



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

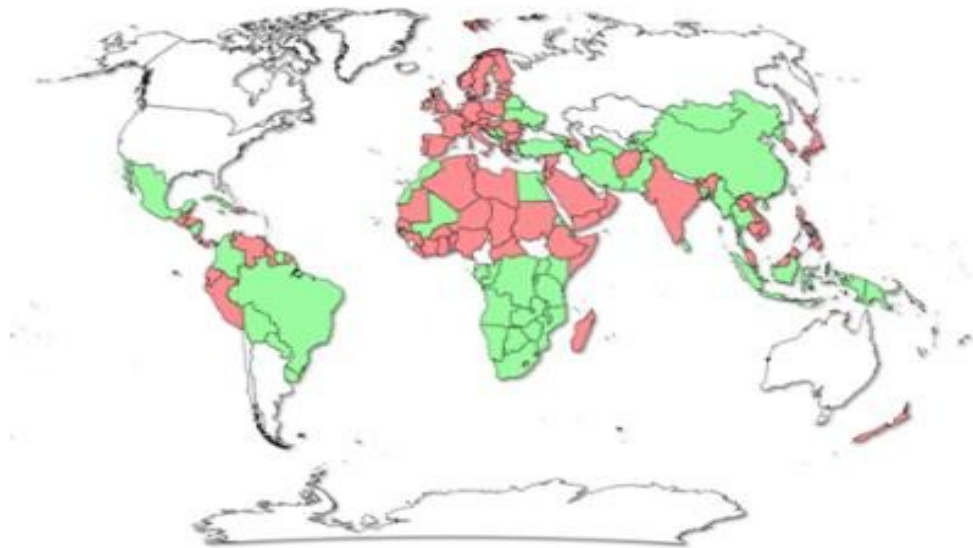


# 1. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE BCH III PROJECT

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# THE BCH III PROJECT

- **UNEP – GEF** joint venture
- **Global** project launched to extend the BCH II project to the last eligible **76 countries**.



- *BCH II project countries*
- *BCH III project countries*

*Support for MEAs  
(Multilateral Environmental  
Agreements)*

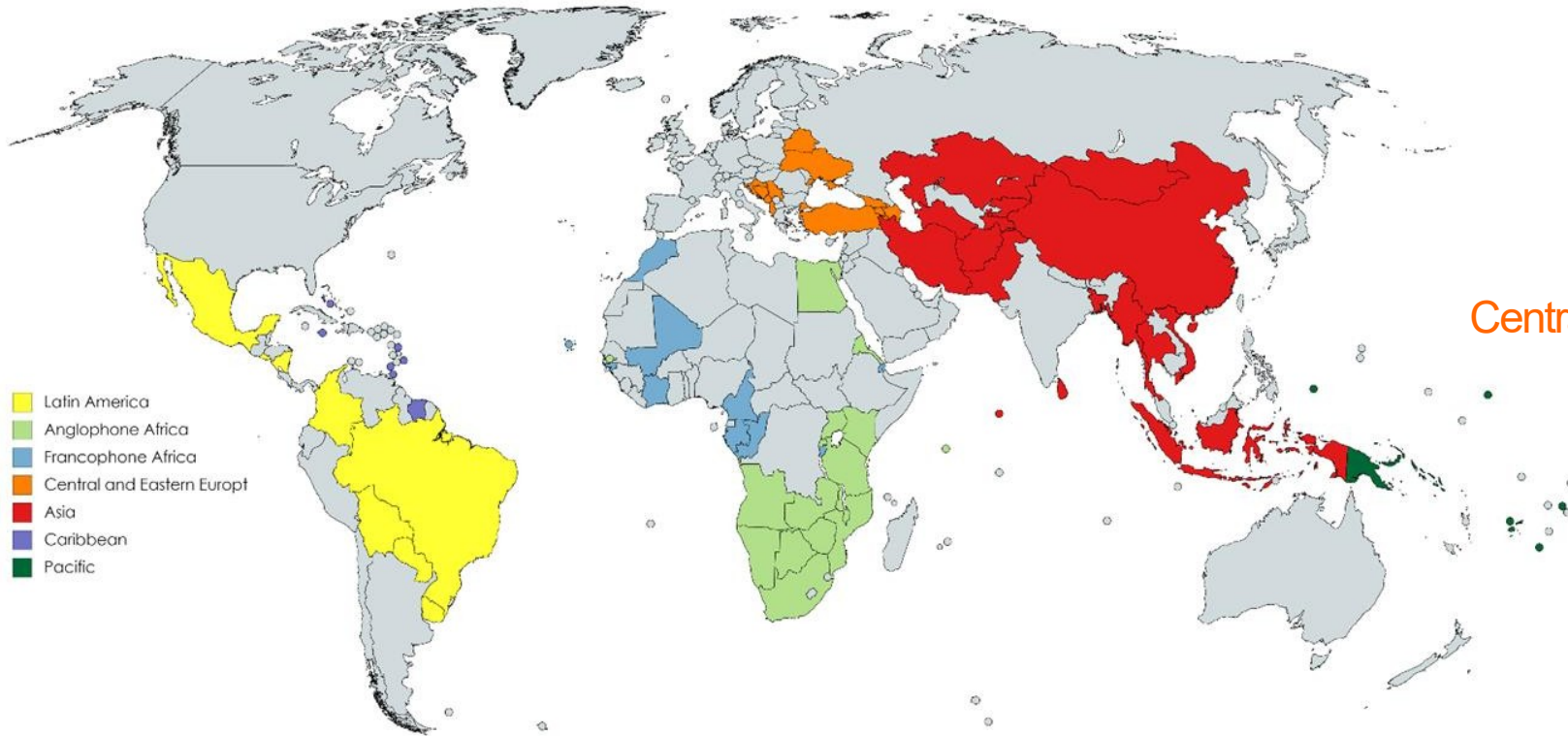
Implementing Agency:  
UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

*Collaborative Effort*

**UN**   
**environment  
programme**

 **Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

# THE BCH III PROJECT COUNTRIES



## BCH III 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%

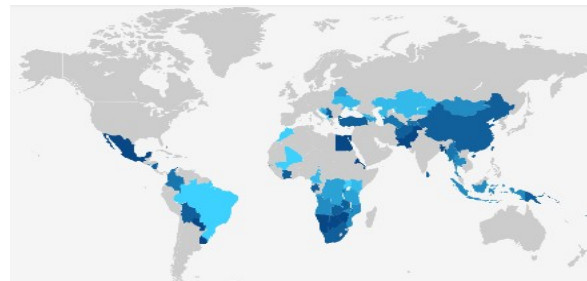
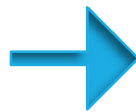
Caribbean: 7 countries, 9%

# PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

Goal is “*to provide support to 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*”.

To pursue this goal, 2 main objectives were identified:

- **Effective participation to the BCH** *Participating countries to effectively use the BCH Central Portal and to set up Portals interoperative with it including sub-regional or national portals.*
- **Stakeholders' inclusiveness** *Key stakeholders will be identified and involved in decision-making and interpretation.*



# MAIN PROJECT ACTIVITY: NATIONAL WORKSHOPS

- The BCH III project activities at national level are the most important part of the project. Most project's objectives must be met through national BCH training activities.

## **National workshops' objective is to:**

- Improve national competence on using the Biosafety Clearing House for registering information as required by the Cartagena Protocol and subsequent COP-MOP decisions and for searching for information to support the process of decision making on LMOs and products thereof,
- Identify and establish National procedures and operational linkages to gather information to be put on BCH in line with NBF implementation and BCH sustainability and training plan, and
- Identify center of excellences that could support the BCH training and capacity building activities after the end of the BCH III project.

# MAIN PROJECT ACTIVITY: NATIONAL WORKSHOPS

## *Support received by Countries:*

- *Regional Advisors' Assistance*
- *Training and Education materials including webinars*
- *Support to integrate national and regional networks of collaboration*
- *Virtual Learning Platform (VLE) hosted on UNEP servers since June 2020: <https://bch3-vle.unep.org>*



# ANALYSIS OF BCH INFORMATION PUBLISHED BY BCH III COUNTRIES

Region	National records										
	Reports on the implementation of the Protocol	National Focal Points	National Biosafety Website Database	Competent National Authorities (Art.19.2)	Biosafety Law, Regulations, Guidelines, and Regional and International Agreements	Country's Decision or any other Communication	Submissions from Parties and other Governments	Risk Assessment Generated by a Regulatory Process	Biosafety Experts (Decisions BS-I/4 and BS-IV/4)	Report on the Assignment	† Total
<b>At the beginning of the project (2016)</b>											
Africa	58	46	5	33	52	25	4	14	27	1	265
Asia	29	26	8	30	102	24	3	1	10	0	233
Pacific	13	13	2	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	44
Europe	22	19	5	29	105	43	1	46	7	0	277
Caribbean	9	11	1	4	8	1	0	0	5	0	39
Latin America	13	17	3	28	59	394	15	408	19	0	956
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,814</b>
<b>As of August 2018</b>											
Global	159	131	31	137	366	988	76	977	72	1	2,938
<b>As of February 2021</b>											
Global	183	143	41	159	409	1121	76	1135	150	1	3,539

*As of March 2021*