

Introductory Course to the to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety



InforMEA
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS



Course Syllabus

Learning Objectives

The Convention on Biological Diversity provided for Parties to consider the need for and modalities of a protocol setting out appropriate procedures for the safe transfer, handling and use of any Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) resulting from biotechnology that may have adverse effect on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

This course introduces you to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity. In regulating the international movement of LMOs, the Protocol seeks to prevent or mitigate risk by requiring that exporters obtain the importing country's advance informed agreement before the LMOs are introduced into the importer's environment.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain the benefits and risks of LMOs, and the importance of ensuring their safe transfer, handling and use.
2. Identify the core components and mechanisms of the Cartagena Protocol and Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol.

Content & Duration

This online course is composed of 4 lessons which are organized in interactive modules that combine course theory with exercises and interactions to facilitate the learning process. The core content of the lessons is complemented with references to primary sources and additional resources on external websites.

It will take you approximately 1 hour to complete the course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you wish.

Completion Certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress. You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new courses, and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Course Outline & Content

Lesson 1: Introduction

LMOs – benefits and risks; negotiation and adoption of the Protocol.

Lesson 2: Major Components of the Cartagena Protocol

Objective and scope; advanced informed agreement procedure; risk assessment and management; unintentional transboundary movement; capacity building; non-Parties; compliance.

Lesson 3: Institutional Arrangements and the Clearing House Mechanism

Institutional arrangements; information sharing; the biosafety clearing-house.

Lesson 4: The Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress

Origins and core provisions of the Supplementary Protocol.