

MAY 10TH TO 12TH

Global ABS Project

ABS

ACHIEVEMENTS
CHALLENGES &

FINAL
WORKSHOP

OPPORTUNITIES

“MAKING ABS

WORK

#ABSworkforAll



FOR ALL”

INDIA

GLOBAL ABS PROJECT

[January 2017 to June 2021]

COMPONENT 1: ACHIEVEMENTS IN DEVELOPING NATIONAL ABS FRAMEWORKS

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

COMPONENT 3: ACHIEVEMENTS IN STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF IPLCs

**COMPONENT 4: ACHIEVEMENTS IN IMPLEMENTING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE AND GLOBAL
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK ON ABS**

India would be presenting its achievements on Components 1, 2 and 4

COMPONENT 1: ACHIEVEMENTS IN DEVELOPING NATIONAL ABS FRAMEWORKS

- How was the national ABS regime before the project and how would you describe it now?
- Key characteristics of local ABS regime
- Has the ABS regime simplified the access to genetic resources?
- Is DSI considered in the ABS regime?

- ❑ As a party to CBD, India enacted a proactive legislation in the form of Biological Diversity, Act, 2002 that provides for conservation, sustainable utilisation of biological resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of the biological resources and associated knowledge.
- ❑ The provisions of the BD Act, 2002 and the BD Rules, 2004 thereunder, the National Biodiversity Action Plans (1999, 2008 and Addendum 2014 to NBAP, 2008) together with the ABS Regulations, 2014 serve the objectives of National Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- ❑ A three-tier institutional structure comprising of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) at the national level, the State Biodiversity Boards (SBB) at State level and the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC) at the local body level, has been put in place for implementing the provisions of the BD Act. As on today, 28 SBBs, 6 Union Territory Biodiversity Councils (UTBCs) and 273,570 BMCs are in place throughout the length and breadth of the country to implement to provisions of BD Act, BD Rules and ABS Regulations in the country (<http://nbaindia.org/>).
- ❑ **In India, since institutional and administrative structures are already in place, the Global ABS project focused on enhancing the capacities of academic and research institutions in the public and private sector accessing genetic resources to better understand the legal provisions and guidelines related to access and benefit sharing.**

- ❑ Since the project in India focused on niche area with an enhanced objective, which was to sensitize researchers and institutions (both academic and applied research) involved in research (commercial/non-commercial) on biological resources and associated knowledge; UNDP partnered with National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru who in turn tied-up with prime law schools in the country in reaching out to and building capacities of the various stakeholder groups.

 - ❑ Regional workshops on Biodiversity Law and ABS were held at 16 States viz., Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Telangana, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, Punjab, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. These regional workshops were participated in by a total of 1947 Legal Professionals drawn from the Law Schools spread across 16 States. 29 Master Trainers for the Advance Workshop on National and International Legal Framework for the conservation of biodiversity were trained. Moot court on Biodiversity Law was organized at the NLSIU wherein more than 70 participants from 25 Law schools across the country participated.

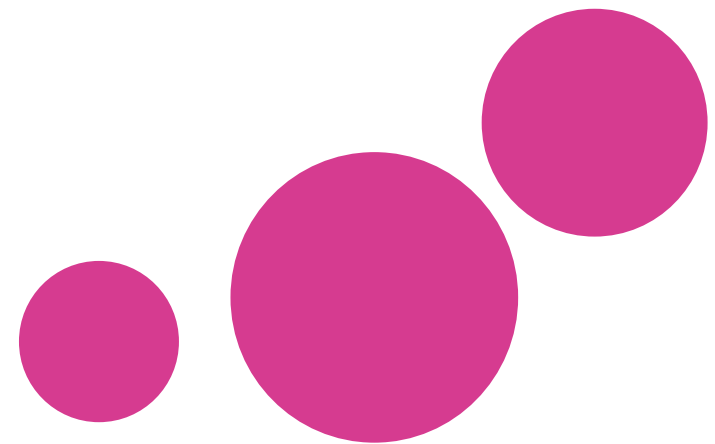
 - ❑ To extend the project activities to forestry and agriculture related institutions which also has ABS relevance, UNDP India engaged with the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

 - ❑ The project also looked at the emerging issue of Digital Sequence Information (DSI) based activities in the country and supported activities to build capacities on DSI and prepare country position on the subject.
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- ❑ Towards ease of doing business and simplified access procedures, NBA launched the e-filing of ABS applications in March 30, 2017 and gained popularity among applicants subsequently. So far around 2000 applications have been received by NBA through the e-filing portal.
 - ❑ The most successful aspect of this e-filing portal is that most of the applications received were complete without the need for NBA to communicate and follow up with the users for additional information. This has expedited the process and is aiding NBA in fulfilling its statutory obligation by processing the applications within the prescribed time under the BD Act, 2002.
 - ❑ India is the also first country publish Procedure for accessing the biological resource and/or associated knowledge for commercial or non-commercial use in the Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House in the year 2018 in 6 UN official languages.
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COMPONENT 2: ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUILDING TRUST BETWEEN USERS AND PROVIDERS OF GR TOWARDS BIO-DISCOVERY EFFORTS

- Have the national efforts contributed to the sustainable use of nature? Provide tangible, measured impacts on the SDGs.
- Are the codes of conduct really applied by users of GR?
- How can ABS can contribute to better deliver nature-based solutions for the well being of the country and its biodiversity? How can bioprospection help to get ABS closer to peoples lives?



- ❑ The project contributed significantly to the national achievement of SDG 15.6 (Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed).
- ❑ Sofar, India had issued a total of 1424 Internationally Recognized Certificates of Compliance (IRCCs) against the total of 2254 issued by 129 Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, thus contributing 63% of Global IRCCs issued.
- ❑ The project in India is also piloting a scheme on incentivization of ABS thorough the development of a Voluntary Certification Scheme (VCS) being piloted the Quality Council of India (QCI). Logo Design have already been completed. VCS Scheme is to be launched by mid-May, 2021.
- ❑ Besides, the project contributed significantly to achievement of SDG, 3.b, 4.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.9, 17.14, 17.15, 17.19.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS DEVELOPED DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

- I. 'Ethical Code of Conduct on ABS for Researchers and Research Institutes and Organizations'.**
- II. 'Access and Benefit Sharing in India: A Handbook for Researchers '**
- III. 'Monitoring Guidelines for Research Institutions to Promote Compliance with Access and Benefit Sharing under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002'**

These knowledge products will be formally released by the Hon'ble MEF& CC on 22 May, 2021

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- I. Developing A Voluntary Certification Scheme For Access And Benefit Sharing Compliance In India in partnership with Quality Council of India (QCI).**
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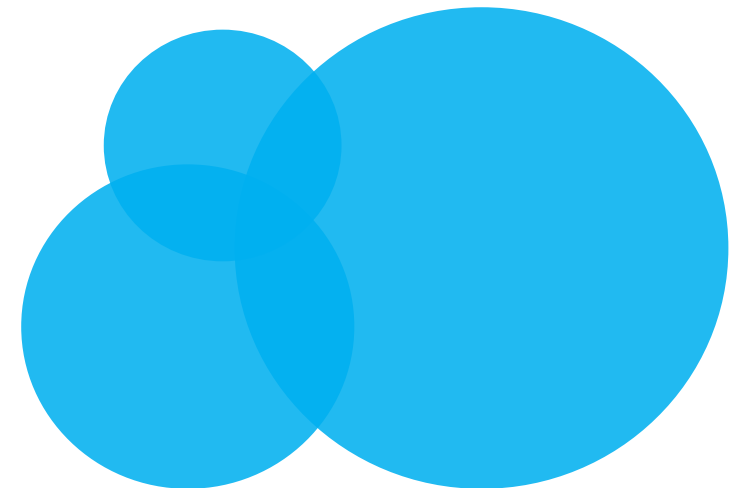
DEVELOPING A VOLUNTRY CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING COMPLIANCE IN INDIA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH QUALITY COUNCIL OF INDIA



COMPONENT 4: ACHIEVEMENTS IN IMPLEMENTING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE AND GLOBAL COOPERATION FRAMEWORK ON ABS



- Did you find the Global ABS Community useful for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol under the project?
- What can be improved to better contribute to strengthen the global cooperation framework on ABS?



- Good practices and information are being shared with the global team as well as Global Community for dissemination from India vice versa for mutual learning**
 - A side event was organized at the CoP -14 of the CBD by the National Biodiversity Authority on Access and Benefit Sharing to share India's progress on ABS and good practices with other countries.**
 - The Manager, UNDP-GEF Global ABS project, attended one of the NAARM workshop in person and contributed to one of the sessions.**
 - A series of webinars on Biodiversity and Biological Diversity Act, 2002, that were conducted in partnership with the National Biodiversity Authority have been shared with the Community of ABS Practitioners for dissemination to the stakeholder.**
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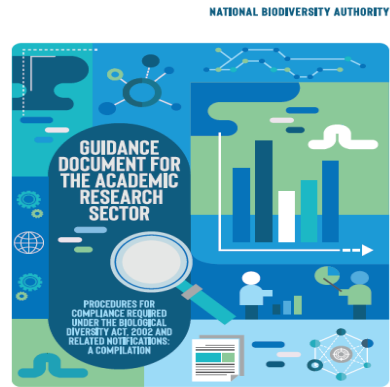


www.nlsabs.com

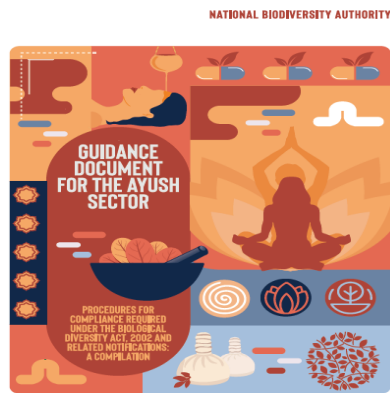
Under the project, NLSUI, Bengaluru has developed a website hosting information regarding the following:

- i. Case laws on ABS before various judicial forums in India**
 - ii. Legal framework (Acts and Rules) relevant to ABS and biodiversity**
 - iii. International legal instruments on ABS and biodiversity**
 - iv. Frequently asked questions on ABS and biodiversity**
 - v. Latest news (Articles, book releases and opinion pieces) on Biodiversity and Access and Benefit Sharing.**
 - vi. Advertisement and information on the regional workshops to be conducted and the advance workshop with moot court is available at nlsabs.com**
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Sector – Specific Guidance Documents on BD Act



Research



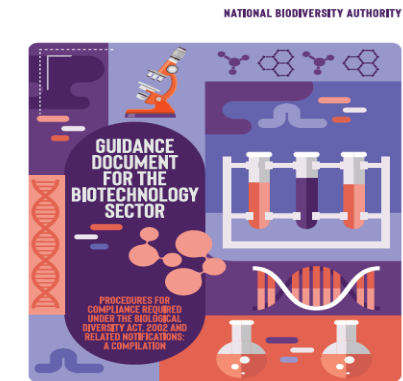
AYUSH



Cosmetics



Seeds



Biotechnology

thank you...

