

SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING HOUSE (BCH III PROJECT)

Joint BCH/ABS-CH Workshop for Africa,
Nairobi, 7-11 October 2024



Convention on
Biological Diversity



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Associate Programme
Manager, UNEP

PRESENTATION OUTLINE



- 1. THIS WORKSHOP**
- 2. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE**
- 3. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK AND ASSESSMENT NEEDS**
- 4. ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**
- 5. ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL**
- 6. ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL**
- 7. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & LEARNING TOOLS, AND THE REGIONAL ADVISORS' NETWORK**
- 8. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS**
- 9. CLOSING THE PROJECT**
- 10. BEYOND THE PROJECT AND UPCOMING EVENTS**



1. THIS WORKSHOP

JOINT BCH III AND ACP MEAS III REGIONAL WORKSHOP



ACP MEAS 3

<https://acpmeas.com/>



- This BCH and ABSCH Africa Training Workshop for Focal Points Nairobi, 7-11 October, 2024 is the first joint workshop of its kind organized by the BCH III Project in partnership with the ACP-MEAs 3 Programme.
- With funding from the ACP-MEAs III Program under the component:
 1. *"Enhancing capacity, processes and infrastructure for the enforcement and compliance of selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements related to biodiversity and chemicals and waste"*.
 2. *"In response to migration and alignment of Biosafety Clearing House systems with ABS Clearing House Mechanism, conduct joint regional workshops to train national focal points"*.



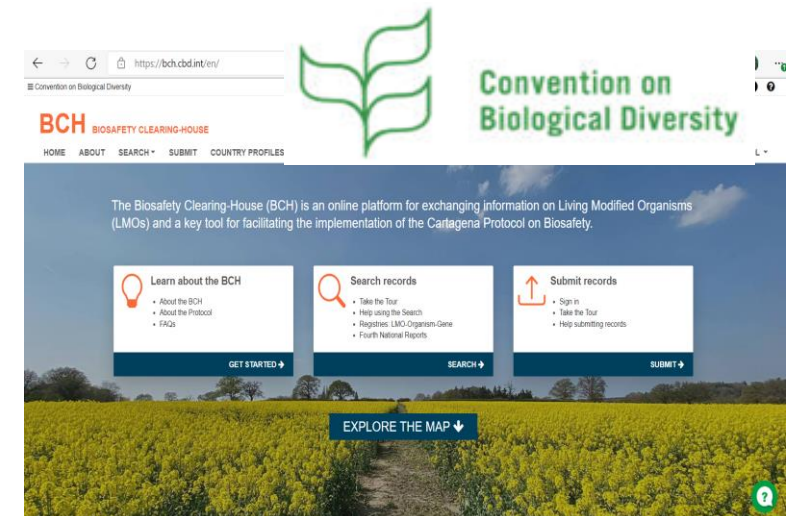
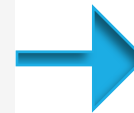
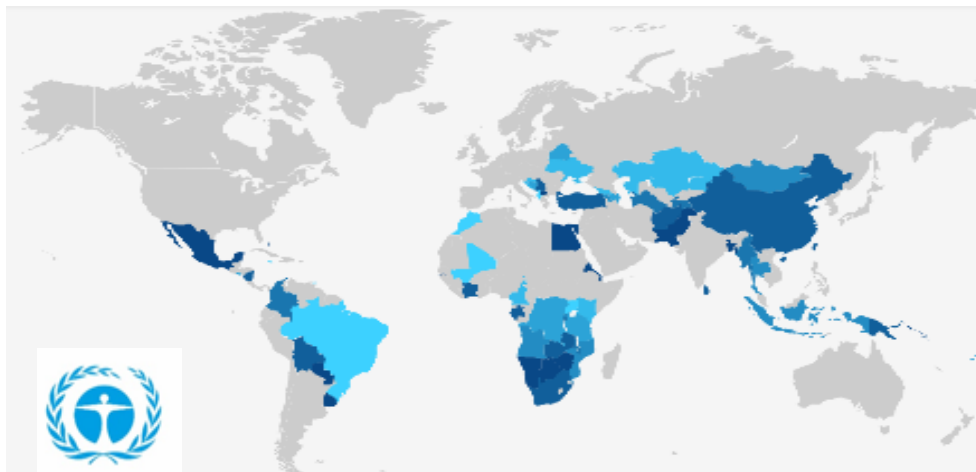
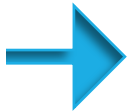
1. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

THE BCH III PROJECT: GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

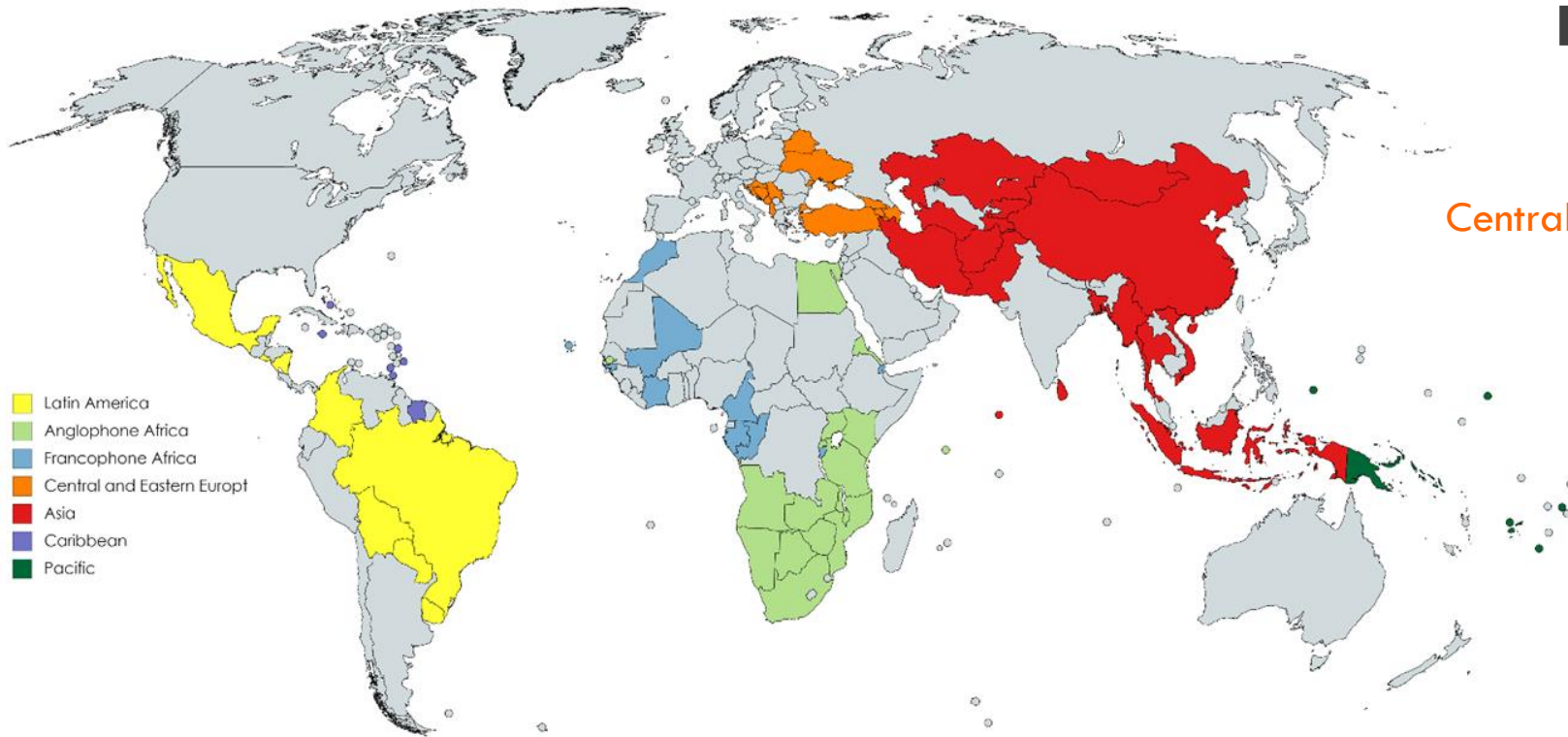
- **Global GEF Project:** \$13.5 million
- **Implementing partner:** UNEP
- **Initial duration:** 4 years
- **Actual duration:** 7 years

Goal: “To provide support to **GEF** eligible parties to build and sustain individual and institutional capacities for effective participation in the **BCH** in line with **COP/MOP Decisions, specifically BS VI/5 para 2f**”.

- **Objective 1:** Effective participation to the **BCH**
- **Objective 2:** Stakeholders’ inclusiveness



THE BCH III PROJECT COUNTRIES



BCH III 76 Eligible Countries

Anglophone Africa: 16 countries, 21%

Asia: 14 countries, 17%

Central and Eastern Europe: 12 Countries, 14%

Francophone Africa: 10 countries, 13%

Pacific: 9 countries, 11.5%

Latin America: 8 countries, 10.5%

Caribbean: 7 countries, 9%



2. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

REVIEWING THE PROJECT'S LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Revised Components

Component 1: National BCH Institutional Capacity Development including Effective and Inclusive Participation, Production and Sharing of Information

Component 2: National Sustainability of Biosafety Clearing House Mechanisms through the Establishment of Effective National Procedures

Component 3: Regional Networking, Experience and Knowledge Sharing

Component 4: Global Sustainability of BCH and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements' sharing Mechanisms through the Regional Advisors System



BCH III NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

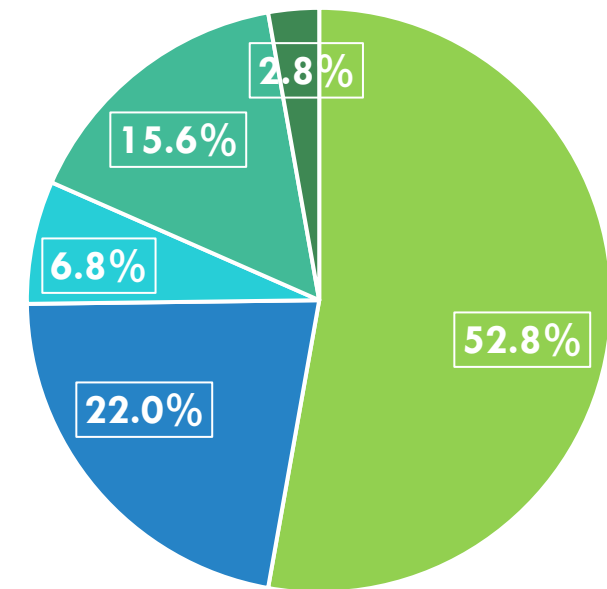


Online survey sent out to 1,600 in June 2020 to take stock of Biosafety and BCH implementation progress and enhance knowledge, awareness and sustainability

○ Conclusions:

1. Need for additional online resources, a Communication and Outreach Strategy and the development of the Regional Advisors Network.
2. BCH III e-learning courses on the VLE, and support for the organization of online trainings.
3. More global BCH and Biosafety projects such as BCH III are needed but should be accompanied by increased synergies and communication between such projects.

More than 50% of the 250 respondents were from Africa, 25% BCH or CBD National Focal Points



- Africa
- Asia
- Europe
- Latin America and Caribbean
- Oceania and Pacific



3. ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES



National workshops' activities are the most important ones

Objective 1: Improve **national competence** on using the Biosafety Clearing House for registering information*

Objective 2: Identify and establish **national procedures** and operational linkages to gather information to be put on BCH in line with **National Biosafety Frameworks** implementation and BCH sustainability and training plan

Objective 3 : Identify **center of excellences** that could support the BCH training and capacity building activities after the end of the BCH III project.

Kenya and Gabon's 2nd workshops (2018, 2022)

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO COUNTRIES (1)

The screenshot displays the 'NATIONAL BCH TRAINING' page on the UNEP Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The page features a search bar at the top with the text 'NATIONAL BCH TRAINING' and a search icon. Below the search bar, there are six course listings arranged in a 2x3 grid. Each listing includes a course title, a list of teachers or facilitators, and a small profile picture for each. The courses are:

- PHILIPPINES NATIONAL BCH COURSE**: Teacher: Rue12 Maningas2
- 3er. CURSO NACIONAL BCH III URUGUAY**: Teachers: Catalina Fellegi, Ana Laura Mello, Maria Torres
- Demo - Mauritania National BCH III Course**: Mauritania National BCH III Course - Demo
- SURINAME NATIONAL BCH III COURSE**: Facilitators: Marci Compers, Michelle John, Fred Phillips
- JAMAICA NATIONAL BCH III COURSE**: Facilitators: Michelle John, Fred Phillips
- MOZAMBIQUE NATIONAL BCH III COURSE**: Facilitators: Ossama Abdel-Kawy, Chantal Andrianarivo, Chantal andrianarivo, Charles Aubin Kouassi

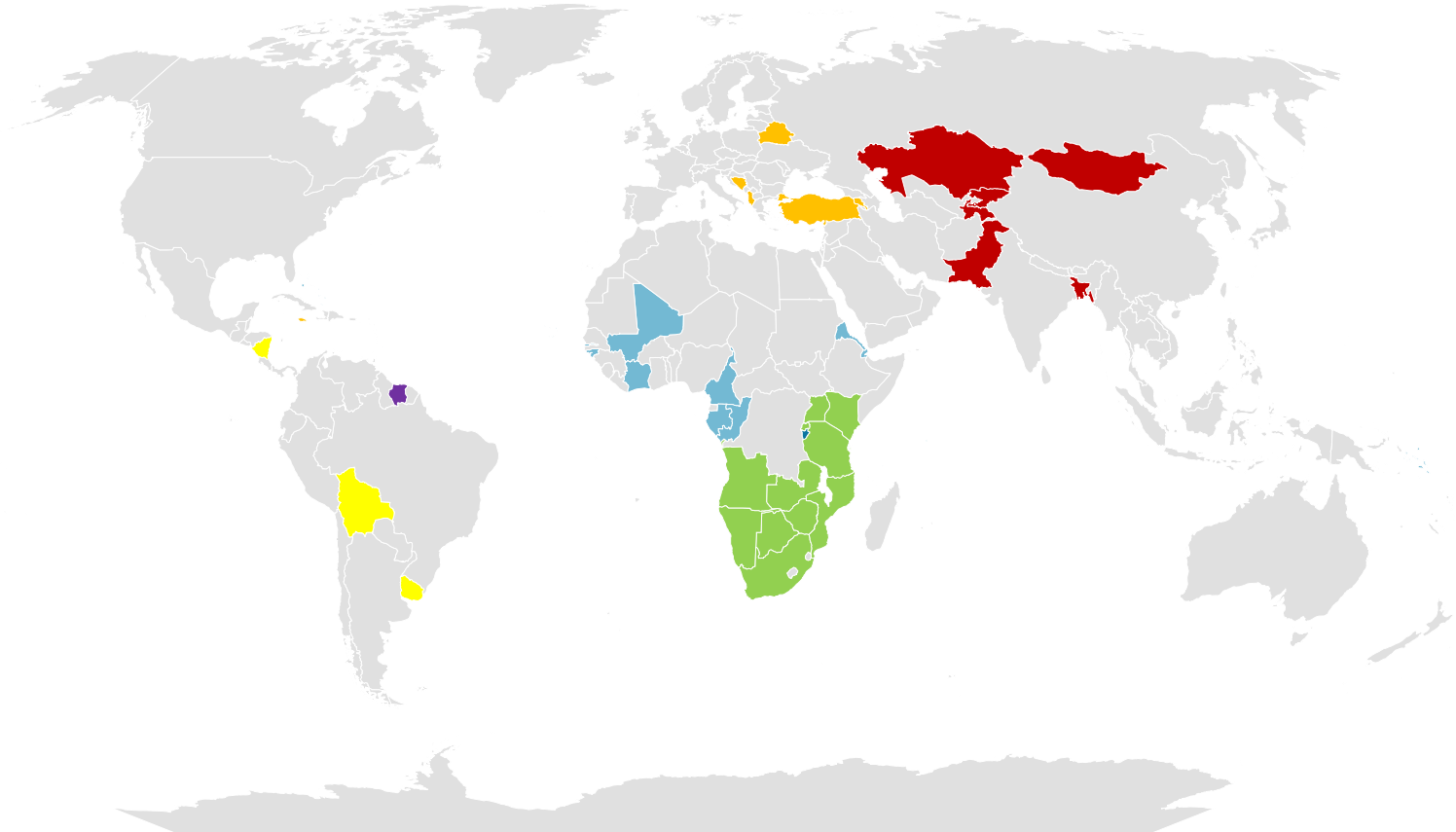
<https://bch3-vle.unep.org>

- Regional Advisors' assistance (including workshops)
- Training and education materials (including webinars)
- National, regional and global training workshops
- Support to integrate national and regional networks of collaboration
- Virtual Learning Platform (VLE) hosted on UNEP servers since June 2020.

NATIONAL WORKSHOPS

- All 44 countries (100%) have completed the 1st workshop, 43 the 2nd one and 42 the 3rd one
- 136 workshops have been organized, of which 87 by UNEP
- 2,082 participants to UNEP-organized workshops (45% women and 77% public institutions)
- Participants' knowledge increased by 26 percentage points (relative) after the workshop (from 55% to 76 %),
- 85 training courses and case studies developed and shared,
- 65 experts identified,
- Over 100 centers of excellence identified

44 of 76 (58%) targeted countries implement national workshops, of which 43 have signed Small-Scale Funding Agreements (SSFAs) with UNEP



As of November 2022

	No	NFP	CNA	SPCA	PSP	LAW	DEC	RA	NDB	NR	EXP	CPB
AFRICA	26	51	47	1	4	93	128	130	13	71	42	23
ASIA	14	31	41	1	1	122	39	17	14	35	41	12
CARIBBEAN	7	12	7	1	0	12	1	0	5	17	5	5
EUROPE	11	17	23	0	2	110	54	57	7	30	12	11
PACIFIC	9	12	8	0	0	8	0	0	2	17	0	5
LATIN AMERICA	8	14	31	0	2	80	933	947	3	21	49	6
Total		137	157	3	9	425	1155	1151	44	191	149	62

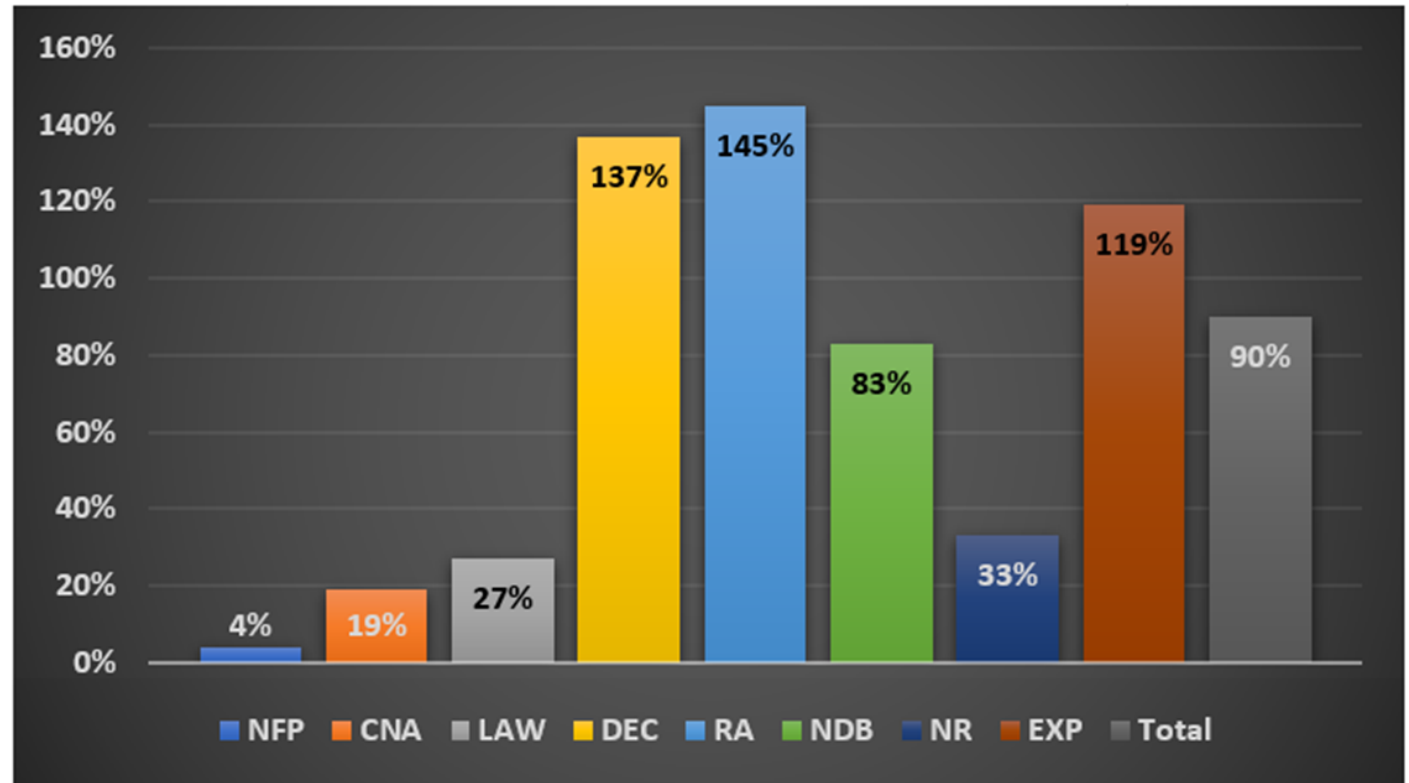
At the beginning of the project (2016)

AFRICA	26	46	33			52	25	14	5	58	27
ASIA	14	26	30			102	24	1	8	29	10
CARIBBEAN	7	11	4			8	1	0	1	9	5
EUROPE	11	19	29			105	43	46	5	22	7
PACIFIC	9	13	8			8	0	0	2	13	0
LATIN AMERICA	8	17	28			59	394	408	3	13	19
Total		132	132			334	487	469	24	144	68

INCREASE IN PUBLISHING MANDATORY NATIONAL RECORDS

- The total percentage increase in publishing national records was **90%**, between October 2016 and November 2022, which is very high compared to the **project target of 5% increase.**

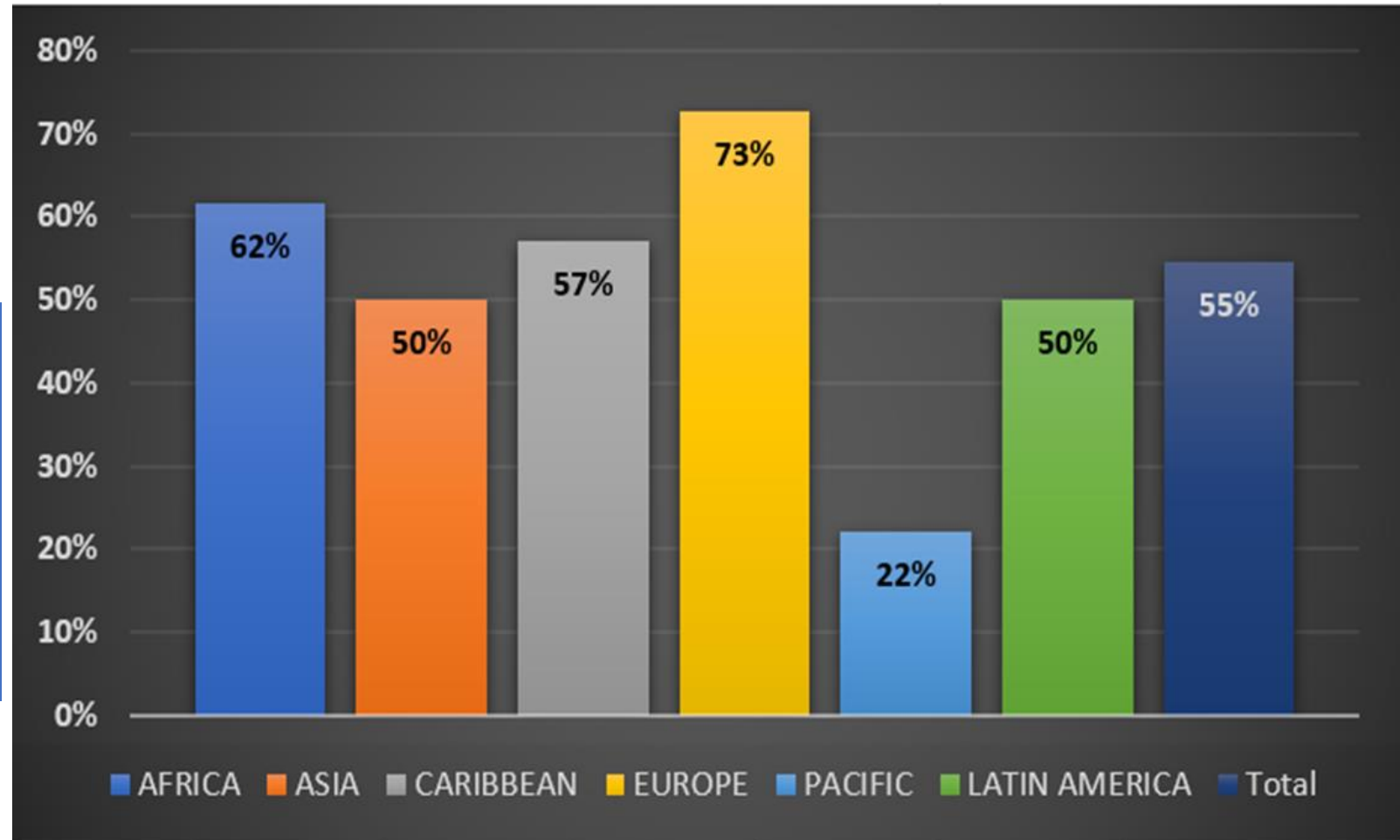
Total Increase in Publication between **October 2016 and November 2022** (Global and per type of National Records)



LOW COMPLIANCE LEVEL IN PUBLISHING INFORMATION

Global country compliance average increased to 55% as of November 2022.

Percentage of BCH III Country Compliance as of November 2022 (Global and per Region)





4. ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

Objectives:

1. Train BCH NFPs on how to deliver BCH capacity-building activities at national level,
2. Facilitate networking, exchange of ideas and cooperation among BCH stakeholders of the same region,
3. Develop Regional Biosafety Clearing House Strategies,
4. Share experiences, good practices and lessons learned in promoting public awareness, education and participation.



India Regional Workshop, February 2020



REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

13 regional trainings of BCH National Focal Points in Africa, Pacific, Caribbean, Asia, Central And Eastern Europe and Latin America.

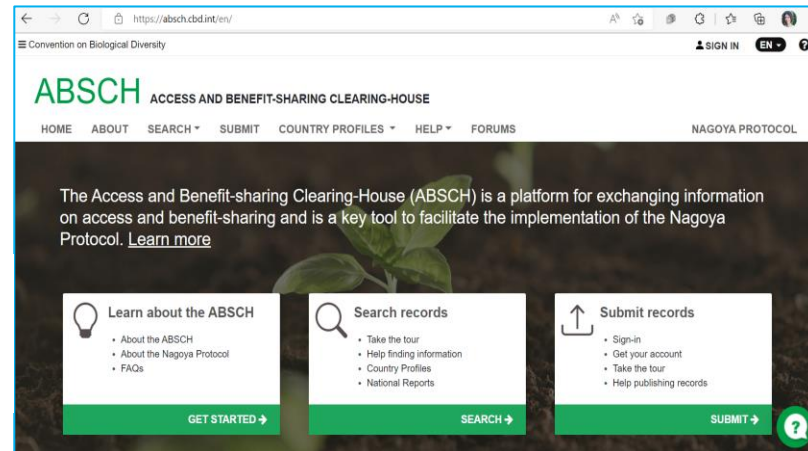


4. ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

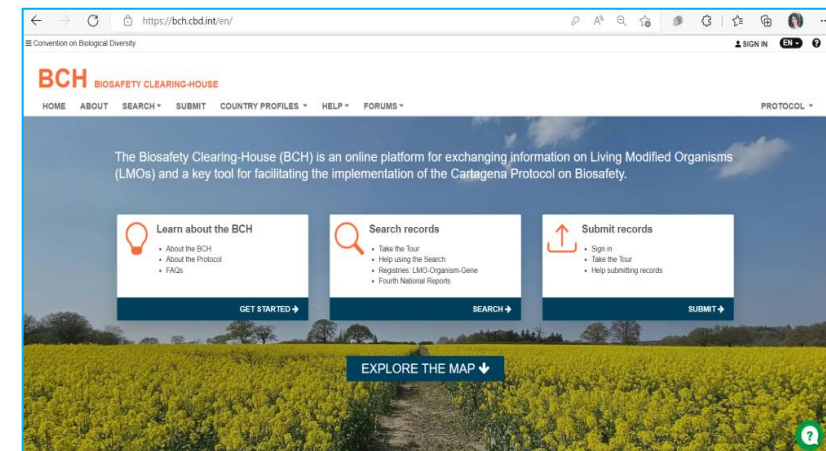
COOPERATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CBD

3 Internal Cooperation Agreements were signed between UNEP (BCH III) and the Secretariat of the CBD in 2020, 2021 and 2022 to support:

1. The integration and interoperability of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) with the ABS Clearing-House (ABSCH),
2. The launch of the new and improved Biosafety-Clearing House Platform.



ABS platform: <https://absch.cbd.int/en/>



BCH new platform: <https://bch.cbd.int/en>

COOPERATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CBD



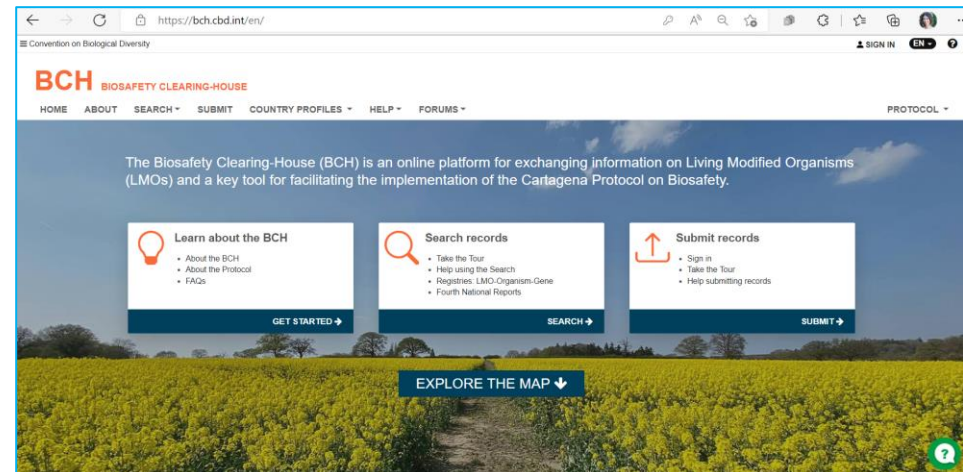
The new central
BCH platform was
launched in
December 2021



BCH III Regional
Advisors have
been
providing valuable
experts and
users feedback's to
finetune the new
platform



Event to celebrate
that launch at
COP15/CP-
10/NP-4



COOPERATION WITH THE SCBD

- One or two-day training workshops in the margins of CBD COPs /CP MOPs and NP MOPs
- Organized by UNEP-BCH III in partnership with the Secretariat of the CBD
- Launch of the new BCH platform at CBD COP15 – CP/MOP10 – NP/MOP4



COP16
CALI · COLOMBIA
Peace with Nature

COP13-COPMOP8-COPMOP2
CANCUN, MEXICO 2016



MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY FOR WELL-BEING
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth
KUNMING · CHINA



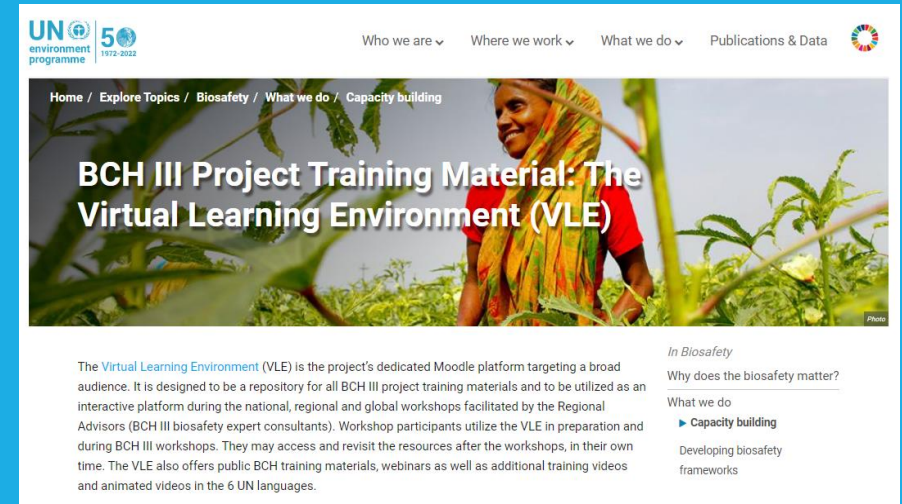
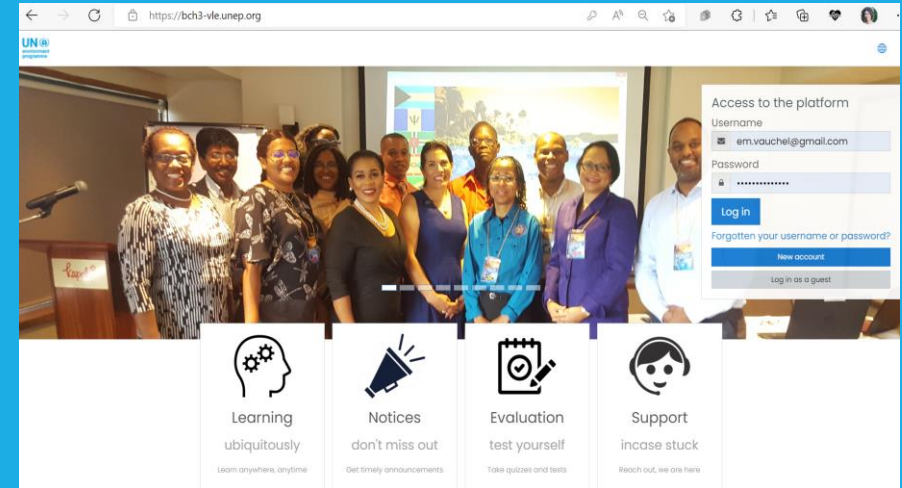
COP 14 - CP/MOP9 - NP/MOP3
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 2018



6. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & LEARNING TOOLS, AND THE REGIONAL ADVISORS' NETWORK

THE VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (VLE)

- The VLE is the project's dedicated **Moodle platform**, hosted on UNEP servers, accessible after the project's completion
- The platform includes a variety of **pre-developed training material** such as manuals, interactive training software, case studies and curricula for different stakeholders,
- As of June 2024, the virtual learning environment had over 2,360 registered participants from 181 countries distributed globally.
 - **VLE platform: <https://bch3-vle.unep.org/>**
 - **[BCH III Project Training Material: The Virtual Learning Environment \(VLE\) | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#)**



WEBINARS

- These are online conferences conducted in **5UN languages** to provide training on **specific topics relevant to the BCH, the Cartagena Protocol** and related topics.
- They are advertised in various fora including the BCH website and participants from all over attend and actively participate in the discussions.
- So far, **17 webinars have been conducted** by the project and have been well attended. Webinars are recorded and made available online.



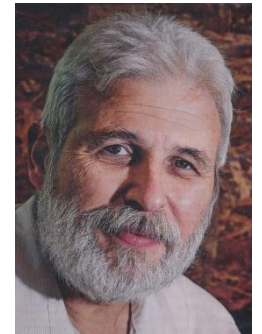
REGIONAL ADVISORS NETWORK (RAN)

- The Regional Advisors Network is composed of 18 Regional Advisors (RAs), a group of contracted consultants who conduct BCH training activities at the national, regional and global levels. RAs are deployed on country missions as needed to participate in national training.
- The **RAN is a flexible and “light administrative mechanism”** to make available technical assistance on Biosafety issues. BCH III Project Manager and Team lead and coordinate RAs, with the support of senior 2 RAs, called “Regional Specialists”.
- The **RAN’s objectives** are the following:
 - Identify and assess countries needs for national capacity building, analyze strength and weakness of the Cartagena Protocol management on the national level and recommend intervention in line with international best practice,
 - Take lead responsibility for design and operation in capacity building programs and assist national staffs in fully understanding national obligations to the Cartagena Protocol,
 - Develop and fine-tune through adaption to specific capacity building requirements, training materials, user manuals, virtual courses and e-forums in all UN languages,
 - Design, conduct and carry out national and regional training workshops, and
 - Assist in the evaluation of National strategies to ensure continuity and sustainability of fulfilment of obligations related to the Cartagena Protocol with particular emphasis on article 20.

REGIONAL ADVISORS TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT)

BCH III Training of Trainers is a critical part of the Regional Advisors Training and Certification process.

- 1st workshop organized on 4-8 May 2015 at the SCBD, Montreal (Canada), with 24 Regional Advisors,
- 2nd ToT took place 3-17 June 2022 in Dubai, UAE.
- 17 Regional Advisors (Biosafety experts) working together for 5 days to consolidate common procedures to effectively perform their assigned project missions and promote their networks beyond the project.





7. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS

BCH AND BIOSAFETY COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (1)

Produced outputs (1):

- A communication strategy and stakeholder mapping,
- A full social media toolkit covering Twitter, Facebook and Instagram (15 “Did you know...?” messages)
- "In-pocket" infographic material to be downloaded & printed locally to help influence policymakers,



THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE...



REGULATION & DECISION-MAKING

- IS AN INFORMATION TOOL that facilitates the exchange of authoritative information on LMOs
- ASSISTS IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS of LMOs in knowing the existing laws and regulations
- CONTRIBUTES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOSAFETY POLICIES and facilitates informed decision-making
- SUPPORTS TRAINING towards ensuring the safe handling, transfer and use of LMOs



COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITIES

- IS FREE AND OPEN to everyone
- PROVIDES FORA in which different biosafety issues can be discussed by diverse community of users
- PROMOTES NETWORKING amongst biosafety professionals
- ENHANCES PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION in the biosafety decision-making process



BIOTECHNOLOGY

- PROVIDES ACCESS TO BIBLIOGRAPHY relevant to biosafety, risk assessments and LMOs
- HOSTS A ROSTER OF BIOSAFETY EXPERTS that can provide specialised advice and support to countries
- MAKES AVAILABLE INFORMATION ABOUT DETECTION and identification of LMOs
- PROVIDES INFORMATION ON THE ASSESSMENT OF RISKS that may arise from biotechnology products



BIODIVERSITY & GLOBAL CHALLENGES

- IS A TOOL FOR THE CONSERVATION and sustainable use of biological diversity
- IMPACTS THE SDGs by supporting the implementation of biosafety regimes



Convention on Biological Diversity

#SHARINGBIOSAFETY

VISIT [HTTP://BCH.CBD.INT/](http://bch.cbd.int/)



BCH AND BIOSAFETY COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN (2)

Produced outputs (2):

- One 4 minutes animated graphics-based video **introductory video**,
- **Two testimonial** videos showcasing BCH III project success stories in Kenya and Belarus.



<https://youtu.be/-kq2A1pmUos>

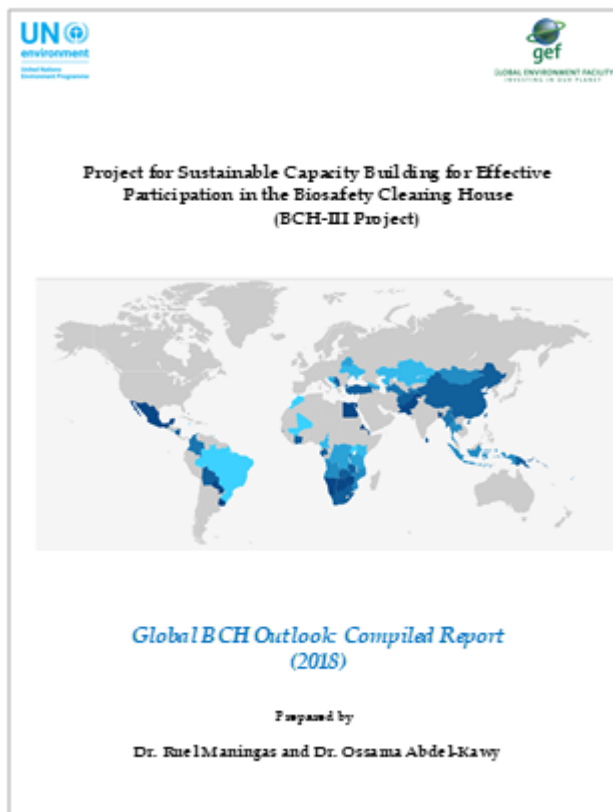


<https://youtu.be/AGIUTD6TPI0>



PUBLICATIONS AND RESSOURCES

Report



Global BCH Outlook Compiled Report (2018)

Brochures



On the BCH III project the the Regional Advisors Network

Videos and website



UNEP BCH III webpage



8. CLOSING THE PROJECT (2024)

ONGOING BCH III EVALUATION SURVEY

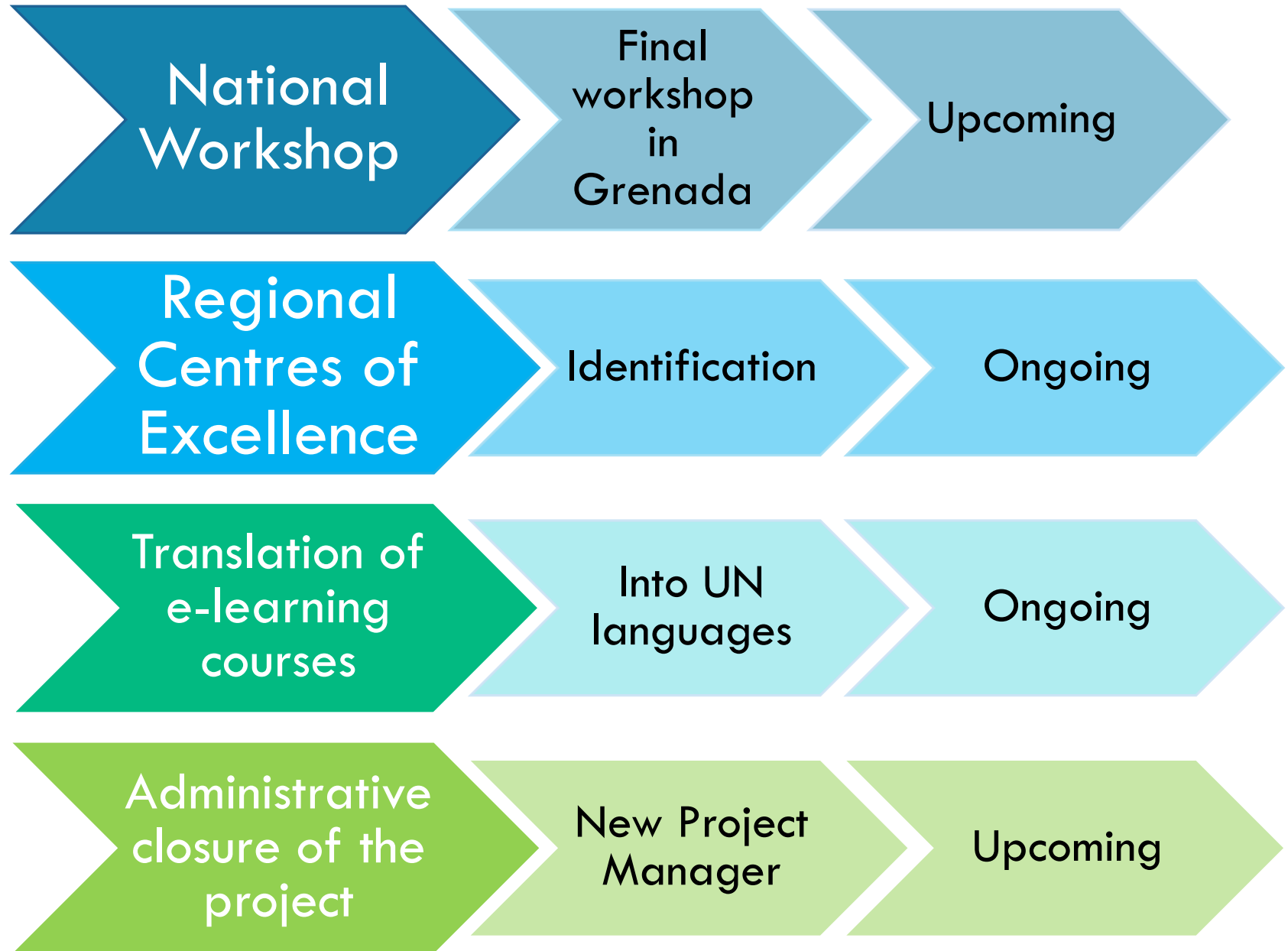


Sent to your email by Mr. Shaban Magili
Deadline: 12 October 2024



<https://forms.office.com/r/ySdkCKpxza>

REMAINING ACTIVITIES





8. BEYOND THE PROJECT (2024)

CBD/CP/MOP/10 DECISION

The BCH III Project and UNEP was invited to develop new projects related to the BCH:

- CP-10/5. Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House (Article 20)

“Welcomes the successful implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme — Global Environment Facility “Project for Sustainable Capacity Building for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House” (BCH III Project) and invites the United Nations Environment Programme to develop further capacity-building projects related to the Biosafety Clearing-House. ”



2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE

COP 15 - CP/MOP10-NP/MOP4

Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth

KUNMING · CHINA

CBD/CP/MOP/11 OFFICIAL INFO DOCUMENTS

The BCH III Project is mentioned in:

- [CBD/CP/MOP/11/7](#) “Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House”

“The BCH III project (will conclude at the end 2024). It would be beneficial to the work of the Cartagena Protocol if potential donor countries could provide financial support for the continuation of the project, thus ensuring its sustainability, and if the network of regional advisers was maintained, given their instrumental role in the implementation of the project at the regional level.”

- [CBD/CP/MOP/11/8](#) “Cooperation with international organizations, bodies established under other conventions, and initiatives”



COP16
COLOMBIA
Paz con la Naturaleza



8. UPCOMING EVENTS (2024)



THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION ON GENETIC RESOURCES

What to expect at the 16th Conference of Parties
to the Convention on Biological Diversity

SCAN TO REGISTER:



WEDNESDAY

09 OCT
2024

4.00 – 5:30 pm EAT.



Mphatso Martha Kalemba
Co-chair of the OEWG on DSI

For enquiries:
monipher.musasa@unep.org
www.unep.org



WEBINAR ON DSI BY THE ACP MEAS 3 PROJECT

- Wednesday 9 October 2024 at 16:00
- Host: Mphatso Martha Kalemba, Co-Chair of the OEWG on DSI
- Moderated by Monipher Musasa and Daniel Hernandez from UNEP

<https://www.unep.org/events/webinar/future-digital-sequence-information-genetic-resources>

BCH WORKSHOP AT CP-MOP11

- Upcoming Biosafety Clearing-House Training Workshop on Saturday 26 October 2024, registration by 5 October 2024
- Organized by the Secretariat of the CBD
- For all BCH NFPs and NAUs, and the Cartagena NFPs, interested stakeholders



<https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2024/parallel-meetings/bch-workshop>

ABS WORKSHOP AT NP-MOP5

- Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House Training Workshop, on Sunday 27 October 2024
- Registration by 15 October 2024
- Update on the operations of the ABS Clearing House and to present recent changes and planned developments



<https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2024/parallel-meetings/absch-workshop>



THANK YOU!

- **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE E-MAIL:**
tita.korvenoja@un.org

- FOR CONTINUOUS UPDATES ON THE PROJECT VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SUSTAINABLEBCH3](https://www.facebook.com/sustainablebch3),
- UNEP PAGE: [HTTPS://WWW.UNEP.ORG/EXPLORE-TOPICS/BIOSAFETY/WHAT-WE-DO/CAPACITY-BUILDING](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/biosafety/what-we-do/capacity-building)
- SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE IN BIOSAFETY ON TWITTER:
[HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/HASHTAG/SHARINGBIOSAFETY?SRC=HASHTAG_CLICK](https://twitter.com/hashtag/sharingbiosafety?src=hashtag_click)