



## ECUADOR EL PAÍS MÁS DIVERSO EN ANFIBIOS



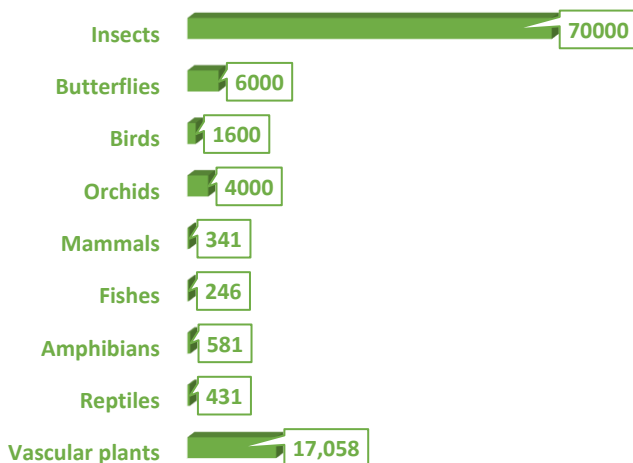
Strengthening Human Resources, Legal Frameworks, and Institutional Capacities to Implement the Nagoya Protocol (UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project)

### BIODIVERSITY IN ECUADOR

Ecuador is located in the midst of four natural geographical zones: the coast, the mountain range, the Amazon and the Galapagos Islands. The country is relatively small but it is one of the world's 17 megadiverse countries. Ecuador's 26 habitat types hold about 10 percent of the world's biodiversity and its surface area holds up to 9.2 plant and animal species per square kilometre, including flowering plants whose economic and biological potential is yet to be discovered.

This important ecosystem is under threat from deforestation and desertification due to the activities of extractive industries, livestock production and agriculture, in addition to climate change. These pressures on the ecosystem could hasten the degradation process if they continue unchecked.

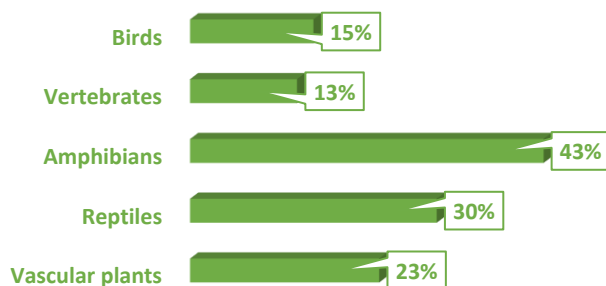
#### Species in Ecuador



### NAGOYA PROTOCOL AND ABS IMPLEMENTATION

Although Ecuador became a Party to the Nagoya Protocol in December 2017, it was one of the first countries to implement Access to genetic resources Benefit-Sharing (ABS) regimes through the common ABS systems of the Andean Community introduced in 1996. Therefore, the country has a comprehensive legal framework and instruments on ABS, including the National Constitution, Decision 391 of the Andean Community, Executive Decree 905 (regulation to the Decision 391), and the Criminal Code (sanctions for the unlawful appropriation of genetic resources).

#### Species Endemism in Ecuador

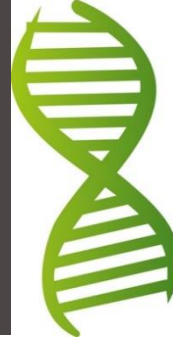


There is a legislation that requires disclosure of origin when applying for intellectual property rights. There are drafts of a benefit-sharing and prior informed consent regulation, a national anti-biopiracy strategy, and a proposal for the establishment of a *sui generis* system for the protection of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources. Political support for ABS implementation in the country is strong, but there are misunderstandings about the concept among stakeholders, particularly among the indigenous peoples and local communities.



# ECUADOR

es recursos genéticos  
para el desarrollo sostenible

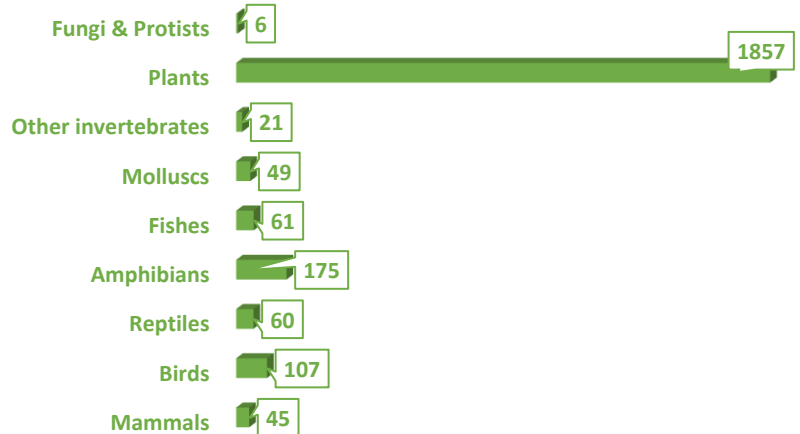


## CURRENT UNDP-GEF GLOBAL ABS PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The UNDP-GEF Global ABS project is assisting Ecuador to raise awareness and increase understanding of the socioeconomic potential of access to benefit-sharing of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and intellectual property rights. Support is being provided to revise existing laws and legislation, update the National Biodiversity Strategy, develop a bio-economy strategy, and strengthen partnerships among the different stakeholders.

The project is facilitating the development of an ABS implementation guideline that integrates relevant legal provisions, development of two biocultural community protocols, improvements in the traditional knowledge digital repository, establishment of internal regulations for an Anti-biopiracy Committee, and strengthening of capacities of the national competent authorities and related agencies to implement the ABS legal framework.

## IUCN RED-LISTED SPECIES IN ECUADOR



## RECENT BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS IN ECUADOR

Project	Funder	Total Budget (US\$)
Promoting and Protecting Traditional Knowledge and Genetic Resources Associated with the ILCs, including Capacity-building and Development of Biocultural Community Protocols (BCPs)	Government of Ecuador	170,170
Promotion of a Digital Database, Research Protocol, Dialogue and Related Activities on Traditional Knowledge	Government of Ecuador	398,340
Conservation of Ecuadorian Amphibian Diversity and Sustainable Use of its Genetic Resources	GEF	17,034,356
Raising Awareness and Development of BCPs	GIZ	165,000

## IN-COUNTRY PROJECT PARTNERS



## CONTACT

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## REFERENCES

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**IUCN.** Summary statistics. Available at: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/about/summary-statistics>. Accessed on 28 May 2018.

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