

Ref.: SCBD/OES/ABS/TS/BGC/GT/92100

28 March 2025

NOTIFICATION Launch of the "ABS Small Grants Project"

Dear Sir or Madam,

At its fifth meeting, Parties to the Protocol adopted the capacity-building and development action plan for the Nagoya Protocol (decision NP-5/3) and requested the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue to facilitate capacity-building and development activities to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol as well as to support opportunities for compiling and sharing lessons learned and good practices and make them available through the Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) Clearing-House.

With the generous support of the Government of Denmark and the Government of Japan, through the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is launching the "ABS Small Grants Project" as part of its capacity-building and development programme to support the operationalization of legal frameworks and systems for ABS during the 2025/2026 biennium.

The overall programme is based on previously identified needs by Parties and relevant stakeholders and aims to support practical efforts to advance the achievement of <u>Goal C and Target 13</u> of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by providing small grants to translate the Nagoya Protocol into effective and efficient actions that make ABS and the Protocol's objectives a reality.

The programme consists of three focal areas:

- 1. Communicating user-friendly ABS procedures, in partnership with the Nagoya Protocol HuB *More information available at:* https://www.cbd.int/abs/smallgrantsproject/procedures.shtml
 Deadline to apply: 30 April 2025
- 2. Improving ABS information systems and standard operating procedures

More information available at:

https://www.cbd.int/abs/smallgrantsproject/informationsystems.shtml

Deadline to apply: 30 May 2025

3. Developing and implementing community protocols and improving access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and benefit sharing

More information available at:

https://www.cbd.int/abs/smallgrantsproject/communityprotocols.shtml

Deadline to apply: 30 May 2025

Those interested in participating in the ABS Small Grants Project are invited to submit their application before the respective deadlines indicated above. Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend the upcoming webinars for each of the three focus areas to learn more about their topic of interest and the

To: ABS national focal points, TK focal points, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant organizations







application process for funding. Selected applications will be further elaborated into detailed project documents in collaboration with the Secretariat and will serve as a basis for receiving the funding.

Webinars

1. Improving ABS information systems and standard operating procedures

Date: 8 April at 9 a.m. (EDT) -Language: English - Register here

2. Communicating user-friendly ABS procedures, in partnership with the Nagoya Protocol HuB

Date: 9 April at 10:00 a.m. (EDT) - Language: English - Register here

3. Developing and implementing community protocols and improving access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and benefit sharing

Date: 10 April at 9 a.m. (EDT) - Language: English - Register here Date: 10 April at 2 p.m. (EDT) - Language: Spanish - Register here Date: 11 April at 9 a.m. (EDT) - Language: French - Register here

Application forms and more information on the ABS Small Grants Project, including eligibility criteria can be found at: https://www.cbd.int/abs/smallgrantsproject.shtml.

Thank you for your continued support to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker Executive Secretary