

Negotiating the regime complex of access and benefit sharing laws and sustaining valuable *in situ* and *ex situ* germplasm collections

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Both *in situ* and *ex situ* germplasm collections are increasingly subject to access and benefit sharing (ABS) laws according to the United Nations (UN) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Nagoya Protocol (NP) and related regimes covering some agricultural plants, some viruses and some marine resources. Valuable collections and the ongoing work of conservation and collection need to engage with this ABS regime complex and its technical requirements for access permits, sample collection and maintenance, monitoring and compliance, consultation with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, benefit sharing, and maintaining the infrastructure and processes to comply with these laws. This talk presents an up-to-date survey of current international law developments at the CBD and NP forums, and the parallel discussions about agricultural plants at the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (Plant Treaty), viruses and pandemics at the UN World Health Organisation, marine genetic resources at the UN Law of the Seas forum and intellectual property at the UN World Intellectual Property Organisation. Common themes involve monitoring and compliance (including track and trace mechanisms), Digital Sequence Information, Traditional Knowledge, monetary and non-monetary benefit sharing (including technology transfer) and Artificial Intelligence challenges. The talk raises awareness about the reach of these laws and introduces some practical tools to facilitate best practice compliance. The talk concludes with some of our group's thoughts about the future (see, for example, Laird et al. (2020) in *Science*, 367(6483): 1200–1202).