

GEF Council meeting
November 13 – 15, 2012
Washington, D.C.

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION
FUND**

APPROVED PROJECTS

1. To date, the NPIF has approved four Medium Size Projects: one in support of ratification of the Nagoya Protocol, and three country-based projects (Colombia, Fiji and Panama).

Medium Size Project for Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol

2. “*Global Support for the Entry into Force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing*” (UNEP; GEF \$1M, Co-financing \$0.63M). This project was approved on October 2012. This project aims at providing legislative support for up to 30 GEF eligible countries, which provides key pieces of information to take informed decisions on the implications of ratification and implementation of the Protocol. Participating countries will need to certify that they can potentially ratify the Nagoya Protocol in an expedited manner by carrying out the activities included in this project, and that a complete legal and regulatory framework are not needed for the legislature to consider ratification. Participating countries will carry out a capacity needs assessment (institutional, policy, legal and regulatory frameworks) and engage key stakeholder groups (particularly policy makers) to ratify the protocol.

Medium Size Project in Colombia

3. “*Production of Natural Dyes in the Choco Region of Colombia for the Food, Cosmetics and Personal Care Industries under the Provisions of the Nagoya Protocol*” (UNDP; GEF \$1M, Co-financing \$1.5M). This project was approved in October 2012, and will allow the development of a partnership in the Pacific lowlands of Colombia to scale up the production of natural dyes *derived* from the plant *Genipa americana*. The dyes are of interest to the food, cosmetics and personal care industries. The project will enhance infrastructure and production systems (with the adequate quality control measures in place), improve the capacity of farmers for the collection of the fruits according to sustainability and biodiversity conservation criteria, and develop ABS agreements between users and providers. By carrying out this pilot project, the Government of Colombia will improve the capacities at the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and National Authority of Environmental Licensing (ANLA) to facilitate ABS agreements and handling issues under the Nagoya Protocol. The partnership includes with Ecoflora SA (Private Partner), Espave Foundation (Local Communities) and the Colombian Government.

Medium Size Project in Fiji

4. “*Discovering nature-based products and building capacities for the application of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing*” (UNDP; GEF \$1M, Co-financing \$2.37M). This project was approved in October 2012). This project will allow a joint venture in Fiji to: i) strengthen bio-prospecting through state of the art technology, and the identification of highly active compounds of interest to the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries, ii) make ABS Agreements and Benefit Sharing operational by linking bio-prospecting with marine conservation actions lead by local communities, and iii) increase national capacity to operationalize the Nagoya Protocol by building administrative systems and increasing understanding and actions of the national ABS Committee on access and benefit sharing.

Medium-Sized Project in Panama

5. *“Promoting the application of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing in Panama”* (UNDP, NPIF: \$1.0 million, Co-financing: \$3.42 million). This project was approved on December 2011. The project will concentrate on the discovery of nature-based products for the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries, increase the scientific capacity of national research institutions, and promote the conservation of genetic resources in the Protected Areas System of Panama. In addition to the discovery of active compounds in protected areas, the project will work on the transfer of technology with the assistance of the private sector partners, on the improvement of the infrastructure of Coiba National Park, and enhancement of the capacities of the National Government to facilitate access and benefit sharing agreements and handling issues under the Nagoya Protocol.)

Other potential MSPs

In addition to the MSPs approved in Colombia, Fiji and Panama, there are other potential projects that are under development in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia. Some of these potential projects are in advanced stage of development and PIFs are being prepared for submission to the GEF. The GEF Secretariat is expecting to review 2 additional country-based MSP before the Council meeting in June 2013.

GUIDANCE FROM THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIODIVERSITY DURING COP-11 IN HYDERABAD, INDIA

The Eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Hyderabad, India, deliberated on guidance to the GEF, including to the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund. In the “Guidance to the financial mechanism on programme priorities to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing”, the parties requested the GEF to “continue to administer the NPIF until the time the resources committed up to the end of GEF-5 are disbursed, and to report on the status of the fund to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, which shall decide on its future”.