

**SOUTH-EAST ASIAN PARTNERSHIP ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCE AND
EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS (2003 – 2007)**

Partners:

- ASEAN countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam;
- ASEAN Secretariat;
- Private sector (to be determined)
- Current major donor partners including EU, UNDP/GEF

Leading Partner: ASEAN Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation (ARCBC)

Name of the contact person/focal point: (to be determined)

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

To promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources in South-east Asia Region, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

This initiative is in line with Agenda 21 Recognizing and strengthening the role of indigenous people and their communities (chapter 26) and also principal global instrument relevant to achieving the goals set out in chapter 15 of Agenda 21, Conservation of Biological Diversity.

Expected results:

- Improve understanding of the issues on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing, including the related intellectual property rights associating with the use of traditional knowledge and transfer of related technology;
- Conservation of genetic resources in ASEAN countries
- People-based genetic resources management based on local/traditional knowledge, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits.
- Trust-building and transparency in order to facilitate the exchange of genetic resources, particularly with regard to the implementation of Article 15 of the CBD.
- Creation of Partnerships and Promotion of Co-Operation in regard to the regional, as well as national interests and also to better take advantage of the international processes in the field of ABS (the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Sharing of Benefits Arising out of the Utilization of Genetic Resources).

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

Jan-Jun 2003	Consultation process for implementation of Regional Approach to ABS
July 2003	Establishment of South-east Asia ABS Forum
July 2003	Developing Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for ABS in South-east Asian Countries
Aug 2003	Consideration/adoption by States and Territories
Sep-Dec 2003	National and regional extension of ASEAN Forum on ABS outcomes and Action Plan
2004-2007	Implementation phase

Arrangements for funding

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

To be determined

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

- Strengthen existing institutional arrangements for information exchange and coordination
- Strengthen regional governance arrangements
- Reduce fragmentation in the management of genetic resources
- Develop capacities regarding all aspects of access and benefit-sharing arrangements required for all stakeholders, including local governments, academic institutions, and indigenous and local communities, and that key capacity-building needs include:
 1. Assessment and inventory of biological resources as well as information management;
 2. Contract negotiation skills;
 3. Legal drafting skills for development of access and benefit-sharing measures;
 4. Means for the protection of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources;
- Develop the capacity of ASEAN Countries to fulfill international commitments in the field of ABS

Expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

- Transfer of technology through joint research
- Training of research persons for exploration technology, including screening and development of biofarma;
- Development of traditional practices and innovation into practical technology for conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the

international and/or regional level (if any)

In global setting there has been numbers of process that related to the genetic resources management, such as International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and Bonn Guidelines for Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing arising out of the Utilization of Genetic Resources.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:
(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

To be determined

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available):

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

Name:

Position:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail: