



# TARGET 13

W4B



## What is Target 13?

Increase the Sharing of Benefits From Genetic Resources, Digital Sequence Information and Traditional Knowledge

Take effective **legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures** at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030 facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, **in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.**





# TARGET 13

W4B

## Why is this Target important?

The sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge is one of the three objectives of the Convention and a key pillar for the success of its implementation. It builds an equity dimension among countries that provide and use biodiversity with the dual objective of providing incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and mobilizing new resources redirected towards biodiversity.





# TARGET 13

W4B

## **How is this Target significant for a gender-responsive implementation of the KM-GBF?**

### **What You Need To Know: Digital Sequence Information, the KM-GBF, and Traditional Knowledge and Rights**

Digital sequence information (DSI) is the genetic information encoded in Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) and Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) sequences that can be digitally stored, accessed and analysed. DSI is used in various fields, including drug discovery, agriculture and conservation biology. With the growing importance of DSI in these fields, there is a need to ensure that its use is consistent with human rights and gender considerations.







# TARGET 13

W4B

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework recognizes the importance of human rights (Section C) and gender considerations (Target 23) to the conservation, sustainable use, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources. It seeks to ensure that the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, including their right to free, prior, and informed consent, are respected in the use of genetic resources, including DSI. It also seeks to promote gender equality to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention.

However, there are concerns about who has access to this information and how it is used. Some countries and communities argue that they should have greater control over DSI that originates within their borders, while others believe that unrestricted access to DSI is essential for scientific progress.







# TARGET 13

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Finding a way to balance these competing interests is a key challenge facing the global community and one that will require careful consideration and collaboration. DSI's use must be consistent with rights-based approaches. These may include but are not limited to ensuring transparency, disclosure requirements, intellectual property rights and accountability of databases.



Source: Rai, M. (2023, November 15). Digital Sequence Information and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: Placing Traditional Knowledge and Rights. *Women4Biodiversity*. <https://www.women4biodiversity.org/digital-sequence-information-dsi-and-the-kunming-montreal-global-biodiversity-framework-km-gbf-ensuring-rights-and-equitable-benefit-sharing/>