



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty

**ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Transparency of Rights and Obligations

1st Scientific Advisory Committee meeting
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www.fao.org/plant-treaty

The GLIS vision: 7 objectives, 3 pillars

- **Access** to, and **exchange** of information;
- **Collaborations** for the effective use of such information, through communication, capacity development and technology transfer;
- **Transparency of rights and obligations** related to accessing, sharing and using information associated with germplasm

One area of the PoW

- To **analyse the institutional, organizational, policy and legal factors** for PGRFA information access, sharing and use in the context of the Treaty's provisions;
- To **understand the applicability and impacts of models** developed in other parts of the Treaty, such as the Multilateral System, and initiatives such as DivSeek.

BSP 10: one question

Question:

How do access and benefit-sharing (ABS) frameworks influence the overall policy direction of the GLIS and, more specifically, the gathering and availability of genomic data/information?

BSP 10: some findings

a) Legal

No practical standards of access and use in place

Possible influence of Nagoya-based laws and contracts

Not one, rather multiple legal restrictions to availability of genomic information in the GLIS (e.g. confidentiality, laws)

BSP 10: some more findings

b) Policy trends

Research on genetic resources is adapting to the new ABS environment

Regulatory pathways asserting national control of genomic information are eliciting a response by the research sector that incentivizes research commons

BSP 10: some actionable recommendations (working document n. 4)

DOIs useful to link information to the source material

Comprehensive analysis of legal interoperability for the GLIS (other legal limitations to the availability of information)

Establish a **policy/legal observatory** for GLIS users

Activate the capacity development and technology transfer elements of the GLIS vision and PoW

Explore and learn from collaborations in other projects (“based on existing information systems”). Develop **case studies**.

Case studies

To investigate how PGRFA information initiatives:

- Build their constituency – for whom, what initial resources
- Integrate multiple capacities, heterogeneity
- Facilitate open collaboration through a recursive relationship between access to information, knowledge and contribution to the community pool
- Implement open access standards and other rules of exchange (how they deal with legal limitations to the availability of information)