

# The Missing Link

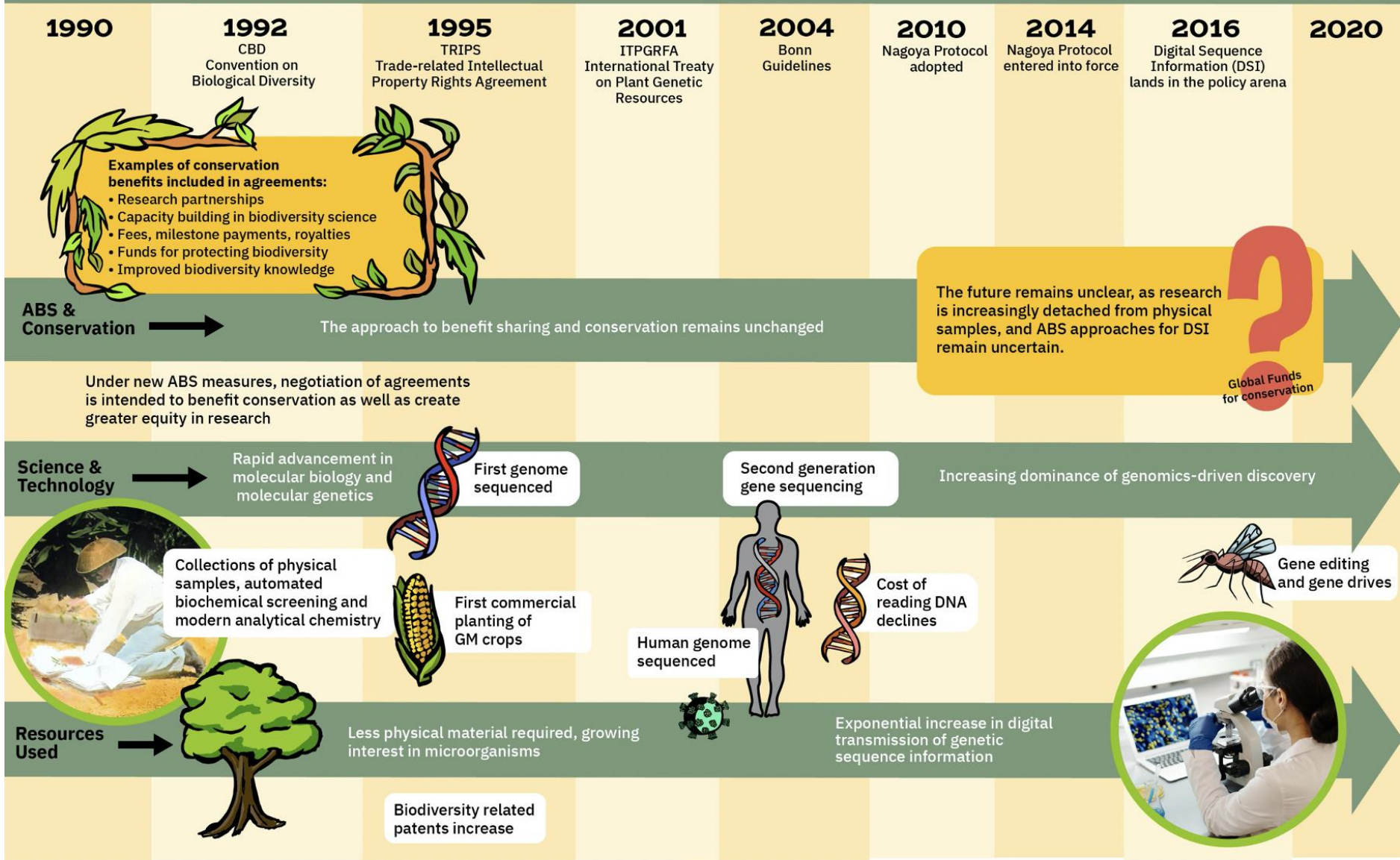
How do we ensure that benefit sharing contributes to the sustainable use and conservation of biological diversity?



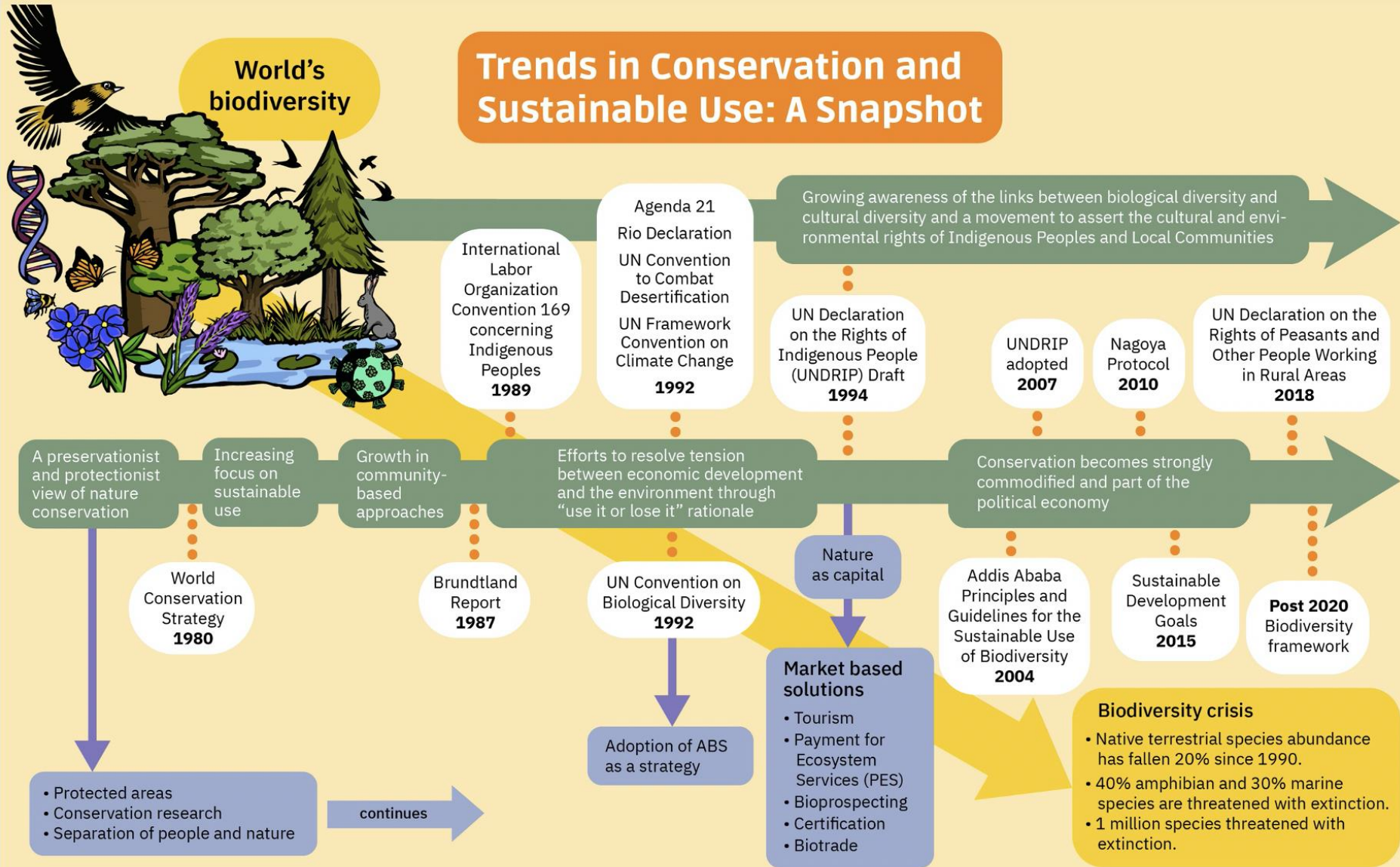
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# Biodiscovery, ABS and Conservation



Source: Laird, S.A. and R. Wynberg. 2021. *Connecting the dots: Biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and access and benefit sharing*. BioInnovation Africa (implemented by GIZ and funded by BMZ), Voices for BioJustice, People and Plants International, and University of Cape Town.





# Same-same, or slightly different?

## **CBD (1992)**

The objectives of this Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

## **Nagoya (2010)**

The objective of this Protocol is the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components.



# The elements often ignored

- fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources
  - including by:
    - appropriate access to genetic resources
    - and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies
    - taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies
    - and by appropriate funding
- thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components.



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# Benefits of benefit sharing

- Money, but more:
  - Capacity
  - Technology
  - Sustainable development/industry/value adding
  - Affirmation of and respect for rights > pride of ownership, empowerment of resource managers, sustainable livelihoods
  - Knowledge to manage biodiversity better
- Things we can't change, things we can change
- The wisdom to know the difference?



# Post-2020 GBF: a final chance?

- 30 years of neo-liberal globalisation has caused unprecedented global environmental crises (extinction and climate heating)
- Inequality; unfair international economic order; retreat into authoritarian nationalism; mass displacement and migration
- Multilateralism weakened when needed most
- Post-2020 framework and SDGs: “The Future We Want” > “Transformative change” > “leaving no one behind” > “building back better” > **A New Deal for People and Nature**
- Would require all-of-society effort, at scale not seen since WW2
- Some hopeful signs (Dasgupta Review; Leaders’ Pledge; Covax; ... )

The world is at a turning point...

# Can BIA Partner Countries help to show the way ahead?



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- Important ground work for the whole world
- Document examples of best practices that actually make a difference
- Go beyond anecdotal evidence – develop guidance for successful implementation of benefit sharing approaches that do support conservation and sustainable
- Strengthen and support African Group position in negotiations

**If not now, when?**

**If not you, who?**