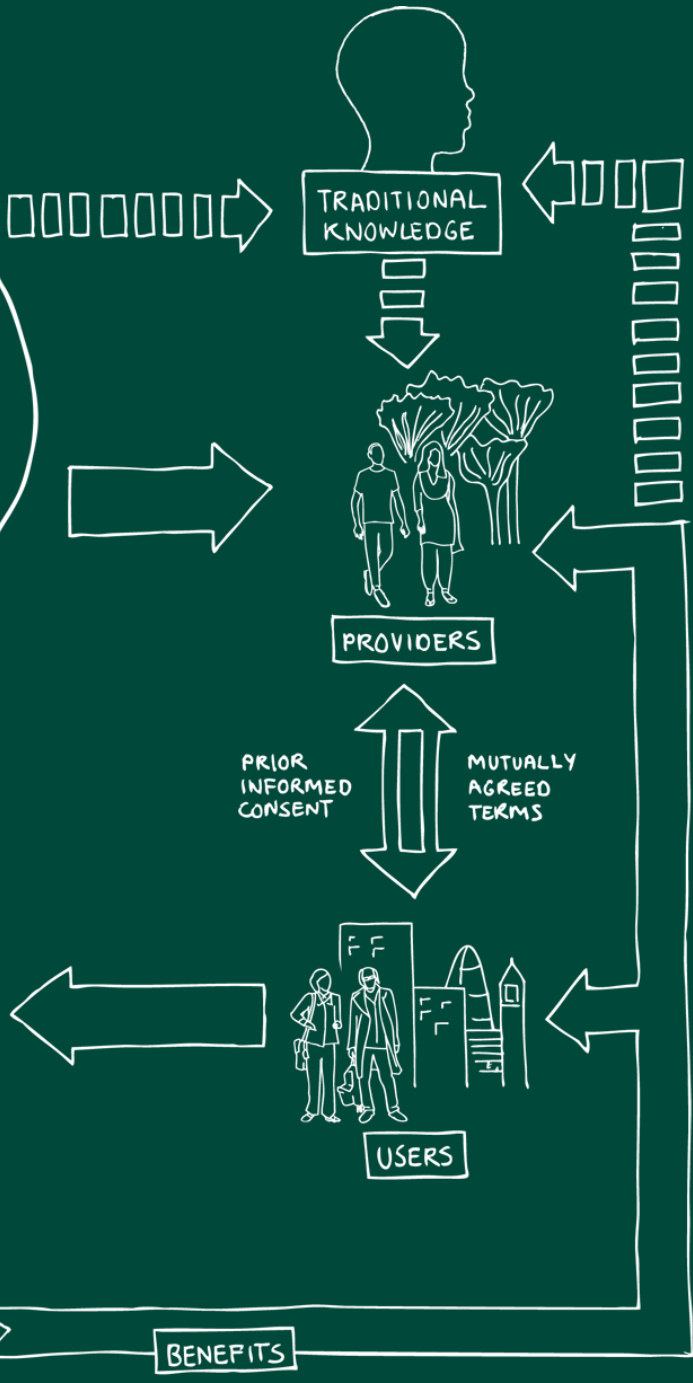
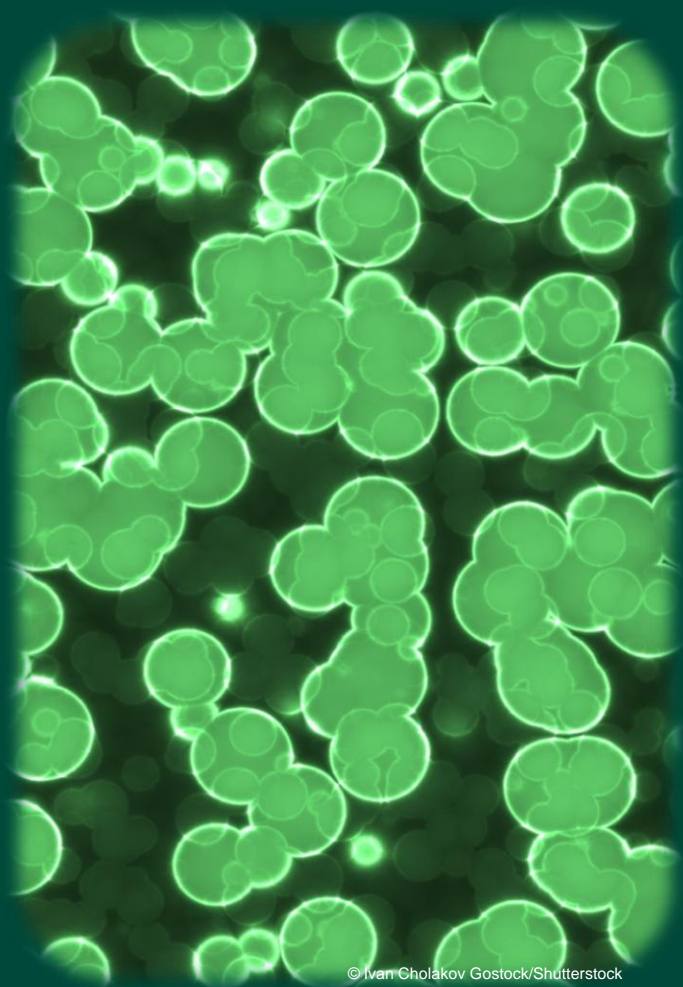


# Access and benefit-sharing information kit



# Introduction on access and benefit-sharing



**An information kit** was developed to build awareness on ABS. The key themes addressed in the information kit are:

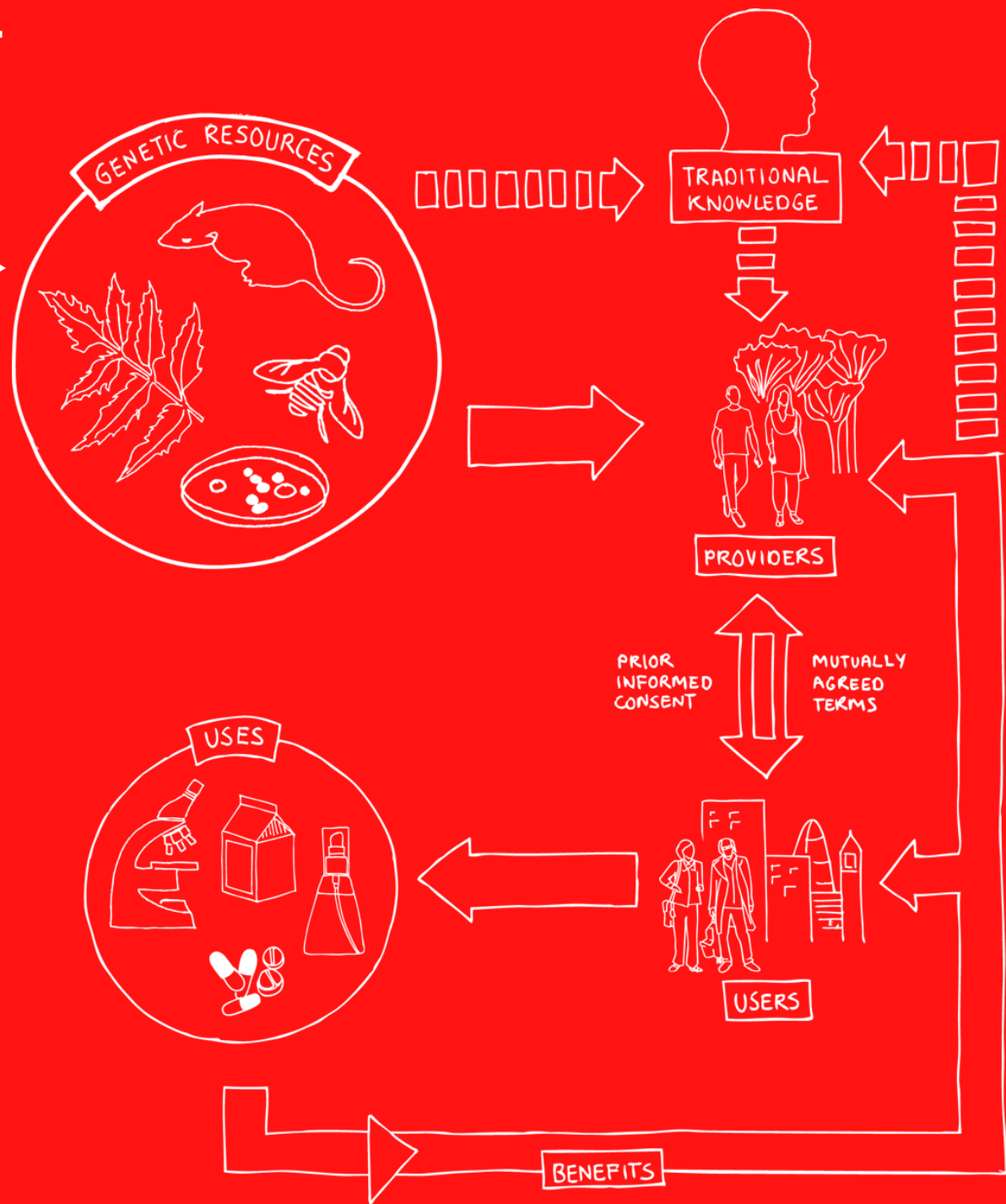
- Access and benefit-sharing
- Uses of genetic resources
- Traditional knowledge
- The Bonn Guidelines
- National Implementation

A brochure, factsheets and PowerPoint slides can be downloaded at:

[www.cbd.int/abs](http://www.cbd.int/abs)



# Traditional knowledge



# Traditional knowledge



## What is traditional knowledge:

- For centuries, indigenous and local communities (ILCs) have learned, used and passed on knowledge about local biodiversity and how it can be used for a range of purposes
- In ABS, traditional knowledge refers to the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities related to genetic resources





# Traditional knowledge

## Why is traditional knowledge important?

- Indigenous and local communities rely on genetic resources and have helped preserve, maintain and increase biodiversity over centuries
- Traditional knowledge related to biological resources can be an important source of information for identifying new uses of genetic resources
- The leads provided by traditional knowledge in identifying the properties of genetic resources have enabled industries to develop new products and have helped scientists understand biodiversity



# Traditional knowledge



## In ABS agreements:

- The prior informed consent (PIC) of indigenous and local communities should be sought whenever traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is to be used
- Users of genetic resources and indigenous and local communities should negotiate mutually agreed terms (MAT) to encourage the equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of traditional knowledge



# Traditional knowledge

## Article 8(j) of the CBD:

- States the need for governments to respect, preserve, maintain and promote the wider application of traditional knowledge with the approval and involvement of relevant indigenous and local communities

**CBD webpages** with information on traditional knowledge , innovations, practices and measures:

- [www.cbd.int/traditional](http://www.cbd.int/traditional)
- [www.cbd.int/tk](http://www.cbd.int/tk)



# Traditional knowledge



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## **CBD Working Group on Traditional Knowledge:**

- Directs and facilitates discussions between governments, indigenous and local communities and other interested parties
- Allows indigenous and local communities to contribute their views and recommendations on related issues



Convention on  
Biological Diversity



# Traditional knowledge



## **Case study:** Traditional knowledge of the Hoodia plant

- Hoodia is a succulent plant indigenous to southern Africa
- It has been used for centuries by indigenous San peoples to stave off hunger and thirst



# Traditional knowledge

## **Case study:** Traditional knowledge of the Hoodia plant

- In 1996, the South African-based Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) patented active compounds of Hoodia for potential commercialization of an appetite suppressant
- This led to a licensing agreement between CSIR and some large pharmaceutical companies to develop and commercialize a Hoodia-based product



# Traditional knowledge

## **Case study:** Traditional knowledge of the Hoodia plant

- Initial actions were taken without the consent of the San peoples which led to an outcry by NGOs and media attention
- As a result, a benefit-sharing agreement was signed with the San peoples



# Traditional knowledge

## **Case study:** Traditional knowledge of the Hoodia plant

The agreement included:

- Monetary benefits:
  - Milestone payments during product development
  - Royalty payment in the case of commercialization
- Non-monetary benefits:
  - Funds for development, education and training of the San community
  - Funds to support projects and institutions working to improve research and protection of the San traditional knowledge and heritage

