective of when it was sourced. This approach could possibly provide consistency and remove some confusion.

6 Preparing for ICNP 2 – coordination meeting of ABS Focal Points

This session aimed to provide space for the ABS focal points and other stakeholders from Pacific Island Countries to prepare and coordinate for the upcoming ICNP 2 meeting in New Delhi, India. Olivier Rukundo of the CBD Secretariat provided a detailed briefing on the agenda of ICNP 2 and highlighted key issues of potential relevance to Pacific Island Countries (Annex 10). After this, the participants had an internal discussion on how best to prepare for the meeting as only few of the ABS Focal Points present at the workshop are going to attend ICNP 2. Therefore, the group focussed on how best to gather the relevant information so that they could assist their colleagues that would be attending ICNP 2 in their preparations. The participants decided to prepare a resource pack for each country representative including:

- Names and contact details of Pacific Island Country representatives that would be attending the meeting so that they can communicate in advance of the meeting,
- the agenda briefing provided by Olivier Rukundo of the CBD Secretariat, and

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- an annotated list of relevant documents and how to source them also provided by Olivier Rukundo of the CBD Secretariat.

The resource packs were provided electronically to all participants before leaving the workshop.

7 National road maps for implementing the Nagoya Protocol

Based on requests from the participants of the last workshop in March 2012, one of the main objectives of the workshop, was to help the country representatives to draft a step-by-step road map for implementing the Nagoya Protocol in their countries. Hence, participants were facilitated through an exercise whereby the experts presented on key issues for consideration and practical steps required for implementation.

The participants then worked in groups to draft their national road maps. The exercise was broken into three thematic discussion blocks:

- Access to genetic resources
- Access to traditional knowledge
- Compliance.

For each thematic area, an expert provided a briefing on key issues in relation to the specific theme, followed by group work in sub-regional groups (Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia) where participants discussed and drafted national gap analyses and action plans. The groups then shared what they had come up with in plenary. The presentations that were given are included in Annex 11.

The regional and international organisations present in the meeting then gave presentations on how their organisations can support these national processes. These organisations were:

- SPREP
- SPC (Annex 12)
- IUCN (Annex 13)
- CBD Secretariat
- FAO.

The draft roadmaps included a column indicating the specific support each country would like from regional and international organisations in relation to specific identified tasks. There was a plenary discussion during which the country representatives were asked to comment in general on how they saw the regional and international organisations supporting the implementation of their national roadmaps. The main expectations expressed by the national representatives in this session were as follows:

- Legal advice: IUCN, SPREP, Pacific Island Forum Secretariat;
- Technical advice on implementation of the protocol: CROP agencies, Parks Australia, Informally from Geoff Burton;
- Technical advice on awareness-rising: The ABS Initiative will be launching a CEPA toolkit at ICNP 2 and will be providing training in 2013. Technical support on using the kit will also be made available in due time.

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The organisations (SPREP, SPC, USP, FAO, the ABS Initiative and IUCN) requested that country representatives send any requests for advice/support to all of them via email so that they can ensure that responses are consistent and that they coordinate with each other.

It was also suggested that the regional organisations consider establishing a regional help desk that channels queries to the right organisation – this will be taken under consideration.

It was also emphasised that university research institutions have an important role to play as checkpoints.

Some of the country representatives agreed to share these draft roadmaps for the workshop records with the provision that they would need to share these documents with their colleagues prior to confirming them. Copies of the draft country roadmaps that were shared are included in Annex 14.

8 Where to from here in 2012

The final session of the workshop involved a briefing on upcoming events as follows:

30 June – 1 July	The CBD Secretariat will be hosting a capacity-building workshop for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in collaboration with the ITPGRFA Secretariat back-to-back with ICNP 2. All focal points attending ICNP 2 are invited to participate.
2-6 July	ICNP 2
7-14 September	The World Conservation Congress will present the opportunity for cooperation and collaboration in relation to ABS and PA. The Pacific Regional Steering Committee will discuss this opportunity during the above meeting.
8-19 October	CBD COP 11. The CEPA Toolkit which is being developed by the ABS Initiative will be launched at COP. ABS will be a key component of the COP. Schedules for the conference will be determined after ICNP 2.
19-23 November	Oceania Biodiscovery Forum, Brisbane. The first part of the Forum will bring together researchers, government, industry and business to explore how researchers can better commercialise their work. The second part will focus on Pacific Island Country needs and focus on key elements which need to be included in mutually agreed terms (MAT).
24 November	The inaugural meeting of the Pacific Regional Steering Committee for the ABS Initiative will also be held back-to-back with these events in order to decide on a work plan for 2013. Members of the committee have yet to be appointed but will include SPREP, SPC, IUCN and some national representatives.

- End of 2012 Bioprospecting case studies by Dr Daniel Robinson will be published on the Pacific section of the ABS Initiative website.
- 2013 A training on ABS and IPR will be offered to the Pacific Region.

Participants were also encouraged to contact the CBD Secretariat and/or to advise Oliver Rukundo about specific decision-makers at national level that the Secretariat should be in contact with to provide on-going briefings promoting ratification of and accession to the Nagoya Protocol. The CBD Secretariat will where possible participate in any relevant meetings in the Pacific.

9 Workshop Evaluation

Participants were asked to write down, what worked well, what could be improved as well as recommendations for the next workshop. Similar answers were clustered as shown below.

What worked well?

Comment	No. of participants that made this comment
Entertaining, fun, interesting, valuable, focussed, good participation, good venue	11
Expert presentations were informative, comprehensive and helpful	11
Input from regional and international partners, especially with regard to IP, TK, GR, compliance.	10
Facilitation	10
National road-mapping exercise very helpful – now have understanding of how the NP might be implemented domestically and what other Pacific Countries are doing	7
Well-designed and delivered agenda – including flexibility	6
Field trip	5
Useful to countries who are in the process of ratifying the Protocol	5
Learning from the experiences and plans of other countries – technical knowledge of national representatives was very high	4
Created a network that I will make use of including international experts	4
Mamala case study helpful	3

What needed improvement?

Field trip should have been a full day or in the afternoon (fatigue set in)	3
Need 4 rather than 3 days – too much information to absorb, felt rushed	2

Larger room	2
Needed clearer differentiation between ABS/NP and the ITPGRFA	1
FAO should have been given the opportunity to give a brief presentation about how ABS relates to the ITPGRFA	1
No internet	1
Participants lists should have been distributed before the meeting	1

Recommendations for next time:

GIZ, CBD, FAO to collaborate more closely on NP and IT	1
Less remote/isolated venue	1
Make sure you include lots of Pacific Island Case Studies as examples of how to apply PIC and MAT	1

10 Workshop closing

Participants were provided with electronic copies of all the presentations and materials that were provided during the workshop.

The workshop was formally closed by Mark Taylor of the Australian Government, Andreas Drews of GIZ, and Clark Peteru of SPREP. Joseph Cain of the Marshall Islands Government thanked the organisers on the behalf of the participants.

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Annex 2. Workshop Agenda

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Mark Taylor, Australian Government

Ben Phillips, Australian Government

Geoff Burton, United Nations University

Annex 12. Presentation: The Role of the South Pacific Commission in ABS, Cenon Padolina, SPC

Annex 13. Presentation: IUCN in the South Pacific, Patricia Parkinson, IUCN

Annex 14. Draft National Roadmaps