Directed Research Project for the University of Ottawa’s Student  
(ECO4150, Fall 2018)

1. Proposed research project
   • A review of the literature on the costs and benefits to the users and governments under policies for access to genetic resources and benefit sharing

2. Background/objective
   • Genetic resources are the biological material used to develop improved crop varieties, livestock breeds, and strains of microbes for food and agriculture. They are key inputs for bio-based research and innovation. Access to genetic resources and benefit sharing (ABS) has significant economic implications in the agriculture sector.

   • The purpose of this project is to look at the literature on ABS policies implemented in certain countries such as the Australian domestic ABS policy and existing practices in the USA. Specifically, the study aims to provide a good understanding of the main costs and benefits for users and governments under existing ABS policies.

3. Benefits from doing this research
   • The student will get experience in conducting literature review and economic research under the supervision of a senior economist working in Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC).

4. Deliverables
   • A synthesis paper (Length of the paper: 10-15 pages)

5. General requests
   • 1 student
   • Good writing skills
   • Language requirement: English
   • Knowledge of environmental/agricultural economics as an asset

6. Tentative schedules with meetings (specific schedule/location to be discussed)
   • Every 2 weeks in the Head Office of AAFC (Tower 7, 1341 Baseline Road, Ottawa ON)

7. Other relevance
   • Email communications for questions or discussions are highly encouraged.
8. Contact information

- Project supervisor:

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