



Living in harmony with nature

## Capacity-Building

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety requires Parties to cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in biosafety for the purpose of the effective implementation of the Protocol. This includes cooperation on scientific and technical training in the proper and safe management of biotechnology. It also includes the enhancement of technological and institutional capacities in biosafety. Since the adoption of the Protocol, a number of decisions and initiatives have been taken to facilitate the strengthening of the capacities of Parties to implement the Protocol.

The governing body of the Protocol, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol or COP-MOP, adopted an Action Plan to guide the capacity-building efforts. The Action Plan identifies priority areas requiring urgent action and outlines a series of strategies activities to be undertaken.

In addition, the COP-MOP established a Coordination Mechanism to promote partnerships, between various capacity-building initiatives. This is to be achieved through: sharing of information on existing capacity-building initiatives, opportunities, training courses and resource materials and through organization of coordination meetings for governments and organizations implementing and/or funding biosafety capacity-building activities to share information, experiences and lessons learned.

Furthermore, a roster of biosafety experts has been established to “provide advice and other support, as appropriate and upon request, to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, to conduct risk assessment, make informed decisions, develop national human resources and promote institutional strengthening.”

The Secretariat has held a number of regional capacity-building workshops on various issues under the Protocol, including liability and redress, the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH), risk assessment and risk management and identification and documentation of LMOs. It has also held and will continue to hold online fora on issues related to capacity-building.



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



## Fast Facts

- More than 150 biosafety capacity-building projects initiated in different countries/ regions have been registered in the BCH.
- The roster of experts consists of more than 120 experts from 39 countries.
- The total international financial assistance for biosafety capacity development in developing countries over the last 10 years stands at over US\$ 135 million, according to a study carried out by the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies. The Global Environment Facility is currently the largest single funding agency for biosafety activities.

## Learn More

Capacity-building under the Protocol: [http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb\\_art22.shtml](http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art22.shtml)

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety <http://bch.cbd.int>

Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) <http://bch.cbd.int>

Biosafety Protocol News (newsletter) [http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb\\_newsletter.shtml](http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_newsletter.shtml)

Register your initiative for the UN Decade on Biodiversity: Capacity-building opportunities databases in the Biosafety Clearing-House, materials and information on opportunities for supporting projects related to public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms <http://bch.cbd.int/database/activities>

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