

Science and Policy Workshop for Access and Benefit Sharing for Non-Commercial Academic Research

Lima, November 20th/2014

With the objective of increase the understanding of the interface between science and policy on matters related to the national implementation of Access and Benefit Caribbean countries, the Workshop on Science and Policy for Access and Benefit Sharing for non-commercial academic research will be carried out in Lima, Peru, during November 20th to 22th/2014.

This workshop it frames within the “[The CBD Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources in LAC: a science-policy dialogue to stimulate the mutually beneficial implementation of Article 8a of the Nagoya Protocol and promote cooperation Project](#)” executed by DIVERSITAS in coordination with the International Council for Science Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ICSU ROLAC), the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT) and the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS).

The workshop will focus on legal systems and procedures for Access and Benefit-Sharing and practical examples of non-commercial academic research on genetic resources from nine Latin American and Caribbean countries, i.e. Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Peru. The aim with this geographic representation is to have a diversity of systems, learn another and reflect on trans-boundary access.

The workshop will also focus on the benefits (and possible risks) associated to non-commercial academic research, in order to highlight and find opportunities for facilitated access for this type of research.

Ultimately, the workshop intents to draw concrete lessons learnt and key recommendations from the variety of experiences represented at the workshop to be show-cased regionally as well as in international fora. It will also try to promote an open and transparent communication in order to enhance mutual understanding between non-commercial academic research and governmental agencies involved in Access and Benefit-Sharing.

The IUCN-UNEP/GEF Regional ABS LAC Project was also presented in this workshop, considering the Collaboration Agreement with IUCN-Sur and DIVERSITAS on this matter, and also through the representation of delegates of Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador and Peru, members of the Regional Project.

More information of the Workshop can be found at: <http://www.diversitas-international.org/resources/events/abs-science-politics-workshop-1>