




Capacity Building Activities, Projects and Opportunities

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General information

Title of the initiative

ISAAA Biosafety Initiative

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Url: [International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications \(ISAAA\)](http://International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications (ISAAA))

Beneficiary country(ies)

- Argentina
- Brazil
- China
- Chile
- Costa Rica
- Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
- Indonesia
- Kenya
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Paraguay
- Philippines
- Thailand
- Uganda
- United Republic of Tanzania
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- CBD Regional Groups - Africa
- CBD Regional Groups - Asia and the Pacific
- CBD Regional Groups - Latin America and the Caribbean

Type of initiative

Main target group(s) / beneficiaries

- Target group: Policy makers, scientists and special interest groups charged with biosafety regulatory oversight in developing countries.

Start Date

2001-01-01

Donor(s) information**Agency(ies) or Organization(s) implementing or sponsoring the initiative****International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA)**

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Email: media@rockfound.orgUrl: [Rockefeller Foundation](#)**Agency(ies) or Organization(s) implementing or sponsoring the initiative (Additional Information)**

- Organization: International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA)
- Type of Organization: International Organization

Budget information

Foundations in United States and Japan

Biotechnology companies in the US and Europe

Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)

DANIDA

Availability of funds for participants

Yes

Activity details**Description of the initiative****National level activities**

Development of national biosafety frameworks

Human-resources development

Information exchange & data management
Institutional strengthening

International level activities

Strengthening of North-South and South-South Cooperation

Objective and main expected outcomes or lesson learned

Goals

To increase institutional capacity in biotechnology policy-related aspects
To accelerate the possibility for developing countries to adopt biotech applications with benefits to the environment and a more sustainable agriculture.

Objectives

To support governmental commissions, policy makers, scientists, and special interest groups charged with regulatory oversight of biosafety to gain institutional capacity by sharing resource information and cumulative hands-on experience that allow countries to formulate their own systems.

Lessons learned

- 1) The learning-by-doing approach which ISAAA has adopted rests upon the conviction that people who have actively participated in, and themselves executed tasks, develop a better understanding and appreciation of problems and priorities, and are better equipped to implement new ideas and technologies.
- 2) ISAAA's Biosafety Initiative is tied directly to results-oriented, specific projects thus affecting the whole spectrum of the "biosafety continuum". Hence the Initiative has a practical bases that provides a high level of involvement of nationals and corresponding motivation.
- 3) Once a certain country has an operational biosafety regulatory commission, neighboring countries can learn from that leadership. It also furthers the harmonization of regulations across regions. This, ISAAA believes, is also the most effective way to assist other countries in the implementation process.

General thematic area(s)

- Institutional capacity
- Human resources capacity development and training
- Scientific, technical and institutional collaboration at subregional, regional and international levels

Additional Information

Additional Information

Other collaborating organizations

Rockefeller Foundation
Agway
Monsanto
Centre for Research and Further Studies of the National Polytechnic Institute (Mexico) (CINVESTAV)
National Institute for Research in Forestry Agriculture and Livestock Development (Mexico) (INIFAP)
Fox Group, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA/APHIS)
the William Brown Fellowship.