



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Status of Implementation of Article 23 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

From national reports and a survey

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Overview of Article 23 under the Protocol



- 1. The Parties shall:
 - (a) Promote and facilitate public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms in relation to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health. In doing so, the Parties shall cooperate, as appropriate, with other States and international bodies;
 - (b) Endeavour to ensure that public awareness and education encompass ***access to information on living modified organisms identified in accordance with this Protocol that may be imported.***
- 2 The Parties shall, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, consult the public in the decision-making process regarding living modified organisms and shall make the results of such decisions available to the public, while respecting confidential information in accordance with Article 21.
- 3 Each Party shall endeavour to inform its public about the means of public access to the Biosafety Clearing-House.

Background

National reports

- Parties to the Cartagena Protocol were to submit their 4th national report 12 months prior to the 10th meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP 10), including information on Article 23
- The SCBD prepared the analysis of information for the assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena on Biosafety in 2022, including information on Article 23 based on the 4th national reports
- The assessment and review of the Cartagena Protocol was combined with the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Protocol (2011-2020)
- 171 Parties submitted a 4th national report
- 137 Parties completed their submission on the Biosafety Clearing-House

Poll on Article 23

- 23 respondents participated in the poll
- The poll included questions on Article 23 that were not in the national reports or other questionnaires



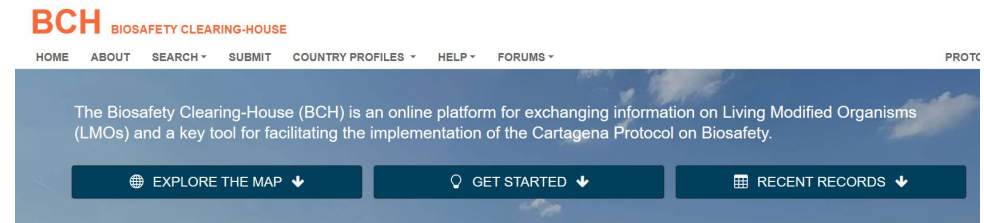
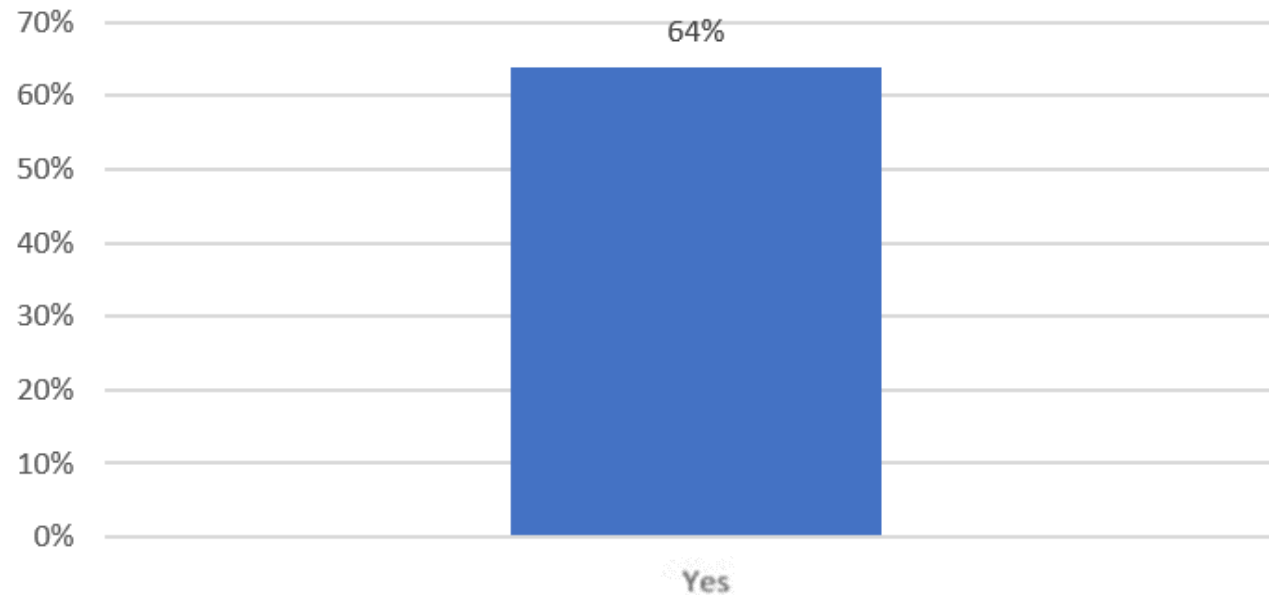
Part 1: Status of Implementation from national reports

Access to Information

Main progress (% of Parties)



Has your country informed the public about the means to access the Biosafety Clearing-House?



Part 1: Status of Implementation from assessment and review and the Biosafety Clearing-House -Main successes or challenges of Access to Information

- There is not much change of the number of Parties having in place a website. The CEE region even has a decline of websites



Google Analytics of the Biosafety Clearing-House

From July to December 2023
(New Google Analytics 4)

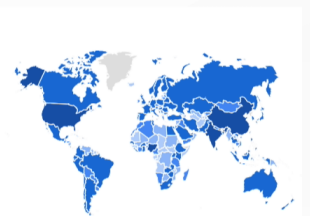
42,909



On average:

235 users per day

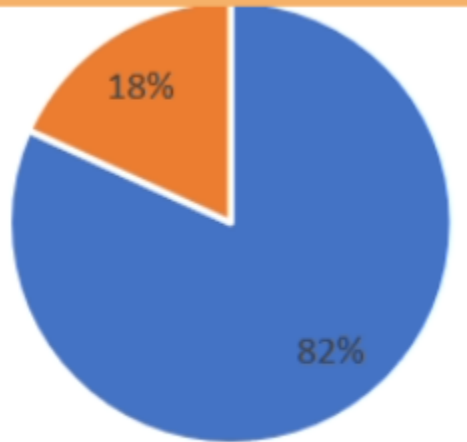
57%
New users



Part 1: Status of Implementation from a poll

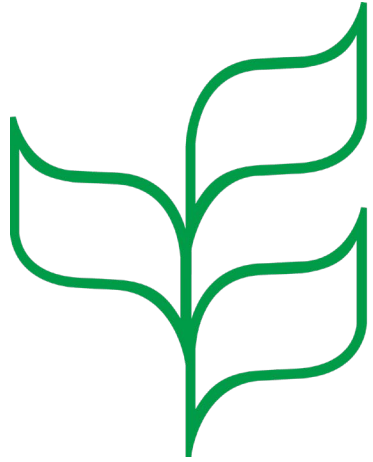
Access to Information

Main progress



9. Has your country made use of or would your country like to make use of the SCBD's e-learning module on access to information (e.g. the guidance on proactive methods of informing the public about the clearing-houses and/or methods on addressing requests) and/or SCBD's e-learning module on public participation regarding LMOs (e.g. tools and levels of public participation)?

Thank you



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