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Experiences with Bio-prospecting and Access & Benefit Sharing

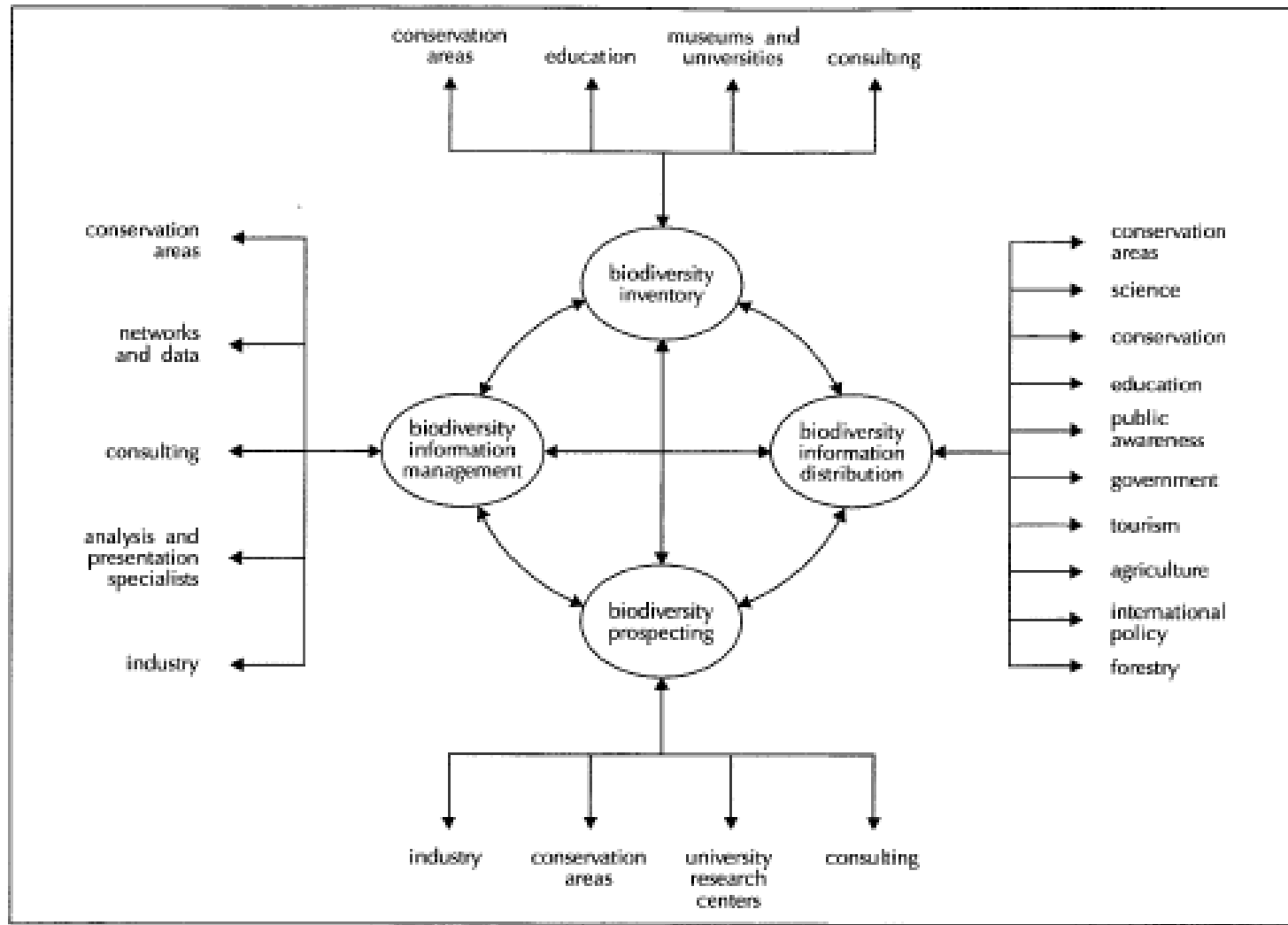
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Director IP & Trade

Industry Examples



- **INBio created 1989 as a private, non-profit public interest institution**
- **Mission: to conserve biodiversity**
 - (1966 – 1989 Estimated 28% Forest Lost)
- **Collecting and Taxonomically identifying well over 500,000 wild land species**
- **Clear ABS laws established**





INBio/Merck & Co. Agreement



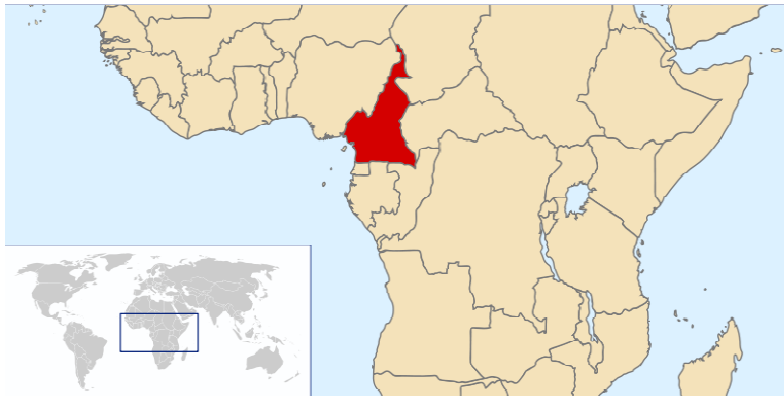
- **Collaborative research agreement**
- **Merck agreed to up front fee for plant, insect and soil samples**
- **Merck also agreed to royalties on any drug developed from the samples**
- **Merck had exclusive right to evaluate 10,000 samples**
- **INBio was able to enter into other agreements but could only share Merck samples if given permission.**

Result

- **Monetary Benefits - \$1 Million**
- **Technology transfer - equipment donation worth over \$135,000**
- **Merck sent two natural product chemists to set up extractions labs and train scientists**
- **INBio scientists visited Merck's labs**

- **Research Collaboration from 1999-2000**
- **Collection of extracts from plant samples by INBio**
- **Payment for each individual extract received, with possibility of milestones and royalties**
- **Technology transfer**
 - Provided extraction procedure still in use today
 - Exchange of scientists
- **Dispute resolution mechanism**

Cameroon & Lilly



Lilly

- **A research scientist in Cameroon contacted Lilly to engage in a natural products collaboration (2007)**
- **Lilly informed the scientist that transfer of genetic resource without authorization is a violation of Cameroon national law**
- **Research scientist was unable to obtain authorization from relevant ministries**
 - Authorization forms were later found to be from the wrong ministry
 - Lilly letter to CBD Focal Point in Cameroon to resolve the deficiencies
 - After more than one year, Lilly closed its files on this potential collaboration
- **No collaboration therefore no access, no benefit-sharing, no technology transfer, no new medicines**

Lessons Learnt

- **Clear and useable ABS laws**
- **Single Point of Contact**
- **Creating the right environment for mutually beneficial collaboration**





Thank you



For more information

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