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Webinar on IT tool for Monitoring Access and Benefit Sharing in India

(Wednesday 12th February 2020, 4 PM INDIA/ 15.30 AM COT)

The international principle of Access to genetic resources and Benefit Sharing (ABS) rests on the sovereign rights of countries over their genetic resources and in their consent to the use of genetic resources collected from their jurisdiction, in order also to obtain -countries and communities- a sharing of the benefits derived from their utilization.

According to the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol, this is to be achieved through a combination of the access permits, use of access and benefit-sharing agreements or ABS contracts (Internationally Recognized Certificates of Compliance) and the ability to identify and address cases of non-compliance with national access and benefit-sharing legislation, in particular through checkpoints and compliance measures. One of the key questions to be addressed by provider countries of genetic resources is how to monitor their genetic resources around the world.

This webinar presents the experience generated in India at the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA), through the Indo-German Biodiversity Partnership (implemented by GIZ), to monitor Indian genetic resources through the creation of an online ABS monitoring system linked to the ABS permit system. This webinar will introduce this IT tool generated to monitor genetic resources, its main features and its possible utilization in third countries, as well as the databases, information and tools that feed this mechanism tool (Biodiversity informatics, geographical data, scientometrics, patent analytics, the use of web services, etc.).

The session will be recorded and available at the [Global ABS Community](#) for members only. Register here to become a member of the [Global ABS Community](#), the community of practice of the UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project and access to these and other relevant ABS resources following this link <https://community.abs-sustainabledevelopment.net/wp-login.php>

Agenda

Dr. Alejandro Lago, Project Manager, UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project. Welcome remarks (5 minutes).

Dr. Vinod Mathur, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority of India. Opening remarks: Relevance of Access and Benefit-Sharing in India (10 minutes).

Dr. Aeshita Mukherjee Wilske, Team Leader, ABS Partnership Project of India. Setting the context: The IT tool as a product of the Indo-German Biodiversity Programme (10 minutes).

Mr. Vijay Kumar, Joint Director, C-DAC. The IT Tool for monitoring Access and Benefit Sharing in India (20 minutes).

Dr. Paul Oldham. Access or replicability of the IT tool for other countries and available tools and databases (20 minutes).

Panelist Profiles

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.

Vinod B. Mathur, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority of India



Dr. Vinod Mathur has been actively contributing on research-policy interface issues and has been the Regional Vice-Chair (Asia-Pacific Region) of United Nations Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (UN-IPBES) multi-disciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) (2014-2018). He is currently the UN-IPBES Bureau Member and UN-CBD Bureau Member (2019-2022). After serving for 33 years at the prestigious Wildlife Institute of India. Dr. Vinod B. Mathur was appointed as the 11th Chairperson of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) on September 1st, 2019.

Aeshita Mukherjee-Wilske, Team Leader, ABS Partnership Project of India



Principal Investigator in Relationship between the flora and fauna of wetlands and the physicochemical parameters of soil and water. Wildlife Circle Forest Dept., Vadodara, Gujarat, India. (1998). Project Executive Officer in Conservation of wetlands involving local communities. National Tree Growers Co-operative Federation Ltd., Anand, Swedish Intl. Dev. Agency and Canadian Intl. Dev. Agency. (1998–2000). Project Consultant (GEF/UNDP), Data analysis and Report on biodiversity and conservation of Desert National park, India. SRISTI, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. (2000–2001). Project Associate, Process Documentation Research on natural resource management in Gir National Park, India. Gujarat Institute of Develop. Research and the India Eco-dev. Project, World Bank. (2001-2002).

Dr. Paul Oldham, Anthropologist



Paul Oldham is an applied anthropologist who holds a PhD from the London School of Economics. For many years he worked with indigenous peoples in the Amazon in Venezuela before turning to international policy debates. Paul spent ten years working at a UK ESRC Research Centre on Genomics where the main focus of his work became the use of data science tools to enable monitoring under the Nagoya Protocol. He is also a WIPO expert in Patent Analytics. Paul is the Director of One World Analytics in the UK and he works closely with the ABS Initiative and GIZ in supporting countries with national implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

Mr. Vijay Kumar, Joint Director, C-DAC



A Big Data Enthusiast with more than 13 years of experience as Database Architect. Have expertise in handling database variants Oracle, PostgreSQL, MySQL & SQL Server. Has expertise in migration of databases from legacy systems. Architect in Big Data Application Projects and applied research and development of Distributed system. Has significant expertise in BigData technologies to build up the platform for analyzing structured and unstructured data.