#GENDER & #ABS

WHY DOES IT MATTER?
GENDER AND ACCESS & BENEFIT SHARING
INSIGHTS FROM THE UNDP-GEF GLOBAL ABS PROJECT

1. Introduction to gender and access & benefit sharing
2. Methodology for gender mainstreaming
3. Pilot Case: Ylang-Ylang
4. Key messages

Preliminary findings – Gender as an analytical tool in ABS value chains
INTERNATIONAL NORMS ON GENDER & BIODIVERSITY

- UDHR
- CEDAW
- Beijing Declaration
- Rio Declaration
- Agenda 21
- SDGs
GENDER & BIODIVERSITY

Women & men play different roles shaped by prevailing social constructions which influence the distribution of opportunities, rights & benefits linked to biodiversity
Comparatively to Men, Women play primary roles in managing GRs and passing TK, but have limited access to productive assets, resources & services.
CNA
Competent National Authority

PIC
Prior Informed Consent

MAT
Mutually Agreed Terms

CP
Check Points

Genetic resources and related traditional knowledge

ABS CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM

Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance

Check Points Communiques

Monetary and non monetary benefits
IS GENDER FORGOTTEN?

Inclusion of Women and/or Gender Keywords in National ABS related Laws and policies in Africa

[VALUE]% Include  [VALUE]% Do not Include
Gender-responsive ABS schemes essential to enable the effective participation of women in the design, negotiation, distribution and use of benefits
Men & women benefit from participating in value chains through employment, wages & empowerment. Cultural norms around Gender determine how benefits are accessed & distributed.
GENDER ANALYSIS ANALYTICAL TOOL

1. Map-out gender roles
2. Identify social determinants
3. Notice the interlinkages
4. Design gender-smart ABSVCs

MIND your Step!
MIND YOUR STEP!

YLANG-YLANG

1. PIC/MAT
2. Input provision, production & harvesting
3. Processing, transportation & export
4. R&D

Preliminary findings – Gender as an analytical tool in ABS value chains
MIND YOUR STEP!
YLANG-YLANG

#1 MAPPING GENDER ROLES
MIN D YOUR STEP!
YLANG-YLANG
#2 IDENTIFY SOCIAL DETERMINANTS

- Ownership & control over land & knowledge
- Lack of access to education
- Understanding of the values & benefits
- Specialized technical skills
- Access to financial resources and markets
Male dominated VCs are less competitive
Women play key roles to increase outputs, improve quality & sustain supply
Investing in women smallholders strengthens competitiveness and opens up new business opportunities
• Recognize the vital role of Women in the ABS value chain
• Provide women with appropriate avenues to enable their effective participation
• Empower women to go downstream to fully benefit from the market potential
Better results with regards to mainstreaming gender into Access and Benefit Sharing, may be achieved by combining a Human Rights Based Approach with a strong business case for industries using genetic resources.

Preliminary findings – Gender as an analytical tool in ABS value chains
KEY MESSAGES

• Dividends of gender-smart ABS value chains include benefits for businesses & sustainable development
• In this experiment, we have adopted the MIND your step! analytical tool to align project interventions with gender plans and policies

Preliminary findings – Gender as an analytical tool in ABS value chains
LIMITATIONS

• The MIND Your Step! Is a simplified analytical tool adapted for the purpose of this experiment
• The initial findings are yet to be triangulated with the results of focus groups & semi-structured interviews

Preliminary findings – Gender as an analytical tool in ABS value chains
Overlooked, gender will jeopardize the effective implementation of ABS partnerships.