Private companies from the pharmaceutical, cosmetic, agriculture, biotechnology and other sectors use genetic resources for the development of products that are essential to society and contribute to implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Nagoya Protocol and national ABS laws and policies provide the guidance, rules and procedures under which these companies can access and use genetic resources.

This webinar presents three experiences of private sector companies from the cosmetics, food and fragrance industry that use genetic resources under national ABS regulations. The CEO of Provital Group will present the company’s efforts to access genetic resources from Mexico for the development of a cosmetic product. A representative from Symrise will present the implications, challenges and opportunities of the national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the flavor and fragrance industry. Lastly, a representative from Cosmo International Ingredients will present the Colombian case, related to the use of the Uchuva fruit for the development of a cosmetic product.

The panelists and presentations of this webinar are as follows:

**Alejandro Lago, Manager of the UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project** - Welcome Remarks and Presentation of Panelists (3 min).

**Ricard Armengol, CEO, Provital Group** - Using Genetic Resources in Mexico: Provital’s Experience and Recommendations (15 m).

**Sascha Liese, Sustainability Manager, Symrise** (15 m) - The Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing: Challenges and Opportunities in the Flavor & Fragrance Industry (15 m).

**Julien Le Masson, Sourcing and Purchasing Manager, Cosmo International Ingredients** - Cosmo’s Experience of ABS Process in Colombia: Example of the Uchuva Extract (15 m)

**Santiago Carrizosa, UNDP’s Global Advisor on ABS** – Closing Remarks (5 m).

Q&A
Panelists

Alejandro Lago
UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project Manager

Alejandro is responsible for the overall project coordination and implementation of the activities. He is also the regional specialist for the region of Latin America and the Caribbean (Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama and Uruguay), providing direct support to the UNDP country offices and the national partners covered by the Global ABS Project in the implementation of their operational and technical activities, as well as to other UNDP country offices on request.
He has more than 15 years of extensive experience as environmental legal and technical advisor to governmental and non-governmental agencies, research institutions and private sector. Alejandro was directly involved in the negotiation of the Nagoya Protocol and since its adoption has been actively supporting its implementation at the national, regional and international levels, supporting different projects in several countries around the world. Alejandro holds a PhD in Environmental Law and has several publications in environmental law and policy.

Ricard Armengol
CEO at Provital, SAU

President at UNITIS since 2013
Vice-President at UNITIS (2007-2013)
President of the Spanish Society of Cosmetic Chemists (2005-2008)
Vice-President of the Spanish Society of Cosmetic Chemists (1994-1998)
Member of the Board of the Spanish Society of Cosmetic Chemists (1990-2008),
Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Spanish Society of Cosmetic Chemists (1993-2002)
Chair of the Executive Committee organizing the 25th Congress of the IFSCC Barcelona 2008.
Member of the Scientific Committee of the International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists (IFSCC) from 1998 to 2004
Honorary Secretary of the International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists (IFSCC) from 2000 to 2004
Member of the Spanish Society of Cosmetic Chemists (SEQC) and the Society of Cosmetic Chemists (SCS), USA.
Sascha Liese
Sustainability Manager, Symrise

Sascha Liese is a graduate biologist, environmental systems analyst and certified quality management auditor. He works in the Corporate Sustainability department of Symrise AG, a world leading provider of fragrances and flavors as well as cosmetic and other functional ingredients for the food and FMCG sector. In his function as sustainability manager, the implementation and continuous improvement of the corporate biodiversity strategy and management system as well as the development of biodiversity-based business models belongs to his working priorities. Sascha is a member of the board of directors of the Biodiversity in Good Company Initiative and of the joint Nagoya Protocol Task Force of the International Fragrance Association (IFRA) and the International Organization for the Flavor Industry (IOFI). Previously, the author was involved in the implementation of the European Business & Biodiversity Campaign as project manager at the Global Nature Fund.

Julien Lemasson
Sourcing and Purchasing Manager, Cosmo International Ingredients

Julien is the Sourcing & Purchasing Manager at Cosmo International Ingredients, which is the R&D platform of Cosmo International Fragrances, established in France in 2012 in order to create tailored-made and innovative natural ingredients for the perfume industry. He joined the company in August 2018 and is responsible for setting up sustainable and ethical supply chains as per the UEBT standards, Cosmo being a member of the association since 2016. Ingredients are sourced worldwide, with a particular focus on Peru and Colombia where Cosmo International Ingredients has local offices. Julien holds an engineering degree in Agronomy from the Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon, with a specialization in quality management in plants production and supply chains.

Santiago Carrizosa
UNDP Global Advisor on ABS

Santiago Carrizosa is the UNDP global advisor on the issue of access to genetic resources and benefit sharing. He supports the countries where UNDP has a presence with the development of projects and policies in the areas of access to genetic resources and distribution of benefits and conservation of biodiversity. Prior to joining UNDP, Santiago worked with the Inter-American Development Bank in designing its biodiversity policy and incorporating biodiversity criteria into its project portfolio. Santiago has also been a professor at the University of California, Davis where he taught environmental policy and biodiversity conservation. Santiago also worked with the National Planning Department of Colombia in the formulation of national environmental policies. Santiago has a master’s and doctorate in Environmental Policy and more than 25 years of experience in project management and advising to multiple countries in areas of environmental policy and biodiversity conservation and is the author of publications in the areas of access to genetic resources and distribution of benefits, conservation and use of biodiversity.