



WEBINAR ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING

TOPIC: IMPLEMENTATION OF BASIC PROVISIONS OF ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING IN THE PACIFIC, THE CASE OF BIOPROSPECTING

28 May 2020| 11.00 am Apia Time

Background

The UNEP/SPREP ABS Regional Project supports the 14 Pacific Island countries to ratify and implement key provisions of the the Nagoya Protocol. SPREP as the executing agency of the Project has been assisting countries to facilitate access to its genetic resources and ensure benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources is shared in a fair and equitable way in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol. The four components of the project are:

- A baseline analysis to identify common assets (particularly relating to traditional knowledge), issues and needs between countries.
- Assist countries to ratify the Protocol through supporting national authorities.
- Establish an enabling environment for the implementation of basic provisions of the Protocol including stocktaking and assessment of capacities and systems currently in place, development or review of strategy and action plans.
- Regional coordination and technical support.

Due to the current situation facing the world with COVID 19 pandemic, a significant part of the work has been stalled for a couple of weeks. The lockdown of many countries serving as the hub for the Pacific such as Australia, New Zealand and Fiji after the confirmation of positive cases and the closing of international borders to fight the global pandemic, has impacted the implementation of the Project.

Despite this setback, SPREP wishes to use available technology and resources to continue assisting the countries. One such way is the use of tools online to run training sessions. This webinar will therefore present to its audience an avenue to discuss on basic provisions to implement Nagoya Protocol considering the cases of bioprospecting in the Pacific. The session will be facilitated by the ABS team at SPREP.

For more information, please contact absproject@sprep.org

Session Agenda 28 May 2020| 11.00 am Apia Time

Time (Apia Time)	Agenda	Facilitator
11:00 am – 11:10 am	Opening & Welcome / Introductions	'Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy (SPREP, Apia)
11:10 am – 11:20 am	Update on the Implementation of the ABS Regional Project and COVID 19 impact	'Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy (SPREP, Apia)
11:20 am – 12:05 pm	Implementation of Basic Provisions of Access and Benefit Sharing in Bioprospecting	Rahul Chand (SPREP, Fiji)
12:05 pm – 12:20pm	Key Compliance Measures	'Ofa Kaisamy (SPREP, Apia)
12.20 pm -12:35pm	Question & Answer	'Ofa Kaisamy (Apia, Samoa) Rahul Chand (Suva, Fiji) James Faiumu (Apia, Samoa)
12:35 pm	Closing	

