



# Where do BioTrade and ABS intersect?

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# The case of quinoa



Quinoa (*Chenopodium quinoa Willd.*)

“Mother grain” in Inca language

Domesticated over 7000 years ago, but potential rediscovered in late 20th century

Local staple to global commodity

- Acreage more than doubled
- More production exported

Sustainability concerns

- Fragile ecosystem
- Reduction of soil quality
- Loss of varieties
- Impact on nutrition
- Role of small farmers
- Fluctuating prices



# The case of quinoa (2)



**Food:** Air-filled, flour, noodles, granola, energy bars, etc.



**Feed:** Plant as green forage; harvest residue as feed

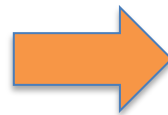
**Nutraceutical:** Antioxidant, lowers cholesterol, gluten-free

**Cosmetics:** Oil has antifungal, emollient properties; milk has anti-inflammatory, moisturizing properties; saponin as active ingredient



**Industrial:** Starch for aerosol production, pulps, plastics; saponin as insecticide

**Pharmaceutical:** Saponin for medicine absorption, as antibiotic, anti-fungal; extract as slimming agent



Number of **producing countries** went from eight in 1980 to 95 in 2015.



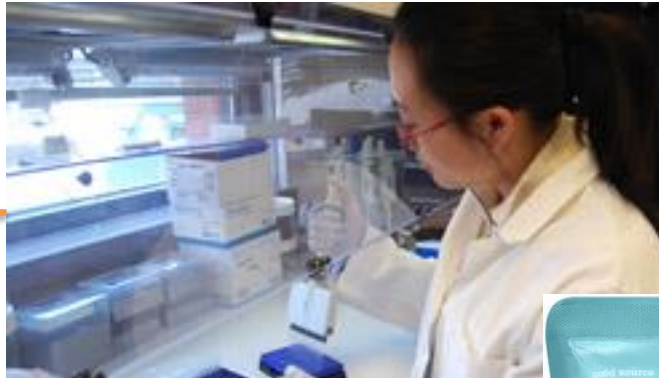
# ABS and BioTrade: In theory

	Type of activities	Type of resources	Requirements	Compliance
<b>BioTrade P&amp;C</b>	Collection, production, transformation, and commercialization of goods and services	Biological resources and associated traditional knowledge	Voluntary conformity with environmental, social and economic sustainability criteria, including on fair and equitable sharing of benefits	Verification and certification systems, such as those based on the Ethical BioTrade standard, provide independent assessment of compliance.
<b>Nagoya Protocol on ABS</b>	R&D on genetic and biochemical composition	Genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge	Mandatory conformity with requirements on prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms, including on fair and equitable sharing of benefits	Legislative, administrative or policy measures seek to ensure that genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge being utilized have been accessed in accordance with requirements.



# — ABS and BioTrade: In theory (2) —

← **ABS requirements**



← **BioTrade Principles & Criteria** →



# ABS and BioTrade: In practice

	Type of resources	Type of knowledge	Type of activities
<b>Andean countries, including Colombia and Peru</b>	Genetic resources and their by-products (molecules and substances that come from the metabolism of living beings)	Intangible component defined as the know-how, innovation or individual or collective practices associated with genetic or biological resources	Obtaining and using genetic resources their by-products or their intangible components, for research, bioprospecting, industrial application and commercial use.
<b>Brazil</b>	Genetic heritage defined as information of genetic origin from plant, animal, microbial and other species, including substances arising from the metabolism of these living beings.	Associated traditional knowledge defined as information or practices of indigenous populations, traditional communities or traditional farmers about the proprieties or direct or indirect uses associated to the genetic heritage.	Access to genetic heritage or associated traditional knowledge; the export of samples of genetic heritage; and the economic exploitation of a finished product or reproductive material arising from access.
<b>South Africa</b>	Indigenous biological resources.	Traditional use or knowledge defined as the customary utilisation or knowledge of indigenous genetic and biological resources by an indigenous community or specific individual	Bioprospecting or export of material for the purpose of bioprospecting or other research. Also requirements for biotrade, as trade of powdered, dried, sliced or extract of indigenous biological resources for commercial exploitation.
<b>Vietnam</b>	Genetic resources, which includes plant, animal, microbial and other species and genetic material	Traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, which is defined as the knowledge, experience and initiatives of native people on the conservation and use of genetic resources.	Access to genetic resources defined as activities to investigate and collect genetic resources for research and development and production of commercial products.



# - ABS and BioTrade: In practice (2) -



ABS requirements

← BioTrade Principles & Criteria →



# Synergies

## ABS

## BioTrade



Awareness raising

Rights-based approach



Level playing field

Burdensome procedures

Legal uncertainty

Disruption of local benefits



Awareness raising

Tools and experiences

Link with conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

Focus on local benefits



Confusion about nature of benefit sharing





# Conclusions

- Consider implications of scope of ABS for different types of entities, activities and sectors
- Find a balance so ABS requirements are both practical and effective
- Consider how existing BioTrade guidelines, tools or best practices can inform ABS measures
- Promote fair and equitable benefit sharing through the application of BioTrade Principles and Criteria – whether activities are or not covered by ABS requirements
- Ensure mutual supportiveness between ABS requirements and broader policies



# Questions and answers



Working together for a better world

**BiTrade**  
initiative

## Thank you

For further information: [www.biotrade.org](http://www.biotrade.org)



**BIG Vietnam**  
BioTrade Implementation Group

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