Status of Nagoya Protocol Implementation: Lao PDR

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Background Information

- Lao PDR acceded the CBD on 20 September 1996

- Ratified Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the CBD in September 2012.

In acceding to the protocol, Laos becomes the first country in South-East Asia to ratify the protocol.
What have we been doing?

Lao National Biosafety Frameworks

Prime Minister’s Office
Science Technology and Environment Agency

Vientiane, 25 December 2004
Stakeholder consultations and building capacity
Raising awareness materials
There is already an **existing permit** within each government agency and project agreements is being used that can be understood as PIC and MAT.

- **PIC and MAT** should be clearly identified in the ABS decree as administrative procedure to facilitate and comply with the requirement under the Nagoya Protocol.

- **Simple and implementable regulation** is the approach for the utilization of genetic resources and it is also important to engage relevant stakeholders such as plants, animal and microorganism.
Laos has sovereign rights over its genetic resource and associated traditional knowledge.

To access genetic resource and associated traditional knowledge for commercialized and non-commercial purposes should follow the ABS process as following:

1. User submits access application form to the NFP.
2. User will be registered in the access of GR database as PIC, facilitating by the NFP/ABS officials.
3. User enters into agreements with the NFP if the agreement is not done with concerned providers.
4. User conducts research and development.
5. User enters to an ABS agreement with NFP or providers when there is a potential for commercialization.
6. User benefits from selling the product in the market.
7. User shares the benefits with NFP and provider based on the ABS agreement. The benefit is used for community development and conservation of biodiversity.
What have we learnt from the implementing of the Nagoya Protocol

**Administration perspective**
- The attention of government
- National Focal Points (understanding)
- Existing CBD working groups-called CBD Inter-sectoral Coordination Committee
- Coordination mechanism

**Practical perspective**
- Common understanding on ABS (e.g. stakeholders)
- Consultations
- Existing system in the country
- ABS is international approach with match with national legislation
- User identification
What will we do next?

- Creating pilot ABS cases/projects/ABS model (e.g. research result to commercialization in markets, gene bank)
- Building capacity for stakeholders
- Raising awareness (e.g. ABS campaign for targeted audiences/stakeholders)
- ABS measures (e.g. decree, guideline, user and provider guidelines, model contracts)
- International, regional and national exchanges of experiences
- Finding fund for moving the ABS activities
- Create network with relevant stakeholders in both domestic and international partners (may be bilateral agreements, etc.)
Challenges and opportunities
Thank you for your attention

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