



Department  
for Environment  
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## Darwin Initiative Main Project Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Writing a Darwin Report” guidance: (<http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/reporting-forms>). It is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

**Submission Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

### Darwin Project Information

Project reference	24017
Project title	Access and Benefit Sharing in Practice: Community, Science and Policy
Host country	South Africa
Contract holder institution	The University of Cape Town
Partner institution(s)	People and Plants International (PPI); Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC); The Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG); Forests, Resources and People (FOREP); Leeds University.
Darwin grant value	£325,250
Start/end dates of project	1 April 2017 – 31 March 2020
Reporting period	April 2017 – March 2018, Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RACHEL WYNBERG
Project website/blog/Twitter	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Voices4BioJust/">https://www.facebook.com/Voices4BioJust/</a> Website under development
Report author(s) and date	Jaci van Niekerk, Anna Davis, Rachel Wynberg, Sarah Laird, Noel Oetlé. 30 April 2018.

## 1. PROJECT RATIONALE

Governments have struggled over the last few decades to translate the ambitious objectives of the CBD into practice. Limited benefits have emerged for local communities, only weak connections have been made with biodiversity conservation, and policy-makers have found it difficult to keep up with rapid advances in science, technologies and markets. Despite increased attention to ABS capacity development, local voices of producer communities have not been adequately incorporated into policy and law, in part due to limited awareness about needs on the ground and the realities of natural product commercialisation. At the same time, conceptual understandings of ABS have also not evolved fast enough to provide an underlying framework for effective ABS policy development. Moreover, despite the fact that ABS is intended to create economic incentives for biodiversity conservation, slowing biodiversity loss driven by the need for income by providing sustainable alternatives that embrace rather than destroy biodiversity, there is little evidence of this result.

ABS policy has not realised these goals in part due to the inherent complexity of the objectives it serves, but also because policy makers, researchers, the private sector, NGOs, conservation managers, and indigenous and local communities need on-going support in the form of accessible and useful information, technical tools and advice, and communication facilitation between stakeholders. Although often at the 'front lines' of ABS partnerships, many local actors lack hands-on, practical guidance and assistance over time. At a broader level, there is a profound need for more meaningful reflections of ABS, including an adaptive, conceptual re-framing of underlying assumptions in response to changed markets, technologies and demand for access to biodiversity which, in turn, feeds into policy processes.

## 2. PROJECT PARTNERSHIPS

Collaboration between the lead institution – the University of Cape Town (UCT) - and project partners has strengthened throughout the first year, supported by a number of mechanisms and approaches. In the early stages of the project a more programmatic identity was adopted, with the intention and realisation that the work would continue well beyond the 3 year project period. "Voices for BioJustice" was thus conceptualised as an overarching programme, with the naming of the initiative and its logo co-developed with all project partners (see [Annex Project-A](#)). Rachel Wynberg (UCT) and Sarah Laird (PPI) are co-directors of this initiative and "meet" by Skype at least once every two weeks, with regular correspondence in-between. A project inception meeting in June 2017 helped to bring the full range of partners together to establish a common vision and plan, and quarterly Skype meetings between partners help to ensure that all partners are on board with planning and decision-making. Because of challenges with communication in Cameroon, and the diversity of project collaborators there, PPI are responsible for liaison with Cameroonian project partner, Forests, Resources and People (FOREP). PPI and FOREP have a long-standing collaboration through other projects and PPI also support management of the project in Cameroon. Increasing participation in project-wide discussions, including quarterly Skype meetings, will begin with Cameroonian partners in Year 2, and as part of this one of the Cameroonian colleagues will join us for the June 2018 meeting of the project team in London. In South Africa a strong partnership has been forged between UCT and the Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG), based also on long-established ties. In this regard the two organisations co-facilitated an ABS Capacity Development workshop with small-scale producers in March 2018 (see [Annex UCT-A](#) for the attendance register).

Collaboration with the Namibian project partner, Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation (IRDNC), was strengthened through attendance of the inception meeting (see [Annex UCT-B](#) for the minutes from this meeting) and two Skype meetings (see [Annex UCT-C](#) and [Annex UCT-D](#) for the minutes of these meetings). Collaboration with Leeds University primarily takes place through the Resource and Strategy Group, which meets every 2-3 weeks. A pre-inception meeting between Leeds, UCT and PPI in London in June 2017 helped to clarify the scope of engagement and project expectations and plans, including developing an agenda for the main inception meeting in Cape Town. The partnerships are working well to date. There are some challenges in coordinating such a diverse and geographically dispersed group, however we have learned to identify the strengths of different forms of communication for different project tasks (phone, Skype, in person). The first year has been a busy period building project teams, clarifying roles, and formalising partnerships, and significant time has been invested in setting up contractual and administrative arrangements, but this foundation will allow us to focus more completely on substantive interactions in Year 2, including with a three day, face-to-face meeting of the project team in London in June 2018.

### 3. PROJECT PROGRESS

#### 3.1 Progress in Carrying Out Project Activities

**Output 1: A set of conceptual and practical tools and approaches that supports ABS role players (local people, community groups, traditional leaders, researchers, NGOs, government and private sector) to more effectively engage with ABS developed and tested.**

##### CAMEROON (PPI AND FOREP)

**1.1. Develop background briefing documents to share with project collaborators, and communicate the objectives of the project.**

The Cameroon team developed background briefing materials, in collaboration with the full Darwin team, which it shared with project collaborators and others. This included overview materials, details on videos and webinars, and more specific details on the nature of collaborations in the coming years.

**1.2. Undertake interviews and consultations with industry, harvester, government and other individuals and groups about their needs regarding ABS tools.**

A series of meetings and interviews were held with industry, government, NGO, community, researcher, botanical garden, protected area, and other groups to inform them about the project, build support for the project, and request their views and needs regarding ABS tools. About 30 individuals were interviewed as part of this process, which will expand and continue in Year 2.

**1.3. Consult with local stakeholders and identify core themes for tools for each year of project, and additional cases to include in video, policy briefs, and other products.**

The team consulted with local stakeholders to identify core themes, and additional cases to include in the video, policy briefs, and other products. This included community groups, NGOs, researchers, and government. Additional cases identified as deserving attention, and illustrating key ABS points, include: *Echinops* (nature of benefit-sharing, and representation issues within communities), *Prunus Africana* (the value of producer institutions and organization for benefit sharing), and *Yohimbe* (changing and potential boom-bust markets, and sustainability).

**1.4. Initiate and undertake research on market and business trends in sectors using Cameroonian natural products (*Irvingia gabonensis*) including botanicals, functional food, and cosmetics.** (Year 1 and 2)

Business and market studies were launched on the range of medicinal and aromatic species in export markets, including for botanicals, functional food, and cosmetics industries. The project team was expanded to include experts on these topics, who will analyse the response of exports to changing policy regimes (e.g. forestry, natural resources, and taxation) over the last 20 years, in order to support the production of ABS tools.

**1.5. Produce baseline document for *Irvingia gabonensis* case study.**

Research began on the primary case study, *Irvingia gabonensis*, with research collaborators brought on board, priority geographic regions identified, and a literature review initiated. Student researchers were also brought into the research process from the earliest stages. A draft baseline document for the *Irvingia gabonensis* case study was produced, to be finalised in May 2018 after additional field data is collected (see [Annex PPI-A](#)).

**1.6. Produce Cameroon case study document with inputs from key stakeholders.** (Year 2 as planned)

In preparation for the Cameroon case study, a series of literature reviews is under production, including one on Non-timber Forest Product (NTFP) law and policy in Central Africa; ABS law and policy; and a third on NTFPs in Central Africa. All will be completed in May 2018. These will contribute to the Case Study produced in Year 2.

**1.7. Hold series of workshops and update meetings with communities, providing ABS lessons and tools government, researchers, conservation managers and others to provide ABS lessons and tools.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

**1.8. National workshop to extend results.** (Year 3 as planned)

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## NAMIBIA (IRDNC)

### **1.1. Develop appropriate materials to support information sharing with traditional authorities on overlaps between existing natural resource, land and ABS policy.**

The Namibian legislation “Access to Biological and Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge Bill” was promulgated by parliament on 27 June 2017. Whilst the bill has been passed, the regulations have not yet been promulgated and a significant delay is anticipated. During year 1, consultant John Hazam of the Legal Assistance Centre worked with lawyer Uda Nakamhela to produce an illustrated draft information booklet (see [Annex IRDNC-A](#)). The booklet contains a summary of the legislation and was used during training sessions (see 1.2). Once regulations are promulgated, the draft materials will be revised and updated.

### **1.2. Test materials with traditional authorities and associated stakeholders in one day workshops in Kunene region (Year 1) and then in Zambezi region (Year 2).**

Project staff and John Hazam conducted two ABS awareness raising workshops with stakeholders in the Kunene region. The purpose of the workshops was to explain and build understanding of the new ABS Act, thus allowing stakeholders to understand their rights and the protection the new act provides. The two workshops were attended by 24 (20 men and 4 women) participants, including traditional authority representatives, conservancy and community forest committee representatives, and staff of Orupembe, Otjiu West, Okondjombo, Puros, Marienfluss and Sanitatas conservancies. (See [Annex IRDNC-B](#) and [IRDNC-C](#)).

### **1.3. Revise and adapt materials to issues in Zambezi region and any changes to current legislation. (Year 2 as planned)**

### **1.4. Facilitate meetings with key harvester groups to share information about this study and the new legislation and to assess their current understanding of ABS.**

Five meetings were held with key harvester groups (harvesters and CMCs) to share information about this study, the new ABS legislation for Namibia and to assess their current understanding of ABS. Rather than hold two meetings as per the workplan, the number of meetings was expanded to accommodate smaller groups in their specific geographic locations, meaning that a greater number and range of the relevant stakeholders could be included – particularly women. The five meetings were attended by 126 (82 men and 44 women) participants that included harvesters, traditional authority representatives, conservancy committee representatives, staff and members and of Otjitanda, Orupembe, Otjiu West, Okondjombo, Otjikondavirongo, Ozondundu, Etanga, Ongongo, Puros, Marienfluss and Sanitatas conservancies. (See [Annexures IRDNC-D, E, F, G, H, and I](#)).

### **1.5. Revise materials to ensure that they are relevant for most regions in Namibia. (Year 3 as planned)**

### **1.6. Reproduce copies of materials and distribute to relevant stakeholder groups in all regions and ABS Focal Point in government. (Year 3 as planned)**

### **1.7. Provide feedback to key harvester groups on the outcome of the study. (Year 3 as planned)**

### **1.8. Provide technical inputs re ABS to KCINPT trustees meeting.**

The annual trustees meeting of the Kunene Conservancies Indigenous Natural Products Trust (KCINPT) was held in October 2017. In addition to general support for the meeting, IRDNC gave an update on this study, the ABS legislation (copies distributed), and the status of the joint venture between the Trust and the cosmetics company Esse. Training activities under this study were discussed and planned. (See [Annex IRDNC-J](#) for minutes of the KCINPT meeting)

### **1.9. Produce baseline document for *Myrothamnus* case study.**

The baseline document was completed during the reporting period and submitted to the project management unit. The baseline captures the context (biological, ecological, social, historical, value chains, stakeholders) within which *Myrothamnus flabellifolius* occurs in Namibia. It also provides an analysis of the key issues surrounding *Myrothamnus* and the responses being undertaken to address them. See [Annex IRDNC-K](#) for a copy of the baseline report.

### **1.10. Produce *Myrothamnus* case study document with inputs from key stakeholders. (Year 2 as planned)**

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## SOUTH AFRICA (UCT AND EMG)

### **1.1. Compile a baseline review of potential tools to improve biodiversity and community benefits for the rooibos industry.**

The rooibos case is one of the most complex and challenging ABS cases in South Africa, and is often cited as a “testing ground” for ABS. Over the past year the project has engaged with multiple stakeholders to ascertain potential tools and approaches that can be adopted to improve biodiversity and community benefits. This has involved approximately 15 interviews and meetings with national and provincial government, indigenous San and Khoi Councils, members of the rooibos industry, small-scale rooibos producers, lawyers, academics and conservation organisations. A summary of recommended approaches and tools is included in the policy brief (see [Annex UCT-E](#)), ranging from conservation interventions through to bureaucratic and legislative changes. The brief, co-developed by UCT and EMG, is designed to help governments, researchers, and local communities to develop a more holistic, wide-ranging and environmentally and socially sustainable ABS strategy. Core actions and themes have been identified through consultation, and these will be taken forward into a workplan for Year 2.

### **1.2. Compile the case study on rooibos, documenting the status of the resource’s value chain, as well as the issues and strategies related to ABS implementation.**

This activity is scheduled to be completed in Year 2, but work has already started through the development of a policy brief outlining key points that require action. There has also been consultation with members of the Heiveld Cooperative and rooibos-producing members of the Wupperthal community, as well as the range of government and industry stakeholders involved in this industry. A Community of Practice meeting in April 2018 will also identify key issues and strategies requiring prioritisation in the case study. The case study will build on a research article published by Rachel Wynberg in 2017 but will be amplified by recent archival research and ongoing stakeholder interviews.

### **1.3. Develop tools to create a more holistic, inclusive and environmentally sustainable ABS strategy.**

As noted in 1.1 and 1.2 this component is well underway through the production of a policy brief that identifies key points for further action.

### **1.4. Begin iterative process of implementing specific tools identified.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

### **1.5. Initiate a national research forum on ABS.**

As 1.1. explains, about 15 interviews have taken place with different actors to discuss the potential for a Community of Practice on ABS, with a specific focus on plant species of the Western Cape. A presentation was also made by Rachel Wynberg to the National Bioprospecting Forum in Pretoria in August 2017, and by Jaci van Niekerk to the Honeybush Community of Practice in George in October 2018. Rachel Wynberg and Michelle Nott attended the Biodiversity Economy Indaba in March 2018, which provided an opportunity to network and facilitate further discussions about the Community of Practice. A meeting to bring together different actors associated with Western Cape indigenous plant species and ABS is scheduled to take place in Clanwilliam on 17 and 18 April 2018 (see [Annex UCT-F](#) for the programme). Around 50 participants from different constituencies, including government representatives, NGOs, conservation agencies, rooibos producer communities and industry will attend the two-day meeting.

As part of the national research forum, Rachel Wynberg and Noel Oettlé have set up a rooibos working group of resource persons, which includes Rhoda Malgas (University of Stellenbosch), Rupert Koopman (CapeNature), Sarah Ives (Stanford University), John Parkington (University of Cape Town, retired), Loubie Rusch (Making KOS) and Neil Crouch (South African National Biodiversity Institute).

### **1.6. Engage with indigenous knowledge holders around ABS in rooibos industry and policy.**

Rachel Wynberg attended a meeting with representatives of San and Khoi Councils and their legal advisors to discuss rooibos negotiations and present opportunities associated with the project. Noel Oettlé also engaged with the negotiating team representing indigenous knowledge holders to provide advice and support in their development of positions and their engagement with the rooibos industry and the Department of Environmental Affairs. Much of this engagement comprised telephonic consultations with rooibos knowledge holders in the Wupperthal area and a two-day visit in February 2018 to office bearers and members of the three organised rooibos producer cooperatives in the Wupperthal area, the Sedervlei Cooperative, the Fair Wupperthal Cooperative and the Wupperthal Original Cooperative.

Noel Oettlé attended meetings of the Board of the Heiveld Cooperative (2 May, 2 June, 15 July, 30 September and 2 December 2017) and of its membership (24 June 2017, attended by 34 members, of whom 18 were women). The question of how members of the Cooperative will receive and disburse ABS benefits from the rooibos industry in an equitable, transparent, accountable and effective manner so as to deliver sustainable developmental benefits to its members was discussed. However, because the

negotiations did not sufficiently advance in the course of the year it was premature to define the plan for distribution of the anticipated benefits. He also participated in a teleconference with members of the National KhoiSan Council and the San Council.

These activities culminated in a one-day ABS Capacity Development workshop on 20 March 2018, held with 45 small-scale rooibos producers and farm labourers (23 male and 22 female). All of these local participants hold traditional knowledge related to the resource (see [Annex UCT-A](#) for the attendance register). The workshop was held in the most widely spoken local language, Afrikaans. A short report on the proceedings was prepared, mostly focused on the outcomes of a group work activity around non-monetary benefits, these were recorded and translated from Afrikaans to English (see [Annex UCT-G](#)). An information booklet on ABS was developed and translated into Afrikaans (see [Annex UCT-H](#)). At the end of the day, participants were asked whether their knowledge of ABS had increased, their responses (all positive) were captured in the attendance register ([Annex UCT-A](#)). An important outcome of this meeting was increased awareness and knowledge about ongoing rooibos negotiations between the rooibos industry and representatives of San and Khoi councils. Although there was an initial intention to include small-scale rooibos producers in these deliberations, this has not been implemented and there are very low levels of awareness about the potential benefits that could accrue, which are likely to be extremely significant.

## **Output 2: Local needs and interests communicated to policy-makers to enable better-informed ABS policy in Cameroon, Namibia and South Africa.**

### **CAMEROON (PPI AND FOREP)**

#### **2.1. Build partnership with filmmakers, and begin filming on range of themes, and case study.**

Partnerships with filmmakers were developed, with a collaborator, Josef Funtim, identified as the lead for Cameroon. Field sites were explored, taking into account the social unrest in the South West Province where some of the filming was to take place. Filming is to begin in June 2018, focusing on a range of project themes and *Irvingia*. Guidelines for collaboration were developed, and initial discussions held on ethics in film with project collaborators (see [Annex PPI-B](#)).

#### **2.2. Develop Cameroon-specific policy briefs on themes selected by Project team.**

A draft policy brief drawing upon the case of *Irvingia*, as well as other cases that have been impacted by ABS measures, is under development; finalisation is delayed by three months to coincide with outreach efforts with government.

#### **2.3. Distribute/share policy briefs to key stakeholders groups and ABS focal point in government.**

This will follow once the policy briefs are complete.

#### **2.4. Production of video on key ABS and related policy topics, representing community voices.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

In preparation for the video production to take place in Years 2 and 3, a background document on the video component of the project was produced, and shared with stakeholders (see [Annex PPI-C](#)). Collaborations with filmmakers in all three countries were established, and the first filming initiated in South Africa, to be followed in Cameroon in May and June 2018, and Namibia in July 2018. Guidance questions for interviews, and early drafts of scripts, were developed.

Professional filmmakers were hired to manage the footage, provide guidance to filmmakers, edit and produce the videos, as well as facilitate training and sharing across regions.

A Prior Informed Consent form was developed for filming (see [Annex PPI-D](#)), and the first steps in building an ethics in film resource directory taken.

Technical approaches to sharing video via the website were explored, and will be implemented in Year 2.

#### **2.5. Disseminate videos to policy-makers, shared at national and international policy events.** (Year 3 as planned)

#### **2.6. Post videos on project website.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

### **NAMIBIA (IRDNC)**

#### **2.1. Develop policy brief on impact of fragmented legislation with regard to CBNRM on the development of an ABS compliant value chain with feedback from workshops included.**

A policy brief entitled “Namibia’s Progress on Access and Benefit Sharing Legislation and Policy” has been developed and submitted (see [Annex IRDNC-L](#)).

**2.2. Develop policy brief on responses of stakeholders to information on new ABS legislation – TAs, CMCs and harvesters focussing on issues that have been identified to ensure ABS compliance.**

**2.3. Distribute/share policy briefs to key stakeholder groups and ABS Focal Point in government.**

The draft policy document (see 2.1) “Namibia’s Progress on Access and Benefit Sharing Legislation and Policy” has been submitted to the Namibian ABS Focal Point in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Once feedback has been received and responded to, the brief will be distributed more widely and a distribution plan is in place - including the Ministry of Environment (Directorate of Environmental Affairs), the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Forestry (Directorate of Forestry) as well as the Namibian Association of Community Based Natural Resource Management Support Organization members.

**2.4. Production of video on key ABS and related policy topics, representing community voices.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

IRDNC has planned to provide several contributions to the ABS video and webinar material. A local documentary film-maker - who has worked extensively with similar topics and stakeholder groups, will film the ABS awareness raising training planned for July 2018 in the Zambezi region and will also provide footage from an upcoming presentation by PhD student Jessica Lavelle on Devil’s Claw and ABS in Namibia.

**2.5. Disseminate videos to policy-makers, shared at national and international policy events.**

**2.6. Post videos on project website.**

**2.7. National policy meeting presenting local voices and innovative tools.** (Year 3 as planned)

## SOUTH AFRICA (UCT AND EMG)

**2.1. Take part in a national forum on ABS and rooibos (*Aspalathus linearis*) to develop a local-level community of practice.**

See 1.5. under South Africa.

**2.2. Convene a second forum on ABS and rooibos to present potential tools.** (Year 2 as planned)

**2.3. Develop a policy brief on the rooibos case study.**

A draft policy brief on ABS in the rooibos case was developed in Year 1 by UCT and EMG (see [Annex UCT-E](#)). The brief will be updated and amended throughout the project as the ABS process around rooibos unfolds.

**2.4. Provide support to small-scale rooibos farmers to engage with the Darwin Initiative Project.**

See 1.6 under South Africa for this activity.

**2.5. Compile video interviews with communities on ABS legal and policy framework.** (Year 1 and 2)

A videographer was appointed for the project in Year 1, with a contract signed between PPI and Vuyiswa Lupuwana (this budget item is supported by the Christensen Fund). The ABS Capacity Development workshop was filmed on 20 March 2018, together with a few focused interviews, and this activity will continue into 2018.

**2.6. Production of video on key ABS and related policy topics, representing community voices.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

**2.7. Disseminate videos to policy-makers, shared at national and international policy events.** (Year 3 as planned)

**2.8. Post videos on project website.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

## Output 3: ABS support tools, approaches and lessons learned documented and shared across countries.

**3.1. Develop preparatory webinar material, and background briefing documents.** (Year 1, 2, 3)

The project developed the core themes to be addressed in webinars and videos, following consultation with stakeholders in all three countries (see [Annex Project-B](#)); background briefing documents were

developed by the main partners (see 1.1. for Cameroon; and [Annex IRDNC-L](#) for Namibia; and 1.2. for South Africa).

**3.2. Develop webinars on key ABS and related policy issues.** (Year 1, 2, 3)

The project researched technical options for webinars, and the range of approaches used.

**3.3. Edit all webinars and other materials into instructive videos, placed on project website.** (Year 1, 2, 3)

The first three themes to address in webinars and videos were selected (traditional knowledge and the law; the collection of laws and policies that impact resources; and benefit sharing). The first webinar will be held in Year 2, since it was deemed more effective to link them to production of the videos. As a result, the webinar schedule will be moved into Year 2, but also compressed, with three webinars held in Year 2.

**3.4. Produce compilation videos from across countries.** (Year 3 as planned)

**3.5. Share video at national and international policy events and on project website.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

**3.6. Draft a journal article.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

**3.7. Draft a synthesis/lessons journal article that combines findings across regions – later in the year by the end of the project.** (Year 2 and 3 as planned)

**3.8. Produce synthesis policy brief from case studies for national and international policy-makers.** (Year 3 as planned)

**3.9. Policy brief distributed to CBD secretariat, ABS clearing house, national governments, producer groups, industry groups.** (Year 3 as planned)

**Output 4: A high-level Strategy and Advisory Group of ABS experts, practitioners and researchers established to explore, document and disseminate lessons learned, best practice and revised approaches for ABS, and to provide support to case study communities.**

**4.1. Inception meeting held.**

Rachel Wynberg participated in the inception workshop for new Darwin grants in May 2017 and in early June 2017 a pre-inception project meeting was held between Leeds, UCT and PPI in London to clarify the scope of engagement and project expectations and develop an agenda for the main inception meeting. The main project inception workshop was held on 26 and 27 June at Chartfield Guesthouse in Cape Town. The meeting was attended by four representatives from UCT and three from IRDNC. Sarah Laird from PPI was Skyped in and gave a run-down on the activities planned for Cameroon (see [Annex UCT-B](#) for the report of the meeting). Shortly after the inception meeting a brochure introducing the project was developed, along with a more in-depth overview of the project aims and objectives (see [Annex UCT-I](#) and [Annex UCT-J](#)). Both of these documents were distributed widely within the lead institution's and partners' networks.

**4.2. Project website launched.**

The project website was actively developed in Year 1, but has proven to be more complex than initially envisaged, having multiple layers and objectives. A draft of the home page is attached ([Annex UCT-K](#)) with the planned launch in May 2018. The website showcases the project partners as well as the activities of the project and will become a repository for videos and webinars being developed with co-funding from the Christensen Fund. It is conceptualised as a long-term resource that will have a life beyond this project.

**4.3. Team meetings held (virtual).**

Two virtual team meetings were held in Year 1 – on 19 October 2017 and 1 February 2018. The Skype meetings provided a space for each partner organisation to give an update on their activities as well as discussion on the project's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan and financial issues (see [Annex UCT-C](#) and [Annex UCT-D](#) for the minutes of each Skype meeting).

The Steering Committee of the Strategy and Advisory Group – Rachel Wynberg, Sarah Laird, Graham Duffield, and Manuel Ruiz Mueller of the Peruvian Society of Environmental Law – met four times within the first year virtually, by Skype, and will meet in person in June 2018.

**4.4. Special edition project launched by team.**



The steering committee of the Strategy and Advisory Group identified goals and planned activities, including the convening of a larger group to address conceptual and practical challenges within ABS policy. A journal, *Society and Natural Resources*, was contacted to explore a proposal for a special issue; the contents of this will be discussed, and the proposal developed, at the London team meeting in June 2018.

#### **4.5. Meeting of Strategy and Advisory Group to discuss conceptual papers and practical tools – virtually and in person.** (Year 1, 2, 3)

The core team of the Strategy and Advisory Group met to outline the group's objectives, and approaches. Additional individuals were added to the group in Year 1, including Neth Dano of the Philippines, and Susan Bragdon of Switzerland, and this group will continue to grow over the course of Year 2.

The Strategy and Advisory Group provided advice and input into the project themes, as well as the design of videos and webinars, and will continue to provide guidance throughout the communications process. An introduction for the Strategy and Advisory Group was developed and circulated to those involved (see [Annex Project-C](#)).

#### **4.6. Special edition completed and sent to publisher.** (Year 3 as planned)

### **3.2 Progress Towards Project Outputs**

#### **Output 1: A set of conceptual and practical tools and approaches that supports ABS role players (local people, community groups, traditional leaders, researchers, NGOs, government and private sector) to more effectively engage with ABS developed and tested.**

By the end of Year 1, this output is on track and early outputs have been achieved. Toolkit material has been developed and tested with producer communities in Namibia and South Africa. A National ABS Research Forum and Rooibos Working Group formation has been initiated in South Africa.

In Namibia, 24 (20 men and 4 women) participants were provided with ABS-related training (see [Annex IRDNC-A](#), [IRDNC-B](#)). Of these participants, 16 reported knowing about ABS before the training and 24 reported having increased their understanding as a result of the training (see [Annexes IRDNC-M1 and M2](#) for evidence).

Introductory meetings were held in all three country sites and an overview document produced for project briefing purposes. See [Annex IRDNC-D, E, F, G, H, I, J](#) and [UCT-A, F, G](#) for evidence.

Baselines completed for Namibia (*Myrothamnus flabellifolius*) and work has started on South Africa (rooibos) and Cameroon (*Irvingia gabonensis*) due to be completed May 2018. Evidence provided in [Annex IRDNC-K](#) and [PPI-A](#).

Work under this output has started. Namibia produced an illustrated (draft) information booklet that provides a summary of the new ABS legislation. See [Annexes IRDNC-A, IRDNC-B](#) and [IRDNC-C](#).

Cameroon has launched business and market studies on the range of medicinal and aromatic species in export markets.

In South Africa an information booklet on ABS was developed and translated into Afrikaans (see [Annex UCT-H](#)).

#### **Output 2. Local needs and interests communicated to policy-makers to enable better-informed ABS policy in Cameroon, Namibia and South Africa.**

Activities under this output have only just begun, and are mostly due in Years 2 and 3.

Two policy briefs have been drafted (1 x Namibia and 1 x South Africa); both Namibia and South Africa have sent theirs to the ABS focal point in government for review. Evidence provided in [Annex IRDNC-L](#) and [UCT-E](#). Three further briefs for Namibia (1) and Cameroon (2) are due in Year 2.

Filmmakers have been identified, field sites chosen, scripts developed, background information shared and filming has started in South Africa. This will be followed from June 2018 by filming in Namibia, Cameroon and ongoing in South Africa. See [Annex PPI-B, C](#), and [D](#).

#### **Output 3. ABS support tools, approaches and lessons learned documented and shared across countries**

Work under this output has only just begun in Year 1, with the selection of three webinar themes (traditional knowledge and the law; the collection of laws and policies that impact resources; and benefit sharing). The first webinar will be held in Year 2, since it was deemed more effective to link them to production of the videos. As a result, the webinar schedule will be moved into Year 2, but also compressed, with three webinars held in Year 2.

**Output 4. A high-level Strategy and Advisory Group of ABS experts, practitioners and researchers established to explore, document and disseminate lessons learned, best practice and revised approaches for ABS, and to provide support to case study communities.**

Foundation work for this output is almost completed. An ABS Advisory Group is being established and has a Steering Committee with four members. The group has met four times in Year 1 (virtually) and two new members have been identified and added to the group. The group is advising the project on webinar themes and will continue to be engaged more deeply during Year 2.

### **3.3 Progress towards the Project Outcome**

The anticipated outcome for the project is “An ABS Community of Practice exists and uses tools that enables government, researchers, industry and local communities to meet the needs of producer communities and thus support biodiversity conservation.” It is too early to assess progress towards the outcome but monitoring systems are in place and with support are being refined and adjusted – see **Section 8**.

## **4 MONITORING OF ASSUMPTIONS**

### **Outcome level assumptions:**

1. Government interest in implementing the Nagoya Protocol continues to grow.
2. Governments remain open to receiving the input of diverse stakeholders, and building their ABS capacity.
3. Stakeholders involved in ABS maintain an interest in learning and sharing experiences.

At this stage of the project the Outcome Assumptions 1, 2, and 3 are holding to be true. Our evidence for this is based on activities under Output 1 where at government and community level only positive interest was experienced at the introduction of the project and key activities.

### **Output level assumptions:**

1. Government interest in implementing the Nagoya Protocol persists, and policy-makers are open to new views and voices. Introductory meetings for this project (See Annex IRDNC-D, E, F, G, H, I, J and UCT-A, F, G for evidence) were positive, well attended and are taken as proof that both Assumption 1 and 2 below remain valid for the project.
2. Governments remain open to receiving the input of diverse stakeholders, and building their ABS capacity.
3. Stakeholders involved in ABS maintain an interest in learning and sharing experiences. The participation and expansion of the ABS Strategy and Advisory group is seen as evidence of this assumption in action.

## **5 IMPACT: ACHIEVEMENT OF POSITIVE IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION**

As a policy project, the benefits on biodiversity and poverty alleviation are indirect, but have the potential in the long-term to yield important monetary and non-monetary benefits for marginalised communities, as well as benefits for conservation. As an example, for the South African case study, ABS awareness raising among small-scale rooibos producer communities has enhanced understanding of the potential of other indigenous plant resources for commercial application. Emphasising the value of traditional knowledge associated with the biodiversity of the Cederberg mountains has been strongly affirming, evidenced for example by a well-articulated need from communities to document and record their knowledge in the form of a locally accessible book. For rooibos specifically, the project has helped deepen understanding about the implications of ABS and has begun to work with producer communities to explore ways in which benefits can be fairly and equitably shared and used. With an agreement already on the table, the financial flows from industry are likely to be lucrative, and it is vital that communities are adequately prepared to manage this. Important opportunities exist to link ABS to conservation and this is especially pertinent for the rooibos industry which is known to have profound

negative environmental impacts, Conversations are now beginning to unfold as to the way in which ABS can be viewed holistically in the rooibos sector, with further research planned over the next two years.

For Namibia, there is positive impact as a whole on biotrade and for ABS there are anticipated benefits for Year 2, specifically through a joint venture agreement between the KCINPT and Esse Organic Skincare, a company in South Africa. There are various beneficiaries at different levels. At grassroots, harvesters and member of communal conservancies and community forests in Namibia. In turn organisations that represent them, such as the KCINPT are also considered to be beneficiaries.

In Cameroon, as elsewhere, the project is working to create a healthier ecosystem of laws that will promote sustainability and equity in the use of genetic and biological resources. At present, small-scale rural producers, traders, and others must work within a regulatory framework that undermines their livelihoods. Collaboration with government on the development of more effective ABS measures will alleviate some of the pressure on local groups resulting from poor policy. Given the rising interest in some regions in *Irvingia* as a commercial product, the project will also work to ensure the trade is not only sustainable but harvesters, communities, and local traders benefit from it.

## 6. CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SDGS)

By bringing the voices of producer and harvester communities to the ABS discourse, this project will support a number of the SDGs, in particular the goals of reducing poverty (**SDG 1**) and inequality (**SDG 10**). By working towards better conservation of indigenous biodiversity, this project aims to improve the lives of producer communities and traditional knowledge holders (**SDG 15**); and through identifying equitable ways of encouraging high growth industries based on emerging technologies, innovation and economic growth will be stimulated (**SDG 8 and 9**). By collaborating closely with national and provincial governments involved in ABS implementation, particularly through the Strategy and Advisory Group, the project aims to build strong institutions (**SDG 16**) in the three countries it is active in. Project members will work towards gender equality (**SDG 5**) through a conscious focus on power and inequality – integral to our project – as well as through involvement of women's groups and ongoing on-going support to local producers, many of whom are female.

## 7. PROJECT SUPPORT TO THE CONVENTIONS, TREATIES OR AGREEMENTS

This project seeks to support an ecosystem of laws and policies that benefit local groups, conserve biological and cultural diversity and bring equity to the trade of biodiversity. These are all elements that are strongly embedded in the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the Nagoya Protocol (e.g. **Articles 1, 8j and 10 of the CBD; Article 1 and 12 of Nagoya**). It responds to the need within the CBD and Nagoya Protocol policy processes for both a conceptual re-evaluation of what we have learned over the last 25 years of ABS, as well as the call in **Articles 12, 19 and 20 of the Nagoya Protocol** for practical tools, approaches and model clauses that support governments in implementation.

This project is an effort to share lessons learned over the last few decades of ABS, fill gaps in information and understanding, and explore conceptually, and share practically, tools and approaches to making ABS work in practice. Work described in this report reveal support of **Articles 21 and 22** of the Nagoya Protocol, which focus on awareness raising and capacity building. The project is beginning to explore the linkages between ABS and biodiversity conservation (**Nagoya Article 9**), an area that has received little attention to date, despite its inclusion in the CBD (**Articles 1, 10**) for more than 20 years.

The Strategy and Advisory Group of the Community of Practice is beginning to bring together individuals who have worked on ABS over the last few decades to field test methods and approaches for sharing knowledge and understanding with policy-makers (**CBD Article 17; Nagoya Article 22**), including ways to help often marginalized local groups engage with environmental, technology, and other emerging policy arenas (**CBD Articles 8j; 17; Nagoya Article 22**).

While developing models and field testing communication and support approaches, the Project has provided on-going support to collaborating groups, including local producers, harvesters (**Nagoya Articles 12, 22**), women's groups (**Nagoya Articles 12, 22**), and government departments in South Africa, Namibia, and Cameroon, sharing resources, tools, and advice (**CBD Articles 5, 17**) to help them more effectively engage with the process of implementing the Nagoya Protocol.

Year 1 has laid the ground work for upcoming activities that will more directly impact the policy development and implementation process in Cameroon, Namibia, and South Africa. Working in

collaboration with the national focal points for the CBD and ABS, the project is building relationships that inform the development and effective dissemination of policy briefs, webinars, videos, and other ABS tools that will create more concrete change in government policy in Years 2 and 3. In Namibia, for example, IRDNC is working closely with the Namibian Focal Point for ABS, Henry Ndengejeho, who is based in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. The draft training materials and the draft policy brief were sent to him to review and comment on. Follow up meetings were then held with him to discuss his inputs and project activities.

In South Africa, UCT and EMG have interacted on an ongoing basis with both national and provincial governments. UCT gave a presentation on the project to the national Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and has had several interactions with the Department around the project. There are current sensitivities around the rooibos negotiations which has reduced the involvement of the Department but a meeting is planned for May 2018 to discuss ways in which collaboration can be strengthened. The Department has recognised the value of the project, especially with regard to awareness raising and capacity development to achieve the aims of the CBD and Nagoya Protocol.

## **8. PROJECT SUPPORT TO POVERTY ALLEVIATION**

As the project is still in the early stages, we do not yet have a strong body of evidence to demonstrate contributions to poverty alleviation. However, as **Section 3.5** explains, there is already evidence in some cases that the project has begun to concretely strengthen understanding and implementation of ABS in the three host countries. This has been achieved through ABS training events, information brochures, policy briefs and the involvement of affected harvester and producer communities in various policy fora. Because it is focused on modifying policy, however, the project will take the full three years to demonstrate evidence of real change in people's livelihoods and alleviation of poverty.

## **9. PROJECT SUPPORT TO GENDER EQUALITY ISSUES**

Gender is not explicitly addressed in the project, but rather as a multifaceted, nuanced, complex, and integral part to both our practice and our approach. We do not endorse an “add women and stir” approach, but rather are cognisant of the links between ABS and fundamental concerns that exist around power and inequality. We have thus steered away from a number-counting exercise of how many women participate in meetings. Having said this – and with hesitation, we can provide some figures for purposes of reporting only. For example, in South Africa, there is strong representation by women in leadership positions in 2 of the 4 small-scale rooibos producer cooperatives. The Heiveld Cooperative membership is also balanced according to gender – of the 34 members, 18 are women and 16 are men. Thus far, in terms of the rooibos case, a very balanced gender representation has been achieved. This is evidenced by the attendance of the ABS Capacity Development workshop which was attended by 22 women and 23 men (see **Annex UCT-A**). In Cameroon, the project team is more than half women, women are a core part of the interviewing and consultation process, and in the long run will be significant beneficiaries of more effective law and policy. In Namibia, 67% of the 90 participants were women.

## **10. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

The M&E of this project is incorporated into the quarterly team calls and a good process has been established for tracking events and outputs for evidence of project achievements. During the final part of Year 1, input was provided (by Beniot Rivard of LTS) to improve the project logframe and these changes are being finalised with approval sought early in the next period (changes do not affect the reporting of monitoring of Year 1 progress). Changes will also entail the refining of ways to survey training participants to establish the change in awareness and understanding of ABS brought about by project interventions.

## **11. LESSONS LEARNT**

A number of important lessons are emerging from the South African case study. The rooibos case has demonstrated how vital it is to ensure that there is sufficient organisational, legal and technical support for communities negotiating ABS agreements. It has also revealed the gap that exists between national interpretations of ABS and local-level imperatives for economic development and social justice. This suggests that there is a disjuncture between national ABS policy and social impact on the ground – something this project is designed to address. A further lesson concerns the nature of benefits. In many respects the ABS narrative has pigeon-holed benefits into a narrow group of “needs” which are often the

result of governments not delivering services such as roads, clinics and schools – rather than thinking more innovatively about “additional” benefits. ABS has traditionally been separated from development discourses which are increasingly moving away from “needs” and towards opportunities and assets. It is important for ABS to link to such discussions, and to ensure that it supports a process of building community confidence and a rights-based approach to development. Access to land is a vital component to build into such discussions, especially in a context where there are acute land shortages for small-scale rooibos farmers, and where the proposed “rooibos tax” could deliver sufficient funds to enable the purchase of land.

A lesson learnt by IRDNC this year centred on the information and awareness gap that exists between central level government actors and local communities around ABS and the new bill in Namibia. When regional government staff of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) attended project-run workshops, it became apparent that community level attendees had higher levels of awareness and information than their government partners working in the region. The same applies to non-government partner organisations that are providing support to conservancies and community forests. The project will endeavour to incorporate these stakeholder groups in activities, where appropriate, to build broader awareness and understanding of ABS and its legislation at this level.

Similarly, in Cameroon awareness and understanding of ABS varies significantly across groups, but few local communities are aware of ABS, and this extends even to researchers, companies, and those providing plant material overseas. Despite many interventions in recent years, the extent of local-level uptake of ABS appears limited, and many in government – who attend regular ABS meetings – remain vague about the scope and extent of ABS. There also exists widespread ignorance about the increased use of genetic sequence data, and the changes in technology and science that are transforming the use of genetic resources in ways that will profoundly impact ABS policy. The tendency to develop ABS policy to regulate activities that are now largely outdated persists in Cameroon as it does in many other countries around the world; this project is working to change this, and bring policy makers and others more effective information and analysis.

A number of lessons have also emerged at a management level and administrative level. As noted earlier, we have invested significant energies in Year 1 in setting up reporting and administrative systems and contracts, which will allow us to build upon this and focus more team attention in Year 2 on substantive issues. We anticipate that Year 2 will provide much more of a reflexive and learning space, now that these systems are up and running.

The delayed release of the fourth quarter funding (and hence funding gaps), and currency exchange fluctuations (against our favour) have been a challenge for all partners, especially for those on the receiving end of a strong Rand (EMG, UCT and IRDNC). Internally, within UCT, the multiple layers of financial control and the necessity to create two funds (one for foreign partners paid in GBP and the other for local and regional partners paid in ZAR) created blockages in the movement of budget between funds, meaning significantly delayed payments for some partners, and for invoices issued. Significant expenditures thus took place in early April, outside of the official reporting period. We anticipate Year 2 will be implemented much more smoothly now that these teething issues have been resolved.

It has been very helpful to use the services of a professional M&E consultant (Anna Davis) to guide us in the reporting and implementation of the project. In addition to participating in all team meetings, Anna has also been part and parcel of the IRDNC project team, and thus has a good grasp of the project content.

## **12. ACTIONS TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS REVIEWS (IF APPLICABLE)**

Not applicable.

## **13. OTHER COMMENTS ON PROGRESS NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE**

The project has been enhanced through improvements to the logframe to increase its workability and effectiveness. The output indicators have also been revised to be more SMART, with the inclusion of targets and timeframes within each indicator. These changes have been undertaken by the M&E consultant in collaboration with each of the partners. Our half yearly report contains more specific information with regard to the changes effected.

## **14. SUSTAINABILITY AND LEGACY**

As described in the proposal, there have been multiple interventions at national and local levels to introduce different stakeholders in case study countries to the project, evidenced by its presentation at

various fora, by the workshops convened, and by ongoing interactions with those involved in ABS implementation. Materials developed for the Resource and Strategy Group (**Annex Project-C**) have also helped to raise the profile of the project at an international level, and Resource Group members have been active as further points of reference and leverage. As the project evolves we anticipate that these different components will develop into an active hub that becomes a “go-to” space for new ABS thinking, and a resource for those wishing to learn more.

Our planned exit strategy is certainly still valid given that all partners have long-standing involvement in the ABS policy process, and will continue to work with many of the same communities, governments, industry and NGO partners. The sustainability of the work will be further enhanced by the fact that a more programmatic “Voices for BioJustice” identity has been adopted, based on the intention and realisation that the work will continue well beyond the three year project period. Plans are already afoot to fund-raise for a longer-term intervention, given the identified needs of stakeholders.

## **15. DARWIN IDENTITY**

Throughout Year 1, the Darwin Initiative was acknowledged as the main funder of the project. The Darwin logo was used on public documents such as the project brochure (**Annex UCT-I**), the project summary (**Annex UCT-J**) and the project website as well as in the various publication outputs. In terms of social media, the Darwin Initiative was tagged in a number of the project’s Facebook posts (see <https://www.facebook.com/Voices4BioJust/>). Despite the adoption of a more programmatic identity, the Darwin Initiative is still identified as the central funder, and the project remains distinct.

## 14. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018)

## Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2017-2018

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2017 - March 2018	Actions required/planned for next period
<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p>ABS laws, policies, agreements and approaches shift to become more responsive and inclusive of local needs, enabling economic development and equitable benefit sharing whilst reducing poverty and conserving biological diversity.</p>			
<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <p>An ABS Community of Practice exists and uses tools that enables government, researchers, industry and local communities to meet the needs of producer communities and thus support biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>0.1. Number of meetings where project team members are on agenda to give inputs to policy or legislation decision-makers by end of project. (Target = 6; 3 in Year 2 and 3 in Year 3)</p> <p>0.2. Number of ABS-related knowledge-exchange platforms and ABS role-player partnerships created and operational by end of project. (Target = 3 webinars with 1 000 viewers per webinar; 1 website; 6 Strategic and Advisory group meetings)</p> <p>0.3. At least 240 project participants (50 Cameroon of which 35% women, 90 Namibia of which 67% women, 100 South Africa of which 30% women) including local community members, that report using project-supported ABS engagement tools and approaches</p>	<p><i>Too early to assess progress – this will be reported in Year 2 and 3</i></p>	<p><i>Ensure data collection allows for tracking of indicator 0.3 and 1.2 as majority of training and support begins in Year 2 and 3.</i></p> <p><i>Production of video briefs; policy briefs and webinars uploaded to the project website.</i></p> <p><i>Finalise baseline reviews and continue work on three case-studies.</i></p> <p><i>Support ABS knowledge-exchange reviews and both existing and emerging ABS partnerships.</i></p>



	in different settings and countries by end of project.		
<p><b>Output 1</b></p> <p>1. A set of conceptual and practical tools and approaches that supports ABS role players (local people, community groups, traditional leaders, researchers, NGOs, government and private sector) to more effectively engage with ABS developed and tested.</p>	<p>1.1. Three country-specific ABS toolkits developed, tested and refined by end Year 3.</p> <p>1.2. Number of local ABS actors from project sites (50 Cameroon of which 35% women, 90 Namibia of which 67% women, 100 South Africa of which 30% women) that report increased awareness as a result of direct, project-led training and awareness interventions by end of project.</p> <p>1.3. Three country-specific ABS case studies compiled documenting status, issues and strategies for ABS implementation (Namibia on <i>Myrothamnus</i>; South Africa on rooibos; Cameroon on <i>Irvingia gabonensis</i>).</p> <p>1.4. Three feedback workshops (one in each project country during last quarter of Year 3) to raise awareness of project results and uptake of the project findings by relevant stakeholders (local people, community groups, traditional leaders, researchers, NGOs, government and private sector).</p>	<p><i>Activities for Year 1 under this output are on track and achieved. Toolkit material has been developed and tested with producer communities in Namibia and South Africa. An ABS Community of Practice and Rooibos Working Group has been initiated in South Africa.</i></p> <p><i>24 (20 men and 4 women) provided with ABS-related training in Namibia (see <a href="#">Annexes IRDNC-A, IRDNC-B</a>) and 16 reported knowing about ABS before the training and 24 reported having increased their understanding as a result of the training (see <a href="#">Annexes IRDNC-M1 and M2</a> for evidence).</i></p>	

1.1. Hold introductory/scoping meetings with key stakeholders.	<i>Completed - Introductory meetings were held in all 3 country sites and an overview document produced for project briefing purposes. See <a href="#">Annex IRDNC-D,E,F,G,H,I,J</a> and <a href="#">UCT-A,F,G</a>, for evidence.</i>
1.2. Compile a baseline review of potential tools and approaches that are required to support each case study.	<i>Baselines completed for Namibia (<i>Myrothamnus flabellifolius</i>) and work has started on South Africa (<i>rooibos</i>) and Cameroon (<i>Irvingia gabonensis</i>) due to be completed May 2018. Evidence provided in <a href="#">Annex IRDNC-K</a> and <a href="#">PPI-A</a>.</i>
1.3. Develop appropriate materials to support ABS information sharing and capacity building.	<i>Work under this output has started. Namibia produced an illustrated (draft) information booklet that provides a summary of the new ABS legislation (see <a href="#">Annexes IRDNC-A, IRDNC-B</a> and <a href="#">IRDNC-C</a>).  Cameroon has launched business and market studies on the range of medicinal and aromatic species in export markets.  South Africa - An information booklet on ABS was developed and translated into Afrikaans (see <a href="#">Annex UCT-H</a>).</i>
1.4. Use materials to support identified stakeholders and processes.	<i>Not yet started – due Year 2</i>
1.5. Revise and adapt materials.	<i>Not yet started – due Year 3</i>
1.6. Reproduce and disseminate material to relevant stakeholder groups.	<i>Not yet started – due Year 3</i>
1.7. Produce a case study on the status, development achievements and challenges of selected resource value chain in each country.	<i>Due to be completed by December 2018</i>
<b>Output 2</b> Local needs and interests communicated to policy-makers to enable better-informed ABS policy in Cameroon, Namibia and South Africa.	2.1. Three thematic video briefs on key ABS topics featuring local-level perspectives developed and produced by end of Year 3 (2 in Year 2 and 1 in Year 3)  2.2. Three videos and other materials (policy briefs, case studies) are loaded on project  <i>Activities under this output have only just begun, and are mostly due in Year 2 and 3.  Two policy briefs drafted (1 x Namibia and 1 x South Africa). Namibia and South Africa have sent their policy brief to the ABS focal points in government for review. Evidence provided in <a href="#">Annex IRDNC-L</a> and <a href="#">UCT-E</a>.  Three further policy briefs for Namibia (1) and Cameroon (2) due in Year 2.</i>

	<p>websites and linked to other websites by end project.</p> <p>2.3. Five country-specific policy briefs produced for use and distribution to relevant government meetings or fora (2 for Cameroon, 2 for Namibia and 1 for South Africa).</p> <p>2.4. Six policy-related forums where project implementers on agenda to provide input and feedback (2 per country by end project).</p>	
2.1. Compile video interviews with harvesters, producers, and communities on ABS and the wider policy context.		<i>Filmmakers are identified, field sites chosen, scripts developed, background information shared. Filming has started in South Africa. This will be followed from June 2018 by filming in Namibia, Cameroon and ongoing in South Africa. See <a href="#">Annex PPI-B, C, D</a>.</i>
2.2. Production of videos on key ABS and related policy topics, representing community voices.		<i>Not yet started – due Year 2 and 3</i>
2.3. Disseminate videos to policy-makers, shared at national and international policy events.		<i>Not yet started – due Year 2 and 3</i>
2.4. Post videos on project website.		<i>Not yet started – due Year 3</i>
<p><b>Output 3</b></p> <p>ABS support tools, approaches and lessons learned, documented and shared across countries.</p>	<p>3.1. Three webinars (1 per year) on challenging ABS topics, with supporting background resources including videos and policy briefs, are produced and hosted on project website by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.2. Project produced, ABS specific webinars viewed by 3 000 viewers (1 000 per webinar) by end Year 3.</p>	<i>Work under this output is only just starting – due Year 2 and 3</i>

	<p>3.3. Three peer-reviewed, country specific journal articles published by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.4. One peer-reviewed journal article synthesising lessons learned across three project countries and case studies produced by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.5. One synthesis policy brief on ABS lessons learned across three project case studies produced by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.6. Synthesis policy brief on ABS lessons learned across three project case studies, distributed to 5 000 stakeholders by end Year 3.</p>	
<p>3.1. Develop preparatory webinar material, and background briefing documents.</p>		<p><i>First three webinar themes were selected (traditional knowledge and the law; the collection of laws and policies that impact resources; and benefit sharing). The first webinar will be held in Year 2, since it was deemed more effective to link them to production of the videos. As a result, the webinar schedule will be moved into Year 2, but also compressed, with three webinars held in Year 2.</i></p>
<p>3.2. Develop webinars on key ABS and related policy issues.</p>		<p><i>This has only just started - project exploring technical options and approaches to webinars</i></p>
<p>3.3. Edit all webinars and other materials into instructive videos, placed on project website.</p>		<p><i>Not yet started – due Year 2 and 3</i></p>
<p>3.4. Draft a journal article (each country team).</p>		<p><i>Not yet started – due Year 2 and 3</i></p>

3.5. Produce synthesis policy brief from case studies for national and international policy-makers.	<i>Not yet started – due Year 2 and 3</i>
3.6. Policy brief distributed to CBD secretariat, ABS clearing house, national governments, producer groups, industry groups.	<i>Not yet started – due Year 3</i>
<b>Output 4</b> A high-level Strategy and Advisory Group of ABS experts, practitioners and researchers established to explore, document and disseminate lessons learned, best practice and revised approaches for ABS, and to provide support to case study communities.	4.1. An ABS Strategy and Advisory group consisting of 10 global ABS practitioners and experts, exists and meets at least 2 times per year (virtually or in person).  4.2. Production of a special edition report on “ABS in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century” by end of Year 3.
4.1. Inception meeting held. (Year 1)	<i>Completed (See Annex UCT-B)</i>
4.2. Project website launched. (Year 1)	<i>Website was actively developed in Year 1 and launch planned in May 2018 (see <a href="#">Annex UCT-K</a>).</i>
4.3. Quarterly meeting of team virtually - 4x per year. (Year 1, 2, 3)	<i>Two virtual team meetings (Skype) were held in Year 1 – on 19 October 2017 and 1 February 2018 (see <a href="#">Annex UCT-C</a> and <a href="#">UCT-D</a>).</i>
4.4. Special edition launched by team (interest matched to themes). (Year 1)	<i>Special edition launched and the journal, <i>Society and Natural Resources</i>, contacted regarding a proposal for the special issue.</i>
4.5. Meeting of Strategic and Advisory team to discuss conceptual papers and practical tools. (Year 2 and 3)	<i>The core team of the Strategy and Advisory Group met to outline the group’s objectives and approaches. Two new members co-opted.</i>  <i>The Steering Committee of the Strategy and Advisory Group met four times (Skype).</i>
4.6. Produce collaborative, peer-reviewed paper drawing together lessons from case studies and other work by the group. (Year 2)	<i>Due in Year 2.</i>
4.7. Special edition manuscript completed. (Year 3)	<i>Due in Year 3.</i>

**Annex 2: Project’s full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)**

<b>PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION</b>			
<b>MEASURING IMPACT</b>			
<b>Project summary</b>	<b>Measurable indicators</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Important assumptions</b>
<b>Impact</b>			
ABS laws, policies, agreements and approaches shift to become more responsive and inclusive of local needs, enabling economic development and equitable benefit sharing whilst reducing poverty and conserving biological diversity.			
<b>Outcome</b> An ABS Community of Practice exists and uses tools that enables government, researchers, industry and local communities to meet the needs of producer communities and thus support biodiversity conservation.	<p>0.1. Number of meetings where project team members are on agenda to give inputs to policy or legislation decision-makers by end of project. (Target = 6; 3 in Year 2 and 3 in Year 3)</p> <p>0.2. Number of ABS-related knowledge-exchange platforms and ABS role-player partnerships created and operational by end of project. (Target = 3 webinars with 1 000 viewers per webinar; 1 website; 6 Strategic and Advisory group meetings)</p> <p>0.3. At least 240 project participants (50 Cameroon of which 35% women; 90 Namibia of which 67% women; 100 South Africa of which 30% women) including local community members, that report using project-supported ABS engagement tools and approaches in different settings and countries by end of project.</p>	<p>0.1 Agendas or minutes of meetings and workshops, parliamentary notes, participant lists.</p> <p>0.2 Webinars convened; minutes of Strategic and Advisory Group meetings; project website established and populated.</p> <p>0.3 Technical reports produced that reflect local community needs; reviews of existing tools and the development of new tools; M&amp;E data on uptake and use of tools and approaches.</p>	<p>Government interest in implementing the Nagoya Protocol continues to grow.</p> <p>Governments remain open to receiving the input of diverse stakeholders, and building their ABS capacity.</p> <p>Stakeholders involved in ABS maintain an interest in learning and sharing experiences.</p>

<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <p>1. A set of conceptual and practical tools and approaches that supports ABS role players (local people, community groups, traditional leaders, researchers, NGOs, government and private sector) to more effectively engage with ABS developed and tested.</p>	<p>1.1. Three country-specific ABS toolkits developed, tested and refined by end Year 3.</p> <p>1.2. Number of local ABS actors from project sites (50 Cameroon of which 35% women; 90 Namibia of which 67% women; 100 South Africa of which 30% women) that report increased awareness as a result of direct, project-led training and awareness interventions by end of project.</p> <p>1.3. Three country-specific ABS case studies compiled documenting status, issues and strategies for ABS implementation (Cameroon on <i>Irvingia gabonensis</i>; Namibia on <i>Myrothamnus</i>; South Africa on rooibos).</p> <p>1.4. Three feedback workshops (one in each project country during last quarter of Year 3) to raise awareness of project results and uptake of the project findings by relevant stakeholders (local people, community groups, traditional leaders, researchers, NGOs, government and private sector).</p>	<p>1.1 Toolkit documents; workshop and project reports.</p> <p>1.2 Workshop/meeting reports and attendance lists; M&amp;E database on baseline and meeting evaluations.</p> <p>1.3 Case study documents, project reports.</p> <p>1.4 Workshop reports, meetings of minutes and records of discussions with relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>For all outputs:</p> <p>Government interest in implementing the Nagoya Protocol persists, and policy-makers are open to new views and voices.</p> <p>Governments remain open to receiving the input of diverse stakeholders, and building their ABS capacity.</p> <p>Stakeholders involved in ABS maintain an interest in learning and sharing experiences.</p>
<p>2. Local needs and interests communicated to policy-makers to enable better-informed ABS policy in Cameroon, Namibia and South Africa.</p>	<p>2.1. Three thematic video briefs on key ABS topics featuring local-level perspectives developed and produced by end of Year 3 (2 in Year 2 and 1 in Year 3).</p> <p>2.2. Three videos and other materials (policy briefs, case studies) are loaded on project website and linked to other websites by end project.</p>	<p>2.1 Videos and written documents available on project website.</p> <p>2.2 Videos and written documents available on linked or related websites.</p>	

	<p>2.3. Five country-specific policy briefs produced for use and distribution to relevant government meetings or fora (2 for Cameroon, 2 for Namibia and 1 for South Africa).</p> <p>2.4. Six policy-related forums where project implementers on agenda to provide input and feedback (2 per country by end project).</p>	<p>2.3 Policy brief documents; minutes of ABS related government meetings</p> <p>2.4 Minutes or agenda of policy-related forum meetings, M&amp;E database.</p>	
<p>3. ABS support tools, approaches and lessons learned documented and shared across countries.</p>	<p>3.1. Three webinars (one per year) on challenging ABS topics, with supporting background resources including videos and policy briefs, are produced and hosted on project website by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.2. Project produced, ABS specific webinars viewed by 3 000 viewers (1 000 per webinar) by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.3. Three peer-reviewed, country specific journal articles published by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.4. One peer-reviewed journal article synthesising lessons learned across three project countries and case studies produced by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.5. One synthesis policy brief on ABS lessons learned across three project case studies produced by end Year 3.</p> <p>3.6. Synthesis policy brief on ABS lessons learned across three project case studies,</p>	<p>3.1. Webinars hosted on website.</p> <p>3.2. Webinar viewing records; M&amp;E database.</p> <p>3.3. Journal publications; project reports.</p> <p>3.4. Journal publication; project reports.</p> <p>3.5. Policy brief document; project reports.</p> <p>3.6. Documents lodged in CBD clearing house.</p>	



	distributed to 5 000 stakeholders by end of Year 3.		
4. A high-level Strategy and Advisory Group of ABS experts, practitioners and researchers established to explore, document and disseminate lessons learned, best practice and revised approaches for ABS, and to provide support to case study communities.	<p>4.1. An ABS Strategy and Advisory group consisting of 10 global ABS practitioners and experts, exists and meets at least two times per year (virtually or in person).</p> <p>4.2. Production of a special edition publication on “ABS in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” by end of Year 3.</p>	<p>4.1 Meeting attendance records; project reports.</p> <p>4.2 Special edition publication.</p>	
<b>Activities</b> (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)			
<b>Activities for Output 1</b>			
<p>1.1. Hold introductory/scoping meetings with key stakeholders.</p> <p>1.2. Compile a baseline review of potential tools and approaches that are required to support each case study.</p> <p>1.3. Develop appropriate materials to support ABS information sharing and capacity building.</p> <p>1.4. Use materials to support identified stakeholders and processes.</p> <p>1.5. Revise and adapt materials.</p> <p>1.6. Reproduce and disseminate material to relevant stakeholder groups.</p> <p>1.7. Produce a case study on the status, development achievements and challenges of selected resource value chain in each country.</p>			
<b>Activities for Output 2</b>			
<p>2.1. Compile video interviews with harvesters, producers, and communities on ABS and the wider policy context.</p> <p>2.2. Production of videos on key ABS and related policy topics, representing community voices.</p> <p>2.3. Disseminate videos to policy-makers, shared at national and international policy events.</p> <p>2.4. Post videos on project website.</p>			
<b>Activities for Output 3</b>			
<p>3.1. Develop preparatory webinar material, and background briefing documents.</p> <p>3.2. Develop webinars on key ABS and related policy issues.</p> <p>3.3. Edit all webinars and other materials into instructive videos, placed on project website.</p> <p>3.4. Draft a journal article (each country team).</p> <p>3.5. Produce synthesis policy brief from case studies for national and international policy-makers.</p>			

3.6. Policy brief distributed to CBD secretariat, ABS clearing house, national governments, producer groups, industry groups.

**Activities for Output 4**

- 4.1. Inception meeting held. (Year 1)
- 4.2. Project website launched. (Year 1)
- 4.3. Quarterly meeting of team virtually – 4 x per year. (Year 1, 2, 3)
- 4.4. Special edition launched by team (interest matched to themes). (Year 1)
- 4.5. Meeting of Strategic and Advisory team to discuss conceptual papers and practical tools. (Year 2 and 3)
- 4.6. Produce collaborative, peer-reviewed paper drawing together lessons from case studies and other work by the group. (Year 2)
- 4.7. Special edition manuscript completed. (Year 3)

## Supplementary Material

<b>Annex Project-A</b>	Voices for BioJustice Logo
<b>Annex Project-B</b>	Core Project Themes
<b>Annex Project-C</b>	Strategy and Advisory Group
<b>Annex IRDNC-A</b>	ABS Booklet
<b>Annex IRDNC-B</b>	Training Workshop 1
<b>Annex IRDNC-C</b>	Training Workshop 2
<b>Annex IRDNC-D</b>	Awareness Meeting 1
<b>Annex IRDNC-E</b>	Awareness Meeting 2
<b>Annex IRDNC-F</b>	Awareness Meeting 3
<b>Annex IRDNC-G</b>	Awareness Meeting 4
<b>Annex IRDNC-H</b>	Awareness Meeting 5
<b>Annex IRDNC-I</b>	Awareness Meeting 6
<b>Annex IRDNC-J</b>	KCINPT Meeting
<b>Annex IRDNC-K</b>	Baseline Report on <i>Myrothamnus</i>
<b>Annex IRDNC-L</b>	Namibia ABS Policy Brief
<b>Annex IRDNC-M1</b>	Retrospective Baseline 1
<b>Annex IRDNC-M2</b>	Retrospective Baseline 2
<b>Annex PPI-A</b>	Draft <i>Irvingia</i> Case Study Background
<b>Annex PPI-B</b>	Video Collaboration Guidelines
<b>Annex PPI-C</b>	Video Background Document
<b>Annex PPI-D</b>	Prior Informed Consent Form
<b>Annex UCT-A</b>	Register Wupperthal 20 March 2018
<b>Annex UCT-B</b>	Inception Meeting Minutes
<b>Annex UCT-C</b>	Skype Meeting 19 October 2017
<b>Annex UCT-D</b>	Skype Meeting 1 February 2018
<b>Annex UCT-E</b>	Rooibos Policy Brief
<b>Annex UCT-F</b>	Programme Clanwilliam 17 and 18 April 2018
<b>Annex UCT-G</b>	Notes on ABS Training 20 March 2018
<b>Annex UCT-H</b>	ABS Booklet Afrikaans
<b>Annex UCT-I</b>	Voices for BioJustice Brochure
<b>Annex UCT-J</b>	Voices for BioJustice Summary
<b>Annex UCT-K</b>	Website Home Page

## Checklist for submission

	Check
<b>Is the report less than 10MB?</b> If so, please email to <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
<b>Is your report more than 10MB?</b> If so, please discuss with <a href="mailto:Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk">Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk</a> about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	No
<b>Have you included means of verification?</b> You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
<b>Do you have hard copies of material you want to submit with the report?</b> If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number.	NA
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	