Improving coordination on "BioTrade and ABS" technical assistance for South East Asia

Methodological aspects
07-08 June 2018, Luang Prabang, Laos

David Vivas Eugui
Legal Officer, UNCTAD

@BioTradeGroup
Objectives of the Workshop

- Promote a BioTrade friendly implementation of ABS policy, regulatory and administrative frameworks

- Align more coordinated and coherent efforts toward development or improvement of BioTrade and ABS policy, regulatory and administrative frameworks

- Increase transparency on what providers of technical cooperation, ABS focal points and business are doing to engage and maximise benefits from BioTrade while complying with ABS requirements
Expected outcome:

- The workshop will be a platform to produce a road map on key joint ABS activities and cooperation initiatives with partners and participants
Nature of the mapping & roadmap

Tools for:
▶ Transparency + Avoid duplication
▶ Technical assistance delivery coordination
▶ Monitoring
▶ Implementation
  ▶ Pledge nature
  ▶ Log in cooperation agreements
▶ Visibility of partners and coalition building
Structure of the road map

- Briefly discuss current levels of implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and ABS obligations in the beneficiary countries as well as draft legal, regulatory or policy initiatives or bills;

- Identify value chains that would need to comply with ABS regulations in order to expand their businesses and be able to undertake or expand R&D activities;

- Identify existing and future initiatives, programmes and actors providing support on the ABS polices and regulations;

- Discuss opportunities for further cooperation to align support to comply with ABS requirements for value chains interested in undertaking R&D.
How can UNCTAD contribute to the roadmap?

- Offer free license rights for the ABS Handbook to be translated in local language
- 3 research pieces:
  - Option 1: comparative research pieces on 1) policy advice on regulatory reviews, 2) ABS contract models and 2) best ABS-BT case studies in the region (Laos PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam)
  - Option 2: one research piece on demand driven basis to support a BioTrade friendly implementation of Nagoya Protocol per country
- A second regional coordination workshop (potentially in Vietnam in 2020)
  - Workshop to monitor and review implementation of the road map
Inputs sought during the workshop

we will focus on identifying JOINT COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES while keeping in mind:

- What are some current factors that enable/impede the scaling up of ABS and BioTrade and how cooperation can help?
- IDENTIFYING AND LISTING COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ROAD MAP FORMAT (OBJECTIVE, WHAT ACTIVITY, WHERE AND BY WHO?)

- Working Group 1 (by using flip charts) will address:
  - Legal Framework, regulatory reviews and ABS contract support (e.g. joint legal drafting advise);
  - Supporting ABS compliance by value chains (e.g. direct support value chains/companies to make ABS requests and to comply with all legal requirements)

- Working Group 2 (by using flipcharts) will address
  - Training and capacity building (e.g. undertake joint training activities with other partners to maximize efforts and audience)
  - Marketing and export (e.g. joint promotion (by companies or countries) in international fairs)

Each actor will go to either flip chart and explore opportunities for cooperation with other partners in the categories mentioned above.

Cards will be used to list potential opportunities for cooperation. Others may propose joint activities freely.

All actions listed must be joint. All work is based on existing resources or by undertaking joint fund raising.

Main joint activities will be then transferred in to a Table D (NEW)
FINAL EXERCISE

we will focus on identifying **JOINT COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES** while keeping in mind:

- What are some current factors that enable/impede the scaling up of ABS and BioTrade and how cooperation can help?
- **IDENTIFYING AND LISTING COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ROAD MAP FORMAT (OBJECTIVE, WHAT ACTIVITY, WHERE BY WHO, AND TIMEFRAME?)**

- **Working Group 1** (by using flip charts) will address Per country):
  - Legal Framework, regulatory reviews and ABS contract support (e.g. joint legal drafting advise);
  - Supporting ABS compliance by value chains (e.g. direct support value chains/companies to make ABS requests and to comply with all legal requirements)

- **Working Group 2** (by using flipcharts) will address
  - Training and capacity building (e.g. undertake joint training activities with other partners to maximize efforts and audience)
  - Marketing and export (e.g. joint promotion (by companies or countries) in international fairs)

**Main joint activities will be then transferred in to a Table D (NEW)**
Implementation and Monitoring

- **Main tool: Roadmap**
- After reception of input from the workshop, UNCTAD and Helvetas will verify and review table (2-3 weeks)
- After harmonization, it would be sent to all participants for their final review, and for validation
- UNCTAD will produce a template for brief reporting on the implementation of the road map to be filled each six months
- UNCTAD will coordinate the update of the road map and distribute each six months
- Helevetas and BIG Vietnam will assist in the monitoring on the ground (to be confirmed)
- We will hold a second workshop to review process and realign efforts by early 2020 (potentially with Helvetas, BCA and BIG Viet Nam).