Together, business and biodiversity can bloom. UEBT is working to make respect for people and biodiversity a critical element in sourcing strategies of natural ingredients used in the cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and food sectors.

**About UEBT**

The Union for Ethical BioTrade is a non-profit association that promotes sourcing with respect. We support and verify companies’ commitments to innovation and sourcing that contribute to a world in which people and biodiversity thrive.

**Promoting change**

UEBT contributes to transformation of biodiversity based innovation and sourcing by:

- Raising awareness on ethical sourcing of biodiversity.
- Verifying ethical sourcing practices on respect for people and biodiversity.
- Collaborating with companies, private sector working groups, or civil society partners to address specific issues.
- Advisory, training and capacity development services related to ethical sourcing.

**Why join UEBT?**

- Join a growing movement of private sector and civil society organisations committed to sourcing with respect for people and biodiversity.
- Access UEBT verification solutions to improve your business or reassure your clients.
- Benefit from UEBT expertise and advisory services at reduced rates to improve operations.

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**What is sourcing with respect?**

Sourcing with respect is defined by

**THE UEBT ETHICAL BIOTRADE STANDARD**

- Respect for Biodiversity
- Sustainable use of biodiversity
- Biodiversity conservation
- Legal compliance
- Systems for ethical sourcing
- Fair and equitable benefit sharing
- Respect for People
- Clarity of land tenure
- Respect for worker rights

The UEBT standard is based on the UNCTAD BioTrade principles and criteria. It is an internationally recognised voluntary sustainability standard, that was developed with inputs from experts, companies, local communities, and NGOs.

The Ethical BioTrade standard guides us, as we work hand-in-hand with businesses to put their ethical philosophies into action.
OUR HISTORY

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) supported the creation of UEBT as a multi-stakeholder platform to engage business in BioTrade.

This was in recognition of the important role that the private sector plays in sustainable use of biodiversity. Today, we operate independently, but maintain strong partnerships with UN organisations such as the UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

UEBT verification solutions

Verification of company commitments

Member companies agree to have their ethical sourcing commitments verified every three years. This is not about guaranteeing compliance, but about putting companies on a pathway to gradually improve their practices and achieve greater and greater impact.

Ethical sourcing system certification

This certification program validates that a company has incorporated the requirements of the UEBT Ethical BioTrade Standard into its systems for sourcing and innovating natural ingredients.

Natural ingredient certification

Through its natural ingredient certification program, UEBT certifies that a natural ingredient is sourced with respect for people and biodiversity.

Delivering Impact

UEBT Trading Members across Latin America, Asia, and Africa have prioritised over 500 supply chains involving over 60 countries and over 150,000 local producers.

UEBT ADVISORY

Our expertise

In sourcing areas

Verification of supply chain practices against the UEBT Ethical BioTrade or client standards, training of smallholders and pickers, biodiversity assessments, company-community dialogues.

At the company level

Assessment of ethical sourcing systems (policies, procedures and practices), development of local monitoring systems to assure sustainable sourcing, training of staff and internal auditors.

Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)

Revision of R&D workflows, verification of ingredient risk assessments against local rules and regulations, ABS portfolio assessments, provision of regulatory updates, advice on ABS permit negotiations, and training of staff and government officials.

Our ultimate goal is a positive impact on people and biodiversity. To ensure impact, we collect data from our members and conduct studies into the difference we are making in companies and in sourcing regions.

We hold full ISEAL membership, meaning that we follow a set of globally recognised credibility principles and codes of good practices known to deliver impact.

IMAGES: OVERLEAF: ECHINACEA PURPUREA, ABOVE: HARVESTING HIBISCUS SABDARIFFA VAR. SABDARIFFA, SENEGAL.