

Draft Minutes of the 9th Stakeholder's Meeting held on 18th February 2020, CSIR, Building 20, Baobab Room, 10:30 – 15:00

Agenda Item No. 2: Welcome, Introductions and purpose of the meeting

The Chairperson welcomed the participants to the meeting. Participants introduced themselves.

The purpose of the meeting was to: 1) Revisit the findings from stakeholder survey conducted by ABioSA; 2) Mesopartner to provide input and recommendation from the stakeholder mapping process; 3) DEFF to present on the BioPANZA integration strategy; 4) Case study: on how the stakeholder map can potentially be used to start a collaborative network to support SMEs.

Agenda Item No. 3: Revisiting the findings from stakeholder survey presented in August 2019

The findings from the Stakeholder expectations survey that was conducted in August by ABioSA were revisited. The first two expectations from the stakeholders were highlighted being; i) BSO support measures should be mapped and to receive update on interventions, products & funding as well as ii) the development of collaborative, structured, implementable projects with objectives, outcomes & timelines. Based on the first expectation Mesopartner was appointed to do the mapping of the biotrade Stakeholders/BSOs/Meso level. It was highlighted that more than 50 institutions participated in the mapping process that resulted in the interactive electronic Stakeholder map. See attached Annex A: Stakeholder network presentation.

Agenda item No. 4: Presentation on the feedback on meso mapping exercise

The Mesopartners presentation included i) ways in which the meso level can be improved through explicitly expressing organisation offerings to the private and public sector, collaboration and clearly indicating species, regions and value chains links that are prioritised by organisations; ii) The insights gained from the biotrade meso mapping process included the following: high cost of discovery and research in the sector, the ability of the meso landscape to respond dynamically to new insight appears to be low, missing of important details due to poor information goods, the lack of visibility regarding expertise and specialised resources of organisation and there is not enough focus on promoting excellence in institutions and competitiveness at the enterprise level; iii) The final remarks included that to grow the sector and improve meso level public organisation need to be obsessed with being innovative, valuable, relevant; stakeholders need be transparent and open about their organisation's plans, insights and priorities, and lastly stakeholders must be incentivised to share and contribute to strengthening the system dynamic. The presentation is attached hereto Annex B: Mesopartner presentation.



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Discussions:

- To avoid fragmentation and working in isolation the stakeholder map should reflect organisation's current projects, and information such as objectives, activities, timelines and outcomes;
- It was highlighted that the stakeholder map is an essential tool for BioPANZA website which is in the implementation phase;
- It was highlighted that focal points contacts details of organisation need to be easily accessible and information on private and public sector offering needs to be clear.

Agenda item No. 5: Presentation of the BioPANZA integration

The Department of Environment, Forest and Fisheries (DEFF) presented on BioPANZA integration plan. The presentation highlighted the following: i) A description on the BioPANZA operational model; ii) Update of the three BioPANZA clusters (finance, market access and sustainable supply) which implementation is in place and the formalisation of the innovation cluster still need to be established; iii) A concept on the implementation of an integrated market access cluster platform which will create a space where SMEs can be offered a holistic support towards market readiness for both national and international market. The main objective of such a platform is to ensure that stakeholders within the space provide a blended support to strengthen market access for SMEs. The presentation is attached hereto as Annex C: BioPANZA integration.

Discussions:

- It was highlighted that to have integrated platform it is essential to have an institutional agreement of the stakeholder map, input by the government and commitment by the relevant organisations/stakeholders.
- The IDC will be responsible of driving the natural ingredients sector fund.
- The platform needs to leverage on what is already existing then create linkage to the institutional agreement.

Agenda item No. 6: Case study: making use of the stakeholder map to start a collaborative network to support SMEs

A case study put jointly by ABioSA, UNIDO and DEFF on how to create a collaborative laboratory network using the stakeholder map that will specifically provide support to SMEs to achieve sector compliance with EU regulation. The actions that needs to be taken into consideration to create a collaborative network includes mapping the current activities of organisation that offers support with sector compliance with EU regulation; then create a multi stakeholder project comprising of those organisation to provide technical or financial support that will strengthen and capacitate network of laboratories and institutions using the BioPANZA platform to engage with relevant SMEs and make the network visible.

A collaborative network will be created using the stakeholder map. In the case study Marula and Baobab species were used as an example as to how to use the map to inform the partners, sector and area of the value chain etc as part of the network. In the case study the network will comprise of



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organisation that offer assistance with regards with the Marula and Boobab export market in the cosmetic and food and beverage sector. The next step of the network will be to map SMEs needs and incorporate the activities within the BioPANZA market access cluster, then identify the relevant SMEs for the network and prioritise interventions through agreements among the stakeholders and engagements with SMEs. Feedback and learnings will be presented at the next Biotrade Stakeholder Forum.

Discussions:

- The members of the Stakeholder Forum acknowledged that forming a collaborative network could be beneficial to SMEs and it is important that associations form part of the network as a key representative of the industry.
- IDC has done case studies on Marula and Baobab value chain.
- Database collection of SMEs within the ABioSA/UNIDO GQSP prioritised value chains will be captured during ABioSA sector development plan process for 6 of these species. It was suggested that there is need to put together a document with all the SMEs details within the sector.
- Organisation contribution to network can be provided in any kind of resource form such as knowledge, information, equipment use etc.

Agenda item no. 7: Way forward

It was agreed that the chairpersonship of the Biotrade Stakeholder forum will continue to be shared between ABioSA and UNIDO and BioPANZA will provide guidance on the direction of the forum. The stakeholder meetings will be held quarterly, and the following dates were scheduled:

- Tuesday, 5 May 2020, UNIDO to host;
- Tuesday, 4 August 2020, GIZ to host;
- Tuesday, 3 November 2020, UNIDO to host;
- Tuesday, 16 February 2020, GIZ to host;

All meetings will be hosted at CSIR, Building 20, Baobab Room.

Link stakeholder map:

<https://mesopartner.kumu.io/rsa-bio-sector-meso-support-landscape-8th-stakeholder-forum>