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The Bigger Picture

Biotechnology, Capacity Building / Development in the Convention on Biological Diversity - and Whither DSI

Technical Webinar on DSI

2 June 2021

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Overview - *Placing DSI in Context*

- **CBD:**
 - **Political and Conceptual Underpinnings**
 - **'Forgotten Articles, Forgotten Obligations'**
 - **Protocols (Biosafety, ABS)**
- **Capacity Building, Capacity Development**
- **Whither DSI?**



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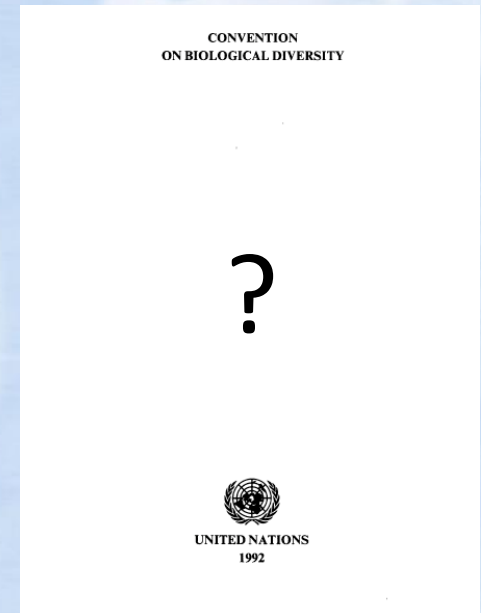


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Convention on Biological Diversity

Objectives:

- Conservation of biological diversity
- Sustainable use of its components
- 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.





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Convention on Biological Diversity

Grand Bargain(s):

- Conservation in exchange for benefits
- Conservation in exchange for sovereign rights recognition
- Conservation in exchange for the means to benefit

Underpinnings (prevailing views and assumptions):

- Green revolution
- Biotech + biodiversity = value
- North vs South
- Physicality
- Rio Declaration on Environment and Development



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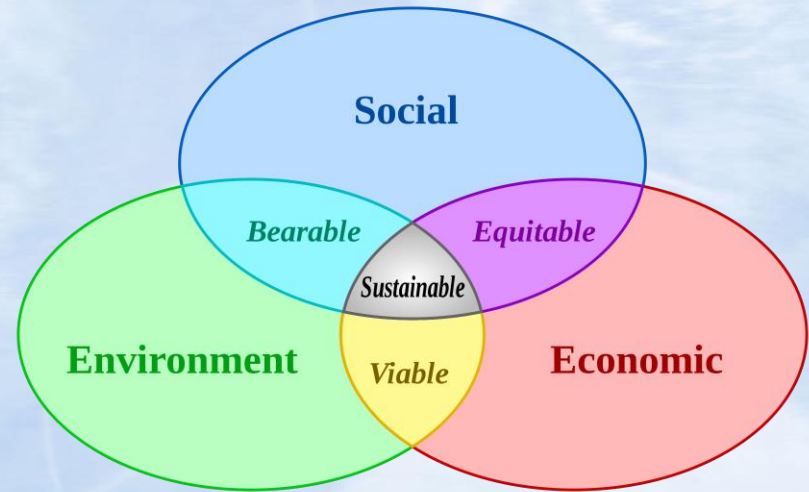
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What is the CBD about?

- Biodiversity
- Conservation in exchange for benefits
- Fair distribution of wealth
- Ethics
- Research
- IP
- Reaping the benefits of biotech, mitigating the risks
- Sustainable development



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Acknowledging that the provision of new and additional financial resources and appropriate access to relevant technologies can be expected to make a substantial difference in the world's ability to address the loss of biological diversity,

Acknowledging further that special provision is required to meet the needs of developing countries, including the provision of new and additional financial resources and appropriate access to relevant technologies,

Aware that conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is of critical importance for meeting the food, health and other needs of the growing world population, for which purpose access to and sharing of both genetic resources and technologies are essential,



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CBD: The “Forgotten” Articles

- Article 16: Access to and Transfer of Technology
- Article 17: Exchange of Information
- Article 18: Technical and Scientific Cooperation
- Article 19: Handling of Biotechnology and Distribution of its Benefits



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Technology Transfer in International Agreements

- Limited success
- Limited interest
- Limited understanding
- Misconceptions
- Secondary focus at best
- Weak provisions
- Difficult to sustain

But why?



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Capacity Building

- Limited success
- Limited interest
- Limited understanding
- Misconceptions
- Secondary focus at best
- Weak provisions
- Difficult to sustain
- Given to others

Capacity building vs. capacity development



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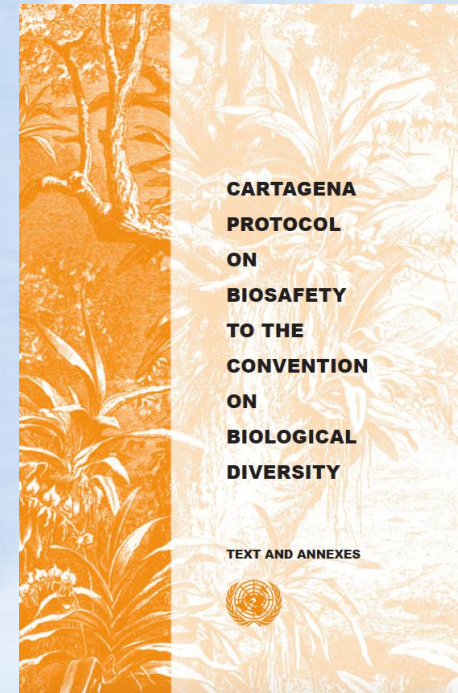


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Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2000)

Objective:

- To contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, and specifically focusing on transboundary movements.





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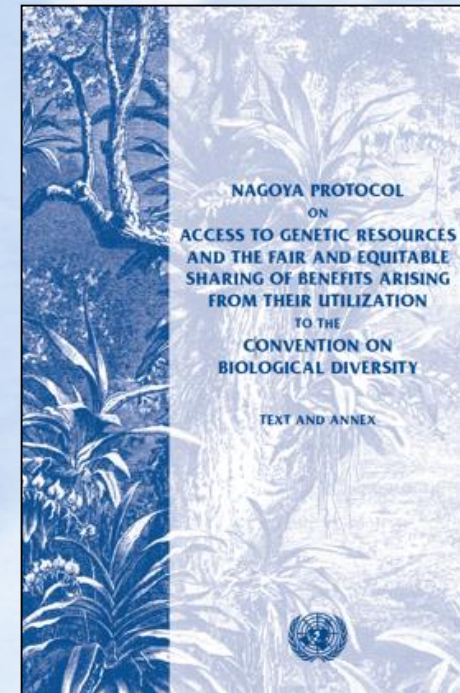


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Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (2010)

Objective:

- The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components....





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The “Forgotten” Articles and the Protocols

Cartagena Protocol

Article 20: Information Sharing and the Biosafety Clearing-house

Article 22: Capacity Building

Article 28: Financial Mechanism and Resources

Nagoya Protocol

Article 22: Capacity

Article 23: Technology Transfer, Collaboration and Cooperation



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Whither DSI?

- In or out of CBD?
 - If no, where does it go?
 - If yes, where does it best fit?
- DSI powerful tool for sustainable development
- “Like water on your roof”
- If the shoe fits: DSI=Capacity Building?



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