Regional Joint BCH and ABSCH Training of Trainers Workshop for Africa Region

Nairobi, 7-11 October 2024

The ABS Clearing House

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Introduction to the ABSCH

- THE ABSCH

- An online platform for exchanging information on ABS

- It was established by Art 14 of the Nagoya Protocol to facilitate its implementation by enhancing <u>legal certainty</u>, <u>clarity</u> and <u>transparency</u> on procedures for access and benefit sharing as well as for <u>monitoring</u> the utilization of genetic resources along the value chain.

https://absch.cbd.int/

Introduction to the ABSCH

• Information Sharing Obligations

• Parties should make available to the ABSCH any information required by the Nagoya Protocol and pursuant to COP-MOP decisions. These include:	**Art 12.2**
	Art 14.2
• Legislative, administrative and policy measures on access and benefit-sharing;	**Art 14.3**
• Information on the national focal point and competent national authority or authorities; and	**Art 17.1.a**
• Permits or their equivalent issued at the time of access as evidence of the decision to grant prior informed consent and of the establishment of mutually agreed terms.	**Art 22.6**
	Art 29

Introduction to the ABSCH

• Information Sharing Obligations

• Parties should make available to the ABSCH any information required by the Nagoya Protocol and subsequent COP-MOP decisions. These include:	**Art 12.2**
	Art 14.2
• Mechanisms to inform potential users of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources about their obligations, including measures for access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge.	**Art 14.3**
	Art 17.1.a
	Art 22.6
	Art 29

Introduction to the ABSCH

• Information Sharing Obligations

• Parties should make available to the ABSCH any information required by the Nagoya Protocol and pursuant to COP-MOP decisions. These include:

  • Model contractual clauses;
  • Methods and tools developed to monitor genetic resources; and
  • Codes of conduct and best practices.

| Art 12.2 |
| Art 14.2 |
| **Art 14.3** |
| Art 17.1.a |
| Art 22.6 |
| Art 29 |

Introduction to the ABSCH

• Information Sharing Obligations

• Parties should make available to the ABSCH any information required by the Nagoya Protocol and pursuant to COP-MOP decisions. These include:

  • Information on Checkpoints designated to collect or receive relevant information related to PIC, to the source of the genetic resource, to the establishment of MAT, and/or to the utilization of genetic resources;
  • Information collected and received at check points;
  • Internationally recognized certificates of compliance without prejudice to the protection of confidential information.

| Art 12.2 |
| Art 14.2 |
| Art 14.3 |
| **Art 17.1.a** |
| Art 22.6 |
| Art 29 |

Introduction to the ABSCH

• Information Sharing Obligations

• Parties should make available to the ABSCH any information required by the Nagoya Protocol and pursuant to COP-MOP decisions. These include:	**Art 12.2**
	Art 14.2
• Information on capacity-building and development initiatives at national, regional and international levels with a view to promoting synergy and coordination on capacity-building and development for access and benefit-sharing.	**Art 14.3**
	Art 17.1.a
	Art 22.6
	Art 29

Introduction to the ABSCH

• Information Sharing Obligations

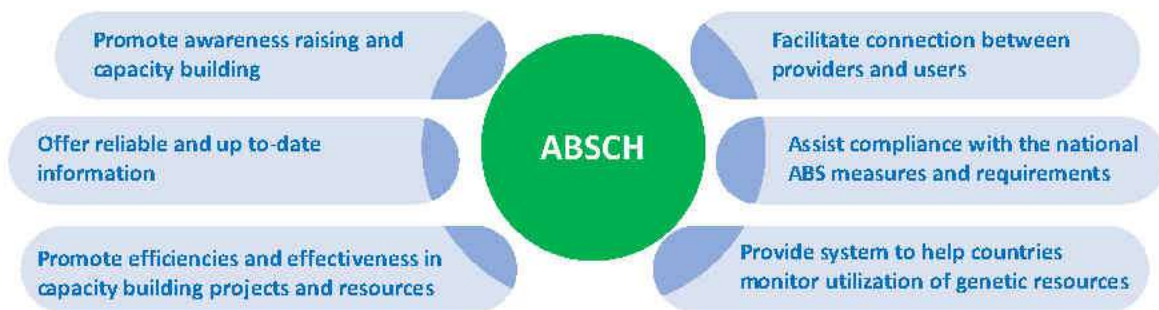|	
• Parties should make available to the ABSCH any information required by the Nagoya Protocol and pursuant to COP-MOP decisions. These include:	**Art 12.2**
	Art 14.2
• Party reports on monitoring the implementation of its obligations under this Protocol, at intervals and in the format determined by COP-MOP.	**Art 14.3**
	Art 17.1.a
	Art 22.6
	Art 29

Introduction to the ABSCH

- What are the benefits of the ABSCH

Promote awareness raising and capacity building		Facilitate connection between providers and users
Offer reliable and up to-date information	**ABSCH**	Assist compliance with the national ABS measures and requirements
Promote efficiencies and effectiveness in capacity building projects and resources		Provide system to help countries monitor utilization of genetic resources

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Finding information on the ABSCH

https://absch.cbd.int/

☰ Convention on Biological Diversity   ⚊ SIGN IN   EN ▾   ❓

ABSCH ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING CLEARING-HOUSE

HOME   ABOUT   SEARCH ▾   SUBMIT   COUNTRY PROFILES ▾   HELP ▾   FORUMS   NAGOYA PROTOCOL

The Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (ABSCH) is a platform for exchanging information on access and benefit-sharing and is a key tool to facilitate the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Learn more

Learn about the ABSCH
- About the ABSCH
- About the Nagoya Protocol
- FAQs

GET STARTED →

Search records
- Take the tour
- Help finding information
- Country Profiles
- National Reports

SEARCH →

Submit records
- Sign-in
- Get your account
- Take the tour
- Help publishing records

SUBMIT →

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABSCH

- Information on the ABS CH is divided into 3 main categories.

- Categories reflect who has published information and therefore has taken ownership and responsibility

| National Records (Published by the Governments of Parties and non-Parties) |
| Reference Records submitted by stakeholders and Published by the sCBD |
| sCBD Managed records published by the CBD secretariat |

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- National records includes the information Parties are required to make available in accordance with Art. 14.2

- They are managed and published by governments

- All national Records are approved by the National Publishing Authority

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
National Websites or databases (NDB)	Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance (IRCC)	Checkpoints (CP)
Checkpoint Communiqués (CPC)	National Report (NR)	Model Contractual Clauses (MCC)
ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

• Type of Information on the ABS-CH

• Responsible to liaise with the Secretariat and make available information on procedure for accessing genetic resources and establishing mutually agreed terms, including information on CNA, relevant indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders (Art. 13.1)

• The NFP must be designated or modified by completing an official designation for offline and sending it to the secretariat

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
National Websites or databases (NDB)	Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance (IRCC)	Checkpoints (CP)
Checkpoint Communiqués (CPC)	National Report (NR)	Model Contractual Clauses (MCC)
ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

• Type of Information on the ABS-CH

• Entities that are in accordance with the applicable national legislative administrative or policy measures responsible for granting access or, as applicable, issuing written evidence that access requirements have been met as well as for advising on applicable procedures and requirements for obtaining prior informed consent and entering into mutually agreed terms Art.13.2.

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
National Websites or databases (NDB)	Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance (IRCC)	Checkpoints (CP)
Checkpoint Communiqués (CPC)	National Report (NR)	Model Contractual Clauses (MCC)
ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- The measures adopted at a domestic level, and may include any relevant explanatory information on how to meet ABS requirements, to implement ABS obligations of the Convention and/or Nagoya Protocol.

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
National Websites or databases (NDB)	Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance (IRCC)	Checkpoints (CP)
Checkpoint Communiqués (CPC)	National Report (NR)	Model Contractual Clauses (MCC)
ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- Information and links to any national websites or databases that are relevant for ABS

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
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ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- The Certificate is made up of non-confidential information from the ABS permit or its equivalent and can serve as evidence that the genetic resource which it covers has been accessed in accordance with Prior informed consent (PIC) and that mutually agreed terms have been established. it contains information to link it to the original ABS permit and assist in monitoring the utilization of genetic resources by users throughout the value chain (Art. 17)

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Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- All parties are to designate effective CP at places that interact with users along the value chain from research to commercialization of a product. CP are to collect or receive information provided by users related to the utilization of genetic resources (Art 17) to inform and alert relevant authorities in the provider country as to how their resources are being used.

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
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ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- A summary of the information collected or received by checkpoint from the user of genetic resources (Art 17.1(a.i)) to inform and alert relevant authorities in the provider country as to how their resources are being used.

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
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ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- Information submitted by Governments in the context of Art 29 to report the progress on the measures that are taken to implement the Nagoya Protocol

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
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ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- Model contractual clauses for mutually agreed terms (MAT) in relation to ABS shared by national governments through the ABSCH to provide useful guidance in the negotiation of MAT, reduce transaction costs while promoting legal certainty and compliance and assist users to understand and fulfil ABS requirements and meet provider's expectations.

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
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Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- This record type is meant to quickly provide guidance for potential users to identify and understand the steps required for access to genetic resources and/or associated traditional knowledge in a country.

ABS National Focal Points (NFP)	Competent National Authorities (CNA)	Legislative administrative or Policy measures (MSR)
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ABS Procedures (PRO)		

Finding information on the ABSCH

• Type of Information on the ABS-CH

• Reference records are record submitted by stakeholders and published by the secretariat of the CBD.

Virtual Library Resources	Model Contractual Clauses	Capacity building Initiatives
Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary Laws	Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards	

Finding information on the ABSCH

• Type of Information on the ABS-CH

• ABS Resources including general literatures, awareness raising materials, and capacity building resources.

Virtual Library Resources	Model Contractual Clauses	Capacity building Initiatives
Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary Laws	Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards	

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- Model contractual clauses are addressed in Art 19 of the Protocol. They can assist in the development of agreements that are consistent with ABS requirements and may reduce transaction costs while promoting legal certainty and transparency.

Virtual Library Resources	Model Contractual Clauses	Capacity building Initiatives
Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary Laws	Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards	

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- Information on Capacity Building Initiatives on ABS at national, regional and international levels shared to promote synergy and coordination.

Virtual Library Resources	Model Contractual Clauses	Capacity building Initiatives
Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary Laws	Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards	

Finding information on the ABSCH

Type of Information on the ABS-CH

• Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary laws are addressed in Art. 12 of the Protocol and can help other actors understand and respect the community procedures and values with respect to ABS.

Virtual Library Resources	Model Contractual Clauses	Capacity building Initiatives
Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary Laws	Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards	

Finding information on the ABSCH

Type of Information on the ABS-CH

• Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards are addressed in Art. 20 of the Protocol and assist users to undertake their activities in a manner that is consistent with ABS requirements while also considering the practices of different sectors

Virtual Library Resources	Model Contractual Clauses	Capacity building Initiatives
Community Protocols and Procedures and Customary Laws	Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Best Practices and/or Standards	

Finding information on the ABSCH

- Type of Information on the ABS-CH

- SCBD Managed records provide information on the works of the Secretariat related to ABS

News stories	Notifications	Statements
Press release	Meetings	

Finding information on the ABSCH

Finding information on the ABSCH

Finding information on the ABSCH

Finding information on the ABSCH

• Each time a filter such as a record type or keyword is selected the search will be executed and the active filter will appear on the top of the page. you can simply click on an active filter to remove from the search.

• On the same page below the filters, you will find the search results . they are separated per record category which are displayed under separate taps to maintain a clear distinction between categories of records with the view to reduce the possibility of confusing type of records.

• Records are also color coded to help identifying the record category. these are bleu for national record orange for reference record and grey for sCBD managed records

Finding information on the ABSCH

Unique Identifier (UID)

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Combination of alphabets and numbers

Each time record is updated, last set of numbers in the UID (revision number), is increased by 1

↓

Allows amendments made to records to be tracked and provide greater transparency

UID: Distinct code assigned to each published record in the ABS Clearing-House

How the UNIQUE ID is established

Example: ABSCH - IRCC - AF - 206964 - 2

AAAAA - BBB - CC - DDDDDD - E

AAAAA = Realm ["ABSCH", "ABSCHTRG", "ABSCHDEV"] website and environment where the record was entered

BBB = Acronym for the type of common format

CC = Owner (2 digit ISO country code, "SCBD", USER ID number)

DDDDDD = Document ID number from the CHM vault

E = Revision number (how many times the record has been published)

Finding information on the ABSCH

- The unique identifier (UID)

- Can be typed into the search and used as a filter either to find a particular record or to get a list of records that reference a particular record. For example, this can be useful if you were looking for all IRCCs issued by a specific CNA. To carry out this particular search you could select the national record type: "Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance" from the set of predefined national record filters and enter the UID of the competent national authority as a free text filter.

- Can be entered with or without the revision number (the last set of digits that make up the UID). If revision number is included then only the records that reference that specific version of the CNA will be returned. When the revision number is omitted from the search filter then all records that make reference to any published version of that CNA will be returned.

Registering information on the ABSCH

- Types of users

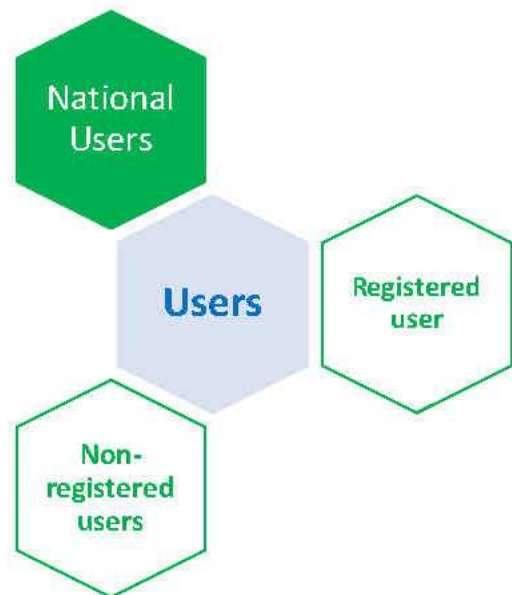- **National Users:** Can register National Records and Reference records

Parties
should publish available information in accordance with Art 14.2

Non-Parties
Art 24 of the Protocol provides that Parties should encourage Non-Parties to adhere to the Protocol and to contribute appropriate information to the ABSCH
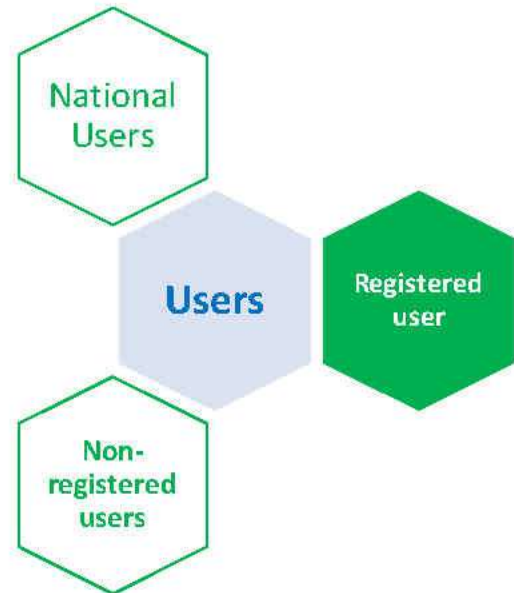

National Users

Users

Registered user

Non-registered users

Registering information on the ABSCH

- Types of users

  - **<u>Registered users</u>**: subscribe themselves to the ABSCH and can only register only Reference records
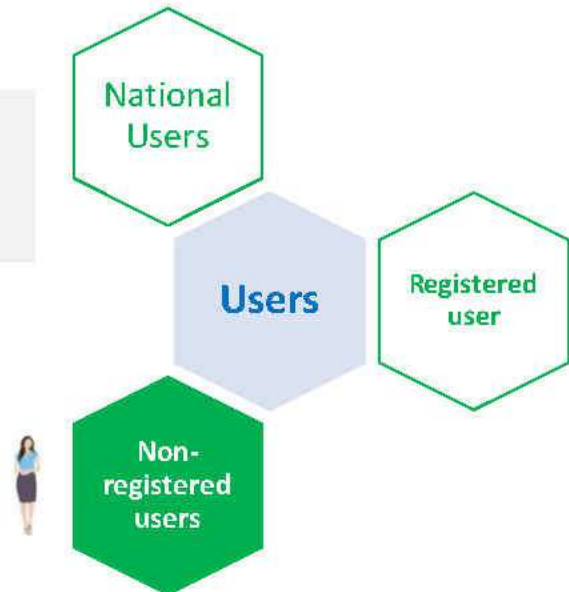
  Other stakeholders

  Including IPLC and share relevant information allowing the ABSCH to do its job more effectively

National Users

Users

Registered user

Non-registered users

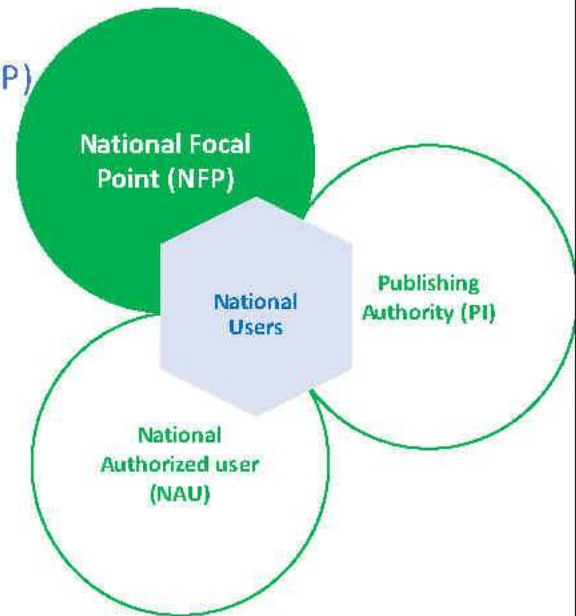# Registering information on the ABSCH

- Types of users

  - **<u>Non-registered users</u>**: Users who use the website for searching information without CBD account and without the intention of contributing information

National Users

Users

Registered user

Non-registered users

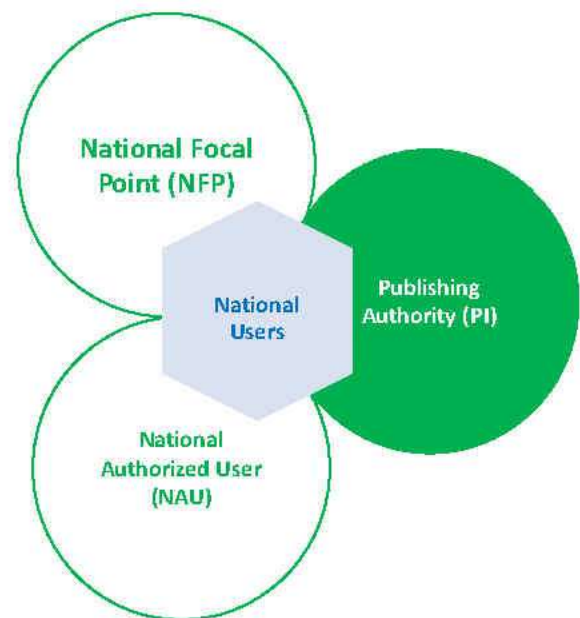# Registering information

• The ABS National Focal Point (ABSNFP)

• has the responsibility to liaise with the sCBD and make available information on procedure for accessing genetic resources and establishing MAT including information on CNA and relevant IPLC and stakeholders (Art 13.1)

• designed or modified by completing an official designation form offline and sending it to the secretariat.

• must designate himself or another person as the publishing authority of his country

National Focal Point (NFP)

National Users

Publishing Authority (PI)

National Authorized user (NAU)

Registering information

• Publishing Authority (PI)

• its role can be changed easily by NFP

• Publish National Record

• Manage online which users are authorized to view, create and publish record

• Authorize the publication of all national records registered on the ABSCH by NAU

• Ensuring that the information made available on the ABSCH is complete, relevant and up-to-date.

• Ensuring that no confidential information is published on the ABSCH

National Focal Point (NFP)

National Users

Publishing Authority (PI)

National Authorized User (NAU)

Registering information

- ## National Authorized user (NAU)

- designated by the PI online through the ABSCH

- create, manage and register records for his country which are only published after being approved by the PI

- It may be helpful to designate the competent national authority or checkpoint as national authorized users

National Focal Point (NFP)

National Users

Publishing Authority (PI)

National Authorized User (NAU)

Registering information on the ABSCH

- ## Type of users (summary)

	National users	Registered user	Non-registered users
E.g.	- National Focal Point - Publishing Authority - National Authorized user	—	—
Account conferred by	Designation	Subscription	—
Register National record	✔	✘	✘
Register reference record	✔	✔	✘
Search for information	✔	✔	✔

Non parties follow the same procedures as parties including designation of NFP, PI and NAU

Registering information

• ABS training website

• sCBD maintains training website functionally identical to real ABSCH website except that it operates in a separate and isolated environment

• It is meant o support training and workshops by providing users a place to submit practice records and get familiarized with the functionalities of the ABSCH

• It is clearly identified by its orange striped background and ABSCH Training written in Bold lettering

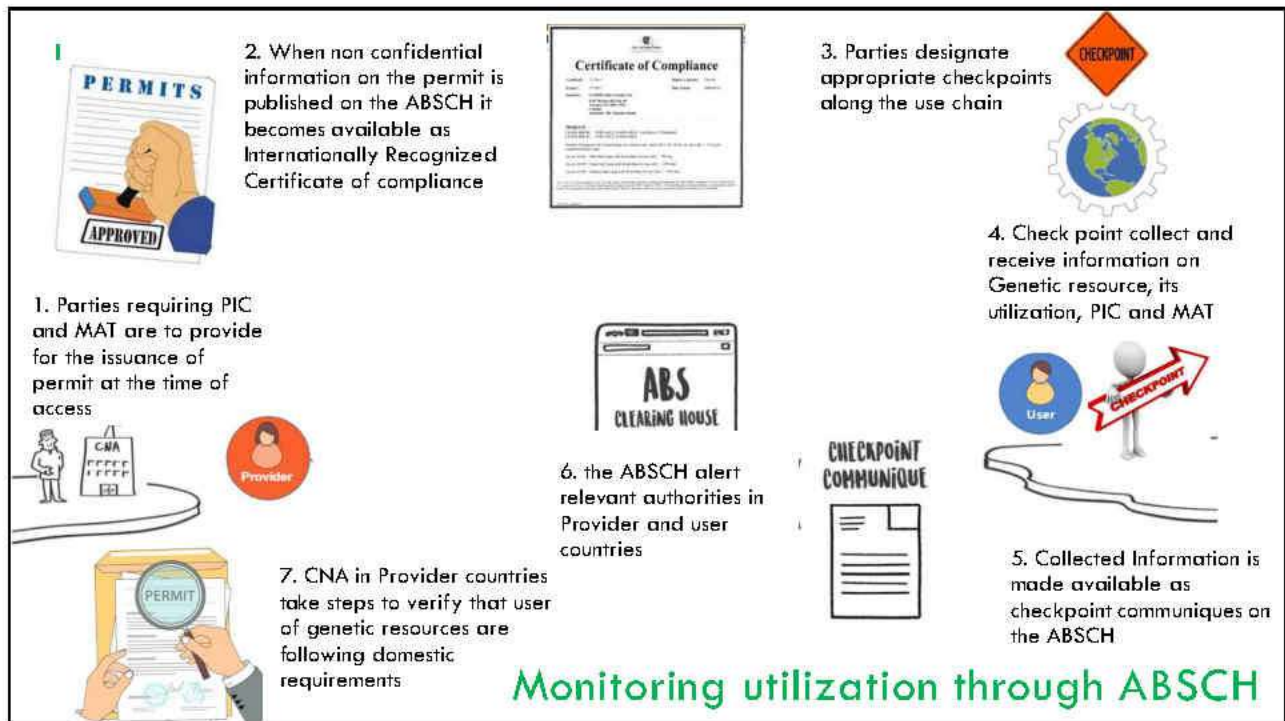• UID for records start with ABSCHTRG to indicate a training record

Registering information on the ABSCH

• User management

ABS national focal point can easily nominate or change who is designated as publishing authority for the country

Publishing authority can easily nominate or change which users are designated as nationally authorized users

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2. When non-confidential information on the permit is published on the ABSCH it becomes available as Internationally Recognized Certificate of compliance

3. Parties designate appropriate checkpoints along the use chain

4. Check point collect and receive information on Genetic resource, its utilization, PIC and MAT

1. Parties requiring PIC and MAT are to provide for the issuance of permit at the time of access

PERMITS
APPROVED

CNA

Provider

Certificate of Compliance

CHECKPOINT

ABS CLEARING HOUSE

CHECKPOINT COMMUNIQUE

User
CHECKPOINT

6. the ABSCH alert relevant authorities in Provider and user countries

7. CNA in Provider countries take steps to verify that user of genetic resources are following domestic requirements

PERMIT

5. Collected Information is made available as checkpoint communiques on the ABSCH

Monitoring utilization through ABSCH

Thank you !

For more information, please email

elkawyo@gmail.com