UNEP/GEF Project on the

Development of National Biosafety Frameworks
International agreements and collaboration

1992: CBD and UNCED - AGENDA 21 adopted

1995: COP 2 decision to develop Protocol

1997: GEF Council approves UNEP Pilot Biosafety Enabling Activity project 2.7 M US$ (18 countries)

2000: Adoption of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

2000: GEF approves the Initial Strategy on Biosafety
GEF Initial Strategy on Biosafety

Assist countries to prepare for the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

OBJECTIVES:

a) assist with national biosafety frameworks,

b) promote information sharing and collaboration, especially at the regional and sub-regional level

c) promote collaboration with other organizations to assist capacity-building for the Protocol.
GEF Initial Strategy on Biosafety

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

• A project to assist in *developing* national biosafety frameworks

• A limited number of *demonstration* projects to assist in *implementing* the national biosafety frameworks;

• Coordination with other organizations to provide biosafety-related assistance;

• Support countries to participate in the biosafety clearing-house

• Enhance scientific and technical advice to GEF on biosafety issues.
GEF Initial Strategy on Biosafety

EXECUTION

June 2001: Start of UNEP-GEF Project on Development of National Biosafety Frameworks (up to 100 countries)

December 2002: Start of the UNEP-GEF Project on Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks (currently 8 countries)

June 2003: UNEP submits a project to assist Parties in use of, and access to, the Biosafety Clearing House to GEF Council, in cooperation with CBD Sec
**Demonstration projects for implementation of NBFs**

- **1997 - 2000**
  - (18 countries)
  - 10 Africa

- **2001 - 2004**
  - (around 100 countries)
  - 120 to date

**Other Countries** independently develop their own NBFs

- 1 Africa

**Future Projects on Implementation of NBFs**

- **4 Africa**

**UNEP-GEF Pilot Biosafety Enabling Activity project**

- 1997 - 2000
  - (18 countries)
  - 10 Africa

**UNEP-GEF Project on Development of NBFs**

- 2001 - 2004
  - (around 100 countries)
  - 120 to date
UNEP-GEF Development Project for NBF

Starting date: June 2001

Duration: Maximum 18 months per country

Total cost: $38.4 million: a contribution of $26.1 million from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), with co-financing of $12.3 million from UNEP and participating countries.

Participants: Up to 100 countries
Development Project: Objectives

1) Prepare countries for entry into force of the CP;
2) Assist countries to prepare a draft national biosafety framework;
3) Help to promote regional and sub-regional cooperation
4) Provide technical support for the production of National Biosafety Frameworks;
5) Promote synergies with other agencies and initiatives.
Status of Development Project for NBF

1) Assisting 120 eligible countries to prepare draft national biosafety frameworks consistent with CP

2) 4 Regional Workshops on sharing experiences and awareness raising (293 participants from 124 countries)

3) 12 Sub-regional Workshops on key elements of NBFs (circa 1000 people from 140 countries)

4) Promoting sub-regional cooperation (SIDs, CARDI, ASEAN)

5) Promoting synergies with other agencies and initiatives (e.g. CBD, FAO, DFID, IUCN, WB, UNDP, UNIDO, WHO, WTO, GIC, EC, TWN).

6) National Project Documents, Toolkits, website, newsletters, documentation
What are the key components of a National Biosafety Framework?

- Policy on biosafety
- Regulatory regime
- Administrative system/mechanism to handle requests for permits: Risk Assessment Procedures
- Follow up activities:
  - Mechanism for monitoring environmental effects
  - Enforcement
- Systems to provide information to stakeholders about the NBF and for Public Participation
Developing a National Biosafety Framework (In-country Process)

**Phase 0** Starting up the Project

**Phase 1** Gathering information

**Phase 2** Consultation and analysis

**Phase 3** Drafting the Framework
Developing a National Biosafety Framework

**Phase 0** Starting up the Project

- Vision and Scope
- Project design and workplan
- Establishment of institutional and management structures:
  - National Executing Agency (NEA)
  - National Project Coordinator (NPC)
  - National Coordinating Committee (NCC)
Phase 1  Gathering information

- Implementation of surveys in the different sectors related to biosafety and biotechnology within the country
- Preparation of inventories from survey data
- Development of national databases.
Phase 2 Consultation and analysis

- Identification and consultation of stakeholders
- Analysis of the survey data and other information
- Training activities
- Identification of scope, priorities and parameters for the drafting of the National Biosafety Framework.
Phase 3 Drafting the Framework

- Draft of:
  - Policy on biosafety
  - Regulatory regime
  - Administrative system/mechanism to handle requests for permits: Risk Assessment Procedures
  - Follow up activities:
    - Mechanism for monitoring environmental effects
    - Enforcement
  - Systems to provide information to stakeholders about the NBF and for Public Participation
Africa

10 Countries Participated in the Pilot Phase
Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia

39 Countries on board
Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, CAR, Cape Verde, Congo, Comoros, Cote D’ivoire, DR Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Libya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Zimbabwe.

1 Countries which need only GEF FP endorsement
Chad,

3 Countries which have not yet signed the Protocol
Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia,
UNEP-GEF projects on Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks
UNEP-GEF Implementation Projects

Start: December 2002

Duration: Average 3 years per country

Budget: Average 700,000 US$ per country

Participants: Currently 8 countries:

Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Kenya, Namibia, Poland, Uganda
National Biosafety Frameworks

Objective:

Main components of the National Biosafety Frameworks are “up and running”
September 2003

- 11th September Protocol came into force
- 59 + 1 ratifications of the Cartagena Protocol
- 120 Countries are participating in UNEP-GEF Development project
- 12 countries already have GEF projects for Implementation of NBFs (8 UNEP)
GEF Initial Strategy on Biosafety continues to exist until the Cartagena Protocol comes into force and until GEF receives advice from the First Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol
November 2003

- New GEF Strategy on Biosafety to be presented to GEF Council?
- GEF Council may approve more projects for Implementation on NBF?
- UNEP, with CBDSec and ICCP, present BCH Training Project to GEF for eligible countries to learn to access and use BCH?
February 2004

• 1st MOP of Cartagena Protocol takes place in Kuala Lumpur

• Advice from 1st MOP of CP goes to GEF Council in May 2004

• GEF Council approves more Implementation projects?
TIMELINES

June 2004

• 50 + countries have finished their NBF Development Projects

• GEF Council approves more Implementation projects?

December 2004

• 50+ countries have finished their NBF Development Projects
Some COP/MOP Issues

February 2004 -

• Elaborating on liability issues

• Elaborating on details of Article 18:
  Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification
UNEP-GEF Biosafety Team

Christopher Briggs, Global Programme Manager
✓ Charles Gbedemah, Regional Coordinator, Africa
✓ Giovanni Ferraiolo, Regional Coordinator, GRULAC
✓ Nizar Mohamed, Regional Coordinator, Asia-Pacific
✓ Andrea Gondova, Regional Coordinator, CEE
✓ Jean-Louis Balladier, Administration/Fund Manager
✓ Piet van der Meer, Implementation Project
✓ David Heron, Implementation Project

Tel: (+41 22) 9178410, Fax: (+41 22) 9178070

http://www.unep.ch/biosafety
mail to: biosafety@unep.ch