Cosmo International Ingredients

Cosmo’s experience of ABS process in Colombia - example of the uchuva extract -

UNDP Webinar – Panama

Private Sector Experiences on ABS: Experiences, Challenges and Recommendations

December 10th 2019
Company Profile

40 years in business

Privately Owned

Growing year after year

Number of Employees: 200+ (30 different nationalities)
Custom Made Creativity

FINE FRAGRANCES
TOILETRIES
HOME FRAGRANCES
HOUSEHOLD

Natural / Natural identical / Synthetic & Natural Blend/ Organic / Cosmos
Globally Active

Creative Studios & Production
Marketing & Sales Offices
Natural R&D Centers & Production
Cosmo sublimes Nature through Innovation to shape sustainable, unique and tailor-made natural ingredients.

NATURAL RESOURCES
Sourcing & Local sustainable developments

New odors & extracts - New origins

NATURAL INNOVATION
100% Natural Ingredients

Scientific analytical proof & Eco-Designed process

NATURAL QUALITY
Proactively involved

Regulatory Guidance & Guarantee

/ We respect People and Nature
NATURAL EXPERTISE CENTER

Our field teams across the world: 25 scientists exploring world’s biodiversity.

Mougins
France

Lima
Peru

Bogota
Colombia

/ Fully equipped to provide high-quality natural ingredients
CASE-STUDY: **UCHUVA EXTRACT (PHYSAIS PERUVIANA)**

The story behind this successful commercial product

Exclusive supplier

Sourcing uchuva calyx in Colombia ➔ Valorization of a by-product

C0₂ extraction in France ➔ Innovation

Exclusive customer

Anti-ageing cream ➔ Top-selling product

/ A success story with benefits for all
ABS IN COLOMBIA: THE CONTEXT

The guiding principles of ABS in Colombia

➢ About ten texts set the rules of the ABS in Colombia. Most important is the Andean Decision 391 of 1996

➢ Definitions & interpretations:

**Biological resources:**
“Individuals, organisms or parts of them, populations or any biotic component of value or of real or potential use that contains a genetic resource or its by-products.”

**Genetic resources:**
“All biological material that contains genetic information of value or of real or potential use.”

**By-products:**
“Molecule, combination or mixture of natural molecules, including crude extracts of living or dead organisms of biological origin, derived from the metabolism of living beings.”

➢ When does the access regime apply?
  * Bio-prospection and/or commercial use of isolated and purified molecules (even if there is no patent claim)
  * Any activity that seeks to claim patent rights on an identified function or property of a molecule or molecules, which are contained in the biological resource, crude extracts and mixtures of molecules that are not isolated.

/ Cosmo had to request **access to the genetic resource uchuva** (Physalis peruviana)
COSMO IN COLOMBIA: ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES

02/03/2016: Permit No. 124 to access Colombia’s genetic resources for Research.

- 5 years validity, renewable
- 10 areas in Colombia clearly identified for the authorized prospection of new plants
- Investigations authorized on up to 45 plants/year
- Research agreement with the INA- Fundación Universitaria Agraria- UNIAGRARIA
- Data-base of plants potentially interesting for perfumery & cosmetics

/ Excellent legal & research conditions to start an innovation program based on Colombia’s genetic resources
UCHUVA EXTRACT: SEIZING AN OPPORTUNITY

A few steps, from sourcing to commercialization permit

2012: Bibliographical research on uchuva (Physalis peruviana)

2013: Looking for a sourcing in Colombia

2014: Purchase of uchuva calyx from our exclusive supplier
   Beginning of the research on the genetic resource
   Nagoya protocol comes into effect on October 12th (signed but not ratified by Colombia)

2015: Entry into force of ley 1753 « Contratos de acceso a recursos genéticos » on June 9th
   Cosmo applies for contract of access to genetic resources on December 22nd

2016: Resolution accepting access application (July 7th) → negotiations of benefits sharing
   Institucion Nacional de Apoyo (INA) = Universidad Agraria de Colombia

2017: Commercialization permit N°135 granted to Cosmo on March 2nd 2017
   → see contracts and commitments for the sharing of benefits

/ Cosmo: 1st foreign company to obtain a contract of access to genetic resources in Colombia
ABS PROCESS IN COLOMBIA: **LEY 1753**

**Regularization: a zero-setting for a successful launch of the ABS approach**

De conformidad con lo establecido en el Artículo 252 de la ley 1753 de 2015 “Artículo 252. Contratos de acceso a recursos genéticos y/o sus productos derivados. Las personas naturales o jurídicas, nacionales o extranjeras, que a la entrada en vigencia de la presente ley hayan realizado o se encuentren realizando actividades de investigación científica no comercial, actividades de investigación con fines de prospección biológica, o actividades con fines comerciales o industriales, que configuren acceso a recursos genéticos y/o sus productos sin contar con la autorización del Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible, tendrán dos (2) años a partir de la entrada en vigencia de la presente ley para solicitar el contrato de acceso a recursos genéticos y sus productos derivados. (…)”

/ pragmatic and win-win vision of the Colombian government for a fast implementation of ABS
UCHUVA SOURCING: BENEFIT SHARING

A sustainable & ethical sourcing with shared benefits

- A local supplier committed to sustainable agriculture (GPA, reforestation program...)
- ABS contract provides for:
  ✓ Monetary benefit sharing
  ✓ Training of farmers for the implementation of « green businesses »
  ✓ Support to 3 farmers’ initiatives related to « green businesses »
  ✓ Communication in local and international seminars and congresses
- Instituto Nacional de Apoyo:
  ✓ In charge of follow-up & control of the activities + reporting to the Government

Physalis peruviana production farm
Ramiriqui- Boyaca-Colombia

/ a long-term commitment to support producers on projects that go beyond the scope of our activity
CONCLUSION: OUR EXPERIENCE OF ABS IN COLOMBIA

A long and challenging process but a positive experience that should encourage us to develop our R&D activity on Colombia’s genetic resources, for the benefit of all actors in the supply chains.

Lessons learned:

➢ ABS is time consuming.
  ➔ patience is key. It helps having a local person fully involved in the process with the authorities

➢ Permit N°124: a formalized framework for the exploration of new ingredients while respecting Colombian biodiversity and those who exploit it
  ➔ the valuable Colombian touch: 1 permit for several plants

➢ Ley 1753: A comprehensive approach from the Colombian government, both protecting its natural treasures and encouraging research for the valorization of its resources.
  ➔ the valuable Colombian touch: constructive attitude

➢ Future steps probably facilitated by our understanding of the system, and the recognition of Cosmo by the Colombian government as a company seeking to value nature in an ethical and sustainable way.