

Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House (ABSCH)

VIRTUAL LIBRARY RESOURCE (VLR)

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Title

Bringing access and benefit sharing into the digital age

Summary

Contemporary research is increasingly data-centric and the rise of genomics revolutionized our approach and use of genetic resources. However, genomics developed relatively independently from the international instruments on the conservation of biological diversity, in particular the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) framework. The legal and political status of Digital Sequence Information (DSI) derived from genetic resources emerged recently as a contentious point in the various ABS instruments dealing with genetic resources. In view of the multiple parallel and uncoordinated debates that occurred in various forums dealing with plants, animals, terrestrial, microbial, marine and agricultural biodiversity, we propose here to take a step back in the discussion. We argue that DSI should be considered as an overarching issue to be addressed through a coordinated and inclusive Multi-stakeholder Committee that would assess its position and role within the existing ABS regime complex. This Multi-stakeholder Committee on the Governance of Digital Sequence Information, that may run under the auspices of the United Nations, will be dedicated to mitigate global governance issues associated with the digitization of genetic resources. In this paper, we sketch this body as a transversal and inclusive tool to facilitate long-term coherence in all ABS policy forums.

Link to the resource(s)

[ppp3.10186.pdf \(English\)](#)

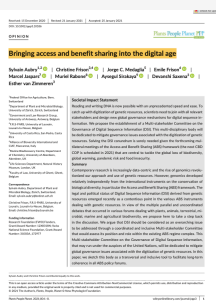
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Cover image(s)



Type of resource

Article (journal / magazine / newspaper)

Format/File type

Text document (e.g. adobe acrobat reader or Word)

Main purpose of the resource

Reference material/literature

Source

Plants, People, Planet. 2021;00:1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ppp3.10186>

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

Global

Related Aichi target(s)

16. Nagoya Protocol on ABS

Thematic areas(s) and keywords for facilitating online searches

Access to genetic resources (Article 15 of the CBD)

? [ABSCH-VLR-SCBD-254814-1](#)

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.

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