



# ENHANCING HEALTH INNOVATION THROUGH SUSTAINABLE AFRICAN DATA AND BIOSPECIMEN OVERSIGHT: H3AFRICA DBAC TO AFRICAN DBAC



## Introduction

The H3Africa Initiative, co-funded by NIH, Wellcome Trust, and the Science for Africa Foundation, has significantly advanced genomics research in Africa. Although funding has ended, its impact continues through biorepositories, data catalogues, and the oversight of the H3Africa Data and Biospecimen Access Committee (DBAC). Established in 2017, DBAC ensures responsible, fair, and equitable data governance. Recognizing the need for sustainable oversight, DBAC is evolving into an African DBAC to support initiatives like PAGRA, African Genomic Centers of Excellence, AGenDA, and large-scale national genomics projects. This transition will leverage DBAC's expertise in ethical, legal, and scientific governance to enhance data accessibility and drive innovation across the continent.



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## From H3Africa DBAC to African DBAC

The plan to expand the DBAC involves transitioning from the H3Africa DBAC to a broader African DBAC, ensuring continued governance of genomic data access across the continent, and potentially include numerous other data types from diverse sources. This expanded role will provide expert oversight for large-scale African genomic initiatives.

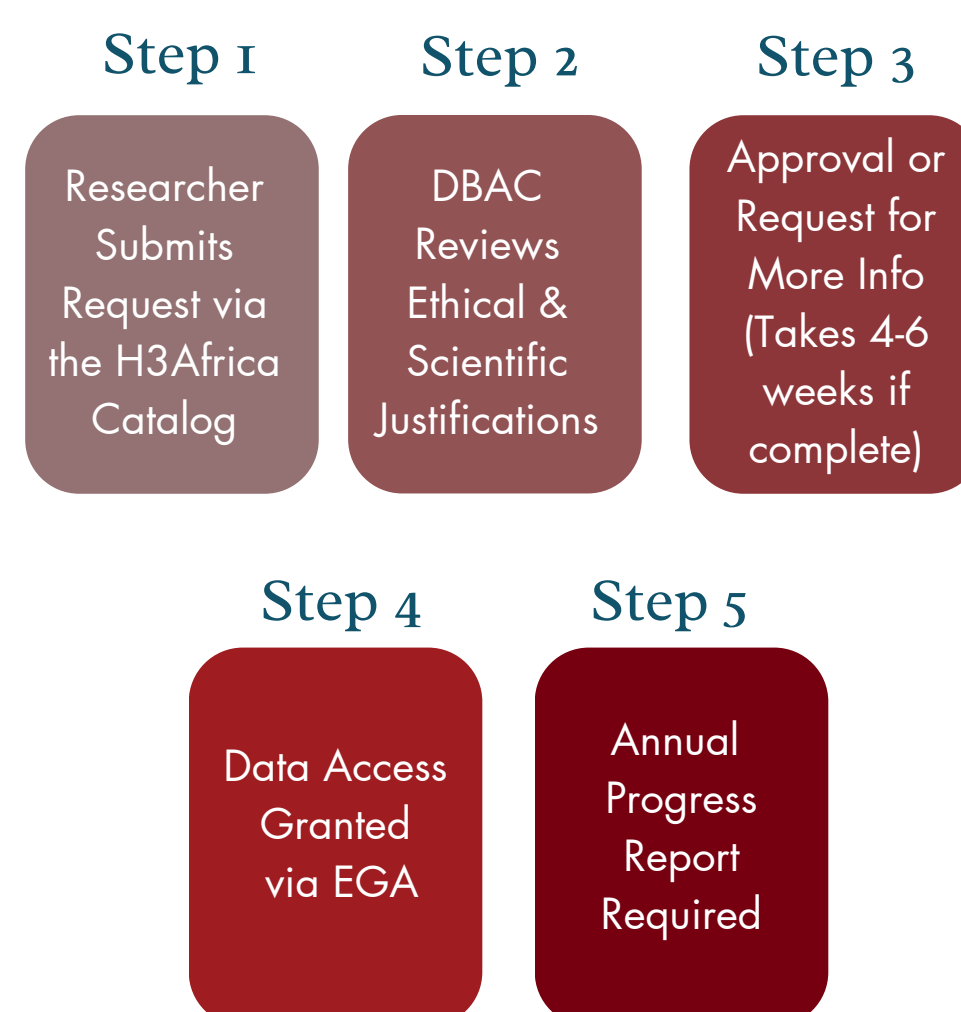
### The Role of DBAC

The Data & Biospecimen Access Committee (DBAC) oversees access to H3Africa datasets and biospecimens, ensuring compliance with ethical guidelines, informed consent, and research integrity.

### Responsibility

- Review & Approve Requests: Ensuring research aligns with ethical policies
- Maintain Data Security & Integrity: Protecting participant privacy
- Facilitate Fair Access: Supporting equitable data use across global researchers
- Monitor Compliance: Ensuring researchers follow data use agreements

### How the Review Process Works



### Required Supporting Documents when submitting a request

- Research ethics, consent, and study approval
- Evidence of peer review for the proposed research
- Evidence, in the form of publications, demonstrating experience in the research area
- A signed Data Access Agreement (DAA)
- A signed Material Transfer Agreement (MTA)



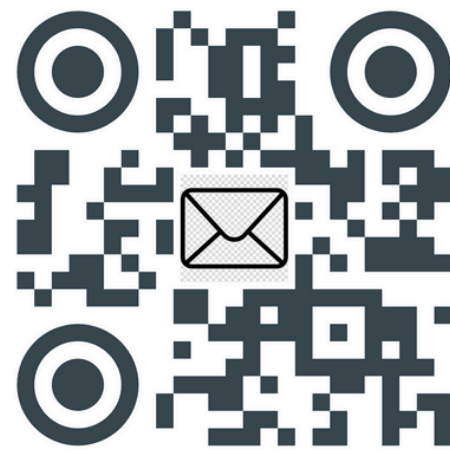
## RESOURCES

### Website



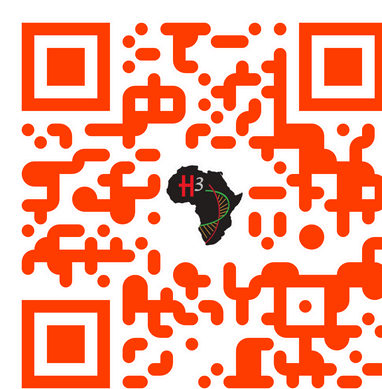
[h3africa.org](http://h3africa.org)

### Email



[dbac@h3africa.org](mailto:dbac@h3africa.org)

Search the H3Africa Catalogue and Make a Request



### Publication

Responsible governance of genomics data and biospecimens in the context of broad consent: experiences of a pioneering access committee in Africa



### Survey

This survey aims to assess your interest in utilizing the DBAC's services and to determine whether you have any data available for sharing.

