



Press Release

February 12, 2020

Workshop on Finalization of Guide to Good Practice in Laboratory Management on Genetic Resources for COMIFAC Member Countries

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and member countries of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) namely Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda, and Sao Tome and Principe will hold a workshop with an objective of finalizing and validating the Guide to Good Practice in Laboratory Management on Genetic Resources in COMIFAC area. The workshop will be held at KIM Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda, **from February 12 to 14, 2020 (from 8am to 5pm)**.

The workshop will take place as part of the Project for Promotion of Conservation, Sustainable Use of Biodiversity and Climate Change Issues supported by JICA. It will bring together researchers in each COMIFAC member country who have participated in training sessions organized by the JICA project, members of sub-regional research network, the Executive Secretariat representatives of COMIFAC, JICA representatives and JICA COMIFAC project team.

The JICA project with COMIFAC is conducting an important follow-up on the Convention on the Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol. Effective since 1993, the CBD is aimed at promoting the conservation of biodiversity and its sustainable use, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. The Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing was adopted in 2010 in Nagoya, Japan supplements the CBD and defines the principle of access and benefit-sharing (ABS), especially the relationship between the providers of genetic resources and their users in the context of research and development activities.

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