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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE NAGOYA
PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES
AND THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF
BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR UTILIZATION

Fourth meeting

Montreal, Canada 7-19 December 2022

Agenda item 8

PROGRESS REPORT ON MEASURES TO ASSIST IN CAPACITY-BUILDING AND AWARENESS RAISING (ARTICLES 22 & 21)

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Article 22 of the Nagoya Protocol provides that Parties shall cooperate in the strengthening of human and institutional capacities to effectively implement the Protocol in developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition. In doing so, Parties are required to fully consider the needs of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition and facilitate the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders. Moreover, Article 21 of the Nagoya Protocol calls for Parties to take measures to raise awareness of the importance of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and related access and benefit-sharing issues.
2. In decision [NP-1/8](#), the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol adopted a strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Protocol and established an informal advisory committee to provide advice to the Executive Secretary on matters related to the strategic framework.
3. In decision [NP-3/5](#), the Parties decided to evaluate the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and requested the Executive Secretary to carry out the evaluation and submit its report for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting. Parties also requested that the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building provide inputs into the evaluation through a review of preliminary findings and by providing additional information and recommendations.
4. In line with this decision, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation considered the evaluation of the strategic framework and adopted recommendation SBI-3/9, containing a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol under this agenda item.
5. Decision [NP-3/1](#) encouraged the expansion of efforts to build and develop capacities taking into account the priority areas identified during the assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol, the need to strengthen institutional capacities, as well as the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders.
6. In decision NP-3/5, the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to carry out and facilitate capacity-building activities to support the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, as set out in the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to Enhance

and Support Capacity-Building for the Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, annexed to decision [NP-2/8](#).

7. In decision [NP-1/9](#), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol adopted an awareness-raising strategy that aims to provide a systematic and coherent approach to assist Parties in the implementation of Article 21. It recognized the need to link activities related to Article 21 to other capacity development activities under the Nagoya Protocol and the programme of work on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA), and other outreach initiatives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

8. Decision [NP-3/6](#) called for Parties non-Parties, relevant organizations and other actors to continue to implement awareness-raising activities and requested the Executive Secretary to continue to seek feedback from Parties, non-Parties and other relevant actors on the access and benefit-sharing awareness-raising toolkit developed by the Secretariat and to provide an update on the implementation of the awareness-raising strategy for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at its fourth meeting.

9. Finally, at its fourteenth meeting (decision [14/24](#)), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to submit a draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building aligned with the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting, and for subsequent consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting. In line with this decision, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation considered the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development in support of the implementation of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and adopted recommendation [3/8](#).

10. Against this background, section II outlines the intersessional activities undertaken by the Secretariat during 2019-2022 to enhance and support capacity-building and awareness raising for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Section III provides an updated overview of capacity-building and development initiatives and resources supporting the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Section IV highlights the work undertaken by the Informal Advisory Committee to support the evaluation of the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Section V provides a summary of the feedback received on the access and benefit-sharing awareness-raising toolkit developed by the Secretariat and an update on actions undertaken by Parties and relevant stakeholders to implement the awareness-raising strategy. Finally, section VI contains elements for a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fourth meeting.

II. OVERVIEW OF THE INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT

11. During the intersessional period, the Secretariat implemented, facilitated and supported several capacity-building and development activities to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols contained in the annex to decisions XIII/23 and NP-2/8. The following subsections provide an overview of these activities and the resources developed.

A. Capacity-building and awareness raising activities and resources

1. Capacity-building and awareness raising activities

12. From 11 to 14 June 2019, the Secretariat of the Convention (SCBD), in collaboration with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and with the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, delivered a training of trainers for the Francophone African Access and Benefit-Sharing Network in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Morocco, with two objectives: (a) pilot a trainers manual based on the SCBD-IDLO regional training courses; and (b) build participants' capacities to use the training package to design national ABS training activities. A total of 22 participants (14 male and 8 female) representing 10 Francophone African countries participated in the training.

13. The Secretariat, with the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the European Union and the Government of Germany, and in collaboration of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative and UNDP organized a workshop in Bonn, from 30 September to 2 October. The Global Capacity-Building Workshop on Monitoring the Utilization of the Genetic Resources¹ under the Protocol aimed to raise awareness and share practical experiences regarding monitoring the utilization of genetic resources, and to build a better understanding of how to use the Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) Clearing-House. The workshop provided training to 68 participants, representing 54 different countries (35 female and 33 male).

14. To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol, the Secretariat in collaboration with UNDP and with the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund launched a communications campaign under the theme “the ABS we all need”. One of the main events of the campaign consisted of the Global ABS Conference that ran from 29 October to 25 November, 2020. The five online sessions brought together Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders such as researchers and the business community, from provider and user countries, to share experiences and lessons learned. In total, 888 participants from around the world attended the online conference.

15. An additional communication campaign was undertaken in 2021 with the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund to raise awareness on access and benefit-sharing and the Nagoya Protocol in the lead up to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The campaign published four interviews with ABS stakeholders that highlight key ABS challenges, success stories and innovative ideas through storytelling and real-life “ground-level” experiences that were disseminated through the Secretariat’s five social media channels and the ABS Clearing-House. In addition, the campaign generated 198 ABS related posts that provided links to relevant publications, reports, events and news that were tagged strategically to attract the attention of ABS stakeholder target groups. This work resulted in a total of 571,380 impressions and 17,471 engagements on social media.

16. With support from the European Union and in collaboration with the ABS Capacity Development Initiative, the Secretariat organized a series of four webinars on digital sequence information (DSI) on genetic resources² to disseminate information and foster a common understanding of DSI and of the issues being addressed under both formal and informal processes in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The first webinar focused on providing a technical introduction to DSI (389 participants); the second provided an overview of the outcomes of the processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity, with a focus on the outcomes of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources that took place in March 2020 (389 participants); and the third webinar introduced various policy options that have emerged through informal studies and processes (330 participants). The fourth and final webinar took place in April 2021 to introduce a set of criteria that could be used to consider the various policy options (187 participants). The webinar series was followed by an online discussion forum³ organized by the Secretariat on proposed policy options and the criteria framework for digital sequence information on genetic resources (21 April to 2 May 2021).

17. The need for capacity-building to facilitate the use of the ABS Clearing-House was stressed by Parties in decisions adopted at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. These decisions underscore the crucial relationship between Parties’ information-sharing obligations through the ABS Clearing-House and the successful implementation of the Protocol. In this regard, the Secretariat has been carrying out capacity-building in numerous ways. Since the third meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, the Secretariat has conducted 13 remote capacity-building trainings for the use of the ABS Clearing-House and five face-to-face capacity-building workshops.⁴

¹ [CBD/NP/CB/WS/2019/1/2.](https://www.cbd.int/np/2019/1/2/)

² <https://www.cbd.int/article/dsi-webinar-series-2020>

³ <https://www.cbd.int/dsi-gr/forum.shtml>

⁴ Workshop on the ABS Clearing-House held in the margins of the third meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Egypt, November 2018); Community of Practice Workshop on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing for European, CIS, Arab and Asian countries (Turkey, April 2019); 12th Pan African Workshop on Access and Benefit-sharing (South Africa, September 2019); ABS Clearing-House interoperability training in India (December 2018) and Kenya (October 2019).

Moreover, the Secretariat has undertaken a proactive outreach campaign to build awareness and increase engagement with Parties. Further information on these activities is available in document CBD/NP/MOP/4/6 on the ABS Clearing-House and will be considered by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at its fourth meeting, under agenda item 9.

18. During this intersessional period, the Bio Bridge Initiative⁵ (BBI) has continued to provide and maintain tools and services to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation to support Parties. One of the main support mechanisms of BBI is the seed funding facility, which provides small grants to catalyse demonstration projects that promote technical and scientific cooperation approaches, particularly through South-South and triangular cooperation. Since the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the Initiative has incubated 25 projects and partnerships through two calls for proposals. Three of the proposals selected are relevant to access and benefit-sharing. The first project was carried out in Namibia to strengthen institutional capacities through the exchange of expertise and access to biotechnology in the South African region to address the unsustainable exploitation of medicinal plants in the family *Apocynaceae*. The second project involves collaboration between Bhutan and Japan to strengthen national capacities on biodiscovery research and the effective implementation of the access and benefit-sharing regime in Bhutan. The third project is being undertaken by Chile in collaboration with Ecuador to isolate bacteria highly resistant to heavy metals with a view to producing biotechnology applications that prevent human and animal populations from consuming contaminated water or food.⁶

2. Capacity-building and awareness raising resources

19. In addition to the materials developed for the activities mentioned above, the Secretariat in collaboration with partners has developed the following:

(a) With the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund and in collaboration with the United Nations Staff College, two e-learning courses were finalized and made available. The first is an introductory e-learning course on access and benefit-sharing. The course introduces participants to the basic concepts associated with access and benefit-sharing and provides an overview of the main policy milestones on access and benefit-sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The second e-learning module offers a comprehensive overview of the important concepts and functionalities related to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House and is available in English, French and Spanish. These resources can be accessed on the biodiversity e-learning platform;⁷

(b) As part of the Global Capacity-Building Workshop on Monitoring the Utilization of the Genetic Resources, the short animated video *ABS Monitoring*⁸ was produced by the ABS Capacity Development Initiative in cooperation with the Secretariat to explain the monitoring of the utilization of genetic resources through the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House;

(c) Another animated video titled *DSI simply explained*⁹ was developed with the ABS Capacity Development Initiative to explain digital sequence information on genetic resources.

B. Participation in capacity-building and development activities of partner organizations

20. The Secretariat participated in various meetings organized by partner organizations. Further information on cooperation with relevant organizations is contained in document CBD/NP/MOP/4/8 on cooperation with other international organizations, conventions and initiatives that will be addressed under agenda item 11.

21. The Secretariat also continued to serve on the steering committee of the multi-donor ABS Capacity Development Initiative and participated in the Pan-African Workshop on Access and to Genetic Resources

⁵ <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/>

⁶ A complete description of the selected proposals is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/biobridge/projects/selected>

⁷ <https://scbd.unssc.org/course/index.php?categoryid=4>

⁸ <https://vimeo.com/263320356/513f748f8a>

⁹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJ0ZjpY0VQo>

and Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization that took place in Cape Town, South Africa from 9 to 13 September 2019 and contributed to the external evaluation of the initiative undertaken in 2021.

III. UPDATE ON EXISTING CAPACITY-BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES AND RESOURCES SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL

22. As per decision NP-1/8, paragraph 10(e), the present section provides an update on capacity-building and development initiatives implemented in support of the strategic framework for capacity-building.

23. Subsection A provides an overview of the known capacity-building initiatives contributing to the implementation of the strategic framework, drawing attention to capacity-building initiatives providing direct support for country-level activities related to the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. It also provides information on the status, duration, funding level as well as the geographic and thematic coverage of existing initiatives. Subsection B presents capacity-building and awareness raising resources.

24. A detailed overview of capacity-building and development initiatives and resources providing direct support for country-level activities in various countries is made available in information documents CBD/NP/MOP/4/INF/1 and CBD/NP/MOP/4/INF/2.

A. Capacity-building initiatives undertaken in support of the strategic framework

25. Since the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol, different capacity-building and development initiatives have been implemented to support its ratification and implementation. These include broad global or region-wide initiatives and activities intended to benefit all countries as well as initiatives that are intended to directly support and benefit specific countries.

26. Subsection 1 offers an update on the capacity-building and development initiatives that have provided or are providing direct support to countries to enable them to ratify and/or implement the Nagoya Protocol. It also draws attention to the status, duration, funding level as well as the geographic and thematic coverage of existing initiatives. Subsection 2 offers a brief analysis on capacity-building and development information uploaded into the ABS Clearing House.

1. Capacity-building and development initiatives benefiting specific countries

27. According to the information available to the Secretariat as of 30 June 2021, the total number of initiatives has grown to 103. It is important to note that 67 of these initiatives, representing 65 per cent, have been posted in the ABS Clearing-House. Since the third meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in 2018, seven new projects have been added. An overview of the 103 capacity-building initiatives including type, status, duration, funding levels, and geographic and thematic coverage, is provided below; the complete list is available in CBD/NP/MOP/4/INF/1.

(a) Types of capacity-building initiatives

28. Of the 103 capacity-building and developing initiatives providing direct support to specific countries, 82 (80 per cent) are national projects, 18 (17 per cent) are regional or subregional projects and 3 (3 per cent) are global.

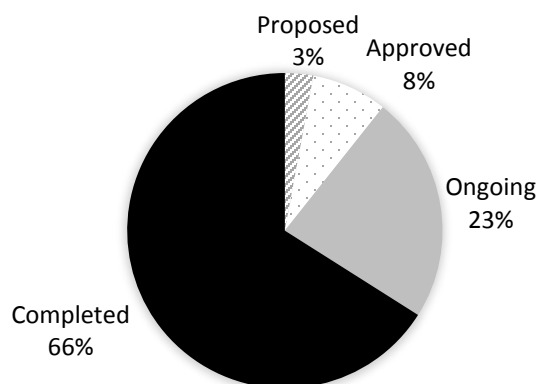
(b) Status of the capacity-building initiatives

29. In terms of status, according to the information available as of 30 June 2021, 68 initiatives (66 per cent) were completed, representing a significant increase from the 41 per cent reported during the fourth meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building, which was held in October 2019.¹⁰ Moreover, 24 initiatives (23 per cent) were ongoing, 8 initiatives (8 per cent) were approved, and 3 (3 per

¹⁰ See [CBD/NP/CB-IAC/2019/1/2](#)

cent) new initiatives were proposed (see figure 1).¹¹ Regarding the seven projects added to the list, one is ongoing; two are already completed, three have been approved, and one is currently being proposed.

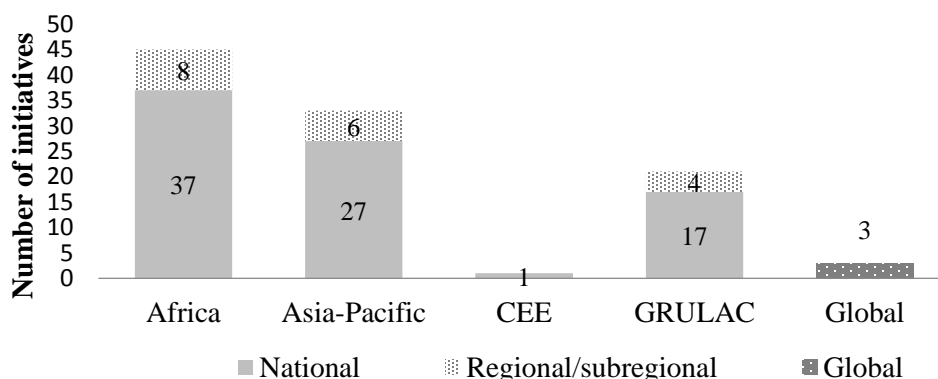
**Figure 1: status of Capacity-building initiatives
n=103**



(c) Geographic coverage of the initiatives

30. In terms of geographic coverage, the African region continues to have the largest number of initiatives, with 37 national and eight regional/subregional projects. This is followed by Asia and the Pacific, with 27 national and six subregional projects. In Latin America and the Caribbean, there are 17 national and four regional/subregional projects. In Central and Eastern Europe, there is one known national project. In the update prepared for the third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, a subregional project had been included in the report, but no information was available to determine whether the project was ever approved and hence it has been removed. Furthermore, there are three global initiatives that are also providing support to a number of countries from these regions (see figure 2).

**Figure 2: Capacity-building initiatives by type and region
(n=103)**



31. The geographic coverage of existing capacity-building projects continues to be uneven with Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) being the least covered region. Since the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties, there has not been a change in the number of projects implemented in this region. Only five

¹¹ Donors use different terminology to reflect the status of projects. For the purposes of this analysis, the status of projects has been classified as follows: proposed, approved, ongoing and completed. “Proposed” refers to projects for which concepts have been developed but not yet submitted to a donor(s) or are submitted but not yet accepted/approved. “Approved” refers to projects whose concepts or documents have, in principle been accepted by the donor(s) and are being developed into full project documents. “Ongoing” refers to projects that are under implementation and “completed” refers to projects that have finalized.

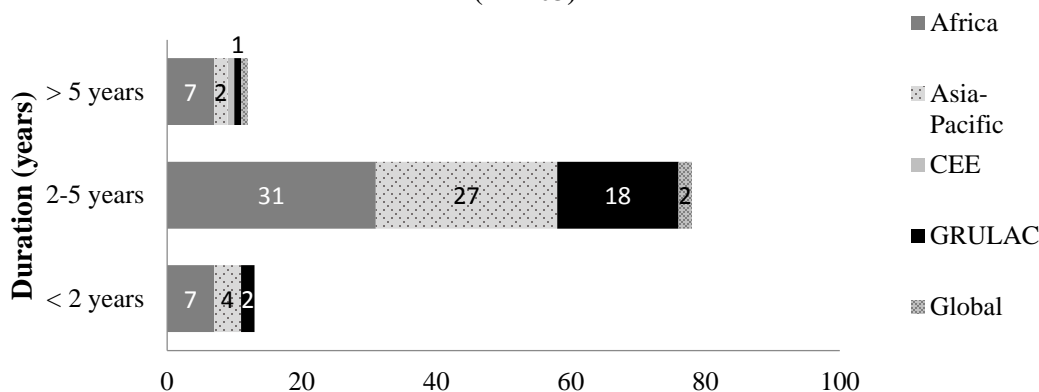
countries (22 per cent) — Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Georgia — have received direct support from an ABS capacity-building project.

32. Of relevance to this issue is decision NP-3/5 where Parties other Governments and organizations were invited to consider developing regional and subregional projects as a way forward to support regional cooperation and address the capacity-building gaps in certain regions such as CEE.

(d) Duration of the initiatives

33. With respect to the duration of the initiatives, information is currently available for all 103 projects. The majority of the initiatives (76 per cent) have a planned duration of two to five years; 13 per cent have a duration of less than two years and only 12 per cent have a duration of more than five years, up from 7 per cent reported during the last meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (see figure 3).

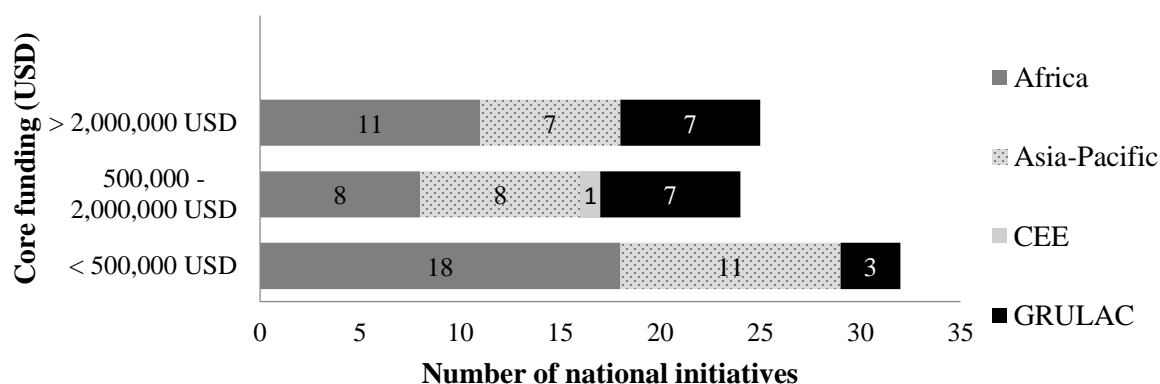
Figure 3: Capacity-building initiatives by duration (n= 103)



(e) Level of funding

34. Regarding the level of funding for the initiatives,¹² information is available on the core funding for 81 out of the 103 national projects. Of these, 32 projects (40 per cent) are small sized with funding of less than US\$ 500,000; 24 projects (31 per cent) are medium sized, with funding between US\$ 500,000 and US\$ 2,000,000; and 25 projects (31 per cent) are full sized, with funding of over US\$ 2,000,000 (see figure 4).

Figure 4: Level of core funding for national capacity-building initiatives (n=81)

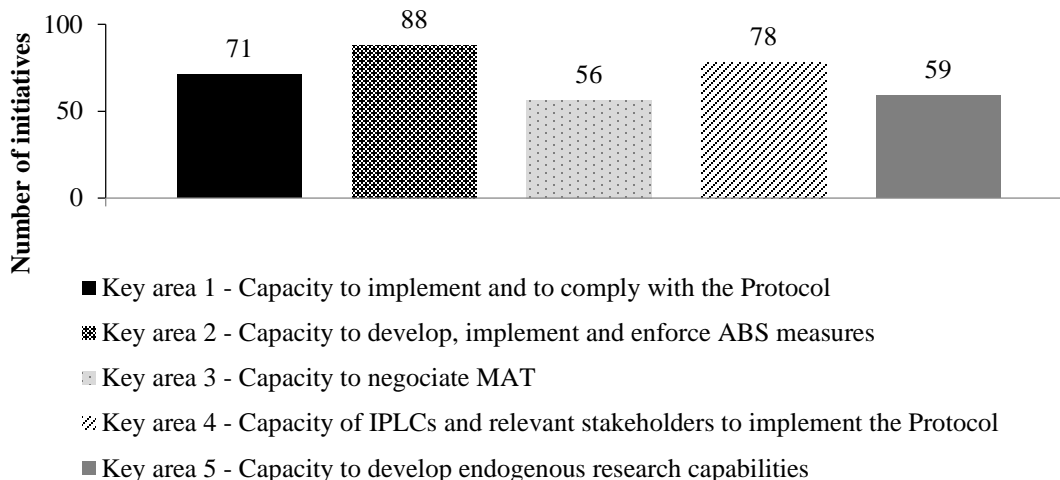


¹² For the purposes of the present document, the analysis is based on information available on core funding; it does not include co-financing or in-kind contributions. It is important to note that co-financing in some cases may equal or surpass core funding.

(f) Thematic coverage by existing initiatives

35. In terms of the key thematic areas¹³ being covered by the capacity-building initiatives, information is available for 101 out of 103 projects (see figure 5).

**Figure 5: Coverage of Key Areas of the Strategic Framework
(n=101)**



36. The majority of the projects (88 per cent) focus on key area 2 (capacity to develop, implement and enforce ABS measures) followed by 78 per cent key area 4 (capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to implement the Protocol) and 71 per cent on key area 1 (capacity to implement and to comply with the Protocol). Approximately 56 per cent of the projects have focused on key area 3 (capacity to negotiate mutually agreed terms) and 59 per cent on key area 5 (capacity to develop endogenous research capabilities). The focus on key areas 1, 2 and 3 has been in line with efforts to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 16, which called for the Nagoya Protocol to be in force and operational, consistent with national legislation by 2015. Moving forward, greater emphasis needs to be placed on key areas 3 and 5 to support countries in their efforts to strengthen their capacities to negotiate mutually agreed terms and build endogenous research capabilities.

(g) Organizations supporting ABS capacity-building initiatives

37. Of the 102 capacity-building initiatives implemented or executed by international organizations, 50 (2 global, 20 Africa, 18 Asia-Pacific and 10 GRULAC) (50 per cent) have or are being funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). Based on the information compiled by the Secretariat for the present report, GEF has invested approximately US\$ 100 million in core funding for capacity-building initiatives on ABS and leveraged more than \$300 million in co-financing in over 100 countries.¹⁴

38. As can be observed in table 1 below, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) carried out the greatest number of ABS capacity-building initiatives, followed by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The ABS Capacity Development Initiative¹⁵ is providing support for national-level capacity-building activities in 15 countries and collaborating with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in supporting an additional seven projects.

¹³ In decision NP-1/8, the Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol adopted a strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol (para. 1 and annex I to the decision). The framework identifies five key areas for capacity-building and development.

¹⁴ Estimate made based on available information published in the reports from GEF to COP, starting at COP 10 (adoption of the Nagoya Protocol) to the draft report submitted to COP 15.

¹⁵ <https://www.abs-biotrade.info/>

Table 1. Number and proportion of projects implemented/executed by international organizations

Organization	Africa	Asia-Pacific	GRULAC	CEE	Global	No. of projects	Percentage
ABS Initiative ¹⁶	10	6	3	-	-	19	19%
ABS Initiative/GIZ	5	-	-	-	-	5	5%
Bioversity International	1					1	1%
Bioversity International/ ABS Initiative	1	-	-	-	-	1	1%
Botanic Gardens Conservation International	1	-	-	-	-	1	1%
GIZ	2	3	4	1	-	10	9%
Inter-American Development Bank	-	-	1	-	-	1	1%
IUCN	-	1	-	-	-	1	1%
JICA/COMIFAC	1	-	-	-	-	1	1%
UNDP	12	12	8	-	1	33	33%
UNEP ¹⁷	11	5	3	0	2	21	20%
UNEP/IUCN	-	1	2		-	3	3%
UNEP/ACB	-	3	-	-	-	3	3%
UNEP/ABS Initiative	1					1	1%
UNEP/SPREP	-	1	-	-	-	1	1%
Total	45	32	21	1	3	102	100%

2. *Analysis of information on capacity-building initiatives published in the ABS Clearing-House*

39. As of 5 November 2021, 94 records in the ABS Clearing House have been published under “capacity building initiatives” reflecting an increase of only 17 additional records being published since the third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. Of these records, 53 relate to projects or programmes exclusively dedicated to ABS, of which 40 have been classified as national projects, 7 as regional/subregional, 5 as global and 1 as subnational. There are 24 records classified as being ABS components of broader projects or programmes and 14 identified as workshops or seminars. It is worth noting that 59 per cent of the national projects indicate they are being co-funded using national budget allocations.

40. The analysis of the information recorded in the ABS Clearing-House has limitations due to missing information and the ongoing lack of timely updates by Parties and relevant stakeholders.

B. Capacity-building and awareness raising resources

41. Pursuant to requests made in paragraphs 10(a) and 10(b) of decision NP-1/8 and paragraph 12 of decision [NP-1/2](#), and on the basis of advice provided by the Informal Advisory Committee, the Secretariat established a database for capacity-building resources, accessible through the Virtual Library of the ABS

¹⁶ The ABS Capacity-Development Initiative, through its projects, is providing direct national support to 19 countries.

¹⁷ This refers only to projects implemented by UNEP and directly executed by national government agencies.

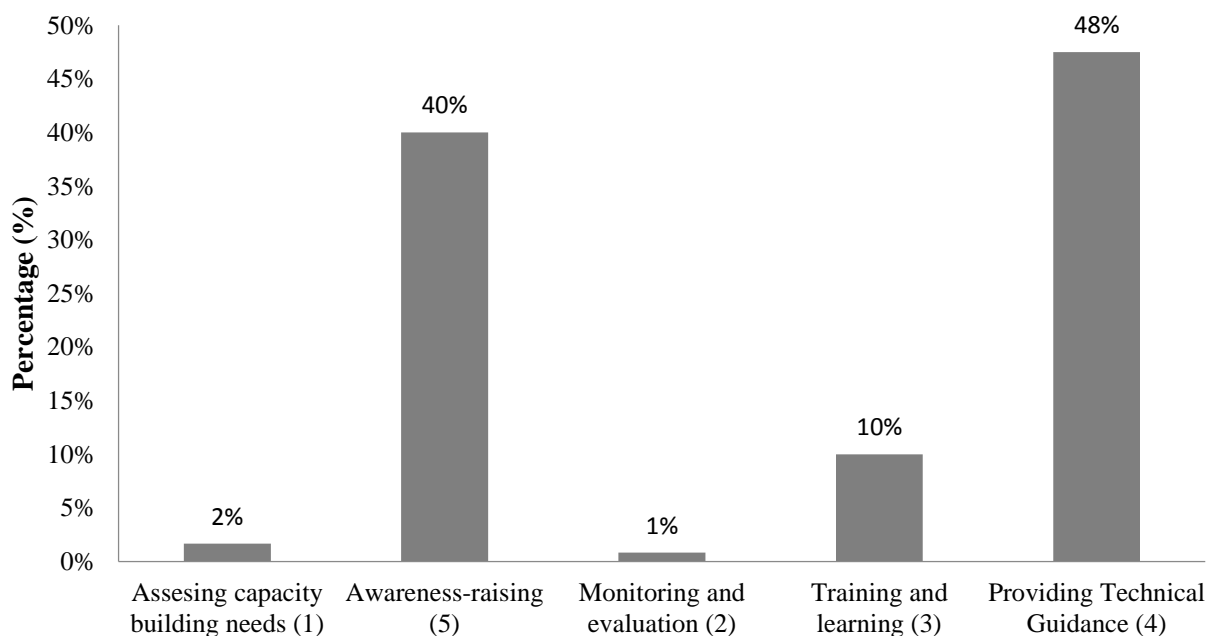
Clearing-House,¹⁸ which is meant to display existing ABS tools and resources (including training materials, toolkits/guidelines, good practice case studies, etc.).

42. The following subsection provides an update on existing capacity-building tools and resources¹⁹ on access and benefit-sharing that the Secretariat has compiled, including their primary purpose and thematic coverage. A list of all the resources is contained in CBD/NP/MOP/4/INF/2.

43. According to information gathered by the Secretariat by 30 June 2021, there are 120 known resources related to capacity-building and awareness-raising on access and benefit-sharing. An additional 31 resources have been added to the list since the update prepared for the third meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, in 2018. It is important to note that 74 or 62 per cent of these resources have been published in the ABS Clearing-House an improvement over the last reporting period where only 46 per cent of the resources had been published in the ABS Clearing-House.

44. Providing technical guidance (57 per cent) and raising awareness (48 per cent) continue to be the focus of most of the resources. Only 10 per cent of resources are designed as training or self-paced materials, while 2 per cent is intended to assist Parties and stakeholders in assessing capacity-building needs and/or designing capacity-building initiatives and 1 per cent for monitoring and evaluating capacity-building initiatives and products (see figure 6). There has been no change in the composition of the collection of resources since the latest update provided for the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, with the new resources also falling into the categories of technical guidance and raising awareness.

Figure 6: Proportion of resources according to their primary purpose

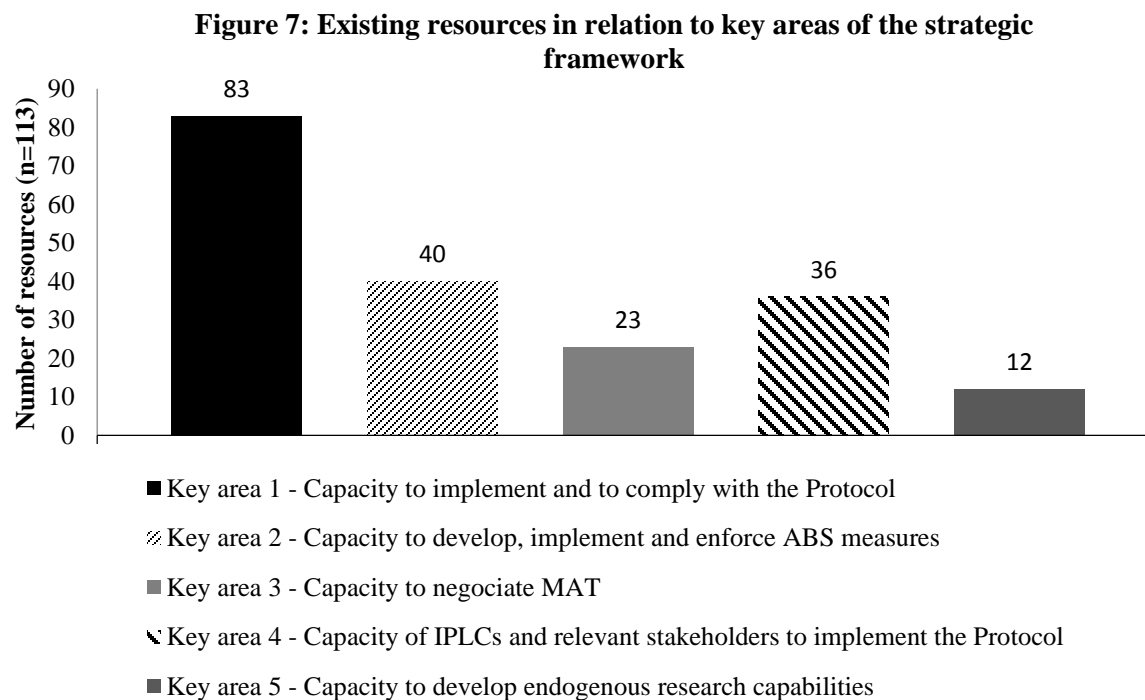


45. In relation to thematic coverage, key areas 1, 2 and 4 of the strategic framework continue to be well covered by existing capacity-building and awareness-raising resources, while key areas 3 and 5 remain underrepresented (see figure 7). It must be acknowledged that in several cases one resource may be covering more than one area. Moreover, it is important to recognize that since the last meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol there has been an important increase in resources dedicated to negotiating mutually agreed

¹⁸ <https://absch.cbd.int/en/>

¹⁹ Capacity-building tools and resources are considered those whose primary intent is to facilitate structured learning, to impart new knowledge and skills through systematic instructive steps and/or to provide guidance on how to perform specific tasks related to access and benefit-sharing.

terms, up from 8 to 23, and a more modest increase from 3 to 12 resources dedicated to the development of endogenous research capacities.



46. The meeting of the Parties to the Protocol may wish to encourage Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to develop the additional guidance materials mentioned above especially those for assessing capacity-building needs and/or designing capacity-building initiatives and for monitoring and evaluating capacity-building initiatives and products and make them available through the ABS Clearing-House.

C. Considerations arising from the analysis of the capacity-building initiatives and resources

47. The analysis of the capacity-building initiatives has revealed some persistent challenges that Parties may want to address in the context of revising the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. In terms of geographic coverage, CEE has consistently emerged as the least covered region. When revising the strategic framework, greater emphasis could be placed on identifying mechanisms for developing regional and subregional projects that could support regional cooperation and address the capacity-building gaps in certain regions such as CEE.

48. When considering the key areas for capacity-building and development, key areas 3 and 5 continue to be under-represented. The same trend appears in the capacity-building and awareness-raising resources, with fewer materials being developed for key areas 3 and 5. During the revision of the strategic framework priority should be placed on developing interventions that focus on strengthening capacities to negotiate mutually agreed terms and build endogenous research capabilities.

49. Finally, Parties may wish to address the lack of ABS related resources whose purpose is training and learning, monitoring and evaluation and assessing capacity-building needs, when revising the strategic framework on capacity-building and development for the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

IV. INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL

50. Further to decision NP-3/5, the fourth meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building for the Implementation of the Protocol was held in Montreal, Canada, from 29 to 31 October 2019. The report of the Committee is available as document CBD/ABS/CB-IAC/2019/1/4.

51. The Informal Advisory Committee considered an update on existing capacity-building initiatives and resources supporting the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Participants also shared information on initiatives and resources currently under development and discussed ways of enhancing the sharing of information on capacity-building and development through the ABS Clearing-House. In addition, the Informal Advisory Committee provided feedback and recommendations on the preliminary findings of the evaluation of the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

52. Finally, the Committee also provided feedback on the [CEPA Toolkit - Including considerations for access and benefit-sharing](#)²⁰ and offered recommendations for its improvement.

V. SUMMARY OF THE FEEDBACK RECEIVED ON THE ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING AWARENESS-RAISING TOOLKIT AND UPDATE ON ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY PARTIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS TO IMPLEMENT THE AWARENESS-RAISING STRATEGY

53. In decision NP-3/6, relating to Article 21, the Executive Secretary was requested to seek feedback from Parties, non-Parties and other relevant actors on the access and benefit-sharing awareness-raising toolkit and to provide an update on the progress of implementation of the awareness-raising strategy for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol.

54. In response to this request, and invitation to share information on capacity development and awareness raising related to the Nagoya Protocol and to provide feedback on the CEPA Toolkit was sent through notification [89605](#). The following section provides highlights of the information received through a survey to collect feedback on the *CEPA Toolkit - Including considerations for access and benefit-sharing* and offered recommendations for its improvement and an update on measures undertaken since 2019 to implement the awareness-raising strategy. A more detailed report on the results of the survey is provided in document CBD/NP/MOP/4/INF/3.

55. A total of 29 survey responses were received of which 18 identified as Parties, 5 as other governments (non-Parties to the Nagoya Protocol), 2 as indigenous peoples and local communities, 3 as international organizations and 1 as academia. Given the limited number of Parties that responded to the questionnaire, the results may not be representative especially regarding progress on the implementation of the awareness-raising strategies. Additional input would be needed to get a more accurate picture of the situation.

56. Most of the respondents (62 per cent) reported they were very satisfied with the toolkit developed by the Secretariat. Furthermore, 52 per cent strongly agreed that the toolkit was useful for their work, while 31 per cent somewhat agreed that the toolkit was useful for their work. The most common ways in which the toolkit has been used includes in the design of ABS awareness raising activities (45 per cent of respondents) and in training and capacity-building (41 per cent of respondents). Approximately 31 per cent of respondents indicated they had not used the toolkit. Finally, 45 per cent of the respondents indicated they had developed awareness-raising materials that could be included in the resources section of the toolkit.

57. With regard to progress on the implementation of awareness-raising strategies, 20 per cent responded that the strategy had been developed and was being implemented; 27 per cent of respondents indicated the strategy was still under development, while 31 per cent responded that the development of the strategy had not started. Most of the respondents (62 per cent) indicated they had implemented

²⁰ <https://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/cepa-toolkit-en.pdf>

awareness-raising activities on the Nagoya Protocol in their countries during the intersessional period. Respondents indicated that the main challenge was the lack of financial resources to implement the strategies. Another commonly mentioned challenge relates to the technical concepts and terminology around access and benefit-sharing and limited familiarity of the Nagoya Protocol that make it difficult to communicate to different stakeholder groups.

58. Finally, some of the key recommendations shared for countries currently developing their awareness-raising strategies included focusing initial activities on priority stakeholder groups such as the business and research communities and expanding to the general public at a later stage. Other suggestions included designing strategies based on local needs and context; and tailoring the materials to different audiences.

59. Considering the ongoing challenges Parties face in developing and implementing Nagoya Protocol awareness-raising activities at the national level and in light of the close linkages between awareness-raising and capacity-building and development, Parties may wish to consider incorporating elements of the awareness-raising strategy (see decision NP-1/9) into the revision of the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, taking into consideration the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development, and the communications strategy to support the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

VI. SUGGESTED ELEMENTS FOR A DRAFT DECISION

60. Under this agenda item, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol will be invited to endorse a decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development in support of the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of the draft decision in recommendation 3/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, and to consider recommendation [3/9](#) of the Subsidiary Body, containing a draft decision on the evaluation of the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.²¹

61. In addition, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties may wish to consider the following additional elements of a draft decision related to awareness raising:

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol

1. *Takes note* of progress made in the implementation of the awareness-raising strategy for the Nagoya Protocol;

2. *Takes note also* of the feedback from Parties, non-Parties and other relevant stakeholders on the *CEPA Toolkit - Including Considerations for Access and Benefit-sharing*,²² and encourages Parties, non-Parties, relevant organizations and other stakeholders to continue to utilize the toolkit as part of their awareness-raising and capacity-building activities;

3. *Encourages* Parties, non-Parties, relevant organizations and other stakeholders to continue to implement awareness-raising activities and to make available information on awareness-raising tools and resources through the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue supporting the implementation of the awareness-raising strategy²³ through its capacity-building activities and by encouraging the use of the access and benefit-sharing awareness-raising toolkit in related capacity-building and awareness-raising projects carried out by Parties, non-Parties and relevant organizations;

²¹ Also contained in the compilation of draft decisions CBD/NP/MOP/4/1/Add.5.

²² <https://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/cepa-toolkit-en.pdf>

²³ As set out in decision NP-1/9.

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to consider incorporating elements of the awareness-raising strategy when revising the strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting and for adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at its fifth meeting.
