

Access and Benefit Sharing in 2026: Where we are – and new agreements might take us.

Workshop, 21/22 April 2026 at LIB Museum Koenig, Bonn

This is an open workshop, covering practical aspects of the implementation of the EU ABS Regulation on non-commercial research and collection-holding institutions. It covers the basics and ten years of practical experience after the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol. Potential new issues may arise from the ratification of the High Seas Treaty on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) in 2025 and the upcoming implementation of the CBD agreement on Digital Sequence Information.

Participants from CETAF, DNFS, universities and representatives of ministries are invited to join the CETAF ABS Workshop 2026 to get hands-on insights and discuss lessons learned and concerns.

Venue:

Great Lecture Hall, 1st floor, enter via main entrance of Museum Koenig, Leibniz Institute for Biodiversity Change, Adenauerallee 160, 53113 Bonn.

Registration: attendance is free

email registration is required and open **until 10th April**

email contact: g.nett@leibniz-lib.de

Arrival:

Via Cologne-Bonn Airport: take Bus line SB60 from the airport to Bonn Train station; change there to tram lines 16 or 63 to Bad Godesberg or line 66 to Bad Honnef, exit at station "Museum Koenig". The tram station at the bonn station is in the underground

Website for public transport: <https://www.vrs.de/en/>; origin: airport cologne, destination: museum koenig

By train: international trains connect to cologne main station, change there to regional trains to Bonn main station

website for Deutsche Bahn services: https://int.bahn.de/en?dbkanal_007=sprachauswahl-en; origin: cologne, destination "Museum Koenig" (search result will show regional train and connecting tram)

By car: Travelling by car: via A 565 motorway, exit "Bonn-Poppelsdorf": follow the signs for "Museumsmeile", get into the left-hand lane after the Reuterbrücke bridge and turn off onto Adenauerallee via Buschstraße, Schedestraße.

Alternative route via B9 and A562 from Bad Godesberg: get into the left-hand lane towards Reuterbrücke, turn right before the bridge and turn onto Adenauerallee via Buschstraße, Schedestraße.

Programme

April 21st, Tuesday

16:00 – 17:30 Reception

April 22nd, Wednesday

09:00 – 09:15 Welcome

09:15 – 09:45 **The Basics**
The Convention of Biological Diversity, Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), and the Nagoya Protocol

09:45 – 10:15 The EU ABS Regulation: Requirements and obligations of users

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00 **The CETAF Code of Conduct:** officially acknowledged Best Practice – key steps and challenges

12:00 – 12:30 **Practical Experiences:** model clauses, pitfalls and risk management

12:30 – 13:00 **Open Discussion:** concerns, experiences, uncertainties: where are you with your NP implementation?

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 14:45 **Digital Sequence Information:** What is DSI? Data, information or just a record?

14:45 – 15:15 **Digital Sequence Information:** current discussions, expectations and regulatory approaches

15:15 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:00 **Upcoming challenges: Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ):** regulatory approaches and challenges for Marine Genetic Resources (MGR) and Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)

16:00 – 16:30 **Upcoming challenges:** potential issues for Biodiversity Research and Collecting Holding institutions

16:30 – 17:00 **Open Discussion:** concerns and feedback

17:00-17:15 **Closing and next steps**