



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

Date, Time, Venue:

Sunday, May 25, 2014

12:30-14:00 pm,

Room 2 (Refreshments will be served)

Event Title: Strengthening the implementation of ABS regimes in Latin America and the Caribbean

Under GEF-5, support was provided to strengthen the capacities of eight countries (Cuba, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Panama and Peru) in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region to develop and/or comply with national policy and legal frameworks regarding access to genetic resources, benefit sharing and the protection of traditional knowledge. Project topics included the prevention of misappropriation or illegal use of genetic resources and traditional knowledge, as well as opportunities to be had from bio-prospecting initiatives. Capacity building under this took a practical approach, focusing on knowledge transfer and training, and the use of didactic materials (case studies) together with existing guidelines and tools.

Objectives of the Side Event:

- Increase capacity of the GEF National Focal Points attending the Assembly (focus in LAC Countries) to understand the Nagoya Protocol and Access and Benefit Sharing
- Encourage GEF National Focal Points to identify and prepare GEF National and Sub-Regional Projects on ABS

Agenda of the Side Event:

- Opening: UNEP
- Status of ratification of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS: lessons learned from the GEF (IUCN: Arturo Mora)
- Overview ABS LAC Project (IUCN: Arturo Mora)
- Access to GEF Financial and Technical Resources (GEFSec: Jaime Cavellier)
- National Implementation of a GEF ABS Project (Mexico or Brazil TBC)
- Ways to move forward on ABS in the LAC Region (TBC)
- Closing Remarks (IUCN/GEF/UNEP)

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