



November 2012

Expert Workshop: The Nagoya Protocol - Opportunities and Challenges for Protected Area & Forest Governance

14 - 16 November 2012, GIZ, Eschborn, Germany

For the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol *on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization* adopted in 2010 by the tenth Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), interlinkages between ABS, protected area and forest governance, need to be taken into special consideration.

Bioprospecting activities often take place within protected areas, which are repositories of genetic diversity. In many countries forest areas harbor the large majority of terrestrial genetic resources and are thus among the most relevant bioprospecting locations.

In both contexts, conservation is often closely linked to local communities, their traditional knowledge and customary use practices. However, relevant policies and institutional frameworks are usually not well integrated with each other, thus complicating access to resources and equitable benefit sharing.

For instance, land and resource tenure issues create complex legal situations, as they define the rights to use and control genetic resources in those areas. This contributes to the complexity of ABS-related considerations in protected areas and forest ecosystems and thus require special attention.

It is therefore of great importance to inform stakeholders involved in these governance processes about the interlinkages, to build awareness and capacities amongst them, to stimulate the development of relevant institutional and legal reforms, and to foster cooperation at the national and regional level.

Convened by the ABS Capacity Development Initiative this expert workshop will form part of joint activities between the ABS Initiative and IUCN under the BIOPAMA project, which provides concrete opportunities to implement linkages between ABS and protected areas in the ACP region.

The workshop will build on previous outputs from meetings held in [June 2009](#) (Pan-African Workshop on ABS and Forests, Nairobi, Kenya), in July 2011 (International Expert Meeting on ABS and Protected Areas, Gland, Switzerland) and in [December 2011](#) (Informal Expert Meeting on the Conceptual Interfaces between Protected Area Management, Forest Governance and ABS).

The results of the workshop, including outcome, process and presentations will be posted on the website.

Download the outline of the workshop, including key issues, expected outcomes and contact [here](#).

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