

The Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House (ABSCH)

MODEL CONTRACTUAL CLAUSES, CODES OF CONDUCT, GUIDELINES, BEST PRACTICES AND/OR STANDARD (A19A20)

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Title

Utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in academic research - A good practice guide for access and benefit-sharing

Summary

This publication explains Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (ABS) and its implications for academic research. The guide offers comprehensive information to assist scientists and research institutions in planning and performing research projects that use genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge from abroad. The goal of this manual is to enable researchers to act in conformity with the regulatory requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Good Practice Guide includes graphic illustrations outlining the steps to be taken when accessing genetic resources for research purposes, in-situ in the provider country, or ex-situ in public collections, within a research institution, or from third persons. It illustrates benefit-sharing opportunities to be included in the Mutually Agreed Terms from a non-commercial research perspective. See also our specific publication and website Toolbox to elaborate a Mutually Agreed Terms contract on <http://abs.scnat.ch> Switzerland has ratified the CBD, the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty. The Good Practice Guide informs about the corresponding Swiss legal obligations of academic researchers. The brochure also contains several case studies to exemplify ABS situations, a glossary and important contact points to get started with your ABS procedure.

Link to the resource(s)

[ABS_Good_Practice_E_WEB_2016.pdf \(English\)](#)
[Access to Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge and Sharing the Benefits arising from their Utilization \(ABS\) \(English\)](#)
<https://naturwissenschaften.ch/organisations/biodiversity/abs>

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Cover image(s)



Type of resource

- Best practices

Format details

PDF-file; 70 pages. Requires PDF reader for viewing

Country(ies), Regional or Economic group(s) related to the resource


- Switzerland

Thematic areas(s) and keywords for facilitating online searche

Access to genetic resources (Article 15 of the CBD)
Nagoya Protocol
Access to genetic resources
For non-commercial use
Access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, including prior informed consent or approval or involvement
For non-commercial use
Benefit-Sharing
Mutually agreed terms
Monetary benefits
Non-monetary benefits
Compliance
Compliance with domestic legislation or regulatory requirements of the other Party (Article 15 and 16)
On access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing
On access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and benefit-sharing
Non-compliance with domestic legislation or regulatory requirements
Issues related to monitoring the utilization of genetic resources (Article 17)
Checkpoints
Permits or their equivalent constituting an internationally recognized certificate of compliance
Compliance with mutually agreed terms (Article 18)
Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House
Model contractual clauses
Codes of conduct, guidelines, and best practices and or/standards
Transboundary cooperation
Capacity-building
Technology transfer, collaboration and cooperation
ABS legislative, administrative or policy measures
Non-commercial purposes
Academic research
Identification and taxonomy
All types of genetic resources
Plants
Animals
Microorganism
Fungi
Wild species
Domesticated species and/or cultivated species
All areas of access of the genetic resource
Ex-situ
Soil and/or water samples
Users of genetic resources
Intellectual property rights
Relevant international agreements, instruments and organizations
Food and Agriculture Organization
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
World Health Organization
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
sectoral

Additional Information

The 2016 publication was totally revised to include all aspects of the Nagoya Protocol supplementary agreement that entered into force in 2014. Switzerland has ratified the CBD, the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Corresponding legislation is in place and also applies to academic research.

 [ABSCH-A19A20-SCBD-238868-1](#)

Further Information

Questions about the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing or the operation of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House may be directed to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

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