

## **Nagoya Protocol Website Update**

Updated 2/12/2020

Thank you for providing the \$2500 to support the development of the Nagoya Protocol site. I'm happy to say that the information architects, the web developer, and the artist have now been fully paid for the work and the site has been shared with State Department and the US Nagoya Protocol Education Action Group (USANPAG). This group is made up of representatives from different societies, museums, and research institutes who are trying to manage collections and conduct international research to the standards of Nagoya. The group is now tasked with providing high quality use-cases relevant to their specific areas of focus. A use-case is just an explanation of how you planned and executed work on international biological collections, whether collecting in the field or using existing collections, in which you explain how you worked with local communities and agencies to obtain permits or informed consent, and shared some benefits with the provider country (such as depositing specimens, taking on a student, sharing authorship and building intellectually collaborative relationships).

USANPAG is planning a phone call together next month and you are welcome to join. The last phone call was in December. We are following the Nagoya developments closely. A major concern for our communities is the possible regulation of digital sequence information by countries. There has been so much disagreement on this that finally, and fortunately, there will be a pause with no decisions made for a few years. Provider countries, in the meantime, need more examples of how making information public, from DNA sequences to specimen photographs and phenotypes, can help uplift all scientists around the world and help us fight biodiversity loss. Our website's use-cases can actually contribute evidence to this critical debate.

Ingrid shared with the group stories about how the attendees of BOTANY reacted to the website and the poster. There was enthusiasm for the resources and hesitation about sharing their own experiences with this platform. This was helpful to remind people in the USANPAG group that it will likely take leading by example to get their communities to follow.

We have the ability to apply for a supplement from NSF to support the addition of content by someone with a legal or environmental science background. I have identified a few people who would like to help create content from UC Merced. If you know good people please recommend them to me. We are working to get to get this supplement granted this Winter and the person hired in Spring so that the next presentation of the website at summer conferences has loads of useful use-cases and tools. The support from societies was seen as very positive by NSF.

We need botanists who have done international fieldwork to also lead the other societies by example. I sincerely believe the BSA is the perfect community to develop

use cases for the site that will show how other societies can contribute. The link to submit a case is here: <https://learnnagoya.com/use-cases/>  
Ingrid asked some of our members to submit use cases during the conference. These were much shorter and less detailed than I would have think is ideal, probably because they were written without clear examples and written in haste (but we are grateful). I will be asking people to add information to their use cases and if you submit one I will be happy to work together with you to make it a model for the website.

We had been planning to present the website at the Global Genome Biodiversity Network conference which has hundreds of member institutions with collections this summer in China. Unfortunately the conference has been postponed due to coronavirus, but we will keep you posted once it has been rescheduled.

Thank you all for your attention and thank you to Heather and the Society for the support, especially Andi Wolfe who was president at the time and approved the funding. See you in Alaska!

Sincerely,  
Rachel Meyer