



BRIEF AND PROJECT SUMMARY

FOR

**GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA (GOU), GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

PROJECT ON

***INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND BENEFIT
SHARING IN UGANDA***

JANUARY 2021 – DECEMBER, 2025

BY

**ACHUU SIMON PETER
PROJECT MANAGER**



1.0 Background:

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is providing financial support to Government of Uganda to implement a project titled *Institutional Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing in Uganda* (ABS project). The project **goal** is to conserve Uganda's genetic resources and its associated traditional knowledge and access and share the benefits arising out of their utilization in an equitable and sustainable way. The ABS project **objective is** to strengthen institutional capacity for effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and conduct effective awareness campaigns on ABS in Uganda.

The Project focuses on four components: (a) Strengthened National Regulatory and Institutional Framework for ABS, (b) Capacity building for the implementation of the National ABS, (c) Strengthening ABS Management at the Local government and Community Level, and (d) Information, Education and Awareness on ABS. the components shall be realised through 7 outcomes namely; 1.1 National ABS regulatory and institutional frameworks in compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on ABS in place and operational; 2.1: Government agencies have the skills and competency to implement and enforce compliance to the Nagoya Protocol; 2.2: Makerere University training and producing professionals with knowledge on ABS; 2.3: ABS National Focal Point and CNAs effectively carrying out their functions; 3.1: Effective working models for ABS at the local community level; 3.2: Effective participation of men and women in benefit sharing & 4.1: Increased awareness in Uganda on the Nagoya Protocol on ABS.

2.0 Project Stakeholders:

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) is the project executing agency working in collaboration with Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST) and state (Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA); National Forestry Authority (NFA); Plant Genetic Resources Centre (PGRC); National Forestry Resources Research Institute (NaFORRI); National Chemotherapeutic Research Institute (NCRI); Makerere University) and none state (GIZ ABS Capacity Development Initiative; Karamoja Women Cultural Group (KWCG) and United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU)) partners.

3.0 Project Components and Deliverables:

Component 1 seeks to strengthen the regulatory and institutional framework for ABS and traditional knowledge and bring it into compliance with the Nagoya Protocol. By so doing, Uganda will: (i) fulfil her legal obligation to fully implement Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); (ii) ensure that all bio-prospecting initiatives are legally carried

out and the benefits fairly and equitably shared; (iii) encourage the establishment of systems for open exchange of information among key stakeholders; (iv) promote the recognition of Traditional Knowledge (TK) associated with biological resources; (v) promote recognition of the value of biological resources and diversity, and; (vi) enable custodians of these resources and associated TK to receive benefits and alternative livelihood opportunities.

Component 2 intends to ensure designation of an additional two Competent National Authorities (CNAs) to handle Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) associated with wildlife and forestry. This component will also help to establish a capacity building programme to expedite implementation of the national ABS framework with a focus on strengthening the institutional capacity of NEMA, Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST), National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), Makerere University Kampala (MUK) and district local governments. Capacity building under this component will also include training and database establishment to facilitate informed decision making on PIC and MAT.

Component 3 supports the development and implementation of four (4) pilot projects on the sustainable use of genetic resources within a formalized ABS framework in north-eastern Uganda and south-western Uganda. The pilot projects will focus on: (a) traditional medicinal knowledge and its use in product development for income and livelihoods among the Batwa IPLCs of south western Uganda; (b) community protocols for access to Sandalwood (*Osiris lanceolata*) genetic resources in Karamoja, and (c) ABS compliant *Prunus africana* value chains in south-western Uganda; and (d) ABS-responsive Collaborative Forest Management among local communities adjacent to forests in Karamoja and south western Uganda. The pilots will be led by three different institutions: National Environment Management Authority (which is also the ABS focal point), Makerere University and National Forestry Resources Research Institute (national university and research institute respectively, both represented on the National Technical committee on Biodiversity which is hosted by the CBD focal point).

Component 4 addresses the need to increase public awareness and understanding on the Nagoya Protocol on ABS. This involves the development and dissemination of knowledge resources emanating from the country's experience in ABS (e.g. posters, brochures, manuals, training modules), and (iv) constituting a roster of experts who will be called upon as and when necessary to backstop communities and government on issues of ABS and the Nagoya Protocol.

This project was designed in a fully participatory manner. The national level interventions, mainly in support of components 1, 2 and 4 will be conducted, there will also be field project sites mainly based on component 3 involving capacity building and empowerment of local communities to implement the full extent of the Nagoya protocol through PIC, MAT and CFM. The field project implementation sites will be among the Batwa of south-western Uganda and the Karamojong of eastern Uganda. Other field implementation sites

will be in the following central forest reserves: Mt. Moroto, Napak, Semuliki, Echuya, and Bwindi Impenetrable.

4.0 Project Duration and Budget alignment to United Nations programming:

The project duration is four years with a total budget of US\$ 11,795,842 to be financed through a US\$ 2,560,842 grant from the GEF Trust Fund and US\$ 7,135,000 co-financing contribution.

The ABS project is fully in line with Uganda UNDAF Strategic Intent # 3: Sustainable & Inclusive Economic Development and fits within UNDAF Outcome 3.1 on Natural Resource Management and Climate Change Resilience. In addition, project is fully in line with the country's national strategies and plans.

5.0 Information about the project

For any information about the you may contact directly the following officers;

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| 1. Mr. Francis Ogwal
The Project Coordinator
+256 772 517 045
Fracncis.ogwal@nema.go.ug | 2. Achuu Simon Peter
Project Manager
+256 781 270 040
peter.achuu@nema.go.ug |
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