

Buchu Value Chain Partnership

Supporting industry-wide compliance to ABS and advancing environmental protection of the resource

Context

Buchu, an indigenous biological resource endemic to the Western Cape, is primarily processed into an essential oil for use in the flavour and fragrance industry, but also into dried leaf for herbal infusions. In September 2023, after three years of facilitated negotiations by the Department of Forestry Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), a landmark Buchu Benefit Sharing Agreement was signed between the Buchu Association, National Khoi-San Council (NKC) and the South African San Council (SASC). The industry-wide Access and Benefit Sharing Agreement is aligned to the Nagoya Protocol and in compliance with the regulatory requirements related to the Protocol in the South African context. Additionally, it employs a unique model combining both monetary and non-monetary benefit-sharing for which there is no precedent in the South African context.

Partnership objective

The primary aim of the partnership is to implement a model for non-monetary benefit sharing in collaboration with traditional knowledge holders. In particular the partnership endeavours to:

- Support industry-wide compliance for ABS
- Develop and implement a short course to introduce Khoikhoi and San youth to the Buchu industry and its supply chain
- Improving capacity for ethical sourcing and compliance in the industry

Activities

- Facilitate industry wide ABS compliance
- Develop a short course for operationalisation of non-monetary benefit sharing aspects in industry-wide agreement
- Pilot the short course
- Implement fully developed short course
- Facilitate access to environmental internships for youth
- Develop template Biodiversity Action Plan

About BIA

The BioInnovation Africa project is implemented by GIZ with the objective to support African and European private sector in developing mutually beneficial value chain partnerships based on high ethical, social and environmental standards including equitable benefit sharing and the sustainable use of Africa's genetic resources. The programme is active in Cameroon, Madagascar, Namibia and South Africa.

Partners

EU: International Organization of the Flavour Industry, International Fragrance Association
SA: South African Association of the Flavour and Fragrance Industry, Buchu Association
GIZ: BioInnovation Africa (BIA)

Implementation period

2023 – 2025



Notes
