

REGISTRATION:

Please register for the workshop by completing the online form on the website at <http://www.boku.ac.at/ica/GMO.htm> and send it to the ICA-Secretariat (Peter Jordan Strasse 82a, A - 1190 Vienna; Fax: +43-1-47654-2606; e-mail: ica@boku.ac.at).
The final deadline for registration is the 28 January 2005.

ICA NASULGC GMO Workshop



GMOs worldwide: science and its public perception

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For more information, please contact the ICA-Secretariat (Peter Jordan Strasse 82a, A - 1190 Vienna; Tel: +43-1-47654-2617; Fax: +43-1-47654-2606; e-mail: ica@boku.ac.at)

Updated information about the workshop will be posted on the website <http://www.boku.ac.at/ica/GMO.htm>

Design: Marjolijn de Vette, Wageningen, the Netherlands

To be held at
**BOKU - University of
Natural Resources and
Applied Life Sciences,
Vienna.**

**Thursday 17 to
Saturday 19 March 2005,
Vienna, Austria**



BACKGROUND

The public is daily confronted by news of advances of science. However, such advances are not always perceived as being beneficial by all sectors of society. Some sectors may be particularly vocal in attempting to influence public opinion, mainly in emphasising either the pros or cons of such advances. The introduction of transgenic crops, popularly called genetically modified organisms (GMOs), provides us with an opportunity to examine the issues involved in shaping the public's perceptions. Such a study will assist scientists and policy makers in understanding how advances made by science can most effectively be presented to society as a whole, in ways that support responsible public discourse and decision making.

AIMS

The workshop aims to assess the current basis for the society's perceptions of the value of GMOs to the public, taking account of the opportunities and threats posed by their introduction.

Thus the workshop will highlight the challenge in taking the issue of the introduction of GMOs to society at large on a global basis, with special consideration of the position in Europe and the US. The approach to regulation will be evaluated as a means for gaining the public's confidence in the introduction of GMOs. At the same time the Workshop will examine how society can be better informed about the regulation process so as to have confidence in newly introduced products. Taking account of these discussions, the Workshop will assess how higher education should address the introduction of GMOs in their degree programmes.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The workshop will be of interest to you if you are involved in the communication of the scientific basis for the evaluation of GMOs to all sectors of society. It is likely that you will be either in politics, involved in regulation of the introduction of GMOs, in the media, or in education – both academic staff and students.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improved understanding of the basis for the public's perception of the opportunities and threats posed by the introduction of GMOs,
- updated review of the regulatory issues concerning GMOs in several continents, and
- recommendations of how best to develop the debate about the value of GMOs in society as a whole and in higher education degree programmes.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Thursday, 17th March

12:00 Registration **BOKU – University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Muthgasse 18, 1190 Vienna**

14:00 Opening Plenary
Welcome
Leopold März (President of ICA, BOKU, Vienna)
Neal van Alfen (Representative of NASULGC, UC Davis)
Margit Laimer (Chair of the Organising Committee, BOKU, Vienna)

14:15 Session 1
Public Perception – What Are The Issues?
Keynote Speaker: Roger Beachy (Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis, Missouri)
Klaus Ammann (Botanical Garden, Bern) The systems approach in research and public debate
William Hallman (Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA)

Coffee
16:45 Session 1
Health issues
Klaus Dieter Jany (Federal Research Centre for Nutrition and Food, Karlsruhe, Germany): Food safety and GMOs
Swapan Datta (International Rice Research Institute, Philippines): Development of improved transgenic rice for the benefit of developing countries
David Schmidt (International Food Information Council, Washington DC, USA)

19:30 Dinner

Friday, 18th March

9:00 Session 1 continued
Public Perception – What Are The Issues?
Environmental impacts
Detlef Bartsch (Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany)
Steve Strauss (Oregon University, USA)
Yufa Peng (Center for Biosafety Research): Environmental Impact of BT Crops in China

10:30 Coffee

11:00 Session 1 continued
Economics
Florence Wambugu (A Harvest Biotech Foundation International, Nairobi, Kenya)
Julian Alston (UC Davis, USA)
Graham Brookes (PG Economics, UK), Co-existence in Europe

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Session 2
The Current Status of the Legal and Regulatory Approach to GMOs
Keynote Speaker: Julian Kinderlerer (University Sheffield, UK): The legal situation about GMOs around the world
Piet van der Meer (Horizons, Belgium): Involvement of the public research sector in biosafety regulation
Rachel Lattimore (Arent Fox, Regulatory and Public Policy, USA)

16:30 Coffee

17:00 Session 2
Roundtable discussion with representatives of national regulatory and international organisations agencies
Bruno Mezzetti (Ancona, Italy)
George Tzotzos (UNIDO, Vienna)
Jim Dargie (IAEA/FAO, Vienna)
Ervin Balazs (OECD, Gödöllő, Hungary)
Ann Marie Thro (CSREES, USA)

20:00 Dinner

Saturday, 19th March

9:00 Session 3
The Role of Higher Education Institutions as Independent Experts
Keynote Speaker: Neal van Alfen (UC Davis USA)
Gerhard Wenzel (TU München, Weihenstephan)

11:00 Coffee

11:30 Session 4
Presenting the GMO Debate in curriculum of Higher Education Institutions degree programmes Group
Peggy Lemaux (UC Berkeley, USA)
Michele Morgante (Università Udine, Italy)

13:00 Closing Remarks
Leopold März (President of ICA, BOKU, Vienna)

ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

For information about tourist attractions please visit the website <http://wien.info>

No separate programme will be arranged, but accompanying persons will be most welcome to join the dinners and lunches on payment of a fee. In case of interest, please contact the ICA secretariat: ica@boku.ac.at

REGISTRATION FEE

ICA / NASULGC members 150 EUR
Non- ICA / NASULGC members 200 EUR

Students: A conference fee reduction for students is possible. In case of interest, please contact the ICA secretariat: ica@boku.ac.at

The registration fee includes all workshop material, coffee breaks, lunches and dinners. For reduced student fee please show valid student ID-card at the registration. Accommodation is to your responsibility and can be booked through the ICA secretariat when the registration form is submitted.