

Global and regional support to the BBNJ Agreement ratification process and implementation readiness (BBNJ G&R)

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Adopted in 2023 to address mounting pressures on areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) is a landmark treaty strengthening the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ. Now that it has entered into force, it is expected to enhance international governance by focusing on four key pillars: marine genetic resources, including the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, measures such as area-based management tools including marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments, and capacity building and the transfer of marine technology. To support international cooperation towards universal ratification and to promote implementation readiness of the BBNJ Agreement, the Global Environment Facility-funded *Global and regional support to the BBNJ Agreement ratification process and implementation readiness (BBNJ G&R)* Project has been designed with three interlinked components, supported by project monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge dissemination:

Component 1: Global-level Capacity Building and Outreach

Component 2: Regional Training, Workshops and Dissemination

Component 3: National-level Support and Coordination

Each component includes outputs with related activities, to be carried out by three implementing agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Development Programme. Four of the outputs will be led by UNEP and executed by the Global Ocean Forum (GOF) together with collaborating partners from around the world.

1.1.1

Analysis of global gaps in capacity and knowledge necessary for the ratification and effective implementation of the BBNJ Agreement, taking into account co-financing partners and key organizations supporting BBNJ Agreement ratification.

1.1.2

BBNJ Agreement ratification and implementation capacity building training, guidance, awareness raising and outreach materials, which include relevant gender dimensions, developed and compiled on key issues of the BBNJ Agreement (MGRs, ABMTs, EIAs, etc.), main aspects of becoming parties thereto, and the institutional and technical capacities that countries should possess.

3.1.1

Methodological guides and templates for national use related to, inter alia, legislation, assessments and implementation strategies are available for use in the national enabling activities, based on national GEF BBNJ Initial Assessment Reports, to facilitate the compiling, curating, and supporting of national documentation requirements for countries in relation to becoming parties of, and implementing, the BBNJ Agreement.

3.1.2

Rosters of global and regional technical and legal experts established for the development and delivery of country specific assistance and coordination of ratification and implementation readiness support projects.



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