

Seed Usage Policy

Doi Suthep Nature Center (DSNC) Seed Bank

1. Scope

This policy applies to all seeds accessioned, or stored in the Doi Suthep Nature Center Seed Bank, including seeds collected and deposited by partner organizations.

2. Guiding Principles

Seed use shall:

- Prioritize biodiversity conservation and long-term genetic integrity
- Support scientific research and knowledge generation
- Be transparent, traceable, and well documented
- Respect the authority of the collecting organization
- Comply with applicable laws and agreements

3. Permitted Uses of Seeds

Seeds conserved in the DSNC Seed Bank may be used for the following purposes, subject to availability and approval:

- 3.1 Research Purposes: Seeds may be used for research purposes, including seed biology, conservation genetics, ecological studies, and restoration-related research.
- 3.2 Conservation and Restoration: Seeds may be used for species conservation, population reinforcement, habitat restoration, and recovery programs, following recognized best practices.
- 3.3 Education and Training: Limited quantities of seeds may be used for education, training, and capacity-building activities that promote conservation awareness and skills.

4. Authority of Collecting Organizations

Seeds, collected by partner organizations, remain under the authority of the collecting organization. The collecting organization may use its collected seeds as it sees fit, in accordance with applicable laws and agreements.

Use of seeds by third parties requires prior approval from the collecting organization, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

5. Seed Access and Distribution

All seed requests must be recorded and reviewed by seed bank staff. Seed distribution shall follow internal procedures and, where required, be accompanied by appropriate agreements (e.g., Material Transfer Agreements). Commercial use of seeds is not permitted unless explicitly authorized by the collecting organization and relevant authorities.

6. Restrictions

Seeds shall not be used in ways that threaten wild populations or compromise genetic diversity. Unauthorized redistribution, sale, or transfer of seeds is prohibited. Any use outside the purposes stated in this policy requires written approval.

8. Documentation and Acknowledgment

Users of seeds must:

- Properly acknowledge the seed bank and collecting organization in reports or publications
- Provide basic feedback or results when requested, particularly for research and restoration use

9. Compliance and Review

All seed use must comply with national laws and relevant international agreements. This policy shall be reviewed periodically and updated as needed.

Seed Usage Request Flow Chart (DSNC seed bank)

