



BeneLex Project

Report 2015-2018

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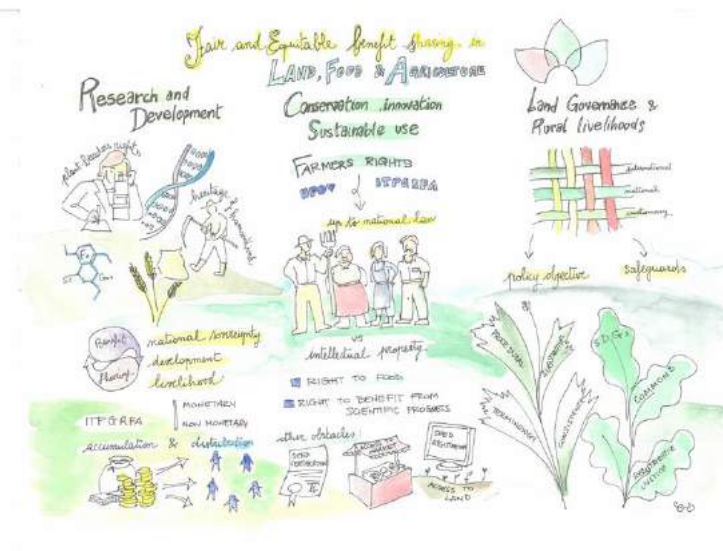
THE BENELEX PROJECT

The BeneLex project aims to investigate the conceptual and practical dimensions of fair and equitable benefit-sharing, including its role and limitations in ensuring fairness and equity in the identification and allocation among different stakeholders of the advantages arising from environmental protection, the sustainable use of natural resources, and the production of knowledge.

The BeneLex project seeks to better understand the progressive development of fair and equitable benefit-sharing obligations and modalities in different areas of international environmental law (biodiversity, food and agriculture, oceans, watercourses, climate change) and their intersection with international human rights law.

Equally, the BeneLex project attempts to identify challenges for indigenous peoples and local communities in fairly and equitably sharing benefits in different sectors and in different regions of the world, and the interface between local, national, regional and international law in this connection.

"How can international law support equitable partnerships among States and stakeholders for environmental sustainability, in the face of great power disparities? The BeneLex project analyses and contributes to multiple international negotiations on this crucial question. To that end, we conduct, share and discuss research on international environmental and human rights law in different sectors, that is informed by experiences on the ground in selected countries". Professor Elisa Morgera



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The BeneLex project addressed the question: can benefit-sharing address the equity deficit within the green economy? It aimed to investigate the conceptual and practical dimensions of benefit-sharing – a legal tool seeking to equitably allocate among different stakeholders economic as well as also socio-cultural and environmental advantages arising from the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, or from their regulation.

The project thus explored benefit-sharing as an under-theorised and little-implemented regulatory approach to address inter-related global environmental challenges (such as climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and the protection of the marine environment) by accommodating the special circumstances, cultural preferences and vulnerabilities of developing countries and of indigenous peoples and local communities in transitioning to the green economy.

The BeneLex project ("Benefit-sharing for an equitable transition to the green economy - the role of law") was funded through a European Research Council Starting Grant made to Elisa Morgera running for five years from 1 November 2013.

The BeneLex project aimed to reply to the following questions:

- What does benefit-sharing mean across different international regimes (biodiversity, climate change, land and agriculture, oceans, human rights)?
- To what extent and under which conditions does benefit-sharing support equity and the protection of human rights in the transition to the green economy across key inter-related sectors of international environmental regulation?
- How does benefit-sharing develop and operate at the intersection of international, transnational and national law and the customary law of local communities and indigenous peoples (global environmental law)?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of transnational legal advisors (NGOs and bilateral cooperation partners) in an equitable transition to the green economy?

WHY BENEFIT-SHARING?

Benefit-sharing is employed in a variety of international legal instruments on environmental protection, human rights and corporate accountability but there persists a remarkable lack of clarity as to what benefit-sharing exactly entails, how it applies and whether there is just one benefit-sharing concept or many.

Does it require sharing research results, profits or technology? And/or does it require legal recognition of traditional access to lands or opportunities for the shared management of natural resources? This uncertainty may be regarded, on the one hand, as the product of the fragmentation of relevant international efforts, and on the other hand, as the result of limited scholarly reflection on the overall scope and broad implications of benefit-sharing within and across international regimes.



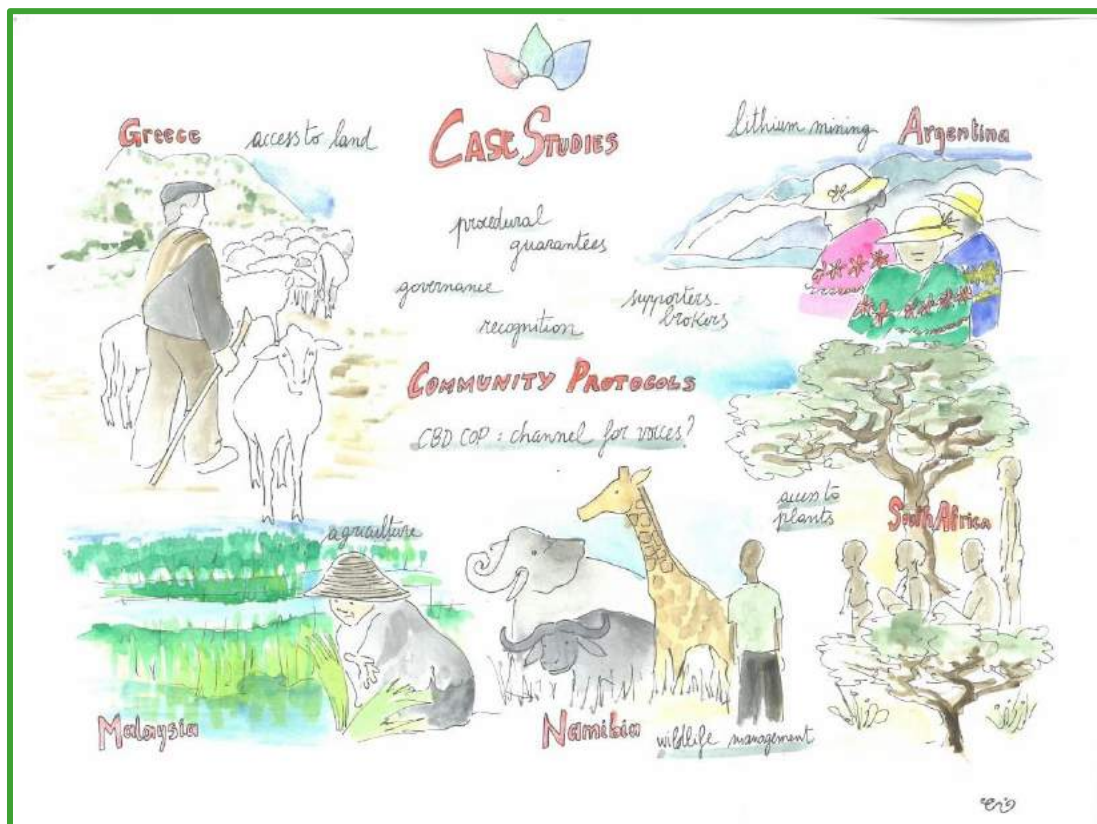
Meanwhile, a burgeoning transnational practice has emerged on benefit-sharing in connection with the use of “biocultural community protocols,” through which indigenous peoples and local communities express their understanding of the most culturally and biologically appropriate form of benefit-sharing in a specific local context. These protocols form the basis for communities’ cooperation with governments and private companies.

They operate at the intersection of communities’ customary laws, international environmental and human rights law, national and transnational law. The complex, multi-level legal developments concerning benefit-sharing are yet to be fully analysed – let alone informed – by legal scholarship. The BeneLex project is the first systematic evaluation of the conceptualisations and operationalisations of benefit-sharing as a tool for equitable change.

INSERT ANOTHER DRAWING BY MARGHERITA

COUNTRY STUDIES

The BeneLex project comprised an inter-disciplinary, empirical study of 'community protocols' as tools for articulating and implementing fair and equitable benefit-sharing at the intersection of international, transnational, national and indigenous communities' customary law. The study integrated empirical legal research and political sociology. It was carried out, inter alia, through research missions in Namibia, Malaysia, South Africa, Argentina and on the Greek island of Ikaria. Each case study focused on a different sector, namely: wildlife management, agriculture, traditional medicine, mining and pastoralism.

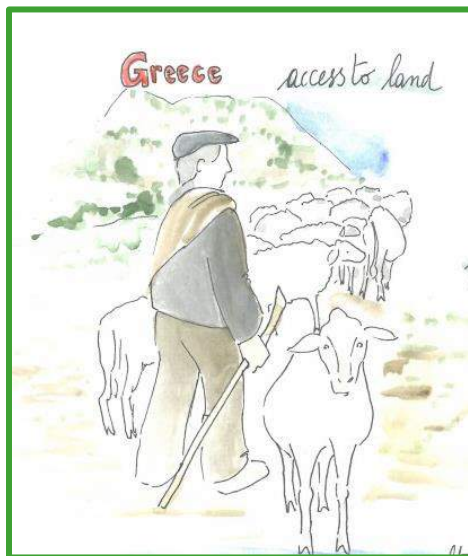


ARGENTINA

Argentina is party to the ILO Convention No. 169 which recognized that Indigenous and Tribal Peoples 'shall, whenever possible, participate in the benefits of the exploration' of mineral and other resources pertaining to their lands. Since 1994, the Constitution of Argentina has recognized the right of indigenous peoples to participate in the management of the natural resources traditionally held by them. A number of indigenous communities are developing community protocols as part of a litigation strategy to ensure good-faith and informed consultations on the use of indigenous territories, including for lithium mining purposes. The BeneLex team hoped to understand, together with concerned communities and other stakeholders, the role of fair and equitable benefit-sharing in the context of environmental impact assessments and the free, prior informed consent of indigenous peoples with regards to proposed development projects on their lands, resources and territories.



GREECE

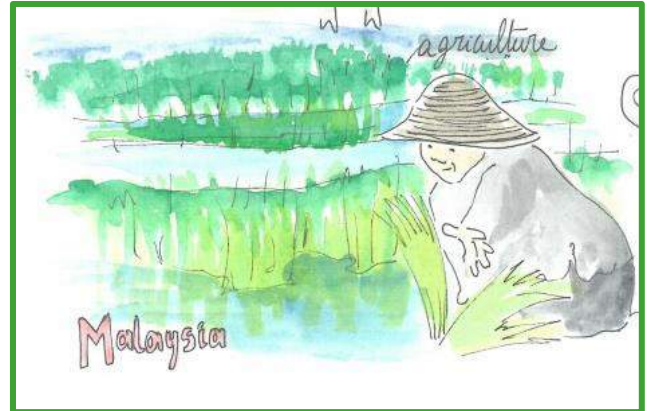


The Greek island of Ikaria has a long history of community management of natural resources, including water sources and forests, and a wealth of intermediary systems of ownership, which combine private and collective rights and uses. Such customary structures are intertwined with a wealth of traditional knowledge, a tradition of political activism, and a unique culture based on self-organization, solidarity and community ties, expressed in both everyday activities and in regular celebrations. In the contemporary historical disjuncture, a series of challenges have arisen, from both legislative reforms and proposed developments affecting community access to natural resources and customary property regimes. Consultations and public dialogue initiated include the consideration of a community protocol. The BeneLex team hoped to understand, together with concerned local communities and other stakeholders, whether and to what extent the concept of benefit-sharing may help

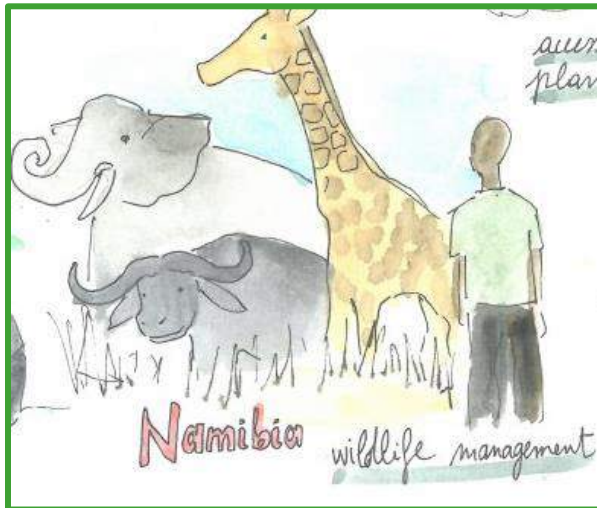
address tensions regarding natural resource use (in particular, pastoralism), and to test the potential of the introduction of community protocols into the EU.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia is a megadiverse country, and community protocols are being negotiated in different parts of the country with different foci. According to the 10th Malaysia Plan 2011-2015, the government's economic development framework is based on a foundation of growth with equity, with a renewed focus on championing the interests of communities and social justice. In Sarawak, the BeneLex team hoped to understand, together with concerned communities and other stakeholders, approaches and challenges to fair and equitable benefit-sharing in relation to the sustainable management of lands in the context of agricultural development, with a specific emphasis on traditionally cultivated plant varieties and traditional farming practices, and the governance of benefit-sharing agreements between the government, the private sector and indigenous communities.



NAMIBIA

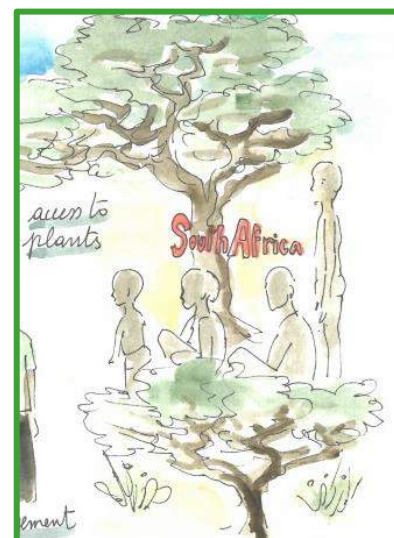


Namibia has gained an international reputation for its policies on community-based natural resource management and has also developed a national policy on protected areas' neighbours and resident communities to promote communities' access to socio-economic benefits deriving from protected areas and communities' involvement in the conservation, planning and development of protected areas. Within this framework, indigenous communities are developing community protocols to outline their vision about, and to seek to address the challenges they face in, contributing to sustainable wildlife management. The BeneLex team hoped to understand, together with concerned communities and other stakeholders, the opportunities, risks and limitations related to fair and

equitable benefit-sharing from community-based wildlife management within national parks, with a focus on security of tenure, protection of traditional knowledge, participation in relevant decision-making, and livelihoods.

SOUTH AFRICA

Since the end of Apartheid in South Africa in 1994, the country has instated a range of measures to counteract historical injustices. Land reform and the protection of traditional knowledge are two key areas of reform. Notably, South Africa was one of the first countries to enact legislation specifically dealing with access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, as well as on benefit-sharing more generally (particularly in relation to protected areas). In addition, a number of communities are using community protocols as part of a legal strategy to reclaim governance of local areas and control the uses of their genetic resources and traditional knowledge. The BeneLex team hoped to understand, together with concerned communities and other stakeholders, different approaches to fair and equitable benefit-sharing and larger notions of local justice with regard to access to medicinal plants, also within protected areas, and protection of traditional knowledge.



PARTNER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS



NATURAL JUSTICE LAWYERS FOR COMMUNITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Natural Justice Lawyers for Communities and the Environment is a non-profit organization, registered in South Africa since 2007 with offices in South Africa, India, Malaysia and New York City. Natural Justice's mission is to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the development and implementation of laws and policies relating to conservation and customary uses of biodiversity and the protection of associated cultural heritage. Natural Justice

works at the local, regional, national, and international levels with a range of partners. Among other activities, Natural Justice has been pioneering the use of community protocols to support benefit-sharing in relation to land rights, protected areas, traditional knowledge and ethical sourcing of natural products in different regions, as part of a Global Initiative on Biocultural Community Protocols.



DOCUMENTATION, RESEARCH AND ACTION CENTER OF IKARIA

Documentation, Research and Action Center of Ikaria is a non-profit organization, established in 2012 and based in the village of Katafygi, on the Greek island of Ikaria. Among its aims is to bring together locals and researchers from different backgrounds and create the conditions for an equal and respectful exchange among them. It focuses on digitally documenting the unique local culture and inter-generational knowledge, biodiversity and local history of Ikarian society and on enabling local participation in the

'construction' of knowledge, including in decision-making processes relevant to developmental plans. It is also working on the development of a community protocol to engage local people in the development and implementation of laws and policies affecting their communal land, natural resources and ways of life, as well as to engage the government in acknowledging and enforcing customary laws and rights related to the use of communal resources.



FUNDACIÓN AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES (FARN)

FARN is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-partisan organization, founded in 1985 with the main objective of promoting sustainable development in Argentina through politics, law and the institutional organization of society. The beneficiaries of its work are public and private decision makers. Through political, institutional and social advocacy, FARN promotes access to public information, justice and democratic and

participatory citizenship. FARN's work emphasizes civil participation based on the belief that citizens are the ones who must comply with and enforce laws, agree on policies and allocate resources to prevent environmental degradation. The different activities of the organization are funded thanks to the contribution of private donors (individuals, companies, foreign and national foundations), as well as national and international public bodies.

TEAM

The BeneLex team is comprised of four researchers and supported by a board of advisors. The BeneLex team has welcomed visiting researchers from academia and practice and is available to receive comments and suggestions on its work, as well as enquiries about possible collaborations. Please email benelex-enquiry@strath.ac.uk.

RESEARCHERS

ELISA MORGERA

Prof Elisa Morgera is the Principal Investigator of the BeneLex project. She focused on the interface between international biodiversity law and human rights, particularly, the right over natural resources of indigenous peoples and local communities, the right to science and the right to water.



ELSA TSIOUMANI

Elsa Tsioumani is Research Fellow to the BeneLex project, responsible for legal research in areas of traditional knowledge, agricultural biodiversity and land tenure. Elsa is a lawyer and consultant in international and European environmental law and policy, based in Thessaloniki, Greece, with a decade-long experience in biodiversity and biosafety-related issues. She has attended meetings under the Convention on Biological Diversity as team leader and reporter on the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* since 1999.



LOUISA PARKS

Dr Louisa Parks is Research Fellow to the BeneLex project, responsible for a political sociology study on the diffusion of benefit-sharing in global environmental law. Louisa is a senior lecturer in the School of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Lincoln.

She has carried out a comparative study of the impacts of social movement campaigns in the EU, and research on the contribution of volunteering to community cohesion. Prior to joining academia, she worked as a researcher in the European Parliament in Brussels.



KIM BOUWER

Dr Kim Bouwer joined the BeneLex team as a researcher from December 2016 to August 2018. She contributed by investigating the exploration of fair and equitable benefit-sharing in the climate change regime. Kim's initial work in the project explored the extent to which benefit-sharing is reflected in the fast-developing area of climate finance.



ANNALISA SAVARESI

Dr Annalisa Savaresi was a Research Fellow to the BeneLex project from November 2013 to July 2016. She was responsible for legal research in the areas of climate change.



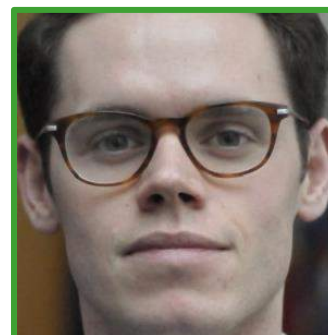
WIM PETERS

Dr Wim Peters joined the BeneLex team in March 2018 as a research fellow. He is a computational linguist with experience in (semi-)automatic knowledge extraction and management. His task was to integrate language technology into BeneLex workflows to assist researchers with their investigation of text content.



MITCHELL LENNAN

Mitchell Lennan is a Research Assistant to the BeneLex project, joining the team in early 2018. Mitchell worked mainly as part of the BeneLex Legal Informatics Team, contributing to research into the language associated with indigenous peoples and local communities compared to other actors in the arena of the Convention on Biological Diversity



MIKA SCHRÖDER

Mika Schroder began working as a Research Assistant on the BeneLex project in December 2016, and continued after she joined the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance as a PhD student in October 2017. Within the BeneLex project, Mika worked alongside Louisa Parks in exploring the meaning of local stakeholder participation within the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity.



SASKIA VERMEYLEN

Dr Saskia Vermeylen joined the BeneLex team as Ethics Advisor upon its move to the University of Strathclyde. She is interested in the normative dimension of environmental law and her research focuses specifically on the connection between international environmental law, justice and ethics. Inspired by her empirical fieldwork in Southern Africa, Saskia's research explores the relationship between global and local law and has introduced a post-colonial and emancipatory understanding of legal pluralism and 'informal' law, including in the areas of property rights of indigenous peoples and benefit-sharing agreements and environmental justice.



DANIELA DIZ

Daniela Diz joined the BeneLex team in August 2018 to contribute to research on the law of the sea. In her work, she explores the evolution of the international law of the sea and its relationship with other policy and legal instruments contributing to coherent oceans governance. Daniela has an inter-disciplinary background in international environmental law, marine science and technology and ecosystem-based management, and first-hand experience of international environmental law-making processes. Daniela's main focus areas of research include ecosystem and precautionary approach in the marine context and equitable and sustainable fisheries, including through biodiversity and habitat conservation, among others



VISITORS AND COLLABORATORS

- **DR ADRIANA BESSA** Senior Research Fellow at the Geneva Academy
- **DR LALANATH DE SILVA** Director, Environmental Democracy Practice, World Resources Institute, Washington DC
- **DR MARGHERITA BRUNORI** (March 2018 – May 2018) PhD, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, is the author of the drawings featuring on the BENELEX website and social media and also contributed to research on the green economy and SDGs
- **KOMLAN SANGBANA** Researcher, Institute for Environmental Sciences and Member of the Platform for International Water Law, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva
- **DIMITRI PAG-YENDU** (March 2017 – August 2017) PhD candidate in International Law, University of Laval, Quebec, Canada
- **MARIE-CATHERINE PETERSMANN** (January 2017 – May 2017) PhD Candidate in International Law, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- **NÚRIA REGUART-SEGARRA** (April 2018 – July 2018) PhD Student, Lecturer and Researcher in training at the University Jaume I of Castellón, Spain
- **MARA NTONA** PhD Researcher with the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance
- **MARIANA SCHOLZ** (November 2018) PhD Candidate in Law at the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil
- **PARTHA MEDHI** (June 2018 – July 2018) PhD Student at North-Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya, India



ADVISORY BOARD

The BeneLex Advisory Board provided feedback and expert input into the project methodology and findings, with a view to ensuring that the project responds to the needs of different epistemological communities (lawyers, political scientists, and environmental scientists) and practitioners. Members of the Advisory Board participated in three workshops and communicated with the BeneLex team throughout the life of the project by means of remote dialogue.



EXTERNAL (LAW) ACADEMICS

- Dr Claire Charters, University of Auckland
- Prof Francesco Francioni, European University Institute
- Prof Duncan French, University of Lincoln
- Prof Ellen Hey, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Prof Kati Kulovesi, University of Eastern Finland
- Prof Andre Nollkaemper, University of Amsterdam
- Prof Jeremie Gilbert, University of Roehampton
- Prof Colin Reid, University of Dundee

PRACTITIONERS

- Dr Claudio Chiarolla, UN Development Programme
- Dr Lorenzo Cotula, International Institute for Environment and Development
- Kathryn Garforth, Convention on Biological Diversity
- Harry Jonas, Natural Justice
- Maria Socorro Manguiat, UN Environment
- Julia Oliva, Union of Ethical BioTrade
- Tomme Young, international consultant

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY ACADEMICS

- Dr Elizabeth Cripps (SPS)
- Prof Tim Hayward (SPS)
- Dr Laura Jeffrey (SPS)
- Dr Genevieve Patenaude (Geosciences)
- Prof Doreen McBarnett (Law)
- Dr Liliana Riga (SPS)
- Dr Meriwether Wilson (Geoscience)



RESEARCH OUTPUTS

PUBLICATIONS

The project produced the following academic outputs:

- Working papers;
- Articles in international peer-reviewed legal and political science journals;
- Books (academic monographs) which will be published in 2019.

WORKING PAPERS

2014

- Working Paper #1: *Conceptualizing Benefit-Sharing as the Pursuit of Equity in Addressing Global Environmental Challenges* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2014)
- Working Paper #2: *An Inter-Disciplinary Methodology for Researching Benefit-Sharing as a Norm Diffusing in Global Environmental Law* by Louisa Parks and Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2014)
- Working Paper #3: *The Emergence of Benefit-Sharing Under the Climate Change Regime: A Preliminary Exploration and Research Agenda* by Annalisa Savaresi (SSRN, 2014)
- Working Paper #4: *Exploring Benefit-Sharing from the Lab to the Land (Part I): Agricultural Research and Development in the Context of Conservation and Sustainable Use* by Elsa Tsioumani (SSRN, 2014)

2015

- Working Paper #5: *Justice, Equity and Benefit Sharing under the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biodiversity* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2015)
- Working Paper #6: *An International Legal Concept of Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2015)
- Working Paper #7: *An Interdisciplinary Model for Mapping the Normative Diffusion of Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing* by Louisa Parks (SSRN, 2015)

2016

- Working Paper #8: *Doing the Right Thing with Traditional Knowledge in International Law: Lessons for the Climate Regime* by Annalisa Savaresi (SSRN, 2016)
- Working Paper #9: *Beyond Access and Benefit-Sharing. Lessons from the Law and Governance of Agricultural Biodiversity* by Elsa Tsioumani (SSRN, 2016)
- Working Paper #10: *Under the Radar: Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing and the Human Rights of Indigenous People and Local Communities related to Natural Resources* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2016)
- Working Paper #11: *Challenging Power Asymmetries from the Bottom Up? Community Protocols and the Convention on Biological Diversity at the Global/Local Crossroad* by Louisa Parks (SSRN, 2016; revised September 2017)

2017

- Working Paper #12: *Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing History, Normative Content and Status in International Law* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2017)
- Working Paper #13: *Traditional Knowledge and Climate Change: A New Legal Frontier* by Annalisa Savaresi (SSRN, 2017)
- Working Paper #14: *Realizing the Objectives of Public International Environmental Law through Private Contracts: The Need for a Dialogue with Private International Law Scholars* by Elisa Morgera and Lorna Gillies (SSRN, 2017)
- Working Paper #15: *Spaces for Local Voices in the Convention on Biological Diversity* by Louisa Parks (SSRN, 2017)

2018

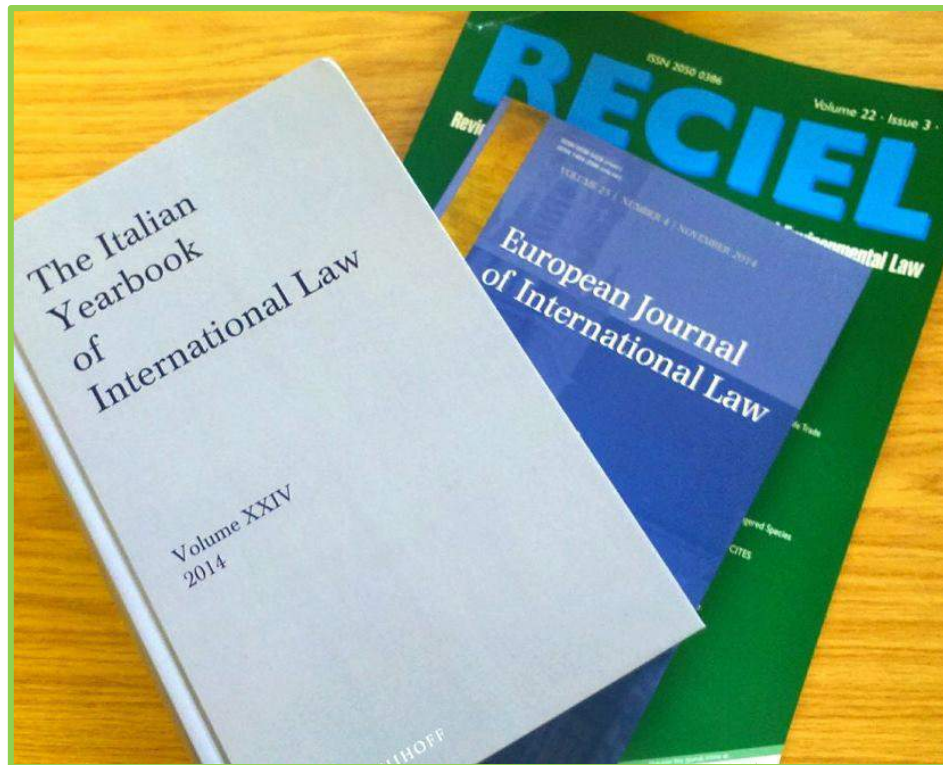
- Working Paper #16: *Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing in a New Treaty on Marine Biodiversity: A Principled Approach to Partnership Building?* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2018)
- Working Paper #17: *Dawn of a New Day?: The Evolving Relationship Between the Convention on Biological Diversity and International Human Rights Law* by Elisa Morgera (SSRN, 2018)
- Working Paper #18: *What We Talk About When We Talk About 'Local' Participation: Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities' Participation Under the Convention on Biological Diversity* by Louisa Parks and Mika Schröder (SSRN, 2018)



ARTICLES

- Louisa Parks, *"Spaces for local voices? A discourse analysis of the decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity"* (2018) 9 *Journal of Human Rights and the Environment* 141-170
- Elisa Morgera, *"Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing"* in L Kramer and E Orlando (eds), *Principles of Environmental law* (Edward Elgar, 2018) 323-327
- Elisa Morgera and Lorna Gillies, *"Realising the Objectives of Public International Environmental law through Private Contracts: The Need for a Dialogue with Private International Law Scholars"* in D French et al. (eds), *Linkages and Boundaries in Private and Public International Law* (Hart, 2018) 175-198
- Kim Bouwer, *"Insights for Climate Technology Transfer from International Environmental and Human Rights Law"* (2018) 23 *Journal of Intellectual Property Rights*
<https://pure.strath.ac.uk/admin/editor/dk/atira/pure/api/shared/model/researchoutput/editor/contributiontojournaleditor.xhtml?id=70787578>
- Annalisa Savaresi and Kim Bouwer, *"Equity and justice in climate change law and policy: a role for benefit-sharing"* in T Jafry (ed), *Routledge Handbook on Climate Justice* (Routledge, forth 2018)
https://pure.strath.ac.uk/admin/editor/dk/atira/pure/api/shared/model/person/editor/personeditor.xhtml?id=62729724&tab=tab_personalrefcandidates
- Annalisa Savaresi, *"Traditional knowledge and climate change: a new legal frontier?"* (2018) 9 *Journal of Human Rights and the Environment* 32-50, open access
at <https://www.elgaronline.com/view/journals/jhre/9-1/jhre.2018.01.02.xml>
- Elsa Tsioumani, *"Beyond access and benefit-sharing: Lessons from the emergence and application of the principle of fair and equitable benefit-sharing in agrobiodiversity governance"* in F Girard and C Frison (eds), *The Commons, Plant Breeding and Agricultural Biotechnologies: Challenges for Food Security and Agrobiodiversity*, 2018, Routledge, 41-60
- Elsa Tsioumani, *"Beyond access and benefit-sharing: Lessons from the law and governance of agricultural biodiversity"* (2018) *Journal of World Intellectual Property* 1-17
- Louisa Parks, *"Challenging Power from the Bottom Up? Community Protocols, Benefit-sharing and the Challenge of Dominant Discourses"* (2018) 88 *Geoforum* 87-95 - open access
at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0016718517303238>
- Elisa Morgera, *"The Need for an International Legal Concept of Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing"* (2016) 27:2 *European Journal of International Law* 353-383 - open access
at <http://www.ejil.org/article.php?article=2650&issue=131>

- Elisa Morgera, *"Justice, Equity and Benefit-Sharing under the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity"* (2015) 24 Italian Yearbook of International Law 113-141 - also available as a working paper
- Louisa Parks and Elisa Morgera, *"The Need for an Interdisciplinary Approach to Norm Diffusion: The Case of Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing"* (2015) 24:3 Review of European, Comparative and International Environmental Law 353-367 - open access at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/reel.12143/abstract>
- Elisa Morgera, *"Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing at the Crossroads of the Human Right to Science and International Biodiversity Law"* (2015) 4 Laws 803-831 - open access at <http://www.mdpi.com/2075-471X/4/4/803>



RELATED PUBLICATIONS

The BeneLex Team has also contributed to the following (freely available) publications that are related to the research themes of the BeneLex project, but have not been prepared within the context of the project

- Elisa Morgera, Elsa Tsioumani and Stephanie Switzer, "*Study into the Criteria to Identify a Specialised Access and Benefit-sharing Instrument, and a Possible Process for its Recognition*" UN Doc CBD/SBI/2/INF/17 (2018)
- BENELEX contributions to the 2017 workshop report "*Genetic resources in the era of the Nagoya Protocol and gene/genome synthesis*" (University of Cambridge and University of Edinburgh), submitted to the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources (13-16 February 2018, Montreal, Canada) under the Convention on Biological Diversity
- Mara Ntona and Elisa Morgera, "*Connecting SDG 14 with the other Sustainable Development Goals through Marine Spatial Planning*" (SSRN, 2017) – open access at <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2931829>
- Elisa Morgera and Mara Ntona, "*Linking Small-Scale Fisheries to International Obligations on Marine Technology Transfer*" (SSRN, 2017) – open access at <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2980458>
- Elisa Morgera, "*Study on Experiences Gained with the Development and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and Other Multilateral Mechanisms and the Potential Relevance of Ongoing Work Undertaken by Other Processes, Including Case Studies*" (2016) UN Doc UNEP/CBD/ABS/A10/EM/2016/1/2
- Elsa Tsioumani, Mike Muzurakis, Yannis Ieropoulos and Asterios Tsioumanis, "*Following the Open Source Trail Outside the Digital World: Open Source Applications in Agricultural Research and Development*" (2016) 14 tripleC 145-162 - open access at bit.ly/1lv2pBx
- Elisa Morgera, "*Le Protocole de Nagoya et les droits environnementaux*" (2016) 101 Liaison Énergie-Francophonie (Protocole de Nagoya: Les multiples facettes de sa mise en œuvre) 42
- Elisa Morgera and Miranda Geelhoed, Report to the European Commission "*Consultancy on the Notion of 'Utilization' under the Nagoya Protocol and the EU ABS Regulation for Upstream Actors*" (2016)
- Elisa Morgera, Elsa Tsioumani and Matthias Buck, "*Unraveling the Nagoya Protocol: A commentary on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing to the Convention on Biological Diversity*" (Martinus Nijhoff, 2014)

- Elisa Morgera, *"The Ecosystem Approach under the Convention on Biological Diversity: A Legal Research Agenda"* (SSRN, 2015)
- Elisa Morgera, *"Benefit-sharing as a Bridge between the Environmental and Human Rights Accountability of Multinational Corporations"* (SSRN, 2014)



BLOG POST

The BeneLex blogposts sought to discuss topical international law developments that are relevant to the understanding of fair and equitable benefit-sharing.

2014

Blog Post #1: Plant Treaty Governing Body identifies need to enhance Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing. Elsa Tsioumani. 19 February 2014.

Blog Post #2: Climate change and forests: benefit-sharing perspectives. Annalisa Savaresi. 27 February 2014.

Blog Post #3: Benefit-sharing and farmers' rights. Elsa Tsioumani. 13 May 2014.

Blog Post #4: Benefit-sharing in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction: where are we at? (Part I). Elisa Morgera. 23 May 2014.

Blog Post #5: The legacy of UN Special Rapporteur Anaya on indigenous peoples and benefit-sharing. Elisa Morgera. 29 May 2014.

Blog Post #6: The operationalization of benefit-sharing in REDD+. Annalisa Savaresi. 4 July 2014.

Blog Post #7: Benefit-sharing and traditional knowledge: the need for international guidance. Elisa Morgera and Elsa Tsioumani. 8 July 2014.

Blog Post #: Benefit-sharing in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction: where are we at? (Part II). Elisa Morgera. 8 July 2014.

Blog Post #9: UN Climate Summit: A new approach for agriculture and forests? Annalisa Savaresi. 6 October 2014.

Blog Post #10: The Draft Declaration on the Rights of Peasant and Other People Working in Rural Areas: reflections on benefit-sharing. Adriana Bessa. 8 December 2014.

Blog Post #11: Unpacking the debate on Climate Justice and Equity (Part I). Annalisa Savaresi. 11 December 2014.

Blog Post #12: Latest developments related to benefit-sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Elisa Morgera and Elsa Tsioumani. 17 December 2014.

2015

Blog Post #13: Unpacking the debate on climate justice and equity (Part II): REDD+. Annalisa Savaresi. 3 February 2015.

Blog Post #14: Moving towards fair and equitable benefit-sharing in research and development: the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Elsa Tsioumani. 18 February 2015.

Blog Post #15: Benefit-sharing in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction: where are we at? (Part III) Elisa Morgera 13 March 2015.

Blog Post #16: Traditional knowledge in the new climate agreement. Annalisa Savaresi. 7 April 2015.

Blog Post #17: Latest developments relating to benefit-sharing under the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Asterios Tsioumanis and Elsa Tsioumani. 27 April 2015.

Blog Post #18: Principles on responsible investment in agriculture and food systems: a (very) critical analysis. Margherita Brunori. 21 May 2015.

Blog Post #19: Who benefits from the exploitation of non-living resources on the seabed? Operationalizing the benefit-sharing provisions in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. James Harrison. 1 July 2015.

Blog Post #20: Benefit-sharing and mining: reflections on the 2015 Alternative Mining Indaba. Louisa Parks. 13 July 2015.

Blog Post #21: Equity and benefit-sharing in International Water Law: Reflections on the 2015 World Water Congress. Ruby Moynihan. 3 August 2015.

Blog Post #22: Introducing the Marine Benefits project: benefit-sharing and small-scale fisheries. Daniela Diz. 19 October 2015.

Blog Post #23: The transfer of marine technology as benefit-sharing. Mara Ntona. 4 November 2015.

Blog Post #24: Benefit-sharing and marine scientific research. Mara Ntona. 1 November 2015.

Blog Post #25: REDD+ at the intersection of biodiversity, climate change and human rights law: reflections on equity and benefit-sharing. Annalisa Savaresi and Elisa Morgera. 26 November 2015.

Blog Post #26: Towards international guidelines on prior informed consent and fair and equitable benefit-sharing from the use of traditional knowledge. Elisa Morgera. 9 December 2015.

Blog Post #27: The Plant Treaty at a crossroad: reflections on the Sixth Session of the ITPGR Governing Body. Elsa Tsioumani. 18 December 2015.

2016

Blog Post #28: The Paris Agreement: an equity perspective. Annalisa Savaresi. 29 January 2016.

Blog Post #29: Benefit-sharing and environmental democracy rights: Sunshine, a voice in the room and a seat at the table for communities? Lalanath de Silva. 29 February 2016.

Blog Post #30: The first World Ocean Assessment: a benefit-sharing perspective. Mara Ntona. 2 March 2016.

Blog Post #31: Recomposing the mosaic of responsible business conduct along the agricultural supply chain: the FAO-OECD Guidance. Margherita Brunori. 16 March 2016.

Blog Post #32: The unrealised potential of ecosystem services: some reflections concerning (marine) ecosystem services, the ecosystem approach and benefit sharing. Daniela Diz, Elisa Morgera and Meriwether Wilson. 5 April 2016.

Blog Post #33: Benefit-sharing and plurality of (in)justice. Saskia Vermeylen. 28 April 2016.

Blog Post #34: Benefit-sharing, justice and Global South. Saskia Vermeylen. 28 April 2016.

Blog Post #35: Multilateral benefit sharing: whither from here? Elisa Morgera. 20 June 2016.

Blog Post #36: Benefit-sharing in International Water Law: the case of Senegal and Niger Rivers basins. Komlan Sangbana and Mara Tignino. 21 July 2016.

Blog Post #37: Benefit-sharing in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction: where we are at? (Part IV). Elisa Morgera, Elsa Tsioumani and Daniela Diz. 26 July 2016.

Blog Post #38: Benefit-sharing and wildlife: links with conservation, trade and trophy hunting. Mika Schröder. 4 August 2016.

Blog Post #39: Access to markets for smallholders and fair and equitable benefit-sharing: mapping the linkages. Elsa Tsioumani. 10 October 2016.

Blog Post #40: Gender equality and benefit-sharing: exploring the linkages in relation to land and genetic resources. Naomi Kenney and Mika Schröder. 5 December 2016.

2017

Blog Post #41: Benefit-sharing and insights from deliberative democracy. Louisa Parks. 6 February 2016.

Blog Post #42: Reflections on 2016 UN Biodiversity Conference (Part I): the multi-faceted benefit-sharing dimensions of mainstreaming biodiversity into other sectors. Elisa Morgera. 1 March 2017.

Blog Post #43: Reflections on 2016 UN Biodiversity Conference (Part II): assessing the Mo'otz kuxtal guidelines on benefit-sharing from the use of traditional knowledge. Elisa Morgera. 1 March 2017.

Blog Post #44: Reflections on 2016 UN Biodiversity Conference (Part III): new challenges related to fair and equitable benefit-sharing under the Nagoya Protocol. Elisa Morgera and Elsa Tsiumani. 1 March 2017.

Blog Post #45: The latest World Bank Environmental and Social Framework: progress on fair and equitable benefit-sharing? (Part I). Marie-Catherine Petersmann. 12 July 2017.

Blog Post #46: The latest World Bank Environmental and Social Framework: progress on fair and equitable benefit-sharing? (Part II). Marie-Catherine Petersmann. 14 July 2017.

Blog Post #47: The latest World Bank Environmental and Social Framework: progress on fair and equitable benefit-sharing? (Part III). Marie-Catherine Petersmann. 16 July 2017.

Blog Post #48: Benefit-sharing and traditional knowledge: recent developments and new frontiers in the climate regime. Annalisa Savaresi. 8 November 2017.

Blog Post #49: Space for local voices? Analysing the discourses of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Mika Shröder and Louisa Parks. 27 November 2017.



2018

Blog Post #50: Benefit-sharing in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction: where are we at? (Part V). Elisa Morgera. 27 February 2018.

Blog Post #51: Why technicalities matter – On the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the seventh session of its Governing Body. Elsa Tsioumani. 13 March 2018.

Blog Post #52: A reflection on benefit-sharing as a Framework Principle on Human Rights and the Environment proposed by UN Special Rapporteur John Knox (Part I). Elisa Morgera. 8 April 2018.

Blog Post #53: A reflection on benefit-sharing as a Framework Principle on Human Rights and the Environment proposed by UN Special Rapporteur John Knox (Part II: right-holders and duty-bearers). Elisa Morgera. 8 April 2018.

Blog Post #54: Untangling the knots between benefit-sharing and patent protection: IRRI and SPIKE gene. Elsa Tsioumani. 22 May 2018.

Blog Post #55: Space for local voices? Analysing the discourses of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Mika Schröder and Louisa Parks. 26 June 2018.

Blog Post #56: Benefit-sharing and insights from deliberative democracy. Louisa Parks. 26 June 2018.

Blog Post #57: What do CBD Parties mean when they talk about 'participation'? Mitchell Lennan. 13 August 2018.

Blog Post #58: An early reflection on benefit-sharing negotiations at the International Seabed Authority. Mara Ntona and Mitchell Lennan. 30 August 2018.

Blog Post #59: Digital sequence information (Part I) – Benefit-sharing expectations? Elizabeth Karger. 6 November 2018.

Blog Post #60: Digital sequence information (Part II): views on multilateral benefit-sharing. Elizabeth Karger. 6 November 2018.

Blog Post #61: What to expect on benefit-sharing from the upcoming 2018 UN Biodiversity Conference? (Part I: Convention on Biological Diversity). Elisa Morgera. 6 November 2018.

Blog Post #62: What to expect on benefit-sharing from the upcoming 2018 UN Biodiversity Conference (Part II: Nagoya Protocol). Elisa Morgera. 8 November 2018.

Blog Post #63: The participation of local stakeholders in the context of the CBD: new questions and reflections ahead of the 2018 UN Biodiversity Conference. Mika Schröder and Louisa Parks. 11 November 2018.

Blog Post #64: Some reflections on the draft Rutzolijirisaxik Voluntary Guidelines. Saskia Vermeylen. 26 November 2018.

ACADEMIC DIALOGUES



The BeneLex project combined doctrinal and comparative analysis of sources of international law and of normative developments under multilateral environmental, human rights and corporate accountability processes.

This analysis was systematically enriched with real-world insights from the multilateral level through: participant observation in selected multilateral environmental negotiating sessions; organisation of international side-events at the margins of selected multilateral negotiations to gather feedback from negotiators from developing and developed countries, as well as NGOs, industry representatives and community-based organisations active at the multilateral level; and involvement of selected UN legal officers and non-governmental organisations that are active at the multilateral level in the project's Board of Advisors.

In addition, to understand in a pragmatic and contextualised manner the role of benefit-sharing from the local to the global level, the project integrated empirical legal research and political sociology in the context of fieldwork in Malaysia, South Africa, Namibia, Argentina and the Greek island of Ikaria, in order to better understand the role of different transnational actors (non-governmental organisations, bilateral development partners, multinational enterprises) in shaping and using benefit-sharing in their environmental cooperation with governments and communities.

The project team thus engaged in a dialogue and shared its outputs both with academics belonging to different epistemological communities (international law generalists, environmental lawyers, human rights lawyers, political scientists) and with policy and practice communities.

2014

- Delivering on global environmental justice: the promises of benefit-sharing. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 30 January 2014.
- Biocultural community protocols and benefit-sharing: an interdisciplinary enquiry. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 11 March 2014.
- BeneLex introduced at the Edinburgh India Institute inaugural conference. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK. 15 May 2014.
- BeneLex at the 3rd UNITAR-Yale Conference on Environmental Governance and Democracy. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. 17 September 2014.
- Seminar "Benefit-sharing at the cross-roads of international environmental and human rights law". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 15 October 2014.
- BeneLex at the British International Studies Association's workshop on Normative and ideational trends in global environmental politics. University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK. 16 – 17 October 2014.
- Seminar "Benefit-sharing and international climate change law". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 12 November 2014.
- BeneLex-lus Commune Workshop: "Benefit-sharing in environmental law: international and European perspectives". Ius Commune Research School, Maastricht, The Netherlands. 26 November 2014.



2015

- BeneLex introduced at the Biodiversity, Sustainable Development and Law conference, University of Cambridge. Cambridge, UK. 20 February 2015.
- Seminar "Benefit-sharing and global environmental law: an interdisciplinary enquiry into norm diffusion". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 4 March 2015.
- Seminar "Environmental governance, the law and the people: an inter-disciplinary perspective on benefit-sharing". School of Social and Political Science, University of Lincoln, Lincoln, UK. 9 March 2015.

- Seminar "Benefit-sharing, land, food and agriculture in international law". 18 March 2015.
- Seminar "Benefit-sharing and the law of the sea". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 24 April 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to conference "Bioethics, law and Human rights: global intersections". University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK. 15 May 2015.
- Special Session at the 15th World Water Congress "Equity and Water: Questions of access and benefit-sharing". Edinburgh, UK. 25 May 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to workshop "Going beyond academia: the challenges of engaged research". Centre for the Study of Social and global Justice, School of Politics, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK. 5 June 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to workshop "ICT for environmental regulation as a global justice issue". University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK. 15 June 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to workshop "Discerning systemic functionality and global values in international law". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 8 – 9 July 2015.
- Workshop on renewable energy and community benefit-sharing". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 2 October 2015.
- Workshop on justice and benefit-sharing. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 15 October 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to Symposium on environmental racism. Lincoln Centre for Environmental Law, Lincoln, UK. 16 October 2015.
- Seminar "Sharing insights from the field". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 27 October 2015.
- Postgraduate course at Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies. DIRPOLIS Institute, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa, Italy. 18 – 20 November 2015.



2016

- Seminar "Sharing benefits from the coast". University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 29 January 2016.

- Workshop on fair and equitable benefit-sharing, land and international law. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 1 February 2016.
- BeneLex presentation on benefit-sharing from natural resource use. Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. 3 February 2016.
- BeneLex research presented at Sussex University. University of Sussex, Brighton, UK. 17 February 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to “Decolonizing the Academy” conference. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK. 26 February 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to CIRCULEX workshop on norm diffusion. Aix-Marseille Faculty of law and Political Science, Aix-en-Provence, France. 21 March 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to the Socio-Legal Studies Association’s annual conference. Lancaster University School of Law, Lancaster, UK. 5 – 7 April 2016.
- BeneLex presents findings at University of Lapland. Rovaniemi, Finland. 19 April 2016.
- Workshop on fair and equitable benefit-sharing and corporate accountability. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 12 May 2016.
- Workshop on fair and equitable benefit-sharing and water. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 12 May 2016.
- Workshop on fair and equitable benefit-sharing and right to science. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 13 May 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to workshop on land as a global issue. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 16 May 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to network meeting on rethinking biodiversity governance. Montreal, Canada. 21 May 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to the British International Studies Association annual conference. British International Studies Association, Edinburgh, UK. 15 – 17 June 2016.
- BeneLex organises talk on Earth jurisprudence. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 17 June 2016.
- Workshop on the law of the marine environment. University of Edinburgh School of Law, Edinburgh, UK. 17 June 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to workshop on public and private international law. Lincoln University, Lincoln, UK. 24 June 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to Oxford workshop on regulating the energy transition. Old Souls College, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. 30 June – 1 July 2016.
- BeneLex invited to workshop “Global law and comparative law in discussion”. Durham University, Durham, UK. 12 July 2016.
- Marine Benefits holds second workshop. University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK. 18 – 19 July 2016.
- Workshop on the Commons in the Plant Innovation Field. Masion Française d’Oxford, Oxford, UK. 30 September – 2 October 2016.

- Elisa Morgera participates in workshop on Genetic resources in the age of the Nagoya Protocol and gene/genome synthesis at Cambridge. Cambridge, UK. 18 November 2016.



2017

- Conference "Indigenous peoples' natural resources". University of Trento, Trento, Italy. 19 January 2017.
- Oxford Public International Law Discussion Group. University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. 2 February 2017.
- Distinguished Professorial Address. University of the West of England, Bristol, UK. 23 March 2017.
- Second BeneLex workshop. University of Strathclyde, Ross Priory, Alexandria, UK. 28 April 2017.
- Conference on the Commons and Social and solidarity economy. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece. 4 – 7 May 2017.
- Conference on "Business and Human Rights: international law challenges, European responses". l'Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy. 29 – 30 May 2017.
- Workshop Oceans Commons: Common heritage, marine genetic resources and biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Rome, Italy. 13 June 2017.
- Global environmental law symposium. Glasgow, UK. 4 – 5 September 2017.
- Annual Conference of the Society of Legal Scholars. University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland. 6 September 2017.
- First workshop of the Rethinking Biodiversity Governance Network. Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Lysaker, Norway. 14 – 15 September 2017.
- BeneLex at UNDRIP Anniversary Conference. School of Advanced Study, University of London, London, UK. 20 October 2017.
- BeneLex at University of Leeds. University of Leeds, Leeds, UK. 10 November 2017.
- Annual conference of the International Association of Legal and Social Philosophy. University of Sheffield School of Law. 17 November 2017.
- BeneLex at University of Turku. University of Turku. Turku, Finland. 23 November 2017.
- BeneLex at ESPA Annual Science Conference. John McIntyre Conference Centre, Edinburgh, UK. 28 November – 1 December 2017.



2018

- BeneLex at Rethinking Biodiversity Network meeting in Paris. Paris, France. 15 – 16 January 2018.
- BeneLex at Edinburgh conference “Just transition to a low-carbon economy”. Edinburgh, UK. 1 – 2 March 2018.
- BeneLex findings shared with Canadian researchers. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. 15 March 2018. Thomson River University, Kamloops, Canada. 19 March 2018.
- BeneLex at Rights and Resources Symposium. Wake Forest University School of Law, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA. 6 April 2018.
- BeneLex workshop on water law. University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK. 24 April 2018.
- BeneLex at Strathclyde event on oceans and the SDGs. Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK. 1 May 2018.
- BeneLex at Strathclyde Postgraduate Colloquium. Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK. 3 May 2018.
- BeneLex Third Workshop. University of Strathclyde, Ross Priory, Alexandria, UK. 28 June 2018.
- BeneLex at IUCN Colloquium. Glasgow, UK. 4 – 6 July 2018.
- BeneLex at Xiamen Academy of International Law. Xiamen, Fujian, China. 9 – 13 July 2018.
- BeneLex at Digital Humanities Conference. Sheffield, UK. 7 September 2018.
- Book launch on public/private international law. Edinburgh, UK. 5 October 2018.
- BeneLex at Qualitative Research in Law Conference in Brno. The Faculty of Law, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. 26 October 2018.
- BeneLex at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Sharm El-Sheik, Egypt. 17 – 29 November 2018.

OUTREACH

The BeneLex team reached a variety of stakeholders through the organisation of international side-events at multilateral environmental negotiation sessions, the sharing of research results in the form of blog posts (to discuss topical international law developments that are relevant to benefit-sharing), working papers and guest articles, and the participation in other events.



2013

- BeneLex contributes to Scotland's International Conference on Climate Justice. Edinburgh, UK. 9 October 2013.

2014

- Benefit-sharing and the law: unraveling the Nagoya Protocol and mapping other opportunities for benefit-sharing. Pyeongchang, Korea. 27 February 2014.
- BeneLex invited to contribute to UNEP handbook. May 2014.
- BeneLex contributes to CBD/IDLO event. Montreal, Canada. 21 June 2014.
- BeneLex participates in the 3rd UNITAR-Yale conference on environmental governance & democracy. Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA. September 2014.

2015

- BeneLex researcher participates in brainstorming workshop on the ITPGR benefit-sharing fund. Città dell-Altra Economia, Rome, Italy. 17 January 2015.
- BeneLex researcher invited to join Global Specialist Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing. February 2014.
- BeneLex researchers invited to Expert Workshop on Equity, Justice and Well-being in Ecosystem Governance. London, UK. 26 – 27 March 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to UNESCO “our common future under climate change” conference. Paris, France. 8 July 2015.
- BeneLex side-event at the sixth meeting of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Rome, Italy. 8 October 2015.
- BeneLex side-event at the ninth meeting of the Working Group on Traditional Knowledge of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montreal, Canada. 6 November 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to Expert Workshop on Developing an Equity Framework on Protected Area Governance. London, UK. 12 November 2015.
- BeneLex contributes to side-event on REDD+ at the Paris Climate Conference. Paris, France. 30 November 2015.



2016

- BeneLex contributes to CBD Expert Group on Multilateral Benefit-Sharing under Nagoya Protocol. Montreal, Canada. 9 February 2016.
- BeneLex invited to contribute to Geneva Academy’s training on human rights and the environment. Geneva, Switzerland. 7 – 11 March 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to IUCN workshop on marine genetic resources. New York University, New York, USA. 2 April 2016.
- BeneLex contributes to symposium “rights and resources: community engagement with extractive industries”. Berlin, Germany. 14 April 2016.
- BeneLex and marine benefits invited to IIED expert meeting on “leaving no one behind”. London, UK. 15 April 2016. BeneLex side-event at 20th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on

Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montreal, Canada. 25 April 2016.

- UN expert consultation on biodiversity and human rights.
- 2016 annual science conference of the ecosystem services for poverty alleviation programme. Nairobi, Kenya. 17 – 18 November 2016.
- BeneLex and marine benefits organise side-event on tenure governance and the Sustainable Development Goals: leaving no-one behind in the land and fisheries sectors at the Committee on World Food Security. Rome, Italy. 20 October 2016.
- Prof Elisa Morgera contributes to side-event on "biodiversity governance- identifying knowledge gaps and needed research activities" in Cancun. Cancun, Mexico. 4 – 17 December 2016.



2017

- Marine benefits at side event in Brussels. Brussels, Belgium. 7 – 9 March 2017.
- BeneLex at the UN negotiations on marine biodiversity. United Nations, New York, USA. 27 March 2017.
- BeneLex on the sidelines of the Bonn climate negotiations. Bonn, Germany. 13 May 2017.
- BeneLex and marine benefits at the UN ocean conference. United Nations, New York, USA. 5 – 9 June 2017.
- BeneLex at the Expert Group on SDG 2. United Nations, New York, USA. 12 – 13 June 2017.
- BeneLex side-event at CBD intersessionals. Montreal, Canada. December 2017.
- Consultancy on Nagoya Protocol Article 4. October 2017.
- BeneLex PI at CBD Bogis-Bossey dialogue. Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland. 12 – 14 November 2017.
- BeneLex PI at World Forum on Natural Capital. Edinburgh, UK. 27 November 2017.



2018

BeneLex and IIED produce a policy brief on benefit-sharing in relation to marine genetic resources of areas beyond national jurisdiction. March 2018.

BeneLex contributes to UNEP-UNDP webinar on human rights and the environment. 19 April 2018.

- BeneLex contributes to IPBES global assessment.
- BeneLex at Cambridge Conservation Initiative Expert Meeting. Cambridge, UK. 10 – 12 April 2018.
- BeneLex contributes to FAO Draft Guide on Legislation for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries. August 2018.
- BeneLex contributes to UNEP Course on Human Rights and the Environment. University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu, Finland. 24 August 2018.
- BeneLex and IIED Policy Brief on Capacity Building and Marine Technology Transfer. August 2018.
- BeneLex provides comments on Ethical BioTrade Standards. September 2018.



In addition, our policy outputs included:

- **Three policy briefs** that present in a succinct and accessible way the main project findings on whether and how benefit-sharing can (and crucially when it cannot) contribute to an equitable transition to the green economy. The briefs are targeted to specific groups of end-users: international negotiators, the private sector, NGOs and bilateral donors advising indigenous and local communities. They will become available in English, French and Spanish in 2019;

- three **training modules** for indigenous peoples' and local communities' advocates and lawyers, providing practical guidance on operationalising benefit-sharing and concluding benefit-sharing agreements. The module will become available online and in print in English, French and Spanish to ensure its accessibility to stakeholders in different regions in 2019.



More information about the BeneLex project can be found in its website:
<https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/benelex/>

Get the latest news about BeneLex project



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