

**Online Survey on Information Systems, Registers and Databases
of Genetic Resources (GRs), Traditional Knowledge (TK) and
Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs)**

1. Is there any formal domestic or customary legal system in your country requiring, or at least relating to, the establishment and/or maintenance of an information system on GRs, TK and/or TCEs, such as:

- conventional intellectual property (IP) law?**
- a specific law for the protection of TK and/or TCEs?**
- access and benefit-sharing legislation or legislation dealing with biodiversity, the environment, intangible cultural heritage, publicly-funded research, food and agriculture?**
- customary laws and practices?**
- the law of confidentiality/trade secrets/undisclosed information?**

If so, please provide details, such as the title of the law(s) and the relevant provisions.

- Plant Variety Protection Act B.E. 2542 (1999) (Sections 3, 12 and 13)**
- Protection and Promotion of Knowledge on Thai Traditional Medicine Act B.E. 2542 (1999) (Sections 3, 15 and 16)**
- Promotion and Conservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage Act B.E. 2559 (2016) (Sections 3 and 4)**

2. Is your country party to any international or regional legal instrument (such as a convention, treaty or declaration) that requires the establishment of or participation in information systems for the protection, promotion and/or safeguarding of GRs, TK and/or TCEs? If so, please indicate which international or regional legal instrument.

- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)**

3. Does any information system(s) of GRs, TK and/or TCEs exist in your country (whether IP-related or not)? If so, please provide a description of such information system(s).

- Thailand Biodiversity Information Facility (TH-BIF), administered by the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, is a system that collects information regarding living creatures in Thailand, and everyone can access and use such information. Normally, the information in the TH-BIF will be updated every 6 months and can be accessed through <https://thbif.onep.go.th/>.

- Provincial Intangible Cultural Heritage Information System, administered by the Department of Cultural Promotion, collects and compiles information regarding intangible cultural heritage from various provinces. The provincial intangible cultural heritage is considered and announced by provincial commission on promotion and preservation of intangible cultural heritage. The Provincial Intangible Cultural Heritage Information System can be accessed through <https://ich-thailand.org/heritage/province>.

- National Intangible Cultural Heritage Information System, administered by the Department of Cultural Promotion, collects and compiles information regarding national intangible cultural heritage. The national cultural heritage is considered and announced by national commission on promotion and preservation of intangible cultural heritage. The National Intangible Cultural Heritage Information System can be accessed through <https://ich-thailand.org/heritage/national>.

- Thai Traditional Digital Knowledge Library (TTDKL), administered by the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, is an information system that collects information about Thai traditional medicine recipes, herbal information, legal information, herbal research report information, Thai traditional medicine, folk medicine, alternative medicine, etc. The TTDKL can be accessed through <https://ttdkl.dtam.moph.go.th>.

- Herbal Medicine Product Information System (HMPIS), administered by the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine, gathers information about Thai herbal medicines.

4. Which IP-related objectives are sought to be achieved through this information system(s)?

- The TH-BIF system aims to protect biodiversity for sustainability and the country's property with respect to intellectual property.

- The Intangible Cultural Heritage Information System aims to protect Thailand's intangible cultural heritage. The system is important evidence to refer to the country's ownership in order to protect national intangible cultural heritages.

- The TTDKL and HMPIS systems aim to monitor and protect Thai traditional medicine knowledge and prevent exploitation without authorization (Prior Informed Consent). Also, the systems enable right holders to receive fair compensation from using traditional medicine knowledge.

5. What types of information are included in such an information system, including potentially sensitive categories of information such as sacred TK/TCEs and/or secret TK/TCEs?

- The TH-BIF system collects information about the biodiversity of plants, animals, and microorganisms, including the alien species registration, experts, threat status, legal protection status, genetic bank and museum location, knowledge and utilization of biodiversity, as well as related laws and research.

- The intangible cultural heritage information systems collect information about social practices and rituals in each area, knowledge and practices regarding nature and the universe, such as foods, rituals, traditional craftsmanship and handicraft information, and performing arts in rituals relating to faith, respect, and healing processes.

- The TTDKL and HMPIS systems consist of information about traditional medicine recipes and traditional medicine formulas from ancient texts.

6. What is the legal effect of inclusion of GRs, TK and/or TCEs, as the case may be, into the information system? For example, does inclusion establish IP rights?

- The Protection and Promotion of Knowledge on Thai Traditional Medicine Act B.E. 2542 (1999) sets out rules (and mechanisms) for compensation and distribution of benefits arising from use of traditional medicine recipes.

Also, personal traditional recipes and traditional medicine texts can be filed for registration. Rights holders have various rights over registered traditional medicine knowledge, such as the right to produce, distribute, improve, or develop personal traditional recipes and traditional medicine texts, etc.

7. Are there interoperability standards between the existing information systems in your country and other information systems or services? Do these interoperability standards concern: (i) data formats (e.g., XML, data fields, etc.); (ii) content data (e.g., characterization, function, technical use of GRs, TK or TCEs); (iii) rights metadata (e.g., right holder, subject matter, date of documentation, etc.); or (iv) structures of the information systems and services (e.g., APIs, etc.)? If so, please provide a description of these standards.

- According to the intangible cultural heritage information system, there is a Notification of the National Committee on Promotion and Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage B.E. 2560 (2017) that specifies characteristics of intangible cultural heritage in line with the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage.

- The TTDKL system is linked with the intellectual property information search system of the Department of Intellectual Property. So, people can access and use information about traditional medicine knowledge and herbal information easily.