



Second Regional Coordination Workshop

BIOTRADE AND ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING IN THE MEKONG REGION

La Thanh Hotel, 226 Phố Vạn Phúc

Ba Dinh, Ha Noi, Viet Nam

4-5 December 2019

Day 1: Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on ABS and BioTrade	
<p>The multi-stakeholder workshop will bring together governments, civil society and the private sector to discuss developments in the implementation of ABS rules and BioTrade in the three countries participating in the Mekong Plan of Action (MPA); learn from regional BioTrade project cases; consider different challenges, tools and approaches on ABS and BioTrade developed by UNCTAD and partners; and revise the MPA for the next phase of implementation</p>	
8:30 – 9:00	<p><i>Opening</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hoang Thi Thanh Nhan, Deputy Director of Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Agency, Vietnam Environment Administration • Mr. Marcel Reymond, Head of Cooperation, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO • Mr. Kiyoshi Adachi, UNCTAD • Mr. Andrew Wilson, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation
9:00 – 10:30 Chair: UNCTAD	<p><i>Session 1: Update on implementation of ABS rules and BioTrade</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lao People’s Democratic Republic: Basic elements enabling processing of ABS cases and key lessons learned (Ms. Kongchay Phimmakong) • Myanmar: Results of stakeholder consultations and developments on ABS legal framework (Dr. Win Htein) • Viet Nam: Management of biodiversity conservation and access to genetic resources in Viet Nam (Ms. Ta Thi Kieu Anh, Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Agency, Vietnam Environment Administration)
10:30 – 11:00	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
11:00 – 12:30 Chair: HELVETAS	<p><i>Session 2: Case studies - Review of Regional BioTrade Project Cases</i></p> <p><i>Presentation (30 minutes)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of lessons learned and conclusions from the case studies • Siam benzoin and organic chili in Viet Nam • Indian prickly ash in Lao People’s Democratic Republic • Jujube in Myanmar

	Group work by country - 60 minutes
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 15:00	<i>Session 3: Challenges, tools and approaches on ABS and BioTrade</i>
Chair: UNCTAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent work by UNCTAD in the Region – Mr. Frederic Perron-Welch (UNCTAD Consultant) • Model ABS-BT Clauses in Laos for commercial purposes – Ms. Patti Moore (UNCTAD Consultant) • Disclosure in the IP System in Viet Nam – Mr. Kiyoshi Adachi (UNCTAD) • Beyond ABS: from legal compliance to good practices – Ms Valerie Normand (UEBT)
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:30 – 17:30	<i>Session 4: Improving coordination and implementation of the MPA</i>
Chair: UNCTAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of status of MPA implementation by Sunnti Duangtavenh (UNCTAD Consultant) • Plans of partners for next phase of MPA implementation and additional activities by new partners (tour de table) • Validation of the MPA for the next biennium

Day 2: Improved Regional Coordination and Intergovernmental Exchange (Only for Government Participants)

Government agencies working on Nagoya Protocol implementation in Viet Nam, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar have valuable experience on ABS implementation that are useful for their neighbours. The intergovernmental exchange event will: pass relevant knowledge and experience about ABS implementation successes and challenges between countries; help to catalogue and preserve knowledge that may otherwise be lost due to staff turnover and termination of projects at agencies working on ABS; and, encourage adoption of good practices and avoidance of mistakes due to lessons learned from neighbouring countries.

9:00 – 11:00	<p>General introduction (10 min) (Andrew Wilson)</p> <p>Session 1: Current status of national ABS system or process established for its development (50 min)</p> <p><i>Presentations by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viet Nam (15 min) • Lao People's Democratic Republic (15 min) • Myanmar (15 min) <p>Group discussion (60 mn) Facilitated by Valerie Normand</p>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 – 13:00	Session 2: Institutional arrangements (Valerie Normand)

	<p>Short introduction by facilitator (10 min)</p> <p>Each country invited to address the following (50 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What institutions (e.g. ministries) are/were involved in the development of the national ABS system? • What institutional arrangements have been established to deal with access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge? • Who is responsible for granting access? Who delivers the permit? • What is your experience with national coordination amongst relevant ministries in ABS implementation? Country representatives to share specific examples. • What have been challenges/lessons learned? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work (30 min) What are best practices with respect to intra-governmental collaboration?
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	<p>Session 3: Access to genetic resources for non-commercial research – enabling engagement with relevant institutions (Frederic Perron-Welch)</p> <p>Introductory Presentation (10mn)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic versus pre-commercial research <p>Each country is invited to share its experience with access to genetic resources for non-commercial purposes (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What type of institutions request access to genetic resources for non-commercial purposes? Foreigners/nationals? • Do foreign researchers establish collaboration with nationals/local partners? • What type of research do they carry out? In what sector? • How do they obtain PIC? Do they establish MAT? Do they contain minimum requirements? (e.g. change of use) • What types of benefits are shared? <p>Discussion/group work (30 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the challenges in dealing with researchers, and how are other countries dealing with them? <p>Recommendations/best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can countries in the region deal most effectively with non-commercial research?
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Session 4: Access to genetic resources for commercial purposes - enabling engagement with the private sector (Valerie Normand)</p> <p>Introductory presentation (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How and why to engage with companies in developing ABS laws, policies and systems? <p>Country experience on engagement with the private sector (30 min)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were/are private sector representatives involved in the development of your national ABS system? • Who are users of genetic resources in your country interested in accessing and using genetic resources and/or associated traditional knowledge for commercial purposes? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are they nationals? Foreigners? ○ From which sectors are they? ○ What type of resources are they interested in? ○ How do they obtain PIC? ○ How are MAT established? Do they contain minimum requirements? (e.g. third party transfer) ○ Have you agreed on benefit-sharing? <p>Exercise/Case study (20 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practices for the engagement of the private sector
17:00	<p>Closing (Valerie Normand and Andrew Wilson)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General conclusions and next steps - How can countries continue to collaborate and build on their respective experiences