



ETHICS CHARTER OF BIOBANQUES INFRASTRUCTURE

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure is a distributed Infrastructure dedicated to research in biology and health areas using biological resources (samples and associated data).

In recognition of the ethical dimension of its activities, BIOBANQUES Infrastructure and its members have adopted this Ethics Charter setting out the core principles intended to guide for their activities.

The following principles apply to relations within the Infrastructure and outside of it. They essentially relate to the use of biological resources made available by BIOBANQUES Infrastructure.

1. PROMOTION OF THE COMMON GOOD

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure and its members promote the optimal use of collected and stored biological resources according to the appropriate legal and ethical standards as well as the sharing of benefits from collaborative research for the benefit of the society.

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure members and their partners (users of biological resources through the Infrastructure) commit to comply with the quality standards associated with biological resources stored and used for research.

2. ACCESS TO MEMBERS' BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure facilitates the access to members' biological resources by all public, private, national and international interested organizations, in accordance with the values of equity, solidarity, sharing and cooperation.

3. INDIVIDUALS AND POPULATION PROTECTION

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and the users of biological resources comply with legal rules and best practices relevant to their activities.

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure members and their partners using biological resources commit to respect the information and informed consent of the relevant persons, their privacy and the

confidentiality of personal data. They ensure the security of the samples that they store, use or make available through the application of appropriate measures during their storage and their utilization.

The respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as protection of human dignity and integrity of the human body, is required for any activity using biological resources provided by the members through the BIOBANQUES Infrastructure. The subjects or populations participating in research benefit from the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Specific attention is paid to the protection of persons in vulnerable situations that require the application of specific and appropriate measures.

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and the users of biological resources, respect fundamental principles of protection of genetic heritage, biodiversity and specifications applicable to microorganisms.

4. TRANSPARENCY AND INDEPENDENCE

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and the users of biological resources, act in a transparent manner.

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure respects the independence of its members in their organization, leadership, management and policy setting.

5. HONESTY AND MUTUAL RESPECT

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure considers the following values essential within the framework of its activities: honesty, truthfulness, objectivity, recognition and respect for the plurality of research structures, respect for the diversity of cultures and the scientific specificities of the areas related to the Infrastructure. These values must be developed by its members and the users of biological resources to maintain trust between partners and to develop a business friendly environment.

6. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and the users of biological resources are free to exchange ideas with respect for freedom of thoughts and expression and for diversity of opinion in order to foster scientific collaborations.

7. PROPORTIONALITY

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure and its members shall have to meet the requirement of beneficence. Therefore they shall ensure that their activities meet an appropriate balance between the expected benefits and risks associated with the pursued goals.

An independent evaluation by competent authorities, before and during the implementation of the activities should enable their compliance with legal, ethical and technical principles applicable to the use of biological resources for research purposes.

8. LIABILITY AND SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and their partners that use biological resources, ensure the responsible use of biological resources and the scientific integrity of their activities. Their partners should exercise caution in disseminating the results of their studies.

9. RECOGNITION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and their partners that use biological resources, recognize technical and intellectual contributions from everyone within the Infrastructure and throughout the research projects.

10. PROMOTION OF RESEARCH

BIOBANQUES Infrastructure, its members and their partners promote the scientific and technical developments resulting from the activities of collection, conservation, storage and use of biological resources for research purposes.

The access and the use of biological resources shall be done by written agreements (for example MTA) between BIOBANQUES Infrastructure members and their partners. This has to include at least stated practices for partnership and intellectual property.

Without prejudice to any intellectual property rights, the Infrastructure, its members and users agree on the policy for sharing advantages and societal benefits of researches undertaken with the biological resources made available by BIOBANQUES Infrastructure.

Related Documents:

- Explanatory Memorandum of the BIOBANQUES Infrastructure Ethics Charter (only in French)
- Operating Charter of BIOBANQUES Infrastructure