

THE ABS
CAPACITY
DEVELOPMENT
INITIATIVE



L'INITIATIVE DE
RENFORCEMENT
DES CAPACITES
POUR L'APA

From Suva to Sydney

**5th Pacific Workshop on Access and Benefit Sharing
10-13 November 2014, Sydney, Australia**

Dr. Andreas Drews and Dr. Kabir Bavikatte
ABS Capacity Development Initiative

funded by



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



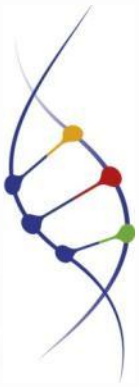
DANISH MINISTRY
OF THE ENVIRONMENT



implemented by



Background: Expanded Regional Scope Since 2012



- Since 2012, the Initiative has been expanding its activities and capacity building processes to **Caribbean and Pacific ACP countries**
- Cooperation with **regional organisations**: SPREP and SPC (Pacific), CARICOM (Caribbean), national support in selected countries (Guyana, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, FSM,...)
- New topic: **Marine bioprospecting**

BIO**PAMA**



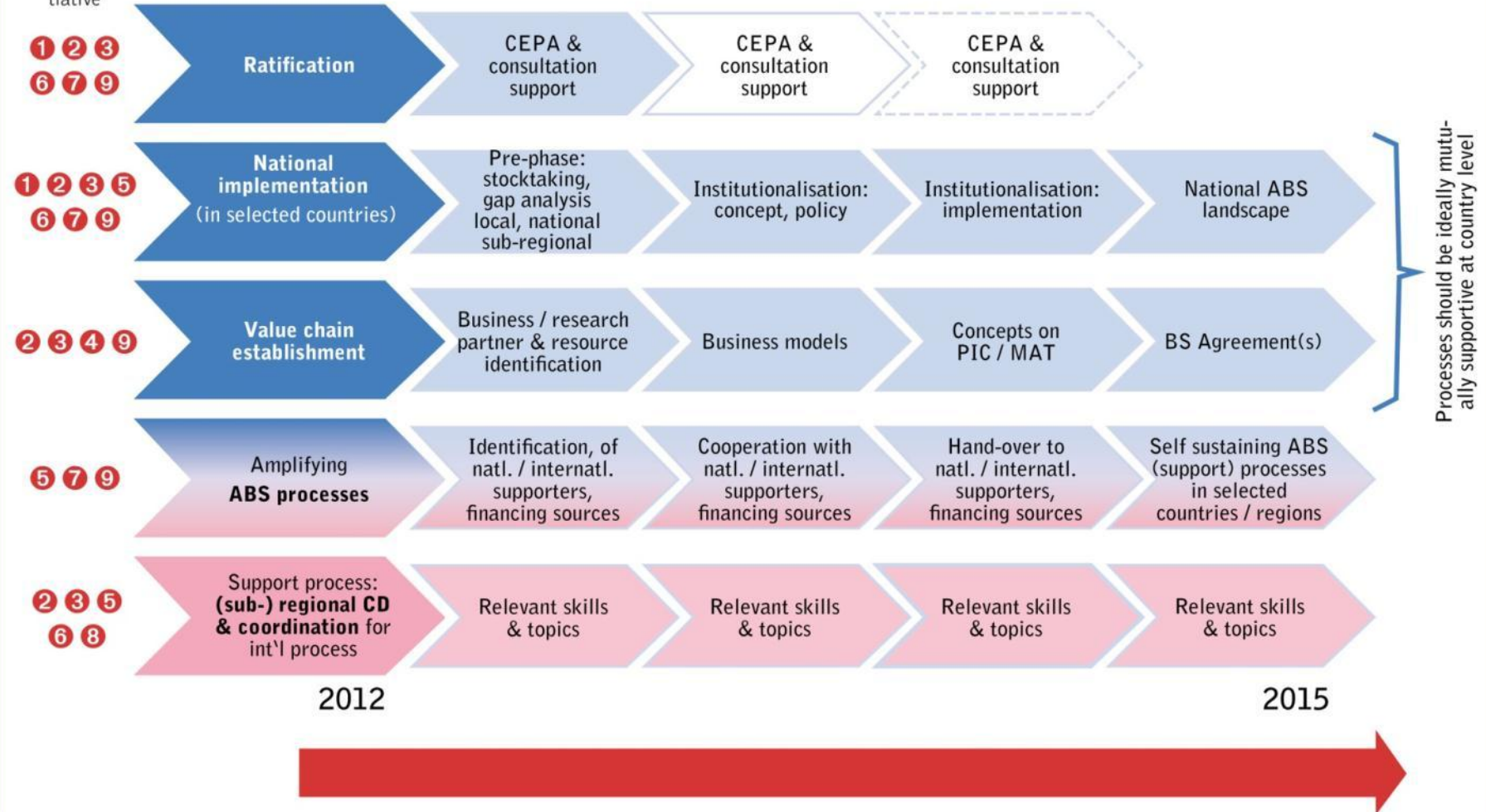
SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community



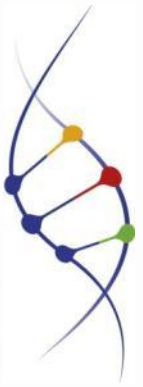
SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme

Core processes addressed during the current implementation phase for attaining the objectives of the ABS Initiative.

Instruments
used by the Ini-
tiative



Supporting Ratification and National Implementation: *The Foundation*



Country level support: Briefing of stakeholders about ABS/NP and identifying approaches for ratification/implementation

- **Vanuatu** (March 2012): Individual stakeholder briefings; need for broader stakeholder consultation and stock-taking of relevant legislation
- **Samoa** (May 2012): Briefing of relevant government institutions
- **Palau** (May 2012): Stakeholder briefings (government, Traditional Council of Chiefs, Palau Conservation Society); recommendations for roadmap towards ratification and implementation

Supporting Ratification and National Implementation: *The Foundation*



Country level support: Briefing of stakeholders about ABS/NP, identifying approaches for ratification/implementation and national ABS workshops

- **Vanuatu** (November 2012): Further stakeholder consultations; briefing and planning workshop with VANGO and government representatives; concept for GEF/SGP Strategic Grant to identify PIC process with local communities
- **FSM** (August and November 2013): national ABS workshops for stocktaking and gap assessment and identifying elements of a national ABS policy
- **Cook Islands** (November 2013): Stakeholder consultations; briefing workshops for relevant government institutions and the House of Ariki; contributions to the development of a GEF-NPIF project for adapting the ABS draft bill to the NP

Regional Capacity Development and Coordination

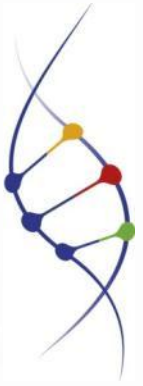


Regional exchange: Update on ratification process; exchange about challenges and practical approaches towards ratification and implementation

- 1st Pacific ABS Workshop, March 2012, Nadi, Fiji
- Oceania Biodiversity Forum and 2nd Pacific ABS Workshop, May 2012, Brisbane, Australia
- 3rd Pacific ABS Workshop, November 2012, Asau, Samoa
- 4th Pacific ABS Workshop, November 2013, Suva, Fiji



Capacity Development: Relevant Skills and Topics

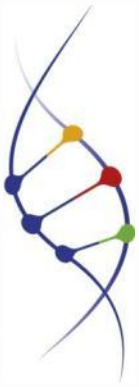


Legal and technical trainings: Building relevant skills of stakeholders

- Training: ABS and Intellectual Property Rights for National ABS Focal Points (August 2013, Nadi, Fiji)



Introduction to ABS and the Nagoya Protocol – Special Session at the 9th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas, 5 December 2013, Suva, Fiji



Follow up to the 4th Pacific Sub-regional Workshop on ABS

Content

- Model cases of the utilization of traditional knowledge
- Challenges that may arise during negotiations of ABS agreements among researchers, communities and government agencies.
- Overview of the work of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) on value-chain approaches and support to ABS at the local level.

Thirty-four representatives from governments, NGOs, research institutions, regional and global organisations

Implementing the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, 6 December, Suva, Fiji



Briefing meeting at SPC for representatives of Ministries of Agriculture

Content

- ABS systems of the Treaty and the CBD/NP
- Understanding the overlapping scope and resulting challenges when designing national regulatory frameworks



Capacity Development: Relevant Skills and Topics



Partners

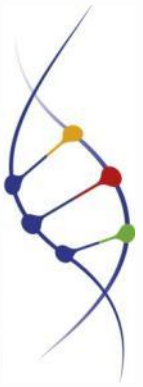
- **Bioversity International**
- **International Development Law Organisation (IDLO)**
- **Center for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)**
- **Fritjof Nansen Institute (FNI)**
- **Natural Justice**

Trainings

- **The International Treaty and the Nagoya Protocol** – A tandem workshop for National Focal Points, June 2014, Rome, Italy
- **IDLO Capacity Building Course for Lawyers** from the African, Caribbean and Pacific Region - Building Legal Frameworks to Implement the Nagoya Protocol, July/August 2014, Rome, Italy
- **Mutually Agreed Terms** – Contracts to Make ABS Functional, August 2014, Nadi, Fiji



The International Treaty and the Nagoya Protocol – A Tandem Workshop for National Focal Points 3-6 June 2014, Rome, Italy



Outcomes

Positive impact on the national processes by bringing together the respective national focal points and thus triggering direct discussions and concrete cooperation.

- Better understand the two different ABS systems under the ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol
- Identify the core issues at the interface of the ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol
- Elaborate approaches for mutually supportive administrative processes and cooperation

> 50 participants, including representatives from SPREP and SPC

IDLO Capacity Building Course for Lawyers from the African, Caribbean and Pacific Region - Building Legal Frameworks to Implement the Nagoya Protocol, 28 July-1 August 2014, Rome, Italy



Outcomes

Build capacities of national actors and accompany national processes to develop legislation and legal tools for the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 16

- Understand the concept of ABS as established by the CBD, NP and related agreements
- Provide an overview of the obligations under the NP and associated national processes
- Understand the approaches taken by other countries (Brazil, India, South Africa) to implement key components of the NP
- Recall practical techniques and skills to design and facilitate interventions to accompany national legal processes to implement the NP.

Mutually Agreed Terms - Contracts to Make ABS Functional

5-8 August 2014, Nadi, Fiji



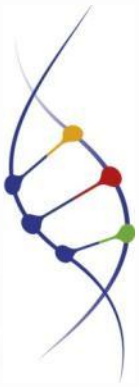
Outcomes

- Key elements of ABS agreements
- Relevant aspects of contract law
- Negotiation skills required to conclude successful ABS agreements

40 Participants (National ABS Focal Points and representatives from the Competent National Authorities of countries in the Pacific region)



Workshop to Develop the ABS Policy of Pohnpei State (FSM), 2-4 September 2014

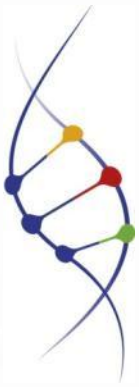


< 45 participants (government representatives, traditional leaders and NGO representatives) to develop Pohnpei's draft ABS policy

Outcomes

- Discussion and clarification of land rights and ownership of genetic resources
- Discussion of appropriate decision-making structures in government
- Roles of stake- and rightsholders in obtaining PIC, negotiating MAT and benefit-sharing
- **Draft ABS Policy for Pohnpei** for further discussion with other relevant government functionaries and traditional leaders. Based on these discussions finalization and implementation of the policy.

ABS Capacity Development Needs in SIDS - Dimensions and Potentials of Marine Bioprospecting: Side event at 3rd UNSIDS Conference, Apia, Samoa, 1-4 September 2014



Focus

SIDS are challenged implementing the NP at national level

- Considerable interest of cosmetic and (phyto-)pharmaceutical industries
- Very unique traditional knowledge and specific traditional governance schemes
- Research activities in marine environments for new compounds are increasing.
- Most activities occur in coastal waters and huge exclusive economic zones (EEZs)



Amplifying ABS Processes

Partnerships



SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



Convention on
Biological Diversity



- Continued collaboration with **GEF-SGP, SCBD, SPREP, SPC**
- Strengthened working relations with **GEF Secretariat** and the **implementing agencies**
- **Bioversity International** and **Treaty Secretariat**: Cooperation on coherent implementation of ITPGRFA and Nagoya Protocol
- **IDLO** and **CISDL**
- Supporting research cooperation: **SEPDD**
- **BIOPAMA: IUCN, JRC**
- **Natural Justice**



NATURAL JUSTICE



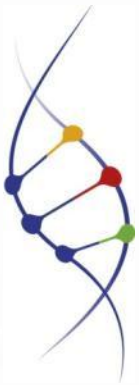
Studies, Guides and Online Platform



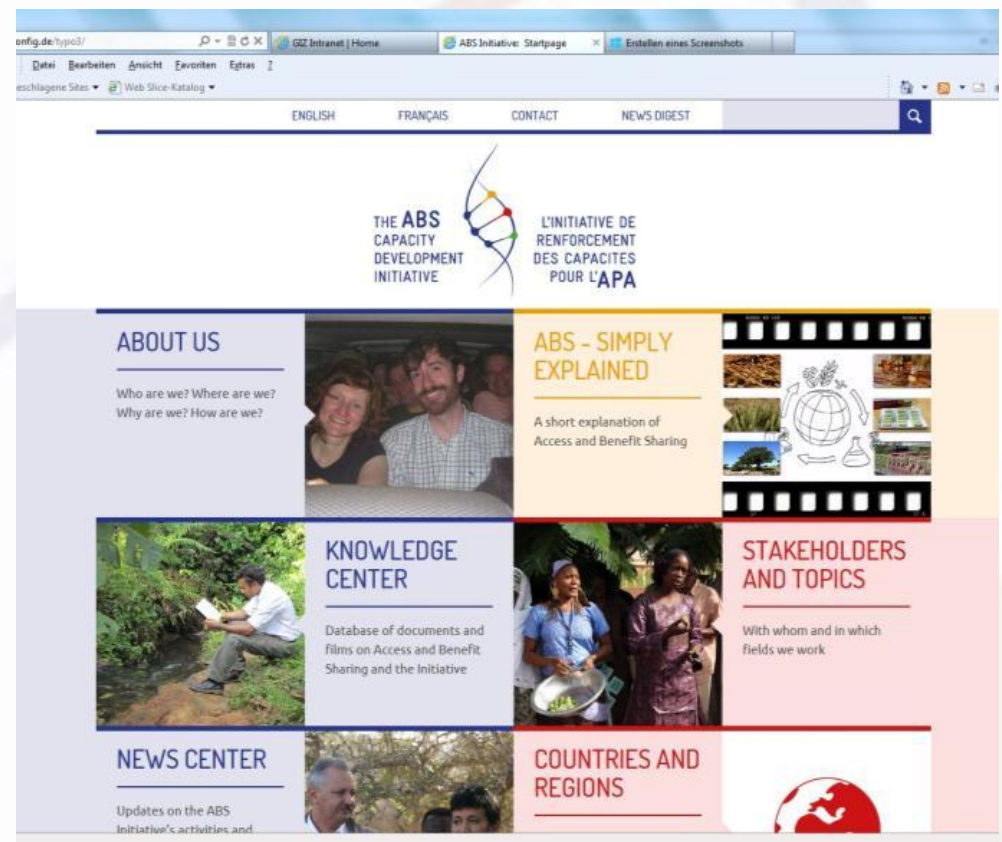
- **AU Policy Framework for the Coherent Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS (AU Guidelines)**
- **Case Studies Pacific**
- **Strategic Communication guide**
- **The Interface Between the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA at the International Level**
- **National Studies on ABS Implementation - Brazil, India, South Africa**
- **Fact sheet: Relevance of Marine Bioprospecting for ABS Framework**
- **Website (knowledge management and external communication)**

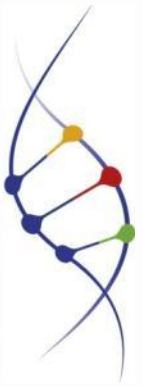


Communication and Knowledge Management



- Update of the Initiative's **corporate design**
- **New website** design and structure: public awareness platform and knowledge management tool
- Weekly **ABS News Digest**
- New edition of the **ABS calendar** for 2014
- **Offline/online graphs** on **ABS** relevant industrial sectors and cases (e.g., **CIMTECH**)
- Fact Sheet on Relevance of Marine Bioprospecting for ABS framework





Thank you

Dr. Andreas Drews and Dr. Kabir Bavikatte
ABS Capacity Development Initiative

www.abs-initiative.info

andreas.drews@giz.de

bavikatte@ias.unu.edu