



Introduction to Access and Benefit-Sharing

Course Syllabus

Learning Objectives

With the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in collaboration with the United Nations Staff College developed this introductory e-learning course on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS).

The course is designed to provide participants with an introduction to one of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources or access and benefit-sharing.

The course will introduce participants to the basic concepts associated with access and benefit-sharing, and will provide an overview of the main policy milestones on ABS under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Describe what genetic resources are, where they can be found and why they are useful;
2. Explain the meaning and importance of ABS;
3. Describe the key concepts and core principles underpinning ABS;
4. Identify the key stakeholders involved in ABS;
5. Describe how ABS works;
6. Describe the current situation with regards to ABS;
7. Identify the main policy milestones on ABS under the Convention on Biological Diversity (including the Bonn Guidelines and the Nagoya Protocol);
8. Explain why it is important for countries to ratify the Nagoya Protocol.

Content & Duration

This online course is composed of 6 lessons which are organized in a single interactive module that combine course theory with exercises and interactions to facilitate the learning process. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you like.

Completion Certificate

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new courses, and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Course Outline & Content

Lesson 1: Genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.

Lesson 2: Introduction to Access and Benefit-sharing.

Lesson 3: Key concepts and principles underpinning Access and Benefit-sharing.

Lesson 4: How Access and Benefit-Sharing works in practice.

Lesson 5: Key steps involved in Access and Benefit-sharing.

Lesson 6: Importance of Nagoya Protocol and ratification.

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