**Week 1: 27 September - 3 October**

**Online discussion group 1: Emerging best practices, needs and opportunities**

Webinar (27 September, 10:30 a.m. EDT - 12:00 noon EDT), kick off webinar for the online discussions:

[Revised: Concept note: speakers/agenda](https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/outreach/Webinar%20rev1.doc) (<https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/outreach/Webinar rev5.doc>)

Please note that registration is required for the webinar:

<https://us18.campaign-archive.com/?e=__test_email__&u=3d0c1779253b94ed1d4e5446d&id=c0c045cffd>

or

<https://www.learningfornature.org/en/courses/biosafety-commitments-for-the-action-agenda-for-nature-and-people/>

**Theme 1: Best practices and opportunities**

Online discussion, Guiding Questions:

1. Could you highlight some existing and upcoming legislation, strategies, programmes, networks, coalitions, advisory bodies and/or public consultations or other systems, frameworks or institutions that involved non-state actors? What were the successes or challenges?
2. What non-state actors are or should be involved in initiatives (e.g. businesses, NGOs, farmers, women, UN agencies, NGOs, financial institutions, local governments, scientific community, consumers, foundations, policy makers, regulators, indigenous peoples and local communities)? Do they have the most impact on reversing and halting biodiversity loss to support governments? Are they using LMOs most?
3. In your experience, what type of capacity building activities can non-state actors undertake to support the capacity-building action plan for the post-2020 period?
4. What are some good practices in enhancing communication and partnerships between Parties and non-state actors?
5. What are some key events or initiatives that non-state actors are or should be involved in (e.g. Secretariat meetings and national and regional events such as Asia BCH Family, African Union meetings, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture meetings, regular regional or national events such as biodiversity/biosafety week)?

**Theme 2: The importance and needs of biosafety commitments and engagement**

1. What do you consider are the key challenges and biosafety topics that need more attention from non-state actors on the long-term to implement in the Implementation Plan for the Cartagena Protocol?
2. In your opinion, which regions need more support for implementing the Implementation Plan? What are the priorities for non-state actors?
3. What do you consider as the benefits of engaging more non-state actors, in particular women, youth and/or indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), in supporting the the Implementation Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, target related to biosafety in the Global Biosafety Framework and/or the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?
4. In what way can cooperation efforts in biosafety units or among ministries enhance non-state actor’s engagement and implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (e.g. set up organized task force, joint strategies, programmes, high-level activities, sharing of guidance materials and/or mainstreaming biosafety into other sectors)?

**Online discussion group 2: Development of concrete and measurable commitments**

**Theme 3: Key features, criteria and methods on the Action Agenda**

1. How could the SCBD enhance non-state actors as users on the platform (e.g. new and reoccurring users, geographic areas, number of steps to reach a webpage)?
2. What main features of the new Action Agenda landing page (e.g. the making a commitment section, the exploring pledges section, the Frequently asked questions section, the news and stories section, the statistics section and the newsletter section) is most useful and easier to access information? What can be improved? Please review the landing page at <https://www.cbd.int/portals/action-agenda/>
3. What should the key criteria be for the Action Agenda commitments (e.g. long-term goals for the Global Biodiversity Framework and the Implementation Plan for the Protocol)? Are there any goals that non-state actors should focus on?
4. Are there any fields from the 4 pledge forms for individuals, organizations, businesses and local governments that need to be added? Please review the webpage at <https://www.cbd.int/action-agenda/contribute/>

**Theme 4: Monitoring, reporting and evaluation progress of commitments**

1. What is the importance of concrete and measurable biosafety commitments? What standards are critical to measure success for the Implementation Plan for the Protocol and the Global Biodiversity Framework (e.g. duration, target audience(s), the scale of the action, the impact of the action, the partners)?
2. How should non-state actors report on their progress of their commitments (e.g. progress reports, Key performance indicators (KPIs) for businesses, score cards, quarterly briefs, Info graphics, surverys with baselines before and after)
3. Should there be phases of progress (e.g. planning, development, implementation phase and evaluation phase)?
4. How can non-state actors have more measurable impact across the supply chain, operations, transportation and production and to engage stakeholders or governments as a measure of success?

**Week 2: 4 October – 10 October**

**Online discussion group 3: Sharing information of the Action Agenda and its commitments**

**4 October 2021 – 10 October 2021, Week 2**

**Theme 5: Existing information-sharing measures**

1. Which profiling and information-sharing measures on the Action Agenda website and the social media platforms would be best for non-state actors to be profiled through online (e.g. web stories, videos, Infographics, social media postings/flyers, new articles, newsletter, quotes)? Please visit the existing features at <https://www.cbd.int/portals/action-agenda/>
2. How can IT open source components from the Action Agenda be useful in sharing information (e.g. making use of biosafety categories in the Action Agenda to showcase on external/partners websites and/or for the Action Agenda to showcase partners commitments automatically through interoperability such as statistics, pledges viewed on two websites)? Please visit the GIT HUB, the Action Agenda Network with the open source components at <https://scbd.github.io/action-agenda-components/>
3. Who are the non-state actors that are the most users of the national biosafety websites that could be engaged?
4. How can the new BCH Platform, soon to be launched, support the sharing of information on biosafety commitments from the Action Agenda? How do you use the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) in your work? What content do you most frequently seek in the BCH?

**Theme 6: Opportunities for information-sharing measures**

1. What should be the main biosafety impactful message or value be to communicate and engage non-state actors? What are some dissemination channels or entry points that non-state actors or governments can make use of (e.g. media outlets, regional platforms, associations, coalitions, local governments, including town hall meetings)?
2. What are some innovations that can be used to enhance the marketing and guidance on how to make measurable pledges for the Action Agenda (e.g. AI through automated Q and A system, directing non-state actors to key guidance materials)?
3. How can we raise the profile and partnerships of Parties and non-state actors' work (e.g. certification as incentives, ongoing dialogues, networking, sharing guidance materials between Action Agenda and the BCH)?
4. What do you consider as relevant support needed to be provided to non-state actors to facilitate progress of commitments and sharing their work?
5. How do you see the Action Agenda supporting the sharing of information and commitments on biosafety and your work in 3 years? Would we need a major campaign or profile biosafety commitments in high-level meetings with ministries (e.g. environment, agriculture, transportation) or high-profile organizations and if so what would be some impactful tools to make use of?