

MAY 10TH TO 12TH

Global ABS Project

ABS

ACHIEVEMENTS
CHALLENGES &
OPPORTUNITIES

FINAL
WORKSHOP

“MAKING ABS

WORK

#ABSworkforALL



FOR ALL”

BOTSWANA

NATIONAL REGIME BEFORE PROJECT

- No ABS Legislation
- Various environmental legislative measures in Botswana do not comprehensively deal with ABS issues.
 - Community Based Natural Resource Management Policy (CBNRM) which outlines the strategy to ensure the equitable sharing of benefits with the participation of local communities.
 - The Industrial Property Act of Botswana deals directly with the notion of TK, benefit sharing and prior informed consent, however, it mainly relates only to intellectual property rights and TK and not to GRs.
 - Permits issued by various government departments, however, in respect of genetic resources, the permits are issued by the Ministry of Environment (MENT). One example of permit issuing would be the Department of Forestry and Range Resources in the Ministry of Environment provides permits for the harvesting of veld products.
 - Usually permits are issued for biotrade products, exporting and research. No monitoring mechanism as to what the researcher does with the GRs after the permit is obtained.
- The following instruments were used;
 - Material Transfer Agreements
 - Private Contracts
 - Memorandum of Understanding
 - Export permits

NATIONAL REGIME AFTER THE PROJECT

Through the Project the following have been achieved;

- Draft ABS Bill
- ABS National Committee-various experts
- Access form (adapted from AU Practical Guidelines)-led to more applications from users requesting access from plants, microbes to animal GR
- Trained Personnel on ABS Contract drafting and Negotiations

MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

- Limited experience with putting ABS in practice in light of new obligations under the NP
- Limited awareness amongst stakeholders on ABS/Nagoya Protocol and related benefits: need for the resources to spread the message especially to remote villages-which are biodiversity hotspots; to implement produced ABS Manual
- Communication on Nagoya Protocol using local languages: need for translation of messages to local languages
- Covid 19 when in the verge of putting ABS into practice

COMPONENT 2: ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUILDING TRUST BETWEEN USERS AND PROVIDERS OF GR TOWARDS BIO-DISCOVERY EFFORTS



Focused on creating an enabling environment for establishing working relations between those who use the resources and the owners of the resource and associated traditional knowledge. Issues of capacity development and improvement were covered.

1. ABS Communication Strategy
2. Implementation of stakeholder engagement plan
3. Devil's Claw Business case within the valorisation of GR
4. Ostrich Business case within the valorisation of GR
5. ABS Brochure
6. Development and administration of a Knowledge Attitudes Practices (KAP) Tool for the ABS
7. Participation in capacity development Conferences, Workshops and Webinars

COMPONENT 3: ACHIEVEMENTS IN STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF IPLCs



- Focused on ensuring participation of communities in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.
- Key within this component was the development of the Biocultural Community Protocols (BCP)-The Shakawe and Lerala community groups have been capacitated on what constitutes a Biocultural Community Protocol (BCPs) and gathered relevant information through a participatory rural appraisal (PRA) process.
 - Consultative and capacity building sessions in Lerala and Shakawe to support the development of BCPs were carried out and the BCPs validated.
 - Participants at the community level have been trained/informed on PIC and MAT related issues a party of the BCP development process..

Next Steps:

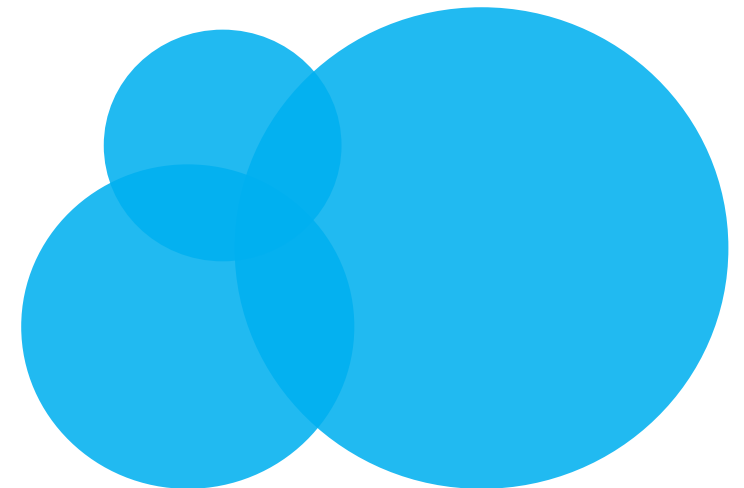
- The handover of printed ABS documents to the respective communities
- Development of other BCPs: The ABS Project/DEA received a request for support from a community representative to develop BCPs in other areas of the country

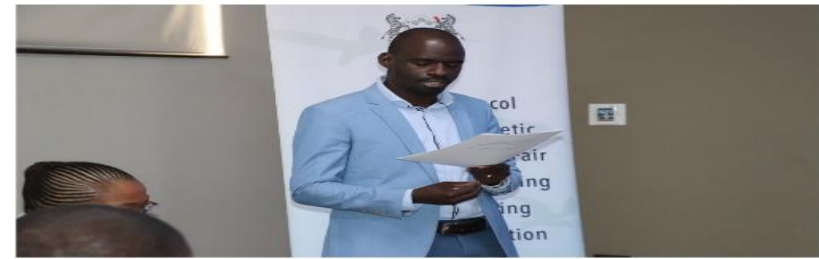
NEXT STEPS FOR ABS

- A total of USD1, 96 million has been secured for a domestication project through GEF.
 - Implementation of the legislation-Infrastructure (Database)
 - Documenting IKS
 - Capacity building and awareness
 - R & D of ABS products
- The development of the Project Document is ongoing



- Member of community of practice
- Resourceful platform in terms of information sharing
- Participation in community of practice workshops last being Seychelles
- Upload project outputs after approval







ABS

ACHIEVEMENTS
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THANK YOU



ABS is genetic resources for sustainable development
abs-sustainabledevelopment.net