



Making genomic collections
discoverable for research

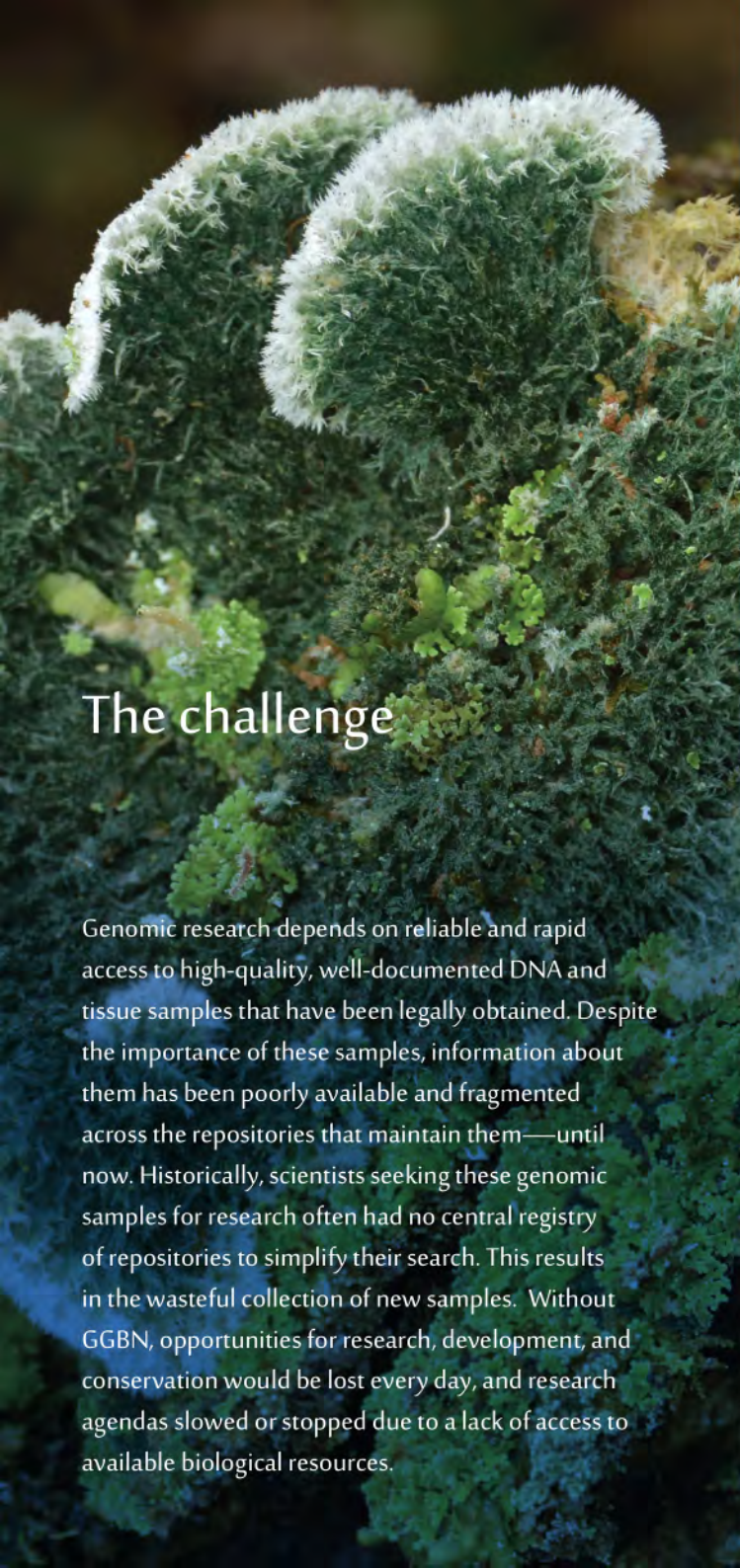


The Global Genome Biodiversity Network is an international network of institutions that share an interest in long-term preservation of genomic samples that represent the diversity of non-human life on Earth. GGBN provides a platform for biodiversity biobanks from across the world to:

- Collaborate to ensure consistent quality standards for DNA and tissue collections,
- Improve best practices for the preservation and use of such collections,
- Harmonize exchange and use of genetic materials in accordance with national and international legislation and conventions and
- Enable targeted collection.

Our purpose






The challenge

Genomic research depends on reliable and rapid access to high-quality, well-documented DNA and tissue samples that have been legally obtained. Despite the importance of these samples, information about them has been poorly available and fragmented across the repositories that maintain them—until now. Historically, scientists seeking these genomic samples for research often had no central registry of repositories to simplify their search. This results in the wasteful collection of new samples. Without GGBN, opportunities for research, development, and conservation would be lost every day, and research agendas slowed or stopped due to a lack of access to available biological resources.

GGBN member institutions work together to foster collaboration, improve curation practices, promote the adoption and use of quality standards, invest in interoperability and data sharing, and harmonize the exchange of materials in accordance with national and international legislation and conventions. This is achieved through GGBN network activities, such as the development of guidance documentation on adhering to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits for biodiversity biobanks and the development and ongoing expansion of an online knowledge exchange platform specific to biodiversity biobanking.

Ensure consistent quality standards and improve best practices




A close-up photograph of a petri dish containing a petri dish with agar and bacterial colonies. The agar is a light blue color, and there are several distinct, circular bacterial colonies of varying sizes and colors, including white, yellow, and green. The petri dish is set against a dark, textured background.

Harmonize use and exchange of genetic materials standards and improve best practices


Through its Data Portal, GGBN provides researchers seeking to analyze and conserve genetic diversity with a one-stop entrance to search for genetic materials that are compliant with access- and benefit-sharing agreements.

GGBN provides standardized open access to a global data repository that hosts the aggregated primary specimen data and metadata for sharable genomic samples of Earth's biodiversity managed by member institutions in compliance with restrictions on use.

A close-up photograph of a pink flower, likely a cherry blossom, with several prominent stamens. The petals are a soft pink color, and the stamens are a darker pink. The background is a blurred green, suggesting an outdoor setting.

In partnership with targeted collecting initiatives, such as the Global Genome Initiative of the Smithsonian Institution, non-profit research institutes, such as the Ocean Genome Legacy at Northeastern University, and national and international barcoding initiatives, such as the International Barcode of Life, GGBN promotes targeted preservation of genomic samples to preserve an intelligent blueprint of life on Earth.


Enable targeted collection



Benefits to members

GGBN's members directly benefit from GGBN's collaborative mission to provide:

- Access to genomic collections discoverable for research through a networked community of biorepositories,
- Biorepositories with standardized methods for making their genomic collections discoverable,
- Biorepositories and contributors with community standards and best practices for the collection and data management of genomic samples,
- Contributors with access to a community that provides storage facilities for and access to information on their genomic collections and
- Trusted and transparent access to genomic samples for users and contributors through an ABS framework—to further the trust from biodiversity-rich countries and organizations.



For more information on getting involved,
or to become a GGBN member,
please visit our website at www.ggbn.org,
or contact us directly at info@ggbn.org

Join us

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