



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2015/HLPDAB/004

Agenda Item: 8


Report on the Outcomes of the Workshop on Fostering the Benefits of Innovations in Plant Breeding and Science Communication

Submitted by: International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech
Applications (ISAAA)



APEC
PHILIPPINES
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**High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural
Biotechnology
Iloilo, Philippines
30 September – 1 October 2015**

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AGRIBIOTECH APPLICATIONS 

APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (HLPDAB)


Fostering the Benefits of Innovation in Plant Breeding and Science Communication

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Contents of the Talk

- About the workshop
- Workshop objectives
- Summary points on fostering the benefits of innovation in plant breeding
- Summary points on science communication
- Action items



The poster thumbnail displays the following text: **APEC HIGH LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE ON AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP:** FOSTERING THE BENEFITS OF INNOVATION IN PLANT BREEDING AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION. JUNE 9-12, 2015 | ACACIA HOTEL, ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY, METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES. Logos for USDA, APEC, USAID, and SAGARPA are also visible at the top of the poster.

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About the Workshop

- Economies that proposed/ sponsored the workshop: US, Philippines, Mexico and Singapore
- held on 8-12 June 2015 at Acacia Hotel Manila, Muntinlupa City
- two-part workshop
 - new innovations in plant breeding
 - science communication
 - field trip at IRRI



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About the Workshop

- presentations and open discussions
- 33 resource persons
- organized and funded by USDA-FAS, US-ATAARI, ISAAA and Philippine DA under its Philippine Agricultural and Fisheries Biotechnology Program
- attended by 139 participants from 17 APEC member-economies, 3 non-APEC economies and invited guests from the private sector
- Philippines as host economy

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About the Workshop





**APEC HIGH LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE ON
AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP:**
 FOSTERING THE BENEFITS OF INNOVATION IN PLANT BREEDING
 AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATION
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Workshop Objectives

- Enhance the scientific knowledge of APEC economy regulators and policy makers
- Enhance the understanding and the benefits of new plant breeding techniques
- Discuss how current government policies and regulations can promote innovative plant breeding and how to assist APEC economies in undertaking appropriate risk management practices for emerging technologies

Workshop Objectives

- Discuss the suitability and applicability of present risk assessment guidelines for products of new breeding techniques subject to regulation
- Improve science communication among APEC economy officials to more effectively communicate new technology issues and nurture publics' confidence in new technologies and regulatory systems

Summary Points on New Innovations in Plant Breeding

- Existence of new innovative technologies in plant (and animal) breeding with potential economic, environmental and social benefits
 - how to harness new technologies to address food security and climate change
- Getting new innovations from conception to development to deployment



Summary Points on New Innovations in Plant Breeding

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- Transparent, science-based regulation and consumers' confidence in regulation to advance science and reap the benefits of innovations
- Science based regulation for innovative technologies consistent with products from traditional breeding methods
- Harmonization of regulations and trade policies among APEC economies

Summary Points on Science Communication

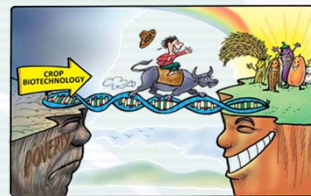
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- Importance of public engagement in the decision-making process
- Meeting obligations related to transparency and public participation
- Regulatory agencies to ensure functioning, transparent and science-based processes; facilitate public understanding of the regulatory process

Summary Points on Science Communication

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- Challenges of public perceptions about safety of biotech products and advocacy campaigns against the technology
- Science communication as a tool to address knowledge gap among the public on the science behind biotechnology



Action Items

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- Sharing information learned on new innovative technologies and science communication
- Building relationships among APEC HLPDAB members
- Identify opportunities for collective efforts and coalition building in science communication

Acknowledgement

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- Ms. Stacey Peckins, FAS-USDA
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- DA BPO staff
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THANK YOU