

BiInnovation Africa (Phase II)



African-European partnerships for biodiversity conservation

Context

The African continent is a global biodiversity hotspot, home to unique ecosystems, numerous iconic animals and over 60,000 different plants. These ecological resources are in demand around the world, often included as established and new ingredients in food supplements, cosmetics, flavours, fragrances, and medicines.

However, biodiversity-based value chains between Africa and Europe have not yet fulfilled their potential for socio-economic development and the conservation of biological diversity. Strengthening supply chains, improving market access, and regulatory and business environments that enable companies and producers to respect people and

Political partners:

- Cameroon: Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED)
- Madagascar: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD)
- Namibia: Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) under the Ministry of Environment, Fisheries and Tourism (MEFT)
- South Africa: Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)

Implementation phase: 01/2023 – 12/2025



nature are urgently needed. Through Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), e.g., indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLC) that provide genetic resources [providers] can ensure adequate and rightful compensation from business partners [users]. In fact, Member States of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have committed to share monetary and non-monetary benefits deriving from the use of these indigenous materials fairly and equitably. Through the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) adopted in 2022, ABS has gained further importance. Benefit-sharing creates incentives for the sustainable use of environmental assets ensuring their availability for future generations. However, so far only few long-term business relations under the legally binding Nagoya Protocol on ABS currently exist.