Supporting companies and academia with ABS compliance

EU Stakeholder Network event

14 June 2021 Dr Thomas Vanagt



Who we are and who do we work with

Diverse and distinct actors

- Multidisciplinary consultancy, including legal, science and regulatory
- Focus on users: companies (multinational and SMEs) + academia
- Specialised support:
 - Advice on processes and protocols
 - Legal and scientific assessment and advice
 - Assistance in concrete cases
 - Training
 - ABS tools on training and ABS Wizard



Providing support

It's not just about the EU ABS Regulation

Compliance Access Benefit sharing National Laws in **EU** Regulation N° 511/2014, provider country applied by national/regional authorities



A systemic approach to ABS compliance Components

Corporate ABS

Policy, management system & procedures

Staff

Training & awareness SOPs, flow charts

Staff

ABS Roles & responsibilities ABS Team

Genetic Material

Access procedures (+ historical update)

Genetic Material

(Change of) Use as specified in permits and ABS agreements

Genetic Material

Transfer procedures

Documentation

Permits, ABS agreements & Material Transfer Agreements

Documentation

Track & trace of material, information management

Documentation

Due diligence (declarations)



Observations

The application of ABS compliance

- Management of complexity:
 - Multi-layered R&D context
 - High transaction cost due to diversity of frameworks
 - Evolving international and national frameworks
- Substantial internal resources needed and allocated
- Observed due diligence by users, i.a:
 - identification of scope of obligations
 - Processes
 - Information and training
 - Systemic implementation and follow-up



But there is more to ABS

ABSint as a research partner

- PharmaSea (2012 2017)
- MarPipe (2017 2021)
- Marbles (2021 2026)



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