



# Export of fresh plants from Namibia to the EU

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## 1 - The context

- \* Namibia is a **party** to the **Nagoya Protocol**, **ABS measures** are in place but the ABS law has not yet been published<sup>1</sup>.
- \* The fresh plants come from a supposed **endemic** species from Southern Africa, and can easily be reproduced.
- \* The sap of this plant is “publicly” known for its skin healing properties but no official **TK** is associated.
- \* The sap extraction could be done through simple mechanical means, but this would not allow obtaining a “competitive ingredient”.
- \* No other advanced extraction **technology** is available locally or in the region.

<sup>1</sup> as of 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2016



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## 2 – Utilization considerations

\* Valorization of the species:

- ❖ Need to benefit locally from extraction technics that will create a competitiveness advantage
- ❖ Need to retain “ownership” over potential IPRs
- ❖ Need to access, export then utilize the whole fresh plant
- ❖ Need to create a long term valorization strategy benefiting to the local SME investing in this **new** product development



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## 3 – 1: Lessons learned / ABS & BioTrade considerations

\* Namibia is a party to the Nagoya Protocol, ABS measures are in place but the ABS law has not yet been published.

=> Local “users” need to comply with national ABS measures / so should international users despite the lack of a National ABS law.

\* The fresh plants come from a supposed endemic species from Southern Africa, and can easily be reproduced.

=> Difficulties to easily access to a reliable list of endemic species / a National data base should be accessible *on demand* by local users willing to valorize a species.

\* The sap of this plant is “publicly” known for its skin healing properties but no official TK is associated.

=> To increase legal certainties, when the species is accessed, a note should be given to manage TK rights for this project.



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## 3 – 2: Lessons learned / ABS & BioTrade considerations

\* The sap extraction could be done through simple mechanical means, but this would not allow obtaining a “competitive ingredient”.

\* No other advanced extraction **technology** is available locally or in the region.

=> To be discussed during the session / technology transfer



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## 3 – 3: Lessons learned / National valorization strategy considerations

\* Valorization of the species:

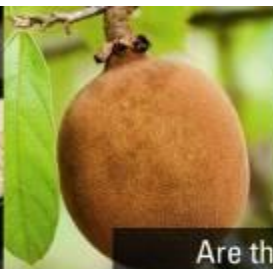
- ❖ Need to benefit from extraction technics that will create a competitiveness advantage  
=> To decrease asymmetry strengths between developed and least developed countries
  
- ❖ Need to retain “ownership” over potential IPRs  
=> Mechanisms to be developed
  
- ❖ Need to access, export then utilize the whole fresh plant  
=> “one-stop-shop” approach to fulfill various regulations obligations  
=> Harmonization amongst similar regulations (Phytosanitary requirements)
  
- ❖ Need to create a long term valorization strategy benefiting to the local SME investing in this new product development  
=> Local support for market knowledge and requirements  
=> Is it BioTrade or Bioprospecting?



# Questions and answers



The seeds  
we plant today



Are the fruits  
of tomorrow



Our future lies  
in our hands



Working  
together for  
a better  
world

**BiTRADE**  
initiative

## Thank you

For further information: [www.biotrade.org](http://www.biotrade.org)



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