

Accelerating progress on the Cali Fund

Towards a testing (pilot) phase and update on informal work

SBI 7 Side Event, Nairobi, 5 August 2026

AGENDA



Agenda Item
Welcome and Opening (EC and Norway)
What's on the SBI 7 table related to DSI and the Cali Fund - From COP 16 via SBI 7 to COP 17 (SCBD)
The Informal DSI Dialogue Partnership Process - Overview of activities conducted by informal partnership (Informal DSI Dialogue Partnership)
Making the Cali Fund Work, Step #1 : • <i>Identifying / understanding key construction sites and stumbling blocks - landscape of construction sites</i> (DSI informal partnership, Parties and Rights- / Stakeholder comments)
Making the Cali Fund Work, Step # 2: • <i>Overcoming key construction sites and stumbling blocks?</i> (Moderated panel discussion, interaction with the floor)
Making the Cali Fund Work Step # 3 • <i>Activities planned by informal partnership until COP 17 / What else might be needed (formal/ informal process)</i> ? (Short input and discussion)
Conclusions and Farewell (Norway)

SBI7 - Agenda Item 5

Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources

What's on the SBI 7 table related to DSI and the Cali Fund ?

SBI-7 / What's on the table?

Requests the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to consider the synthesis of views and the study mentioned in subparagraphs 6 (a) and (b) and to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting on:

Task 1: (a) Possible additional modalities for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources;

Task 2: (b) Possible tools and platforms, such as databases, for making digital sequence information on genetic resources available and accessible in a transparent and accountable manner.

Task 3: Develop a methodology for review by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting for the review of effectiveness of the multilateral mechanism, including the Cali Fund

Looking ahead to COP17

- Consider SBI Recommendations
- The Conference of the Parties **will establish thresholds and contribution rates at its seventeenth meeting and review them periodically thereafter.**
- **A formula will be determined by the Conference of the Parties** at its seventeenth meeting on the basis of the work of a group established with the terms of reference provided in enclosure III.
- Steering Committee: Report and provide advice to the Conference of the Parties;

Our role

Informal Dialogue Partnership

The Centro de Colaboración Cívica (CCC) and GeoMedia have established the **Informal Dialogue Partnership** to support Parties, relevant stakeholders, and rights-holders (IPLCs) in advancing conversations on the elements needed for the operationalization of the Multilateral Mechanism on DSI (MLM) and the Cali Fund (CF) within the timeframe of the intersessional meetings and up to COP 17 in Armenia

Supported by the Government of Norway and the European Commission.



Road Map

Formal Process

1st AHTEG on Allocation
SBI 6

3rd SC on MLM
2nd AHTEG on Allocation

4th SC on MLM
SBI 7

Ene - Mar

Apr - Jun

Jul - Sept

Informal Process

- Balance on DSI – SCBD
- Adjustment of Roadmap
- 1st Meeting, Construction Sites

- IPLC/Industry Meeting
- 1st Meeting report back webinar
- Webinars for IPLCs
- Piloting Conversations

- Regional Meeting – Africa
- Regional Meeting – Asia/Pacific
- Regional Meeting – GRULAC
- Side-events (SBI - COP)
- 3rd Global Meeting
- Knowledge Products
- Implications Webinar
- IPLC/Industry report back

Informal meetings

3 global & 3 regionals

Regional Meetings for exchange

During August and September, regional meetings will be held in Africa, Asia, and GRULAC to provide an opportunity to discuss identified potential solution pathways and to find regional common ground.

1st Meeting | Constructions Sites

Held in Leuven, Belgium, from 10 to 12 March. Primarily for Parties to exchange views on the state of the DSI discussions and alternatives, and to identify the “construction sites” requiring further clarity and discussion.

2nd Meeting | PICLA & Industry

Meeting with Indigenous Peoples and industries held during 15 to 18 June in Utrecht, the Netherlands. This space aims to bring these actors together to discuss the construction sites and ideas for piloting, taking into account the results obtained in Leuven.

3rd Meeting | International before COP

In the second week of September, location to be confirmed. A space to share after analyzing the solution pathways and the foundations for the piloting process, so that it can be included in the formal CBD process.

Informal Global Dialogue on DSI - Leuven (10 - 12 March)

Purpose & Participants

- Informal, multi-stakeholder space to **build shared understanding** of the CBD Multilateral Mechanism on DSI and the Cali Fund, **identify practical solutions**, and feed the intersessional process towards SBI 7 and COP 17.

Outcome

- **Strengthened trust among stakeholder groups**, identified priority “construction sites” for operationalizing the Cali Fund, and **produced practical recommendations for the Steering Committee**, AHTEG and Parties ahead of COP 17.

Key messages

- Strong commitment to open access to DSI while ensuring **fair and equitable benefit-sharing**.
- Broad support for **learning-by-doing**, piloting the Cali Fund’s operational design before full implementation.
- **Priority construction sites:** contribution triggers/payment (“**Money IN**”); allocation and disbursement, including IPLC access (“**Money OUT**”); certificates and legal certainty; governance, transparency and interaction with national ABS measures; and non-monetary benefit-sharing.

Webinars

Report and Reflection on the Leuven Dialogue

SP
EN
FR

300+
participants



21 May
2026

Exploring the Implications of CBD COP 16/2 provisions on the DSI MLM

SP
EN
FR

300+
participants



9 July
2026

- Strong **convergence** on moving **from negotiation to practical implementation** of Decision 16/2.
- **Priority issues**: legal certainty, governance, benefit-sharing obligations, “Money In/Out” incentives, non-monetary benefit-sharing.
- **Trust as a prerequisite for confidence** among governments, industry, IPLCs and science.
- **Piloting** gains momentum to validate governance, certificates, flows and accountability.
- **“Publicly available”**: public accessibility, not unrestricted use; paywalls/licensing questions remain.
- **“Entities”**: intentionally broad; level of assessment (subsidiary/company/group) unresolved.
- **“Indicative rates”**: non-binding reference rates pending future COP review.
- **“Direct/indirect use”**: most ambiguous concept; needs clearer boundaries.



Knowledge Products

Information for Decision Making

1.Overlap issues: Analysis and proposed solutions between instruments and at the national level

2.Modalities and user identification: Limits of “users” — who, how, when, where, and with what value

3.Elaboration of terms: DSI, Direct vs. Indirect use, “Entity,” IPLCs

4.Operationalization models: Domestic incentives, stacking, sorting

5.Investors, disclosure regimes, and implications for DSI and conservation

6.Multilateral NMBS approaches

7.Disbursements: Best practices to maximize impact and transparency while minimizing monitoring and evaluation burdens

8.Databases

9.MLM & Cali Fund in NBSAPs

10.Gender and youth perspectives on ABS



Knowledge Products

Information for Decision Making

DSI Reference in NBSAPs

- **56 countries** (41 developing) reference DSI in their NBSAPs; search terms still to be expanded.
- **<10 NBSAPs use DSI** as an operational tool (e.g. eDNA monitoring), mainly in Asia.
- **<20 NBSAPs reference DSI** for capacity-building, policy or resource mobilisation, mainly in Africa.

Region	Ctries	Dev.
Asia	19	18
Europe	13	0
Africa	13	13
Americas	6	5
Oceania	5	5

Match-making Platform (NMBS)

Existing brokerage models (CTCN, WIPO GREEN, FAO AGRIS/TAP, CBD LifeWeb) can inspire a DSI non-monetary benefit-sharing platform – none is DSI-specific today.

CBD LifeWeb comparison: Parties/donors/Secretariat model → adapted so Parties, IPLCs and research institutions identify needs; universities, companies and sequencing centres offer benefits; Secretariat brokers partnerships.

Piloting/Testing Global Funds

Comparative study (Adaptation Fund, GCF, ITPGRFA, Global Fund, GAVI, Unitaids, Lion's Share, UN Road Safety) to inform a Cali Fund pilot phase.

- **Learning-by-doing** enables scale-up and reduces implementation risk.
- **Focus on testing Money IN/Certificates/Money OUT** – governance is already set by Decision 16/2.
- **Country ownership** (Direct Access pilots) strengthens national institutions.
- **Private-sector engagement** depends on a clear business case and reduced risk.
- **Higher upfront costs** are an investment in long-term efficiency.

DSI CONSTRUCTION SITES

BUILDING THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE MULTILATERAL MECHANISM (MLM) AND CALI FUND

A connected system for fair and effective sharing of benefits from the use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources

KEY	
✓	Advanced / Agreed
○	Under development
●	Pending COP17 decisions

One system.
Multiple components.
Shared purpose.

1 POLICY & LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1.1 Scope of DSI (publicly available, in compliance with national legislation, not subject to MAT)	1.2 Trigger Point When does the obligation to contribute arise?	1.3 Certificate of Compliance Assuring fulfillment of national obligations	1.4 Mutual Supportiveness With other ABS instruments & processes
1.5 Relationship with National Measures Avoiding duplication & stacking	1.6 Exemptions & Thresholds SMEs, research, non-commercial use	1.7 Compliance & Enforcement Guidance, reviews and assurances	1.8 Legal Certainty for users and contributors

2 FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE (MONEY IN)

2.1 Indicative Contribution Rates By sector / business model / size	2.2 SME & Threshold Approach Proportionality and flexibility	2.3 Collection Mechanisms Payment channels, intermediaries, clearing house	2.4 Currency & Valuation Conversion, FX and payment modalities
2.5 Fund Governance Steering Committee, Secretariat, AHTEG, stakeholders	2.6 Administrative Arrangements Host (UN MPTFO), processes, oversight	2.7 Transparency & Reporting (Money In) Public dashboards, audits, disclosure	2.8 Cost Recovery & Efficiency Lean operations, minimizing administrative costs

3 DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE & DATA GOVERNANCE

3.1 Database Governance Roles, responsibilities, policies	3.2 Provenance & Country of Origin Tagging, standards, traceability	3.3 Metadata Standards Consistency, quality, interoperability	3.4 Access, Use & Terms of Use Open access with appropriate terms
3.5 Interoperability With INSOC and other systems	3.6 Data Accessibility That supports science and benefit-sharing	3.7 Reporting Platform For contributions and impact	3.8 Data Security & Privacy Protecting sensitive information

4 BENEFIT ALLOCATION (MONEY OUT)

4.1 Allocation Framework Objectives, principles, equity, impact	4.2 Eligibility Parties, IPLCs, communities, institutions	4.3 Disbursement Mechanisms Grants, contracts, partnerships	4.4 Direct Access for IPLCs & Communities Safeguards and support
4.5 Thematic Priorities Capacity, data infra, innovation, livelihoods, health, environment	4.6 Monitoring & Evaluation Outcomes, impacts, learning	4.7 Adaptive Management Feedback loops, course correction	4.8 Communication & Visibility Impact stories, recognition

CROSS-CUTTING ENABLERS

Stakeholder Participation Inclusive, meaningful engagement	Gender Equality & Social Inclusion Ensure equitable participation and benefits
Innovation & Digital Solutions Leverage technology for access and efficiency	Environmental Integrity Do no harm, support biodiversity

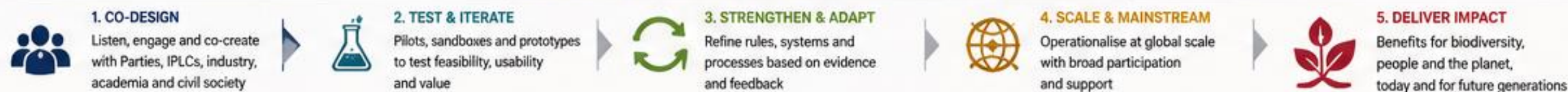
5 NON-MONETARY BENEFIT-SHARING (NMBS)

5.1 Capacity Development Skills, training, fellowships	5.2 Technology Transfer Tools, platforms, equipment	5.3 Scientific Collaboration Research partnerships, co-publication	5.4 Data & Knowledge Sharing Open science, joint analysis	5.5 Matchmaking Platform Connecting offers and needs	5.6 Communities of Practice Networks, forums, peer learning
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6 IMPLEMENTATION, PILOTING & LEARNING

6.1 Pilots & Sandboxes Test components and solutions	6.2 End-to-End System Pilots Test the whole system	6.3 KPIs & Indicators Define and track performance	6.4 Knowledge Management Capture, synthesize, share lessons	6.5 Scale-Up Pathway From pilots to country and global scale
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FROM CO-DESIGN TO IMPACT: OUR DELIVERY PATHWAY

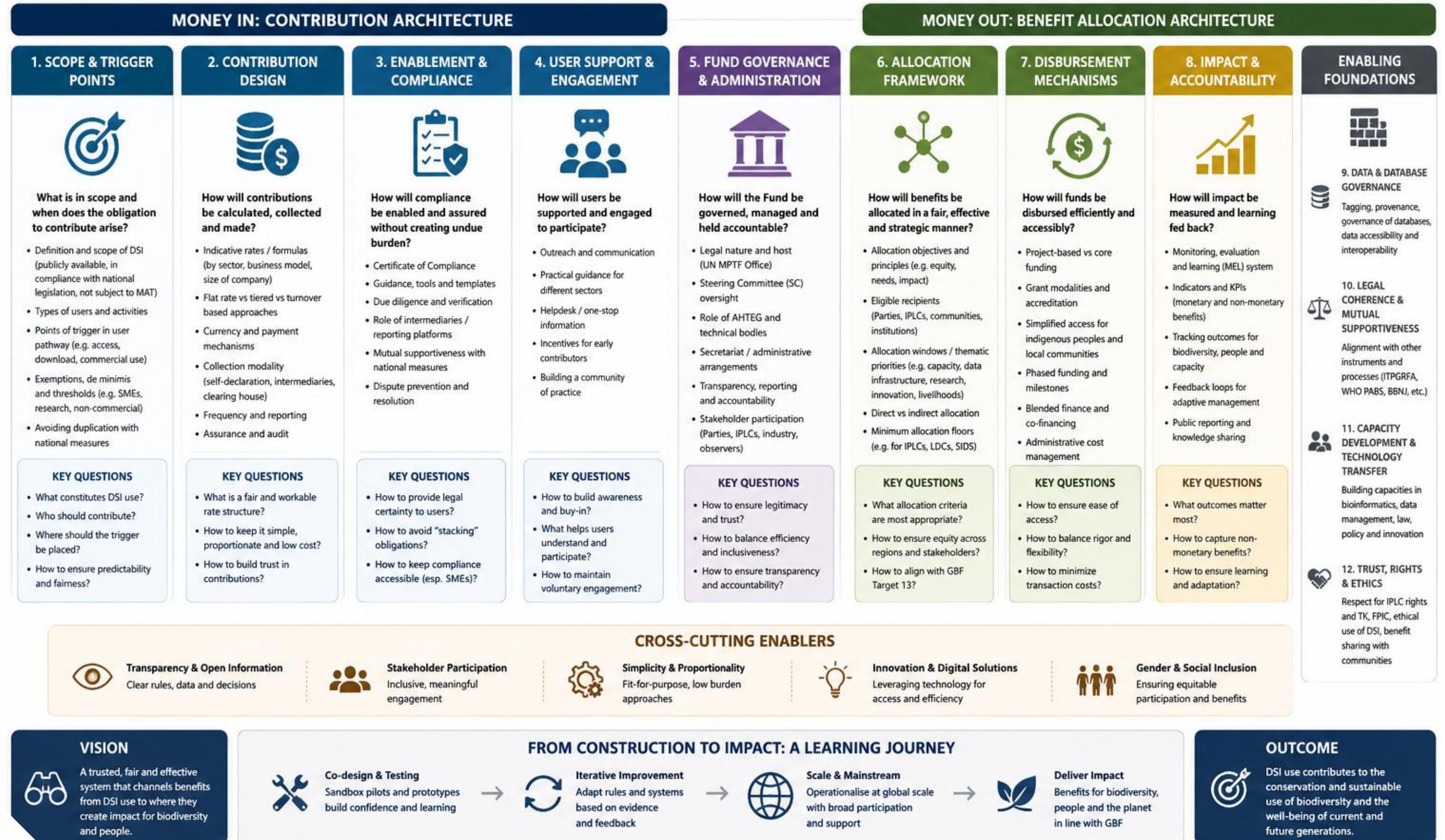


OUR NORTH STAR

A fair, transparent and efficient system that channels the benefits from DSI use to where they are needed most.

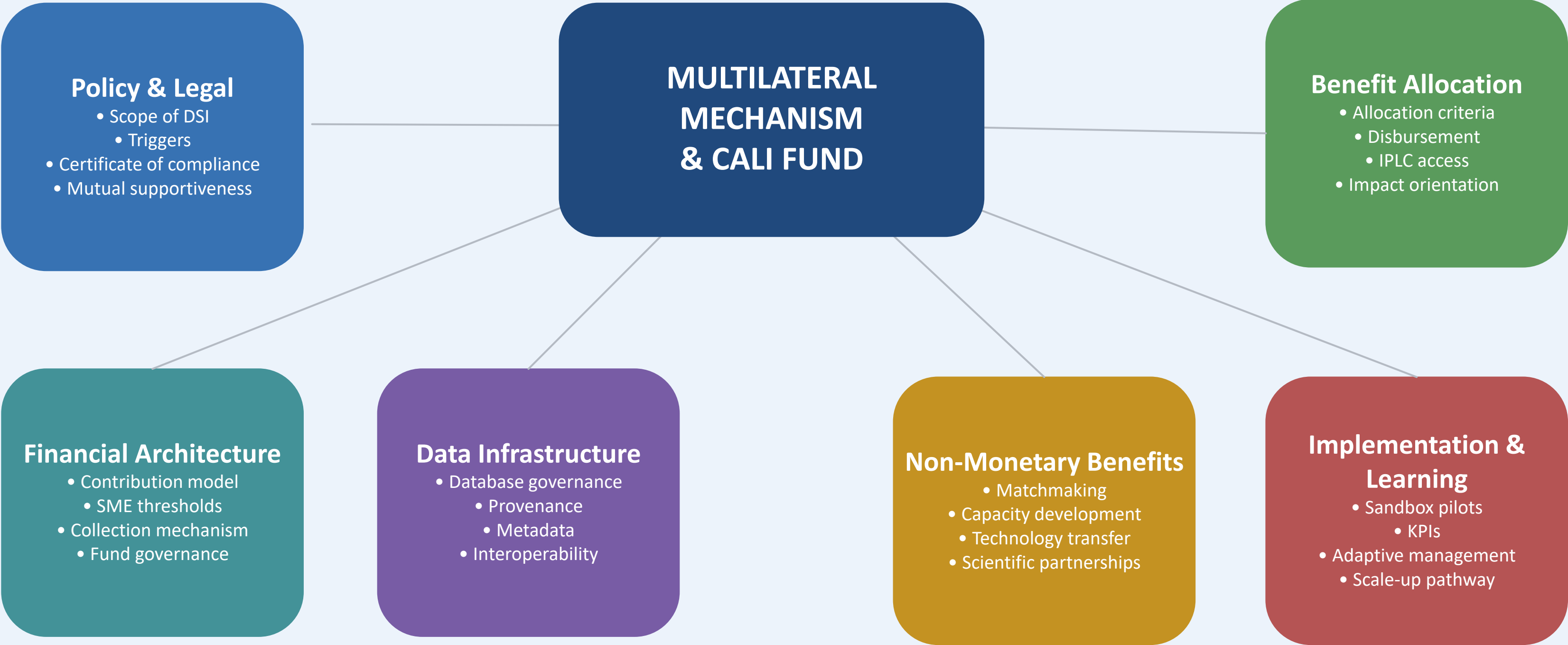
LANDSCAPE OF DSI CONSTRUCTION SITES

Building the operational architecture of the Multilateral Mechanism (MLM) and Cali Fund (CBD Decision 16/2)



Landscape of DSI Construction Sites

Strategic workstreams for operationalising the Multilateral Mechanism (MLM) and Cali Fund



A few final thoughts on continuing constructions...

- **COP Decision 16/2 is an agreement between CBD Parties**

Annex, para 13: Parties and non-Parties are invited to take administrative, policy or legislative measures, consistent with national legislation, to incentivize users in their jurisdiction to contribute to the global fund in line with the modalities of the multilateral mechanism.

- **Incentives can be positive** (e.g. subsidies, tax breaks, reputational gains) **or negative** (e.g. penalties, sanctions, name-and-shame)
- **Industry concerns about “obligation stacking”** can be addressed by allowing deductions for qualifying contributions made elsewhere
- **IP&LC direct access would be possible at global level if agreed by COP**; at national level national rules will prevail

Make Cali Fund participation a prerequisite for requesting access to (physical) genetic resources and/or applying for market authorisation?



**Which of the
“construction sites” are of
particular relevance from
your party’s rights- /
stakeholder perspective?**

Why ?

Reflection

Comments from the floor

- 1.Melissa Cotterill**, Australia
 - 2.Preston Hardison**, IIFB
 - 3.O. Kasse**, Senegal
 - 4.Jasmina Muminovic**, BAYER
 - 5.Elly Barret**, ITPGRFA
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**What are possible
approaches to address
key “construction sites”?**

**Approaches and ideas
emerging from the
informal and other
processes?**

Discussion

PANE

- L**
- 1.Natalie Feltman,** South Africa
 - 2.June Rubis,** Building Indigenous Initiatives in Heritage (BiiH), Sarawak
 - 3.Mery Ciacci,** European Comission
 - 4.Daphne Yong D’herve,** ICC
 - 5.Katie Beckett,** UK

Way forward

◆ Activities planned by the informal DSI Dialogue Partnerships

- Further Work on / dissemination of **Knowledge Products**
- **Informal stake- / rightholder exchange** (Leuven 21 - 23 September)
- **Informal negotiations Dialogue** (Leuven 23 - 25 September)
- **Regional Dialogues** Asia & GRULAC
- **Report and Feedback Side Event** at COP 17

◆ What else is needed to support the formal DSI process:

- In the **run up to COP 17**
- in the **intersessional to COP 18**



Contat

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Thanks a lot

More information available:

www.geo-media.de/dsi-informal-dialogues

<https://www.cbd.int/dsi-gr/resources.shtml>

