



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

Final Report

**A toolbox for the commercialization of agricultural
biotechnology in APEC member economies**

APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology

2007-2009

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Summary

This document outlines the activities that took place as part of the High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology's project "A toolbox for the commercialization of agricultural biotechnology in APEC member economies" (hereafter referred to as "the toolbox"). This project was co-funded by the High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology and the APEC Secretariat (hereafter referred to HLPDAB).

There were 4 types of activities and a total of 10 programs.

1. Needs Assessment Workshop in Lima, Peru, Dec. 2007
2. Needs Assessment Workshop in Singapore, Jan. 2008
3. Exchange with a Chilean delegation visiting Australia, May 2008
4. Exchange with a Vietnamese Delegation visiting The Philippines, Sept. 2008
5. Exchange with a Peruvian delegation visiting The Philippines, Sept. 2008
6. Consultative Forum on Agbiotechnology Acceptance Programs, Singapore, Sept. 2008
7. Exchange with a Vietnamese delegation visiting The Philippines, Dec. 2008
8. Bilateral policy discussions with a Philippine delegation visiting Peru, Sept. 2009
9. Risk Communication Workshop in Lima, Peru, Sept. 2009
10. Risk Communication Workshop in Bangkok, Sept. 2009

Note:

A proposed Risk Communications workshop in Bangkok in April 2009 was cancelled due to political unrest. This was rescheduled for September.

A proposed exchange with The Philippines visiting Canada for May 2009 was aborted due to Swine Flue Concerns.

In addition, a larger scale multi-lateral "**Consultative Forum on Biotech Crop Acceptance**" was conducted at the same time as a HLPDAB Steering committee meeting in Singapore.

The project started in December 2007.

The High Level Policy Dialogue and the APEC Secretariat Singapore contracted Singapore-based Asia BioBusiness Pte Ltd to manage the toolbox project. They were required to coordinate the various activities and take part in the exchanges to ensure that the agenda items were addressed.

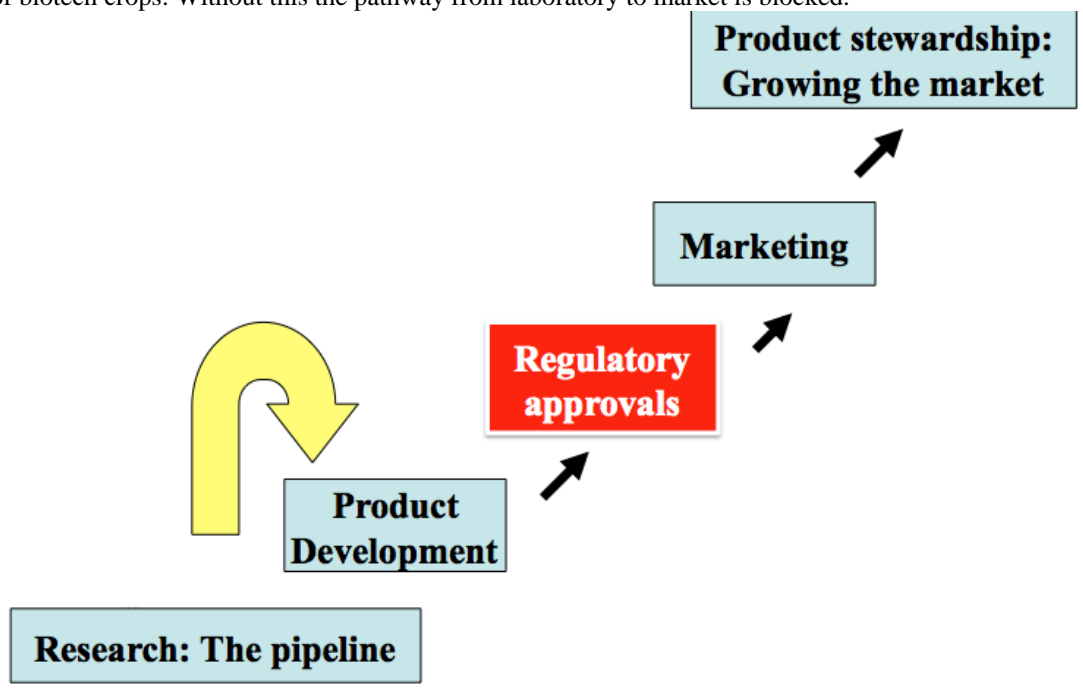
Professor Paul Teng and Dr Andrew Powell oversaw the needs assessment workshops.

Dr Powell accompanied the various delegations on the bilateral exchanges and conducted the Risk Communication Training Workshops.

Rational for the project

Biotechnology-derived crops (often called GM crops) have been commercialized in a number of economies around APEC. These economies have lead the way in developing regulatory frameworks that oversee the commercialization of biotech crops in a manner that ensures safety for the environment as well as for humans consuming food derived from the biotech crops.

The development and implementation of a regulatory framework is essential for the commercialization of biotech crops. Without this the pathway from laboratory to market is blocked.



In some the development of effective regulatory frameworks has been hampered for a variety of reasons. These include concern on the effects on overseas markets that commercialization may have; vocal anti-biotech crop activists; lack of human resources; public perception issues; concerns on erosion of biodiversity etc.

Perhaps most important, however, is that without legislation / regulations for biotech crops this makes trade in seeds and products derived from these crops extremely difficult.

This project sought to identify the major hurdles for the commercialization of biotech crops in those APEC member economies that have yet to develop regulations. Once identified, bilateral exchanges were arranged between economies that have developed regulations and economies interested in learning from the experience of others.

These exchanges formed the cornerstone of the early activities of the toolbox. In the 2008 HLPDAB meeting in Singapore Asia BioBusiness was instructed to expand the remit of the project to include Risk communication training as a number member economies noted that these skills would help them to address public perception issues that are a major barrier to commercialization of biotech crops.

1. Needs Assessments

Two needs assessment workshops were held, one in Lima and one in Singapore. Peru and Chile accepted invitations for the Lima meetings. Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam and the United States of America attended the Singapore workshop. The agenda was the same for both workshops. See Appendices 1 and 2 for agenda and attendees.

Lima Workshop Conclusions

Peru

Peru is at the early stages of sector development. Understanding of the commercialization process is weak and the policies that apply to the sector reflect this.

Facilities, human resources for biosafety facility management, IP legal (patent agents)...trials etc. all require development. Infrastructure for trials, food and feed testing is poor and there is a need for improved coordination of existing resources.

Public awareness is weak and misinformation is propagated extensively. There is no real strategy for communication and public perception is generally negative but extensive studies remain to be conducted.

Chile

Chile awaits the approval of a new law that will govern the growing of biotech crops. This might be not likely in the near term as an election is likely to deflect focus. Trade with EU is a particular issue for Chile.

There is an immediate need for Biosafety Policy development and the building of capacity in regulators. When policies are developed expertise in biosafety will limit sector development. Field trial management expertise is also limited. Building HR capacities to support policy implementation. Contained / Confined field trials. Open field trails etc.

Public perception needs to be better understood and communication and awareness strategies developed.

While there is a significant amount of research being conducted, an understanding of regulatory requirements needs to be inculcated in researchers. e.g. for grapes, tree fruits, pastures, cereals.

Chile expressed an interest in learning from other APEC member economies on how public / private sector partnerships have been used to advance the sector.

In addition, the mechanism of priority setting for the development and integration of public and private sector biotechnology research is of interest as is the mechanism of fostering the Development of Programs for the Domestic Biotechnology Industry.

The existing structure of public research institutions (PRI) was viewed as a potential limiting factor in development of the sector. Chile sought to gain understanding from other economies in how PRIs are structured and linked within the national research and innovation system.

Singapore Workshop Conclusions

Viet Nam

Viet Nam is finalizing its environmental biosafety and food and feed safety regulations. Once these are complete the challenge will be to implement. There is a pressing need for technical guidelines and protocols for laboratory, greenhouse and field experiments to support both sets of regulations. Clarification of organizational and agency responsibilities is required. Specifications and infrastructure are needed. Currently, human skills necessary for implementation are weak.

Sharing experiences in protocols for implementing biosafety regulations. Exchanges between countries were suggested.

Capacity building for risk assessment in maize, cotton, and soybean is essential to ensure the target of commercialization in 2011 is met. i.e. field trials in 2009 and 2010 (Target traits are Bt resistance and herbicide-tolerance as well as tolerance to drought, acidity and AI toxicity). Training in field trial management is required. Questions such as location number, experimental design, ecosystem types required for study need to be addressed. In the longer term monitoring of approved crops and extension services to support needed.

Communication initiatives are required to raise public awareness / reduce confusion. Improved media interactions are also needed.

Indonesia

Currently, initiatives to move the sector forward are hampered by considerable miscommunication about issues. People with no qualifications are speaking and influencing on biosafety. The public is not favorably inclined towards biotechnology.

There is a need for development of expertise in biosafety assessment / *ex ante* analysis and more research into biosafety *per se*. Research in biotech itself is uncoordinated and what has taken place has not been with a view to commercialization. Acquisition of technology has been under Material Transfer Agreements specifically for research and not for commercialization. IP licensing expertise is needed.

Assessment and approval of research is under one central commission. There are no Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs). Food safety assessment guidelines not formally approved yet.

There is a need for coordination of efforts in public communication of biotech.

There is no to poor product stewardship potential for biotech crops at local extension level.

Thailand

Advancement of the sector is hampered by the lack of approvals by regulatory authorities despite compliance and positive assessments. The Biosafety law is not yet enacted with the draft completed by Min. of Environment, but NGOs have drafted a second version. Policy development is imperative.

The public trusts NGOs more than public agencies. Additionally there is no consensus on biosafety in the academic community.

Policy makers are making decisions from perceptions of public attitudes that are influenced by media's misrepresentations. "Media is a voice of the NGOs".

Thailand needs to improve public understanding through improved media interaction and science communication strategies (science data to the public).

HR Capacity is needed in biosafety, risk assessment, communication and infrastructure. A higher profile for, and an understanding of risk management and assessment, is seen as essential for building trust.

In the longer term Thailand needs to develop monitoring and inspection systems

They are also interested in learning how other economies are developing effective segregation systems (Identity Preservation)

Malaysia

Malaysia has advanced further down the regulatory pathway than others countries but the implementation for the laws are now a concern. They are especially concerned with mega-diversity preservation. Biosafety research needs to be strengthened.

They need to develop capacity in monitoring experiments and field trials and are especially interested in sharing experiences in protocols for implementing biosafety regulations.

There number two concern was in public communication and felt there was a need to develop a platform for discussion between stakeholders.

Politicians need to be better informed and prepared for international protocol discussions

Strategic publicity / awareness campaigns needed to be developed.

There is an immediate need for clarification of regulations in light of the pending commercialization of PRSV papaya and a need to gain experience in technology acquisition.

General Comments

The Needs Assessment workshops further emphasized the diverse status of regulatory development in the attending economies. While some of the countries had clearly gone some way down the policy development pathway, major hurdles existed in the implementation of that policy. In almost all the countries public perception issues were identified as being especially important even when policies had been formulated. This was reported at subsequent HLPDAB general meetings and lead to the request for Asia BioBusiness to develop programs in Risk Communication for both policy makers and scientists.

However, after the assessment workshops the focus was on the exchange of information on policy development and implementation. Policy makers from Chile, Peru, Viet Nam, and Malaysian were taken to other economies to learn how policies were formulated and implemented and how communication initiatives were developed.

2. Activities

1. Chilean delegation visiting Australia, May 2008

A two-man delegation from Chile was supported for an activity in Australia.

Requested Targets

Biosafety policy development. Biosafety training. Field trial management.

Conducting research in the context of policy / regulatory requirements e.g. for grapes, tree fruits, pastures, cereals.

Building HR capacities to support policy implementation. Contained / Confined field trials.

Open field trails etc

Public perception, communication and awareness techniques.

Fostering the Development of Programs for the Domestic Biotechnology Industry.

Priority Setting for the Development and Integration of Public and Private Sector

Biotechnology Research.

How Public Research Institutions (PRI) are structured and linked within the national research and innovation system.

See Appendix 3 for delegation members

See Appendix 4 for program

2. Vietnamese Delegation visiting The Philippines, Sept. 2008

A nine-person delegation was supported for a 3-day visit to The Philippines

This exchange took place at a time when laws / regulations were being drafted and debated. It was felt that this visit should focus on the policy development process in the Philippines and the way the regulatory community interacts with the developers of the technology.

Requested Targets

Biosafety policy development.

HR issues - Biosafety training.

Field trial management.

Conducting research in the context of policy / regulatory requirements e.g. corn, rice and papaya especially.

Building HR capacities to support policy implementation.

Public perception, communication and awareness.

See Appendix 3 for delegation members

See Appendix 4 for program

3. Peruvian delegation visiting The Philippines, Sept. 2008

A three person delegation from Peru was supported for a 5 visit to the Philippines This five working day exchange was developed to cover the whole process of taking a biotech crop product from the lab to market, emphasizing the key role that a sound regulatory environment plays.

Requested Targets

Biosafety policy development.

Biosafety training.

Field trial management.

Conducting research in the context of policy / regulatory requirements

Building HR capacities to support policy implementation.

Contained / Confined field trials. Open field trails etc.

Public perception, communication and awareness.

Fostering the Development of Programs for the Domestic Biotechnology Industry.

See Appendix 3 for delegation members

See Appendix 4 for program

4. Vietnamese delegation visiting The Philippines, Dec. 2008

Background

Field trials will be initiated for corn in the near future. At the time of the visit legislation still required final drafting and passing through the Assembly. Members of the five-person delegation were selected after close consultation with Dr Ham of MARD. Senior Assembly members from the two provinces that want to conduct trials were selected along with senior ministry officials and a scientist who also acted as translator when required.

Requested Targets

To have key policy influencers in the Viet Nam National Assembly meet with farmers who are deriving benefits from the adoption of GM technology.

To have exchanges with policy makers / regulators who oversee the regulatory framework.

To gain an understanding of the field trial process

To meet with researchers targeting production issues with GM solutions

See Appendix 3 for delegation members

See Appendix 4 for program

5. Malaysian Delegation visit to Australia, March 2009

A six-person delegation (4 APEC funded and 2 people self funded) visited Canberra and Melbourne. The overall agenda for the trip was both policy and public awareness / perception. Meetings were coordinated to engage a broad range of parties including policy makers at both federal and state level, researchers and institutions engaged in GM research who are working directly with the regulators and the regulations, communication specialist and industry representatives.

Requested Targets

Biosafety regulations

Institutional Biosafety Committees

The Australian position on liability & redress

Australian laws / regulations on Access & Benefit Sharing

How Australia government develops their international positions for the CPB and CBD negotiations

The gauging of public perception and the response to that through outreach activities Field trial visit where possible

See Appendix 3 for delegation members

See Appendix 4 for program

6. Risk Communication Training Workshop Malaysia, August, 2009

This program was conducted with additional support from Biotechnology Corporation of Malaysia. A two-day workshop was conducted for policy makers, regulators, scientists and key influencers. A specific target was the development of a cadre of people trained in Risk Communication that could help address the serious public perception issues in Malaysia that have been largely due to foreign funded NGOs. Dr Andrew Powell and Professor Paul Teng of Asia BioBusiness conducted the workshop.

The workshops were structured so that attendees were trained in the theory and techniques of Risk Communication that were then applied in writing and oral exercises. Message Maps were created specific for attendees' own situations. Fifty people attended the workshop.

See Appendix 4 for program

7. Risk Communication Training Workshop and Bilateral policy discussions with a Philippine delegation visiting Peru, September, 2009

The main aim of this visit was to conduct a two-day Risk Communication training workshop for policy makers, regulators, scientists and key influencers. This was structured so that three Filipino regulators / policy implementers who had used risk communication techniques in the Philippines accompanied Dr Andrew Powell. They acted as resource personnel at the workshop. They also conducted a one-day policy information workshop and had discussions with farm leaders and producers.

The workshops were structured so that attendees were trained in the theory and techniques of Risk Communication that were then applied in writing and oral exercises after constructing Message Maps for issues specific for their own situations. A total of 40 Peruvians attended the workshop and were very engaged throughout.

See Appendix 3 for delegation members

See Appendix 4 for program

8. Seminar on GM Crops and Food Safety and Risk Communication Training Workshop in Bangkok, October, 2009

These activities were conducted in association with the Food Science and Technology Association of Thailand (FoSTAT). The US government's State Department and the USDA provided additional funding. These funds supported the attendance of Dr James Maryanski, former senior official at the US FDA. Dr Maryanski delivered a lecture on Food Safety and acted as a resource person for the development of message maps associated with food safety. Dr Darunee Edwards of FoSTAT, the Ambassador of the United States to the Kingdom of Thailand, Mr Eric G. John, and Dr Andrew Powell also made presentations.

Forty-five attendees from Thailand, The Philippines, Viet Nam and Indonesia were taught the theories of Risk Communication -Trust Determination, Risk Perception, Mental Noise and Negative Dominance. The concept of message mapping was introduced and developed for issues in biotech food safety. These message maps were used for oral practice of risk communication skills. Attendees also performed exercises in written communication using risk communication principles.

See Appendix 4 for program

9. Consultative Forum on Agbiotechnology Acceptance Programs, Singapore, Sept. 2008

The Consultative Forum on Agbiotech Crop Acceptance, conducted by Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd. was held on September 18-19, in Singapore and was attended by 25 representatives from 13 APEC member Economies.

Economies in attendance were: Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, the United States, and Viet Nam.

The speakers at this workshop came from academia, international organizations and the private sector, and from government.

The purpose of the Forum was to address the current weakness in biotech crop acceptance in the APEC region and to develop a harmonized strategy for agbiotech acceptance that leverages on the strengths of key interested parties in relation to regional/individual economy needs.

The following goals and strategies for increasing crop biotech acceptance among APEC Economies were identified:

Goal: Develop consistent and credible regulatory guidelines among member Economies.

Strategy: Encourage policies consistent with the Codex Plant Guideline, including Annexes.

Goal: Capitalize on experiences of NGOs and other technologies.

Strategy: Document the experiences of NGOs like the Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines and the Center for Science in the Public Interest, and technologies like reproductive health/population management that are open to biotechnology as a potential positive tool for agriculture.

Goal: Expand the audience, and better inform and educate the public on the benefits of agricultural biotechnology.

Strategy: Engage the wire services more on messages of broader interest like global food security issues, new technologies and new demands, engage even the anti-biotech NGOs, and learn from them how to communicate more effectively, and develop a plan to link the websites of public and private organizations to better communicate a more uniform message to the public.

Goal: Develop Activities that offer more synergies among APEC Economies.

Strategy: Establish an international farmer's network to facilitate information exchange and sharing of experiences; have an organization like CropLife organize workshops/seminars to bring together bio-entrepreneurs, farmers and the media to share information and experiences; and establish and extend the BIC-like-structure for small and medium-sized business (SMEs) and entrepreneurs in order to harmonize information tools among Economies and that links to international information networks online.

Goal: Develop better public relations initiatives.

Strategy: Coordinate and jointly launch information from IFIC, AFIC and ISAAA on consumer attitudes; have organizations' work together to monitor the media, and to coordinate on messages to the public that summarize media articles in local languages and that communicate to the public what they are really concerned about; utilize new media communication strategies (e.g.; YouTube) that may be less costly; engage third-party validators whom consumers view as neutral to express confidence in the potential of biotechnology to meet current and emerging global challenges; and push governments to clearly articulate publicly confidence in their regulatory systems to ensure the safety of gm crops and imported gm food and feeds.

See Appendix 4 for program

Outcomes and Lessons learned

Without exception these activities were well received by participants. The host countries for the fact finding visits (Australia, Philippines) and the hosts of the Risk Communication workshops (Malaysia, Thailand and Peru) all provided exceptional support for these activities and gave their time willingly to support the project. Of particular mention in this regard is the staff of the Department of Agriculture in the Philippines who went to great lengths to share the lessons learnt on the process of developing their regulatory policies.

These efforts were most appreciated by the visiting delegations.

A major accomplishment of this project has been the initiation of a Community of Practice (COP) within the regulatory authorities of the APEC economies. Information and experiences are now being shared outside of the project. This COP has both “North / South” and “South / South” modalities and is not dominated by any of the major GM crop producing countries.

While each economy gained information specific to their own situation, there were general lessons learnt.

1. There was recognition of the need to develop regulations that allow the research process to proceed. This is a significant barrier that must be overcome in a number of economies. These regulations must be developed within the context of global trade, however.

2. There was an acknowledgement of the openness of the regulatory policies in the host countries and an understanding that the regulatory environment should allow an open two-way consultative process and not be antagonistic. This was a message that was particularly well demonstrated in Australia.

3. There was a realization that the communication process must be focused upon and that it must be proactive rather reactive. This was perhaps the most talked about issue during the exchanges. All economies that are still in the process of either formulating policies or initiating implementation of regulations need to address this. It is, however, something that needs to be part of the regulatory process going forward.

It was realized that a major requirement for communication to be effective is an understanding of the public perception of specific issues in the debate. Many economies indicated that they do not have a clear understanding of public perceptions that is based on scientific research.

4. There was a better understanding of the contained / confined trial process and the need for the clear definition of procedures. There is a major need for human resource training in this area which is vital for the implementation of policies.

5. There was an appreciation of the need for post-commercialization monitoring and that an infrastructure needs to be developed to support this.

6. There was an increased awareness for that policy development must address multiple stacking events and a better understanding of low level presence issues that may hinder trade.

7. A greater understanding was achieved of the way supply chains can be managed to allow conventional agriculture, biotech crops, and organic systems can co-exist.

8. A realization that genetically modified animal policy development needs to be addressed in many economies.

Next steps

1. The development of policies is but the first step in developing a functioning regulatory system. Since its inception this program has evolved as a number of economies have progressed from regulation development phase to one of implementation.

There is a major need in a number of economies e.g. Peru, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Chile for the development of an infrastructure to support the implementation of policy. Human resources for field trial management and post commercialization monitoring are especially required.

Field trial training programs should be developed. These can be coordinated with both public sector and private sector contributions. Possible mechanisms include seminars in countries that are conducting trials or workshops conducted by field trial managers in different locations around APEC that require training.

A workshop on post commercialization monitoring should be conducted for policy makers to gain a better understanding of the process.

The issue of low level presence and asynchronous approvals needs to be discussed further and consensus at an APEC achieved. Activities in this area can be partnered with other APEC initiatives.

2. The communication challenge was a recurring theme throughout the project. There was a recognition that more needs to be done in almost all economies. Regulators, policy implementers, scientists need to be trained in Risk Communication. High Level Policy Dialogue meetings in Lima and Singapore recognized this and Asia BioBusiness was instructed to initiate training programs. These should be continued and expanded to other economies.

Under pinning any communication initiative is an understanding of the public perceptions on issues associated with the perceived risk. This is lacking in many economies and needs to be addressed. The HLPD meeting in Singapore noted this and requested that individual countries be supported to conduct scientific public perception studies.

3. Programs in genetically modified animal policy developed should be considered. While this technology is at an early stage, there is a potential for regulatory divides to develop which may cause similar dislocation to that seen GM crops.

Appendix 1

Attendees – Lima

Peru

Dr. Miguel Barandiaran, INIA,

Dr. Jorge Benavides Ranilla, Director of Molecular Biology Laboratory, Office of Genetic Resources and Biotechnology, INIA

Chile

Dr. Carlos Fernandez, Director, INIA, La Platina

Mr. Juan Manuel Ladron de Guevara, Ministry of Economy.

Mr. Mauricio Cañoles, Foundation for Innovation in Agriculture (FIA)- Ministry of Agriculture

Attendees – Singapore

Viet Nam

Dr. Pham van Toan, Director of Biotechnology Office, MARD

Dr. Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy, head of International Affairs, Institute of Agricultural Genetics

Indonesia

Dr. Karden Mulya, Indonesian Center for Agricultural Biotechnology and Genetic Resources Research and Development

Dr. Sony Suharsono, Director of Research Center for Bioresources and Biotechnology, Bogor

Thailand

Dr. Chalinee Kongsawat, BIOTEC, Thailand

Dr. Jintana Chanchaenrit, BIOTEC, Thailand

Malaysia

Dr. Wan Abdul Rahaman Bin Wan Yaacob, Senior Vice President, Industrial/Agriculture Development Division, Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn Bhd.

Ms. Juanita Joseph, Manager, Regulatory Affairs (Biosafety & Access Benefit Sharing) Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation

Singapore

Ms. Lee Siew Mooi, Agri Vet Authority, Singapore

USDA

Mr. David Cottrell, Kuala Lumpur

Mr. Bernard Kong, Singapore

Ms. Alice Chai, Singapore

APEC

Mr. Phanpob Plangprayoon, APEC Secretariat, Singapore

Appendix 2

Needs Assessment Workshops Agenda

Lima / Singapore

Day 1. Moderators: Professor Paul Teng (Singapore), Dr. Andrew Powell (Lima and Singapore) Ms. Priscilla Joseph (Lima)

- 0900 Intro to HLPD Initiative
Intro to workshop process: Expectations from participants; Deliverables
- 0930 What is needed to commercialize a biotech crop product? (Teng / Powell)
- 1030 BREAK
- 1100 Mini-workshop Session # 1. Enabling Needs
Benchmarking individual APEC economy's situation against generic enablers (Facilitating needs) and needs for commercialization
Key Deliverable 1: A list of assessed needs and gaps in each economy
- 1230 LUNCH BREAK
- 1400 Mini-W S #1 (Reporting)
Reporting and Calibration
- 1500 What are priorities for R&D and for commercialization? Why?
- 1530 BREAK
- 1545 Mini-workshop # 2 Setting national priorities
Identify databases or decision-making processes to justify investments in Specific crop-event combinations
Key Deliverable 2: A list of R&D priorities: A list of commercialization priorities (early successes with estimated timelines)
- 1700 Recap the process. Prepare for Day 2.
END of Day 1.
-
- DAY 2. Moderators: As above for Day 1
- 0900 Mini-W S #2 (Reporting)
Reporting and Calibration
- 1000 Mini-workshop # 3. Specifying Commercialization Needs for priorities
Identify specific gaps that need to be addressed to commercialize the specified biotech crop product (s)
Key Deliverable 3: List of target areas in the commercialization pathway that require action. Prioritize action. Identify potential entities responsible and resourcing.
COFFEE BREAK
- 1130 Reporting / Calibration
- 1230 LUNCH
- 1330 HLPD Modalities for accelerating action to commercialize / By Economy: AP / PT/ to share on possible modalities in the Initiative
- 1345 Mini W # 4. Identify Modalities and Prioritize (timeframe)
- 1415 Report and Consensus building
- 1500 Recap. Follow-up.
END of Workshop

Appendix 3

Chilean Delegation to Australia

25th May to 1st June 2008

Dr Ricardo Isla, Deputy Director, Head Strategic Studies, Foundation for Agrarian Innovation, Min. Of Agriculture, Gov. of Chile

Dr Ernesto Labra, National Innovation and Development Director at INIA

Dr Andrew Powell, Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.

Vietnamese Delegation to The Philippines

9th September to 13th September 2008

Dr. Nguyen Danh, Parliament member, Deputy Head of Parliament Delegation from Gia Lai province

Dr. Nguyen Quang Thao, Ministry of Industry and Trading, Department of Science and Technology

Mr. Le Thanh Quang, Parliament Office, Department for Science, Technology and Environment, (Biodiversity Law drafting group)

Mr. Phan Tuan Hung, Institute of Strategy and Policy in Environment and Natural Recourses, Ministry of Environment and Natural Recourses (Biodiversity law drafting group)

Mr. Nguyen Van Hoa, Deputy Director, Crop Production Department, MARD

Dr. Le Van Hop, Minister office, Ministry of Environment and Natural Recourses, (Lawyer, Biodiversity drafting group)

Ms. Le Thi Phi Van, Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development

Ms. Ta Thi Kieu Anh, Administrative Official, Viet Nam National Biosafety Framework Project, .

Mr. Nguyen Van Van, Chief of Information Division, Viet Nam Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

Dr Andrew Powell, Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.

Peruvian Delegation to The Philippines

21st September to 27th September 2008

Dr. William Vivanco, Director of Research, INIA

Dr. Jorge Benavides Ranilla, Director of Molecular Biology Lab and Office of Genetic Resources and Biotechnology, INIA

Dr. Jorge Enrique Alcántara Delgado, Specialist in Genetic Resources / Biosecurity, INIA

Dr. Andrew Powell, Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.

Vietnamese Delegation to The Philippines

30th November to 4th December 2008

Prof. Nguyen Dang Vang, Parliament Member, Vice Chairman, Science, Technology and Environment Committee, National Assembly

Mrs. Truong The Xe, Parliament Member, Member of Committee for Science, Technology and Environment, and Director of Department, Agriculture and Rural Development in Dac Lac Province.

Prof. Vu Manh Hai, Vice president, Viet Nam Academy of Agriculture Science

Prof. Nguyen Tan Hinh, Vice Director, Department of Science, Technology and Environment

Dr. Pham Thi Ly Thu, Translator, Institute of Agricultural Genetics

Dr. Andrew Powell, Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.

Malaysian delegation to Australia

February 22nd to February 28th, 2009

Prof. Datin Paduka Dr. Khatijah Yusoff - Deputy General Secretary (Science)*

Dr. Nafisah Hassan - Senior Principal Assistant Secretary (Biotech)*

Ms Mahaletchumy Arujanan, ED of Malaysian Biotech Information Centre*

Mr Mohamad Azam Ali, Head, Corporate Communications, Malaysian Biotech Corp*

Ms Nor Azizah Tamsi - Principal Assistant Secretary / Special Officer to the Deputy General Secretary (Science)+

Mr Mohd. Yusof Raduan Saad - Principal Assistant Secretary (Biotech)+

Dr Andrew Powell, CEO Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.#

Philippine Delegation to Peru

September 14th to September 18th, 2009

Dr. Saturnina Halos, Senior Agriculture Science Consultant, Bureau of Agricultural Research,
Department of Agriculture

Ms. Alicia G. Ilaga, DA Biotech Program Implementation Unit, Bureau of Soils and Water

Ms. Rosalie M. Ellasus, Board Member, Asian Farmers Regional Network

Appendix 4

Program for the Chilean Delegation to Australia

Saturday 24th / Sunday 25th Arrive Sydney / Canberra

Monday Morning 26th May

Meeting with DAFF, BRS, ABARE: -

Dr David Cunningham, Program Leader BioSecurity and Information Sciences, Bureau of Rural Sciences

Dr Paul Hattersley, Bureau of Rural Sciences, Senior Scientist, BRS

Dr Robert Curtotti, Agricultural Trade and Data Resources, Australian Bureau for Agricultural Research Economics

Dr Jeremy Cook, Manager Biotechnology Policy, DAFF

Monday Afternoon 26th May

Meeting with Office of Gene Technology Regulator

Dr Will Tucker

Dr Michael Dornbusch

Dr Peter Wenzel

Tuesday Morning 27th May

Visit with Biotechnology Australia

Mr Craig Cormick, Communications and Public Awareness

Ms Sharon Ding, Program Manger, Biotech Australia

Tuesday Morning 27th May

Meeting with Dr T.J. Higgins, Deputy Chief, Plant Industry, CSIRO

Tuesday Afternoon 27th May

Transfer to Melbourne

Tuesday evening 27th

Dinner with AusBiotech.

Mr Scott Carpenter, Agbiotech Regulatory Specialist for AusBiotech

Ms Metani Rooms, Head International Affairs

Wednesday Morning 28th May

Visit with Department of Primary Industries of Victoria

Dr Carl Ramage, Compliance Manager, Victorian AgriBusiness Centre, DPI

Mr Jonathon.Fahey, Policy Analyst - Biotechnology, DPI

Ms Kylie Shanahan, Policy Advisor – Biotechnology, Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

Mr Scott Carpenter, Agbiotech Regulatory Specialist for AusBiotech

Ms Naomi Stevens, Public and Government Affairs and Training Manager Bayer Crop Science

Wednesday Afternoon 28th May

Visit to DPI Research Labs,

Dr Ben Cocks, Research Director, Biosciences

Dr Carl Ramage, Compliance Manager, Victorian AgriBusiness Centre

Visit to The Molecular Plant Breeding CRC

Dr Glenn Tong, CEO

Thursday Morning 29th May

Transfer to Adelaide

Thursday Afternoon 29th May

Meeting with Dr Sakkie Pretorius, Director of the Australia Wine Institute

Meeting with Mr Neil Finlayson, Business Development Director, BioInnovations SA

Friday Morning 30th May

Meeting with Australian Centre for Functional Genomics Pty. Ltd.

Professor Peter Langridge, CEO

Mr Michael Gilbert, General Manager

Friday Afternoon 30th May

Visit to the wine producing regions around Adelaide

Saturday / Sunday 31st May / June 1st Depart for Sydney and Chile / Singapore

Itinerary for the Vietnamese Delegation to The Philippines

10 Sept (WED): Depart 05.30 to Maligaya, Nueva Ecija
Visit to **PHILRICE** to see rice biotech R&D. Discussions on biosafety, biodiversity
Hosted by Antonio A. Alfonso, Ph.D.
Head, Plant Breeding and Biotechnology Division
Philippine Rice Research Institute

11 Sept (THU): Depart 06.30 for **Los Banos**
09.00-1200
1) Visit to contained experiments / Discussion on Institutional BioSafety Committee functions
2) Visits to confined greenhouse trials / Discussion on approval
Dr. Desiree Hautea
Regional Coordinator for SEA, ABSP II
Dr. Pablito Magdalita
PRSV-R Papaya Project Leader
Dr. Josefina Narciso
FSBR-Eggplant Project Leader
Dr. Antonio C. Laurena
Project Leader

Visit to IIRRI

1330-1340H	Welcome/Briefing Dr. William Padolina Deputy Director General for Operations and Support Services
1340-1400H	Screening of “Rice Science for a Better World” - an audiovisual presentation on IIRRI’s global work
1400-1440H	Presentation on IIRRI’s research thrust Dr. William Padolina
1440-1530H	Discussion on IIRRI’s biosafety regulation and policies Dr. Gerard Barry Program Leader-Rice and human health Coordinator of Golden Rice Network Harvest plus Rice Crop Team Leader Head, Intellectual Property Management Unit (IPMU) Dr. Inez Slamet-Leodin Head, Transformation Laboratory Plant Breeding, Genetics and Biotechnology (PBGB)
1540-1610H	Visit the International Rice Genebank Ms. Flora de Guzman Sr. Associate Scientist

12 SEPT (FRI): MANILA Depart 08.30 to DOA Quezon City
Meeting with DA Officials, NCBP Officials – Briefing and Discussion on regulatory processes for biosafety and food safety;
Full program below

**Discussion on the Philippine Regulatory System for Modern Biotechnology
For the Visit of the Delegation from Viet Nam**

12 September 2008

DA Policy and Planning Conference Room; Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

P R O G R A M

- 0900 – 0920H Welcome Remarks Dr. Segfredo R. Serrano
 Undersecretary for Policy and Planning
 Department of Agriculture (DA)
- 0920 – 0930H Introduction of Participants
- 0930 – 1000H The Department of Agriculture (DA)
 Ms. Alice Ilaga, Biotechnology Program Director, DA Biotech Program Office
- 1000 – 1030H Philippine Policies and Regulations for Modern Biotechnology
 Ms. Amparo Ampil Chief, DA Policy Advocacy and Legislative Support Division
- 1030 – 1100H Open Forum
- 1100 – 1130H Biodiversity and Environmental Safety Assessment of GM Crops
 Dr. Saturnina Halos, Chair, DA Biotech Advisory Team
- 1130 – 1200H Field Testing of GM Crops in the Philippines
 Ms. Merle Palacpac , Vice-Chair, Bureau of Plant Industry, Biotech Core Team
 (BPI-BCT)
- 1200 – 1230H Approval Process for GM Plant and Plant Products.
 Ms. Thelma Soriano, Head, BPI-BCT Secretariat
- 1230 – 1300H Cost Implication of GM Food Labeling in the Philippines
 Mr. Abraham Manalo, Executive Secretary, Biotechnology
 Coalition of the Philippines (BCP)
- 1300 – 1400H Open Forum / Working Lunch

Master of Ceremony
Mr. Godfrey Ramon
S&T Policy Specialist, BCP

Itinerary for Peruvian delegation to The Philippines

Date/Time	Activity	Whom to meet	Remarks
Sept 21, Sunday	Arrival Check in Makati hotel		
Sept 22, Monday			
8:15-9:30	Travel to DA Briefings re-program of activities	c/o S. Tababa, SEARCA BIC	
	Proposed Venue: NAFC Conference Room, DA		
9:45-11:00	National Biotechnology Program and Advocacy Work of the Philippine Department of Agriculture Discussion	Ms. Alicia G. Ilaga Director DA-Biotechnology Program	Together with the team of DA's Biotech Program
11:00-12:00	The Philippine Biotech Policy and Regulatory System Discussion/Wrap Up	Dr. Saturnina C. Halos Chair, DA Biotechnology Advisory Team	
12:00-1:00	Lunch		
1:00-1:45	Briefings on BCP Work on Policy Advocacy, Capacity Building and Information, Education and Communication Discussion	Dr. Nina Gloriani-Barzaga President Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines	
1:46-2:10	Briefings on BMARC and its projects Discussion	Dr. Edith Burgos Director, BMARC	
2:11-2:40	Briefings on NSIC and Variety Registration Process Involving Biotech Crops Discussion/Wrap Up	Dr. Vivencio Mamaril BPI	
2:41-3:00	Travel: DA-UP Diliman		
3:01-4:00	Briefings on NIMBB and its program Visit to facilities	Dr. Cynthia Hedreyda Director NIMBB, UP Diliman	
4:00-5:00	Travel to hotel		
Sept 23, Tuesday	Check out Makati hotel		Lead coordinator: BCP
8:00-9:00	Hotel-Bicutan		
9:01-10:30	Overview of NCBP and its activities including the Biosafety Clearing House Discussion/Wrap Up	Atty. Jose Maria Ochave Member, NCBP Ms. Julieta Fe Estacio Technical Secretariat NCBP	

10:31-10:45	Proceed to DOST-PCASTRD		
10:46-12:00	Department of Science and Technology: Biotechnology R&D Initiatives And Briefing about the Program on Biosafety Systems-SEA Discussion/Wrap Up	Dr. Reynaldo Ebor Executive Director PCASTRD	
12:01-12:10	Proceed to NAST		
12:11-1:30	Luncheon Meeting NAST Initiatives in Biotechnology Discussion/Wrap Up	Ms. Luningning Samarita Executive Director NAST Courtesy call to Dr. Emil Javier, President of NAST	
1:30-2:15	Proceed to Crop Life Phils. in Alabang, Muntinlupa City		
2:16-3:00	Briefings on CropLife Phils and its biotech program and activities Discussion/Wrap Up	Mr. Simeon Cuyson Executive Director	
3:01-5:00	Travel to Los Banos, Laguna Check in at Los Banos Hotel		

Sept 24, Wednesday			
8:30-8:50	Briefings: -UPLB Crop Biotechnology R&D Program	Dr. Evelyn Mae Teczon-Mendoza Leader, Crop Biotechnology Program UPLB	Venue: IPB
8:50-9:35	-PRSV-R Papaya and Bt eggplant projects	Dr. Desiree Hautea Regional Coordinator for SEA, ABSP II	
9:36-9:55	-Delayed ripening papaya	Dr. Pablito Magdalita PRSV-R Papaya Project Leader	
9:56-10:15	Discussion/Wrap Up	Dr. Josefina Narciso FSBR-Eggplant Project Leader Dr. Antonio C. Laurena Project Leader	
10:16-10:50	Site visit to PRSV-R papaya confined trial		
10:51-11:00	Proceed to UPLB-BIOTECH		
11:51-1:10	Lunch at IRRI Proceed to ISAAA		

1:11-2:10	Briefings: ISAAA Program and Initiatives	Dr. Randy Hautea, Global Coordinator/Dr. Mariechel J. Navarro, Manager, Crop Biotechnology Knowledge Center	
2:10-2:25	Proceed to IRRI		
2:26-3:30	Briefings on the Golden Rice Project Discussion/Visit to facility	IRRI	
3:31-3:45	IRRI-ERDB		
3:45-4:30	Briefings: -Project on Herbicide-Tolerant Corn and Biodiversity	-Dr. Carmelita Villamor Project Leader DENR-ERDB	
4:30-5:00	Back to hotel		
Sept 25, Thursday			
	Check-out Los Banos Hotel		
9:00-9:45	Briefings: National S&T Program for Agricultural Biotechnology Discussion	Dr. Jocelyn E. Eusebio Director, Crops Research Division PCARRD	
9:45-10:10	PCARRD-SEARCA		
10:11-10:30	SEARCA BIC Program and Activities	Ms. Rochella Lapitan Project Management Associate SEARCA BIC	
10:31-11:00	Interaction with biotech corn farmer	Ms. Rosalie Ellasus Biotech Corn Farmer from Pangasinan and Member, PHILMAIZE	
11:01-11:30	Interaction with a journalist	Mr. Rudy Fernandez The Philippine Star	
11:30-12:30	Lunch		
12:31-3:00	Los Banos-Makati		
3:01-5:00	Review		
Sept 26, Friday			
9.00-13.00	Attendance at DOA Public Consultation		
Sept 27, Saturday	Departure for Peru		

Itinerary for the Vietnamese Delegation to The Philippines

GM Corn Field Visit of Vietnamese Delegates Province of Pampanga, Philippines

Day 1

6:00AM	Depart from hotel in Makati for Pampanga
7:30AM	Arrive at San Fernando, Pampanga Breakfast at SM San Fernando with resource persons (Edwin Paningbatan, Rosalie Ellasus) Orientation for field visits
8:30AM	Site1 Mexico, Pampanga - farm of Carlos "Kaloy" Guevarra - attended by Rosalie Ellasus and other local farmers - with time for farmer interactions.
10AM	Site2 Mexico, Pampanga - farm of Carlos "Kaloy" Guevarra - attended by Rosalie Ellasus and other local farmers - 3-4 weeks after planting
11AM	Site3 Clark, Pampanga - ready-for-harvest corn - with adjacent white corn with borer damage
12NN	Lunch at Lomi House
1:30PM	Paskuhan Village/Back to Makati

DAY 2

Seminar on Environmental Safety Assessment of GM Crops For the Vietnamese Delegation

Policy and Planning Conference Room, Department of Agriculture (DA)
December 2, 2008

9:00 - 9:15AM	Rationale	
9:15 - 9:45	The Philippine Biosafety System for GM Crops	Ms Amparo Ampil Chief, DA Policy Advocacy and Legislative Support Division
9:45 - 10:30	Environmental Safety Assessment	Dr. Saturnina Halos Chair, DA Biotechnology Advisory Team
10:30 - 11:30	Field Test Monitoring	Ms. Merle Palacpac Agricultural Center Chief III/ OIC-PEQS, Bureau of Plant Industry
11:30 - 12:00	Open Forum	
12:00 - 1:00PM	Lunch	

DAY 3 Program for the Visit to Los Banos

December 3, 2008

6:30 AM	Leave Somerset Hotel for Los Banos	
9:00-09:30	Briefing on ABSP2	Ms. Virma Rea Lee ABSP2
09:30-10:00	Briefing on FSBR Eggplant Project	Dr. Jocelyn Narciso Project Leader
10:00-10:30	Briefing on PRSV-R Papaya Project	Dr. Pablito Magdalita Project Leader
10:30-11:00	Meeting with UPLB IBC	c/o ZO Juliano
11:00-11:30	Briefing on ISAAA	Dr. Randy A. Hautea Global Coordinator and SEAsia Center Director
11:30-1:00	Lunch	
1:00 – 1:20	Briefing on PBS SEA	Mr. Carlo Custodio Jr. Project Assistant, PBS
1:20 - 1:40	Secondary Ecological Effects	Dr. Edwin Alacantara PBS BBI
1:40 - 2:10	Post Commercialization Monitoring	Dr. Pabs Gonzalez PBS BBI project
2:10 - 2:30	Ecosystems Approach	Dr. Carmelita Villamor PBS BBI
2:30 - 2:50	Briefing on IRM	Dr. Emiliana Bernardo Chair, DA-IRMAT
3:00	Leave for Makati	

Itinerary for the Malaysian Delegation in Australia

	Sun 22nd	Mon 23rd	Tues 24th	Wed 25th	Thurs 26th	Fri 27th	Sat 28th
AM		<p>Time: 0915 Venue: AFAA Offices in Barton Meeting: Agri- Food Awareness Australia</p> <p>Professor John Lovett, Chairman Ms Nadja Moritz, Public Affairs Officer</p> <p>Time: 11.00am Venue: OGTR offices, Barton Meeting: Office of the Gene Technology Regulator</p> <p>Mr Will Tucker Mr Michael Dornbusch Mr Peter. Wenzel Ms Robyn Cleland</p>	<p>Time: 0830 Venue: CSIRO</p> <p>Dr TJ Higgins</p> <p>Time 0930 CSIRO – Visit to Field trials</p> <p>Time: 1030-12.00 Venue: Nanotech Australia Meeting:</p> <p>Dr Craig Cormick Public Awareness Manager, Aus. Office of Nanotechnology, Dept of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research.</p>	Depart for Melbourne Proceed to hotel approx 7am	<p>Time: 0945 Venue: 8 Nicholson Street Department of Sustainability and Environment</p> <p>Mr George Grossek Principal Policy Officer</p>	<p>Time: 10.00 Bayer Crop Science Mr Kay Khoo</p> <p>Time: 11.30 AUSBIOTECH</p> <p>Dr Anna Lavelle Dr Glenn Cross Mr Scott Carpenter</p>	Depart
PM	<p>Arrive Canberra</p> <p>4.30 Meeting of group at hotel lobby</p>	<p>Time: 2pm Venue: DFA Meeting: Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade And Gen. Res. Management Dept of Environ.</p> <p>Mr David Dalton Director, Marine Environment Branch, DFAT</p>	<p>Time: 2pm Venue: BRS Meeting: DAFF, BRS, ABARE</p> <p>Mr Jeremy Crook, DAFF, Mr Paul Hattersley, BRS Mr Benjamin Buetre, ABARE Mr Osman Mewett, BRS</p>	<p>Time: 3 pm Venue: IIRD Meeting: Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development Level 35, 121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000</p> <p>Ms Amanda Caples Ms Connie Crisafi</p>	<p>Time: 2pm Venue: Victoria Agri-Biotech Centre, La Trobe University Meeting: Mol Plant Breeding CRC</p> <p>Dr Glenn Tong Ms Melanie Carew Ms Belinda Griffiths Mr Ian Christensen</p>	Friday Prayers	

Proposed Programme by Asia BioBusiness Ltd
Workshop on Risk Communication
Kuala Lumpur, 4th, 5th August 2009

Day 1

09.00 – 09.30	Workshop introduction
09.30 – 10.30	Why do we need Risk communication?
11.00 - 12.30	Introduction to Risk Communication - Trust Determination and Risk Determination Theories
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	Introduction to Risk Communication – Negative Dominance and Mental Noise
15.00 – 15.15	Coffee break
15.45 – 17.00	Introduction to message mapping

Day 2

9.00 – 10.30	Group activity on message map preparation (issues to be chosen in consultation with BiotechCorp)
10.30 – 10.45	Coffee break
10.45 – 12.00	Group activity on communication practice using the techniques, tools and developed message maps (written)
12.00 - 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 15.00	Communication practice in different mock situations (with video recording)
15.00 – 15.15	Coffee break
15.15 – 16.30	Communication practice in different mock situations (with video recording) continued.
16.30- 17.00	Future activities and discussion

Risk Communication Workshop - Lima

September, 16th, 17th, 2009

Day 1

Day 1

08.30 – 09.00	<i>Registration</i>
09.00 – 09.15	Workshop introduction
09.15 – 10.30	Why do we need Risk communication?
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 - 12.30	Introduction to Risk Communication - Trust Determination and Risk Determination Theories
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.30	Introduction to Risk Communication – Negative Dominance and Mental Noise
15.00 – 15.15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.45 – 15.45	"National Information, Education and Communication Campaign and Advocacy for Biotechnology: The Philippine Experience
15.45 --17.00	Introduction to message mapping

Day 2

9.00 – 10.30	Group activity on message map preparation
10.30 – 10.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10.45 – 12.00	Group activity on communication practice using the techniques, tools and developed message maps (written)
12.00 - 13.30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30 – 15.00	Communication practice in different mock situations (with video recording)
15.00 – 15.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.15 – 16.30	Communication practice in different mock situations (with video recording) continued.
16.30	- 17.00 Future activities and discussion

Modern Biotechnology and Risk communication Workshop

5-6 October 2009

Day 1

8.30 – 9.00	Registration
9.00 – 9.15	Welcome address Khun Darunee Edwards, President of Food Science & Technology Association of Thailand (FOSTAT)
9.15 – 9.30	Welcoming comments His Excellency Mr. Eric G. John, the US Ambassador
9.30 -10.00	The Global and Regional Landscape for Biotech Crops. Dr. Andrew Powell, Asia BioBusiness
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee/tea break
10.30 – 11.30	Ensuring safety of biotech food Dr. Jim Maryanski, US FDA
11.30 – 12.00	Moderated discussion (Dr Darunee Edwards, Dr. Jim Maryanskin and Dr. Andrew Powell)
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch

Risk communication workshop

13.00 – 14.30	Risk communication: Goals, Challenges, Traps and Pitfalls
14.30 – 15.00	Coffee/tea break
15.00 – 16.30	Risk communication perception, trust and credibility, mental noise theory and trust determination theory

Day 2

Risk communication workshop (Continued)

9.00 – 10.30	Risk communication key messages and message mapping
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee/tea break
11.00 – 12.00	Risk communication models and message enhancement
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch
13.00 – 15.15	Exercise on mock situations
15.15 – 15.45	Coffee/Tea break
15.45 – 16.30	Comments on exercise performance, Questions and answers
16.30	Closing

Appendix 5: Interim Reports



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

Report on Visit by Vietnamese Delegation to The Philippines

30th November to 4th December 2008

Delegation Members

1. Prof. Nguyen Dang Vang, Parliament Member. Vice Chairman, Science, Technology and Environment Committee, National Assembly
2. Mrs. Truong The Xe, Parliament Member, Member of Committee for Science, Technology and Environment, and Director of Department, Agriculture and Rural Development in Dac Lac Province.
3. Prof. Vu Manh Hai, Vice president, Viet Nam Academy of Agriculture Science
4. Prof. Nguyen Tan Hinh, Vice Director, Department of Science, Technology and Environment
5. Dr. Pham Thi Ly Thu, Translator, Institute of Agricultural Genetics
6. Dr. Andrew Powell, Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.

Agenda Items

1. To have key policy influencers in the Viet Nam National Assembly meet with farmers who are deriving benefits from the adoption of GM technology.
2. To have exchanges with policy makers / regulators who oversee the regulatory framework.
3. To meet with researchers targeting production issues with GM solutions

Background

This program was developed after input from the US Embassy (Both USDA / FAS and State) in Hanoi. It is anticipated that trials will be initiated for corn in early 2009. Legislation still requires final drafting and passing through the Assembly. Members of the delegation were selected after close consultation with Dr Ham of MARD. Senior Assembly members from the two provinces that want to conduct trials were selected along with senior ministry officials and a scientist who also acted as translator when required.

The APEC Secretariat funded air tickets, per diems and hotels for the delegation. Toolbox funds supported Dr Powell as well as internal transport to Los Banos and meetings at DOA.

(Dr Powell was unable to participate in the first one and a half days of the exchange due to the closure of Bangkok Airport by demonstrations).

Program

GM Corn Field Visit of Vietnamese Delegates
1 December 2008
Province of Pampanga, Philippines

Time	Activity
6:00AM	Depart from hotel in Makati for Pampanga
7:30AM	Arrive at San Fernando, Pampanga Breakfast at SM San Fernando with resource persons (Edwin Paningbatan, Rosalie Ellasus)
	Orientation for field visits
8:30AM	Site1 Mexico, Pampanga - farm of Carlos "Kaloy" Guevarra - will be attended by Rosalie Ellasus and other local farmers - with time for farmer interactions.
10AM	Site2 Mexico, Pampanga - farm of Carlos "Kaloy" Guevarra - will be attended by Rosalie Ellasus and other local farmers - 3-4 weeks after planting
11AM	Site3 Clark, Pampanga - ready-for-harvest corn - with adjacent white corn with borer damage
12NN	Lunch at Lomi House
1:30PM	Paskuhan Village/Back to Makati

DAY 2

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for the Vietnamese Delegation
Policy and Planning Conference Room, Department of Agriculture (DA)
December 2, 2008

9:00 - 9:15AM	Rationale	
9:15 - 9:45	The Philippine Biosafety System for GM Crops	Ms Amparo Ampil Chief, DA Policy
	Advocacy and Legislative Support Division	
9:45 - 10:30	Environmental Safety Assessment	Dr. Saturnina Halos Chair, DA Biotechnology Advisory Team
10:30 - 11:30	Field Test Monitoring	Ms. Merle Palacpac
	Agricultural Center Chief III/ OIC-PEQS, Bureau of Plant Industry	
11:30 - 12:00	Open Forum	
12:00 - 1:00PM	Lunch	

DAY 3 Program for the Visit to Los Banos

December 3, 2008

6:30 AM	Leave Somerset Hotel for Los Banos	
9:00-09:30	Briefing on ABSP2	Ms. Virma Rea Lee ABSP2
09:30-10:00	Briefing on FSBR Eggplant Project	Dr. Jocelyn Narciso Project Leader
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10:30-11:00	Meeting with UPLB IBC	c/o ZO Juliano
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1:40 - 2:10	Post Commercialization Monitoring	Dr. Pabs Gonzalez PBS BBI project
2:10 - 2:30	Ecosystems Approach	Dr. Carmelita Villamor PBS BBI
2:30 - 2:50	Briefing on IRM	Dr. Emiliana Bernardo Chair, DA-IRMAT
3:00	Leave for Makati	

Comments on Meetings

The general response from the delegation was very positive and the meetings with the farmers were especially well received.

It was appreciated that once approval for the trials were given considerable work was needed to ensure that they fulfilled all the requirements with respect to biosafety. There is an almost total lack of human resources to support field trials.

Through the discussion with the regulators it was also appreciated that the communication process in Viet Nam needs work, not just with scientists becoming more engaged in outreach activities but also regulators who have a role to play in the process as well.

Both regulators and researchers emphasised the point that the regulatory process was a consultative process with interactions taking place through the process. It was also emphasised that the regulatory process should be flexible enough to allow changes as knowledge is gained. (One example of this was the relaxation of rules that cover visits to the trails sites).

Regulators also stated that they were willing to accept data provided by other regulatory authorities. This was seen as essential in resource poor countries.

The Filipino researchers made that policies must be put in place to ensure that research solutions, in the first instance for production challenges, can be moved from the laboratory to the market without undue regulatory hindrance.



Report

Visit by Malaysian Policy Makers and Communication Specialists to Australia

February 22nd to February 28th, 2009

Agenda

The overall agenda for the trip was both policy and public awareness / perception.

Malaysia expressed interest in gaining information on

- Biosafety regulations
- Institutional Biosafety Committees
- The Australian position on liability & redress
- Australian laws / regulations on Access & Benefit Sharing
- How Australia government develops their international positions for the CPB and CBD negotiations
- The gauging of public perception and the response to that through outreach activities Field trial visit where possible

Visits took place in Canberra and Melbourne, Victoria, the state that had recently removed the moratorium on the commercial production of GM canola. Meetings were coordinated to engage a broad range of parties including policy makers at both federal and state level, researchers and institutions engaged in GM research who are working directly with the regulators and the regulations, communication specialist and industry representatives.

Members of the delegation:

1. **Prof. Datin Paduka Dr. Khatijah Yusoff** - Deputy General Secretary (Science)*
2. **Dr Nafisah Hassan** - Senior Principal Assistant Secretary (Biotech)*
3. **Ms Mahaletchumy Arujanan**, ED of Malaysian Biotech Information Centre*
4. **Mr Mohamad Azam Ali**, Head, Corporate Communications, Malaysian Biotech Corp*
5. **Ms Nor Azizah Tamsi** - Principal Assistant Secretary / Special Officer to the Deputy General Secretary (Science)+
6. **Mr Mohd. Yusof Raduan Saad** - Principal Assistant Secretary (Biotech)+
7. **Dr Andrew Powell**, CEO Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.#

* Funding from APEC funds

+ Self Funding

Funding from Toolbox funds

	Sun 22nd	Mon 23rd	Tues 24th	Wed 25th	Thurs 26th	Fri 27th	Sat 28th
AM		<p>Time: 0915 Venue: AFAA Offices in Barton Meeting: Agri- Food Awareness Australia</p> <p>Professor John Lovett, Chairman Ms Nadja Moritz, Public Affairs Officer</p> <p>Time: 11.00am Venue: OGTR offices, Barton Meeting: Office of the Gene Technology Regulator</p> <p>Mr Will Tucker Mr Michael Dornbusch Mr Peter. Wenzel Ms Robyn Cleland</p>	<p>Time: 0830 Venue: CSIRO</p> <p>Dr TJ Higgins</p> <p>Time 0930 CSIRO – Visit to Field trials</p> <p>Time: 1030-12.00 Venue: Nanotech Australia Meeting:</p> <p>Dr Craig Cormick Public Awareness Manager, Aus. Office of Nanotechnology, Dept of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research.</p>	Depart for Melbourne Proceed to hotel approx 7am	<p>Time: 0945 Venue: 8 Nicholson Street Department of Sustainability and Environment</p> <p>Mr George Grossek Principal Policy Officer</p>	<p>Time: 10.00 Bayer Crop Science Mr Kay Khoo</p> <p>Time: 11.30 AUSBIOTECH</p> <p>Dr Anna Lavelle Dr Glenn Cross Mr Scott Carpenter</p>	Depart
PM	<p>Arrive Canberra</p> <p>4.30 Meeting of group at hotel lobby</p>	<p>Time: 2pm Venue: DFA Meeting: Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade And Gen. Res. Management Dept of Environ.</p> <p>Mr David Dalton Director, Marine Environment Branch, DFAT</p>	<p>Time: 2pm Venue: BRS Meeting; DAFF, BRS, ABARE</p> <p>Mr Jeremy Crook, DAFF, Mr Paul Hattersley, BRS Mr Benjamin Buetre, ABARE Mr Osman Mewett, BRS</p>	<p>Time: 3 pm Venue: IIRD Meeting: Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development Level 35, 121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000</p> <p>Ms Amanda Caples Ms Connie Crisafi</p>	<p>Time: 2pm Venue: Victoria Agri-Biotech Centre, La Trobe University Meeting: Mol Plant Breeding CRC</p> <p>Dr Glenn Tong Ms Melanie Carew Ms Belinda Griffiths Mr Ian Christensen</p>	Friday Prayers	

Comments.

This was a highly responsive and interactive group from the Ministry of Science, Biotech Corp and the Malaysian Biotech Information Centre. The head of the delegation, Professor Khatijah, has been seconded from Universiti Putra Malaysia to remedy the current impasse in regulatory development and implementation. Her own KPI is to achieve this as soon as possible with the aim of taking the control of regulations out of Ministry of the Environment back into Ministry of Science.

Day 1

The initial meeting was to gain an understanding of how Agrifood Awareness interacted with stakeholders and the type of programs they used. A small but energetic group runs program across Australia. Professor Lovett was subsequently invited to Kuala Lumpur and Penang to give lectures in April.

OGTR explained their activities and the organization as well as the rationale for having the office located in the Health Ministry. Malaysia anticipated that if this was case in Kuala Lumpur a similar impasse to that with the Ministry of Environment would result.

The Meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs was to establish the way that consensus was developed in Australia and to understand how positions in the MEAs were developed.

Day 2

The meeting with Dr TJ Higgins was to how research at CSIRO was conducted within the regulations. This visit also included a visit to a research field trial. It was recognized that Malaysia has almost no procedures in place for field trials and few personnel trained to conduct them.

Dr Craig Cormick is currently with Nanotech Australia as Biotech Australia did not receive any funding in the last budget. He was able, however, to describe how public perception is assessed in Australia and just what the public really think of biotech crops. The information that they gathered on public perception was then taken into account when training packages and curricula were developed. Dr Cormick provided a large amount of resources to the delegation.

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Bureau of Resource Management, and ABARE presented in the afternoon. This was a useful meeting in that it reiterated some of the previous days regulatory discussions but illustrated how the various ministries engaged in regulation worked. The presentation from ABARE described some of the economic studies they had conducted into the costs of Australian agriculture not employing technology.

Day 3

After traveling to Melbourne the delegation met with the State of Victoria's Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development to discuss their role in fostering the sector's development. A specific request had been made to learn more about the work they had been doing in outreach.

Day 4

The meeting at Department of Sustainability and Environment focused on how biodiversity issues were handled and how state and Commonwealth (Federal) governments interacted.

The meeting at the Molecular Plant Breeding Cooperative Research Centre focused on the issues of research was conducted within the biosafety regulations and how the centre conducted their outreach

programs and responded to the challenges of anti-biotech activists. This was particularly useful for MABIC and information was exchange with a commitment to seek funding from an Australian funding agency (AMI) for activities in Malaysia.

Subsequent to this visit MABIC has proposed that a committee be formed to address Public Awareness issues in Malaysia.

Day 5

The meetings focused on industry perceptions on the regulatory environment and the industry development as a whole. The general consensus was that the regulations were fair and transparent and that the OGTR acted responsibly. Nevertheless the feeling that the regulations were overly demanding was expressed.



**Risk Communication Training Workshop and
Bilateral policy discussions with a Philippine delegation visiting
Peru, September, 2009**

Delegation members

Dr. Saturnina Halos, Senior Agriculture Science Consultant, Bureau of Agricultural Research,
Department of Agriculture
Ms. Alicia G. Ilaga, DA Biotech Program Implementation Unit, Bureau of Soils and Water
Ms. Rosalie M. Ellasus, Board Member, Asian Farmers Regional Network
Dr Andrew D Powell, CEO, Asia BioBusiness Pte. Ltd.

Agenda

The main aim of this visit was to conduct a two-day Risk Communication training workshop for policy makers, regulators, scientists and key influencers. This was structured so that three Filipino regulators / policy implementers who had used risk communication techniques in the Philippines accompanied Dr Andrew Powell. They acted as resource personnel at the workshop. They also conducted a one-day policy information workshop and had discussions with farm leaders and producers. These included the Corn Producers Association and the Chicken Producers Association

The workshop was structured so that attendees were trained in the theory and techniques of Risk Communication. These were then applied in writing and oral exercises after constructing Message Maps for issues specific for their own situations. A total of 40 Peruvians attended the workshop and were very engaged throughout.

The policy discussion saw 45 delegates attending. Issues discussed ranged from policy development and implementation, field trial management, and communication initiatives.

Program for Risk Communication Workshop - Lima

September, 16th, 17th, 2009

Day 1

Day 1

08.30 – 09.00	<i>Registration</i>
09.00 – 09.15	Workshop introduction
09.15 – 10.30	Why do we need Risk communication?
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 - 12.30	Introduction to Risk Communication - Trust Determination and Risk Determination Theories
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.30	Introduction to Risk Communication – Negative Dominance and Mental Noise
15.00 – 15.15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.45 – 15.45	"National Information, Education and Communication Campaign and Advocacy for Biotechnology: The Philippine Experience
15.45 --17.00	Introduction to message mapping

Day 2

9.00 – 10.30	Group activity on message map preparation
10.30 – 10.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10.45 – 12.00	Group activity on communication practice using the techniques, tools and developed message maps (written)
12.00 - 13.30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30 – 15.00	Communication practice in different mock situations (with video recording)
15.00 – 15.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.15 – 16.30	Communication practice in different mock situations (with video recording) continued.
16.30- 17.00	Future activities and discussion