

# Agri-biotechnology and Biosafety Communication (ABBC) 2017 Africa Symposium

## Symposium Program

18th - 20th July 2017 | Laico Lake Victoria Hotel | Entebbe, Uganda



“ **Strengthening Communication for  
Improved Biosafety Management** ”

#ABBC2017

## Agri-biotechnology and Biosafety Communication (ABBC) 2017 Africa symposium

### Contents

Acknowledgements .....	2
About the Symposium.....	3
Welcoming Note.....	4
Conference Program .....	5
Keynote Speakers, Speakers and Chairs of groups .....	8
General Information.....	19

### Acknowledgements

The organizers would like to acknowledge the following partners whose commitment has enabled this symposium to take place:

ABNE	SEED STORIES
COMESA	UBIC
ISAAA AfriCenter	UNCST
MSU	USDA
NEPAD	
PBS	
SCIFODE	

### Organizing Committee

Dr. Margaret Karembu-ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Dr. Faith Nguthi- ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Mrs. Bibiana Iraki-Kipkorir- ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Dr. Barbara Zawedde Mugwanya – UBIC  
 Dr. Jeremy Ouedraogo - ABNE  
 Mr. Akile Sunday Igu Rocks - ABNE  
 Ms. Jill Kuehernt- Seed Stories  
 Mr. John Komen - IFPRI-PBS  
 Ms. Doris Wangari- IFPRI-PBS  
 Mr. Herbert Oloka – PBS Uganda  
 Mr. Paul Chege - ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Ms. Anne Mukuna - ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Mr. Anthony Nderitu - ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Mr. Ezekiel Ng'ang'a - ISAAA AfriCenter  
 Mr. Arthur Makara - Scifode



*In communicating messages, we have to deal with change, especially change in the biotechnology and biosafety landscape.*



**Prof Paul Teng, ISAAA Board Chair**

## About the symposium

The ABBC is a platform for agri-biotech and biosafety communication stakeholders to actively exchange experiences and best practices towards improving agri-biotech and biosafety communications. The first international Conference on Agri-Biotechnology and Biosafety Communication (ABBC) was held in April 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya. The ABBC 2017 Africa symposium is an opportunity to share experiences and best practices on biosafety communication in Africa. Biosafety communication is an often neglected aspect of the risk analysis and decision-making process for genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which requires urgent investment and development. This is especially critical in Africa where various products are under development and promising to provide staple crops that are resistant to diseases and pests, more nutritious, and survive in increasingly challenging climatic conditions. Several African countries have recently made various important biosafety decisions related to genetically modified (GM) crops, including decisions to authorize their general/environmental release. However, the ultimate success of delivering these products to farmers is threatened by tenuous support of these decisions from policymakers and the public, due to limited understanding of biosafety concepts, regulatory processes and decision-making factors. The Symposium will provide a platform to interrogate innovative communication techniques that can address these gaps, thus building confidence in the biosafety systems and enabling the safe and beneficial use of agri-biotechnology in Africa.

### Objectives

1. To share and advance innovative strategies for communicating biosafety concepts, processes and decisions through case studies;
2. To strengthen exchange of approaches, resources, and expertise on biosafety communications leading to formation of a community of biosciences communication practitioners;
3. To identify essential follow-up actions for aligning biosafety communication with current and emerging technologies.

### Approach

The three-day symposium brings together CEOs of select African biosafety agencies, their biosafety communicators/spokespersons, biosafety experts and professional communicators from around the world. It will involve keynote speeches by selected guests, presentations by experts, in-depth team discussions, and, practical sessions to apply the skills and techniques learnt.

## Themes

The following themes will be discussed:

- 1. Foundations of Biosafety Communications**
  - a. Global and regional context of biosafety issues
  - b. Communicating regulatory concepts, processes and decisions: past, present and future.
  - c. Principles and essentials of biosafety communication
  - d. Sharing experiences and lessons learnt from Biosafety Agencies in Africa on communicating about biosafety through country case studies
- 2. Building trust and connection in biosafety management by addressing values and emotions**
  - a. Factors affecting trust and credibility in science
  - b. Using narratives/stories to supplement technical information
- 3. Emerging biosafety issues**
  - a. Managing the biosafety narrative of emerging New Breeding Techniques
  - b. Enhancing visibility of regulatory agencies through media and grassroots engagements
- 4. Implications of international debates on biosafety communication**
  - a. Africa's Preparedness for International Biosafety Negotiations
  - b. Partnerships to address challenges and compliance with National Biosafety Laws

## Welcoming Note



Dear Colleagues, Partners and Friends,

On behalf of ISAAA management and partners, I would like to welcome you to the Second Agricultural Biotechnology and Biosafety Communication (ABBC) Symposium in Africa. The conference responds to a compelling desire of delegates from the Nairobi ABBC-2015 conference, to regularize the forum as a biennial event. ABBC-2017's theme is **Strengthening Communication for Improved Biosafety Management**. The theme is informed by the need to promote public awareness of regulatory systems to ensure safe and sustainable research, development, and commercialization of biotech/GM crops in Africa. This Symposium will provide participants the opportunity to share and interrogate strategies that will improve biosafety

communication narratives. Participants will cross-examine how the prevailing biosafety communication efforts are addressing audiences' social values and ethics about the technology; whether sharing scientific information would reduce controversies and rationalize opinions to guide important policy decisions; how evolving media platforms can enhance visibility of regulatory agencies and how biosafety communication, especially on New Breeding Techniques (NBTs), could benefit from lessons learned over the years. I am confident the interactions with various renowned speakers at ABBC-2017 will trigger exciting discussions that will lead to the building of a community of biosciences communication practitioners, ultimately strengthening biosafety management in Africa. We urge you to engage our online community by tweeting about the Symposium using the hashtag **#ABBC2017**.

Asante!...Webale nnyo!...Apwoyo ma!...Merci beaucoup...Shukraan...Thank you!

*Dr. Margaret Karembu*

**Director, ISAAA AfriCenter  
Principal Coordinator, ABBC 2017**

## Conference Program

Arrival: Monday 17 July 2017 : Participants Arrive		
DAY One: Tuesday 18 July 2017		
7.30-8.30	Registration	UBIC, ISAAA, PBS
<b>Session 1: Opening Ceremony &amp; Keynote</b> <b>Chair: Uganda-UNCST</b>		
8.30-10.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statements: UNCST NARO NEPAD/ABNE COMESA MSU PBS ISAAA (+symposium objectives)</li> <li><b>Keynote Speech – Communicating Biosafety and Biotechnology: <i>Balancing Our Act</i></b></li> <li>Guest of Honor remarks and opening of Symposium</li> </ul>	Dr. Peter Ndemere, Executive Secretary Dr. Ambrose Agona, Director General Dr. Jeremy Ouedraogo Dr. Getachew Belay Dr. Douglas D. Buhler Dr. Judy Chambers Dr. Margaret Karembu  Dr. Mahaletchumy Arujanan ,Executive Director, Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre (MABIC)) Hon. Dr. Elioda Tumwesgye Minister for STI, Uganda/Hon. Christopher Kibazanga
10.00- 10.30	<b>Group photo/Tea break</b>	
10.30-1.00	<b>Policy Dialogue Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategies for engaging policy makers on matters of science</li> <li>Discussion</li> <li>Gender perspective in biosafety communication</li> <li>Way forward</li> </ul>	Facilitator: Charles Mwanguhya Mpangi Prof. Ogengo-Latigo  <b>Panel:</b> Remarks from Beatrice Atim Odwong – Chair , Gender committee, Uganda Parliament Panelists: 2 Uganda MPs; Hon Adam K.A Malima, former Deputy Minister and Chairperson PRAs for Agri-biotechnology, Tanzania; Hon. Maryam J. Abdalla , Deputy Principal Agriculture, Zanzibar, Tanzania Prof Yaye Gassama – Former Minister & Vice-chair Senegal Academy of Science  Dr Theresa Sengooba, PBS Senior Advisor Synthesis from Policy Makers Reflection: Integrating Gender in Biosafety Communication - Dr Patricia Zambrano IFPRI/PBS
1.00-2.00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>Session 2: Foundations of Biosafety Communications</b> <b>Chair: Kenya</b>		
2.00 -2.20	<b>Plenary presentation:</b> Why Communicate Science to Public and other Stakeholders?	Dr. Douglas D. Buhler Director, Agbio-Research College of Agriculture and Natural Resources – Michigan State University
2.20-3.40	<b>Country case studies: Communication experiences and lessons learnt from Biosafety Agencies in Africa and Brazil</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Case Study 1: South Africa's biosafety communication experience</li> <li>•Case Study 2: Nigeria's biosafety communication experience</li> <li>•Case Study 3: Kenya's biosafety communication experience</li> <li>•Case study 4: Brazil 's communication experience</li> </ul>	Dr Hennie Groenewald, Executive Manager, Biosafety South Africa  Dr. Rufus Ebegba DG/CEO, National Biosafety Management Agency  Prof. Dorrington Ogoyi Technical Director National Biosafety Authority,  Ms Carina Ferreira Gomes Rufino - Communication Manager - EMBRAPA Soybean
3.40-4.10	<b>Plenary presentation:</b> A Critique of Biosafety Communication: <i>Past, Present and the Future</i>	Dr Judy Chambers – Director, PBS
4.10-4.30	<b>Plenary discussion</b>	All
4.30- 5.00	<b>Tea break</b>	
6.00	<b>Cocktail Launch of African Biosafety Communication Network</b>	ABNE and partners

<b>Day Two Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017</b>		
<b>Session 3: Building trust and connection</b>		
<b>Chair: Ghana</b>		
8.30-8.40	<b>Welcome and recap of Day Two</b>	
8.40-9:10	<b>Plenary presentation:</b> The global and regional context of biosafety issues in Africa	Dr Jay Byrne, President - v-Fluence
9:10-9.50	<b>Group exercises:</b> Identifying and Engaging Complimentary Stakeholders	Facilitated by & v-Fluence assisted by ISAAA/PBS, UBIC, Seed Stories
9.50 -10.10	<b>Group presentation / discussion</b>	Facilitated by ISAAA/PBS, UBIC & Seed Stories
10.10-10.30	<b>Tea break</b>	
10.30-11.00	<b>Plenary presentation:</b> Principles and essentials of biosafety communication: The science of science of communication	Prof Lulu Rodriguez - University of Illinois
11.00-11.40	<b>Group exercises</b> Scenario-Several ways of cutting the GM mustard	Facilitated by Prof. Lulu and assisted by ISAAA/PBS, UBIC & Seed Stories
11.40 -12.05	<b>Group presentation / discussion</b>	Facilitated by ISAAA/PBS, UBIC & Seed Stories
12.05 -12.35	<b>Plenary presentation:</b> Telling a good story	Nabila Alibhai Senior Associate, Well-Made-Strategy
12.35 -1.15	<b>Group exercise:</b> Participants use guidelines to create compelling	Facilitated by Nabila assisted by ISAAA/PBS, UBIC, Seed Stories & Well-Made-Strategy
1.15-2.00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
2.00-2.25	<b>Group presentation:</b> Stories shared orally in pairs and 5 samples shared in plenary / discussion	Facilitated by ISAAA/PBS, UBIC, Seed Stories & Well-Made-Strategy team
<b>Session 4: Emerging Issues</b>		
<b>Chair: Egypt</b>		
2.25- 3.05	Managing the Biosafety Narrative of Emerging New Breeding Techniques (NBTs- gene drive, synthetic biology, gene editing)	Dr. Hennie Goenewald , Biosafety South Africa
3.05 -3.50	<b>Panel presentation:</b> Enhancing visibility of regulatory agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media engagement</li> <li>• Why Social Media matters</li> <li>• How to use grassroots communities</li> </ul>	Mr. Arthur Makara, SCIFODE Mrs. Bibiana Kipkorir, ISAAA, AfriCenter Dr. Barbara Z. Mugwanya, UBIC
3.50-4.00	<b>Plenary discussion</b>	All
4.00-4.30	<b>Tea break</b>	

<b>Day Three: Thursday 20 July 2017</b>		
<b>Session 5: Implications of International Debates on Biosafety Communication Chair: Senegal</b>		
8.30- 9.00	Africa's Preparedness for International Biosafety Negotiations – Lessons from COP-MOP8	Dr Sam Timpo - ABNE
9.00-9.30	Partnerships to address challenges and compliance with National Biosafety Laws: Case Study of Humanitarian Food Aid and the Global Food Crisis	Dr Rufino Perez – USAID
9.30-9.45	Biotechnology and its Enemies: Why people Resist Modern Biotechnology and Implications	Prof Calestous Juma: 30 minutes + 15 minutes discussion-virtual presentation
9.45 -10.30	Discussion	
10.30-11.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Synthesis of Best Practices in Biosafety Communications</li> </ul>	ABBC Partners
11.00-11.45	Tea Break	
11.45-12.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Way Forward: Action points, roles and responsibilities</li> </ul>	ABBC Partners
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation</li> <li>Closing Ceremony</li> </ul>	Hon. Vincent Sempijja, Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
12.30-1.30	Lunch	
<b>2.00- 5.00</b> <b>GENDER SESSION (INVITED PARTNERS ONLY)</b> <b>EXCURSION TO THE BOTANICAL GARDEN IN ENTEBBE</b> <b>DEPARTURE</b>		



## Speakers Profiles



**Hon. Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye**

Hon. Tumwesigye has been the Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation in Uganda since June 2016, when it was founded. Prior to that, Tumwesigye worked as a medical doctor, leading prevention of mother-to-child transmission and other HIV-AIDS programs in Uganda. He has been a member of parliament since 2001. Hon. Tumwesigye is the founder and chair of the first standing committee for HIV-AIDS in an African legislature. He holds an M.D. from Makerere University and a Master's degree from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio.



**Hon. Christopher Kibazanga**

Hon. Kibazanga is the State Minister for Agriculture in the Ugandan Cabinet. Kibazanga was first elected to the Parliament of Uganda in 1996 and is currently representing Bughendera County in Bundibugyo District. He is a strong champion for science who believes that “any resistance against science in any field means that you are only telling your people to remain poor.”



**Hon. Vincent Ssempijja**

Hon. Ssempijja is the Cabinet Minister for Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries in the Ugandan Cabinet. He previously served as State Minister for Agriculture, between 2015 and 2016. He also serves as the elected Member of Parliament, representing Kalungu County East, Kalungu District. He holds a Master and Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from Nkumba University.



**Dr. Peter Ndemere**

Peter Ndemere is the Executive Secretary/CEO of the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology.



**Dr. Ambrose Agona**

Ambrose Agona is the Director General for the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO), a recognized authority on Agricultural research on the continent. He is also the Chairman Board of Directors for the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), a reviewer of Uganda Journal of Agricultural Sciences and African Crop Science Journal manuscripts, and a Climate variability and change agent in scoping, developing and promoting adaptation and mitigation technologies in IGAD countries. Dr. Agona is a holder of a Doctorate in Agriculture from the University of Zimbabwe, Masters of Philosophy (Pure and Applied Biology) University of Wales and a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Makerere University.



**Dr. Jeremy Tinga Ouedraogo**

Jeremy Ouedraogo is Head of Regional Office of NEPAD Agency ABNE. Before joining ABNE he was a Plant Breeder, Head of the Plant Genetics and Biotechnology laboratory in the national research system of Burkina Faso. He holds a PhD degree from Université Laval, Canada and his research focused on use of biotechnology tools in plant breeding. He has contributed towards creating many cowpea varieties that are released in Burkina Faso and other West African countries.

Since 2002, Dr. Ouedraogo has been fully involved in biotechnology/biosafety strategy development and implementation in his country, Burkina Faso. He participated in the committee which elaborated biosafety guidelines for Bt cotton trials and contributed to approval of the referred trials as a member of the Biosafety Scientific Committee.

In his rich career, Dr Ouedraogo has been involved in different biotech crops projects for Africa such as cowpea and sorghum in Burkina Faso.

He was a nominated member of the Africa Biofortified Sorghum (ABS) External Advisory Board. Since October 2015, he is member of the Board of Trustees of the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF).

Dr. Ouedraogo was an elected Member of Burkina Faso Parliament from 2007 to April 2011 and also served as Minister of Animal Resources and Fisheries of Burkina Faso from 2011 to 2014.

Contact: [jt.ouedraogo@nepadbiosafety.net](mailto:jt.ouedraogo@nepadbiosafety.net)



**Dr. Getachew Belay**

Getachew Belay is a Senior Biotechnology Policy Advisor at the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA), specialized agency of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), dealing with agricultural policies, trade and commerce, based in Lusaka, Zambia. He played a lead role in the development of the COMESA policy on biotechnology and biosafety that was approved by the Council of Ministers in 2014. His current role is to lead operationalization of the Biotechnology and Biosafety Policy Implementation Plan (COMBIP) so as to advance the COMESA regional biotech agenda.

Prior to joining ACTESA, he served in the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research for more than two decades as wheat and teff breeder/agronomist where he led and contributed in the release of more than 10 varieties. He was also involved in Graduate Schools as instructor, advisor and member of examination boards. Getachew received his PhD degree in Plant Breeding

from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden, in 1998.

Getachew has authored/co-authored more than 30 publications in internationally peer-reviewed journals and book chapters.

Getachew was Leader of the Cereals Research Program in Ethiopia before he joined COMESA in January 2010.

Contact: [GBelay@comesa.int](mailto:GBelay@comesa.int)



**Douglas D. Buhler**

Douglas Buhler is the Director/Assistant VP, and serves as the administrative leader of MSU AgBioResearch. Buhler received his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from the University of Nebraska and B.S. degree from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. He started his career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1984 to 1989 and the United States Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service from 1989 to 2000. He then joined Michigan State University as Professor and Chair of the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences and served in that position from 2000 to 2005. From 2005 to 2010 he was Associate Director of AgBioResearch and Associate Dean for Research for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR). Buhler served as interim Dean of the CANR from 2011 to 2013 and again in 2016.

Buhler's professional activities have generated over 330 publications including 130 refereed journal and review articles. Buhler has been an author or editor of three books and presented over 100 invited seminars, symposia, and workshops. He is a

Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Weed Science Society of America, and North Central Weed Science Society and is a Distinguished Alumni of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

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**Judith A. Chambers**

she has developed strengths in project management, strategic analysis, issues management, problem solving, and corporate social responsibility. She co-developed the first USAID public-private sector program on agricultural biotechnology. She enjoys working in partnership with country experts while they effectively manage all aspects of biotechnology and related capacity building approaches that are key to equipping developing countries with options to deal with the pressing challenges that they face daily. “No single technology or approach can solve food security, natural resource preservation, or human development challenges; but biotechnology is a viable option that many developing countries are exploring.”

Contacts: [J.Chambers@cgiar.org](mailto:J.Chambers@cgiar.org)



**Dr. Margaret Karembu**

Margaret Karembu is the Director of ISAAA AfriCenter and senior advisor to the PBS communications and policy outreach program. She also serves as the chair of the Open Forum on Agricultural Biotechnology (OFAB) Programming Committee, Kenya Chapter. A seasoned science communication trainer, Dr. Karembu holds a PhD in Environmental Science Education and a Master's Degree in Education from Kenyatta University. Prior to joining ISAAA, Dr. Karembu was a Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Environmental Studies, Kenyatta University from 1992–2003.

She has extensively published and has authored and co-authored various books, papers and policy briefs. Some highlights from her repertoire of publications include: Developing a Biosafety Law – Lessons from the Kenyan Experience (2009); Biotech Crops in Africa: The Final Frontier (2009); The Adventures of Mandy and Fanny in Africa cartoon booklet on Biotechnology (2012); and the OFAB-Kenya book of experience (various series) among others.

Contact: [mkarembu@isaaa.org](mailto:mkarembu@isaaa.org)



**Dr. Mahaletchumy Arujanan**

Mahaletchumy Arujanan is the Executive Director of Malaysian Biotechnology Information Centre (MABIC) and Editor-in-Chief of The Petri Dish – the first science newspaper in Malaysia. She has a PhD in science communication from University of Malaya and Masters in Biotechnology and BSc.degree in Biochemistry and Microbiology from Universiti Putra Malaysia. Maha is listed as the world's 100 most influential people in biotechnology by Scientific American Worldview 2015. She is also listed in the honorific list of Women in Biotechnology Law and Regulation as part of Biotechnology Law Report 2015 published by Mary Ann Liebert Inc, among 23 other women scientists and lawyers. Maha won the 2010 Third World Academy of Science Regional Prize for Public Understanding of Science for East, Southeast Asia and Pacific Region.

She is actively involved in outreach to increase public understanding of biotechnology locally and internationally on issues like policies, regulations, communication, business, ethics, religion and education. Maha is known for her non-traditional approaches in communicating biotechnology such as fashion show and carnivals. She sits on the National Bioethics Council and the Selangor Bio Council and on advisory panels of a number of universities. She is a trainer for BiotechCorp and the Industry Cluster of Excellence (Ministry of Higher Education) and an Adjunct Lecturer at Monash University Sunway. She sits on various committees and panels both at the national and international level.

She has published chapters, papers and articles on science/biotech communication and biotechnology development including a show on TEDx. She is currently involved in various social activities that help in unlocking young people's potential.

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**Hon. Prof Ogengo-Latigo**

Prof. Ogengo is a Member of Parliament for Agago North County and Vice Chairman of the Forum for Democratic Change Party (Uganda). Ogengo is a former Professor of entomology and ecology at Makerere University and former Chair of the National Biosafety Committee. He believes that modern agri-biotechnologies hold enormous potential for revolutionizing African agriculture toward driving economic transformation. African governments therefore need to facilitate science and not stifle progress. "I understand the science of GM and can see the promise it holds of transforming agricultural productivity. Nonetheless, if there are any plausible risks that science can identify, it is important that we approach these from a scientific premise rather than an emotive one".



**Dr Jan-Hendrik (Hennie) Groenewald**

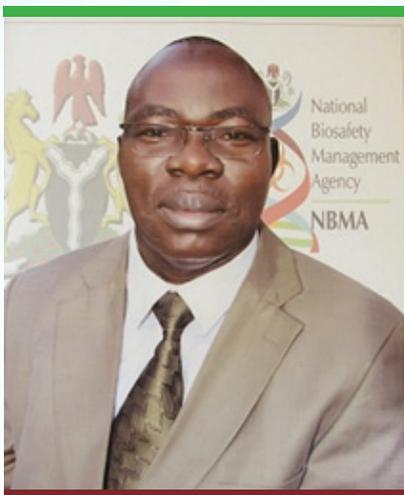
Hennie is the Executive Manager of Biosafety South Africa, a national biosafety service platform, within the Technology Innovation Agency and under the auspices of the national Department of Science and Technology. It is the principal instrument within the national biotech innovation system which enables compliant, sustainable and effective research & development, innovation and commercialisation in the biotech sector.

Prior to joining Biosafety South Africa Hennie worked at Stellenbosch University, the South African Sugarcane Research Institute and North-West University. During this tenure at these organisations he was awarded short research fellowships at the Texas Agricultural & Medical University, Weslaco, USA, the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Plant Physiology, Golm, Germany and the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation, Plant Industry, Brisbane, Australia. Hennie was a founding member of two successful South African biotech start-ups and has served on numerous international and national bodies tasked with responsible

research and innovation, biosafety and risk governance, science communication and sustainable biotech and agricultural innovation.

He has more than 25 years of experience in biotechnology research and development, teaching, biosafety risk analysis and governance, science communication, business development and innovation management in the public, private and academic sectors.

Contacts: [hennie@biosafety.org.za](mailto:hennie@biosafety.org.za)



**Dr. Ebegeba Rufus Eseoghene**

Rufus Ebegeba is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Biosafety Management Agency, Nigeria. He holds a Ph.D (Biodiversity), M.Sc.(Environmental Biology) and B.Sc. (Agriculture).

He began his career as an administrative officer at the defunct Centre for Democratic Studies, Abuja 1990-1996. He was a Deputy Director (Head Biosafety Office) 2012-2015 at the Federal Ministry of Environment before being appointed the Director General/CEO of the National Biosafety Management Agency of Nigeria.

He has over 26 years of working experience in the areas of administration, biosafety management, biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization of renewable natural resources. He is the current National Project Coordinator, UNEP-GEF National Biosafety Framework Implementation Project in Nigeria; the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety National Focal Point for Nigeria; former member of the Expert Committee of West African Biosafety Regulation and a former member of the Ad-hoc Technical Expert Group on Biosafety Risk Assessment and Risk Management of the

Convention on Biological Diversity of the United Nations.

Dr. Ebegeba was involved in the development of Nigeria National Biotechnology Policy, Nigeria National Biosafety Framework under the UNEP/GEF Development of National Biosafety Framework Project; the Nigeria National Biosafety Risk Assessment Analysis Framework; the Nigeria National Biosafety Application Management guidelines, Draft National Biosafety Regulations, National Biosafety Containment Guidelines, National Biosafety Communication Strategy and the last edition of the Nigeria Biosafety Guidelines. He has published widely on biosafety, biodiversity conservation and environmental management.

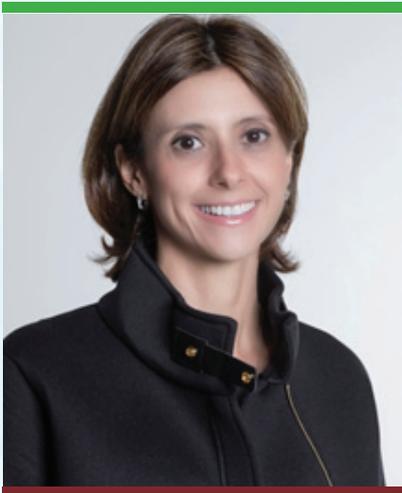
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**Prof. Dorington O. Ogoyi**

Dorington Ogoyi is the Director of Technical Services at the National Biosafety Authority since February, 2012. Prior to his appointment, Prof. Ogoyi was an Associate Professor at the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology and Director of Research and Development at the Technical University of Kenya (TUK). He also taught for several years at the Department of Biochemistry, University of Nairobi. Over the years, he has carried out research and mentored a number of graduate students in a wide range of research areas in Molecular Biology and Proteomics. Prof. Ogoyi is currently the National Focal point for the Biosafety Clearing House, a member of the Advisory Adhoc Committee on Biosafety Clearing House and represents the African region in the Compliance committee of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. He holds a Ph.D (Biochemistry) from the University of Nairobi.

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**Carina Gomes Rufino**

Carina Gomes is a Journalist, graduate from the State University of Londrina (1998), with a Master's degree in Communication from the Methodist University of São Paulo (2010). She is the communication manager at Embrapa Soybean, a research unit of the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa). She has experience in corporate communication, currently working on the following subjects: corporate communication, communication and strategy, international communication, management, communication and sustainability, branding.

At Embrapa, Carina is the leader of the project "Strategic Communication for sustainability of soybean in production systems in Brazil". She has led several communication projects and developed communication strategies for research projects and technology transfer methodologies. In 2006, she worked at the regional office of Embrapa in Africa, mapping out and developing communication strategies. She was an associate professor of the postgraduate course in Organizational Communication and Public Relations at the State

University of Londrina (UEL).

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**Nabila Alibhai**

Nabila Alibhai, who has expertise in strategic communications, is a senior associate at Well Made Strategy. Prior to joining Well Made Strategy, she founded inCOMMONS an organization that fosters ownership of cultural and environmental heritage through design, leadership inspiration and participatory planning. She has held positions in the Aga Khan Development Network, the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration and has worked on projects in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kenya, Tanzania, the United States and Switzerland. She has a Master of Public Health from Yale University and is trained in conflict resolution. She was also mid-career fellow in MIT's Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies.

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**Jay Byrne**

Jay Byrne is president of v-Fluence, Inc. (v-Fluence). v-Fluence is a strategic communication and research agency providing online public affairs and issues intelligence support to some of the largest multi-national corporations, leading academic institutions, respected nongovernmental organizations and government agencies across the globe. Mr. Byrne has more than 25 years of experience in public affairs and issues management. He directs an award winning team that has been recognized internationally for its innovative, comprehensive and fully integrated new media communication campaigns.

Previously Mr. Byrne served as chief spokesperson, chief of staff and deputy assistant administrator for legislative and public affairs at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) from 1993 to 1997. Mr. Byrne also served as director of press relations for USAID. During his tenure at USAID he acted as the White House spokesman and media coordinator for the G-7 economic conference and numerous other administration initiatives.

Mr. Byrne has been a featured speaker at more than 100 trade and professional conferences. Byrne was a contributing author to the American Enterprise Institute published book “Let Them Eat Precaution” and he has published articles on strategic communications, reputation management and new media strategies in various trade, professional and peer reviewed journals including Reputation Management Magazine, Public Relations Journal and numerous other publications.

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**Prof. Lulu Rodriguez**

Lulu Rodriguez is associate professor and director of the Agricultural Communications Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She designs, implements, and evaluates the impact of communication campaigns related to agriculture, renewable energy, the environment, food safety and food security. Her research focuses on the communication of risks related to scientific and technological breakthroughs, investigating people’s basic mental models of hazard and their opinions about innovations that cause controversies or may be perceived as risky. Her research agenda also includes testing the deployment of information and communication technologies in the service of agriculture and natural resources programs in developing countries, and the visual representations of science and risk issues. She teaches communication campaign planning, implementation and evaluation and visual communication theories and principles and their application. She earned her Ph.D. in Mass Communication from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, her master’s in Communication from Cornell University, and her

bachelor’s degree in Development Communication from the University of the Philippines at Los Baños.

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**Mr. Arthur Makara**

Arthur Makara is a co-founder and current Executive Director of Science Foundation for Livelihoods and Development (SCIFODE), a science policy and communication not-for-profit organization based in Kampala, Uganda. Prior to founding SCIFODE, he was the Secretary of the National Biosafety Committee in Uganda from 2004-2008 and spearheaded establishment of Uganda's biosafety regulatory system including development of Uganda's biotechnology and biosafety Policy, Confined Field Trial Guidelines, drafting and advocacy for the enactment of the National Biotechnology and Biosafety Bill. He possess over 15 years' experience in biotechnology/biosafety regulation, science communication and science policy advocacy in Uganda, COMESA region and Eastern Africa. He was involved in the drafting of the COMESA Policy on Biotechnology and Biosafety that was adopted by the COMESA Council of Ministers in 2014. He is Communication Advisor on the VIRCA Plus Project implemented by the DDPSC and NARO in Uganda and KARLO in Kenya. He is Governing Board member of the East African Commission for Science and Technology (EASTECO)—an Agency of the East African Community where he Chairs the Board Committee on Policies and Regulations. Mr. Makara has also been involved in advocacy for science and technology issues beyond biotechnology including advocacy for establishment of a stand-alone Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation in Uganda which was finally established in June 2016. He is a Chief Executive of a private tissue culture Company—Nsigotech Agrosience (Uganda) Limited that is involved in commercial production of tissue culture bananas in Kampala, Uganda.

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**Bibiana Iraki-Kipkorir**

Bibiana Kipkorir works as a Program Communications Officer at ISAAA AfriCenter. She holds an MA in Journalism from University of Wales, Glamorgan and a BSc in Biotechnology from Cardiff University. Before joining ISAAA, she worked as a Communications Officer at the African Population and Health Research Center, prior to which she served as a Communications and Public Relations Officer at the African Biotechnology and Stakeholders Forum. She has also worked as an Online Reporter for Exposure Radio in Glamorgan. She is passionate about science communication which she believes is key in transforming Africa's wealth of research knowledge into tangible solutions for development.

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**Dr. Barbara Mugwanya  
Zawedde**

Barbara Zawedde is the Acting Coordinator of the Uganda Biosciences Research and Training Center, which is a special initiative of NARO charged to use ground-breaking research and cutting-edge technologies to improve livelihoods. She coordinates Uganda Biosciences Information Center (UBIC), which is a knowledge and information sharing hub of NARO, and a Country node of ISAAA. Before joining NARO in 2013, Barbara worked for the Program for Biosafety System (PBS) from 2003 to 2008 and has contributed to development of Uganda's National Biosafety Framework. She has experience in Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology, Biosafety, Environmental Impact Assessment and Policy Management, and Science Communication. Barbara is also an Executive Member of the Uganda Biotechnology and Biosafety Consortium (UBBC), a member of the Advisory Committee for the Open Forum for Agricultural Biotechnology (OFAB) Uganda Chapter. She is also an Adjunct Lecturer with College of Agriculture and Environment, Makerere University.

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**Samuel E. Timpo**

Samuel Timpo is a senior programme officer with the NEPAD Agency African Biosafety Network of Expertise (ABNE), which supports African Union member states build functional biosafety regulatory systems. He is responsible for the socio-economic aspects of biosafety and biosafety communication and has been involved in biosafety capacity building efforts in Africa for over a decade. Prior to this, he worked as a socio-economist with the Biotechnology and Nuclear Agriculture Research Institute (BNARI) of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission. He also served as research lead for a team of researchers that examined factors influencing the differential ability of sub-Saharan African countries to implement functional regulatory systems for biotechnology. He has a Master of Philosophy degree in agricultural economics from the University of Ghana, Legon. He is the focal person in ABNE for providing technical guidance and support to AU member states that are Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

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**Jill Kuehnert**

Jill Kuehnert is a communications and outreach advisor focused on agriculture in developing countries. Through Seed Stories, her international consulting practice, Jill helps build greater understanding and support for agriculture research and development within complex science, technology and policy environments. Her hands-on work with clients encompasses development of core content, stakeholder engagement strategies, and proactive issue management. She is a regular presenter and trainer on these topics, drawing on her experience and on new insights from the 'science of science communication'.

Jill has engaged actively in research partnerships in Asia and Africa throughout her career, contributing management, capacity-building and communications expertise to projects in banana, cassava, rice and other crops. Clients have included the African Agriculture Technology Foundation, CropLife, the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, Helen Keller International, and the International Rice Research Institute.

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**Dr. Rufino Perez**

Rufino Perez (Ruffo) is a food scientist with a PhD from Michigan State University, Michigan USA, with his major research being on the use of Gas Mass Spectrometry for the identification of fingerprint volatiles produced by human pathogens in foods, as rapid food safety indicators in packaged food. Before joining USAID/FFP in Sept 2013 as Senior Food Technology Advisor, Dr. Perez worked for six years for Kraft Foods, both as a corporate food safety and quality expert, as well as a nutrition and ingredient researcher. Patented research work includes micro encapsulation technologies in flavor delivery and food safety ingredients, as well as dehydration technologies. He has vast experience on global food safety programs, particularly in HACCP-based systems conceived and developed through the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), in both capacities: implementation and auditing. Prior to working for Kraft Foods, Dr. Perez was part of an FAO and IICA (Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture) hemispheric effort assisting Latin American and Caribbean countries in defining national biotechnology and biosafety frameworks. Currently Dr. Perez is the main food technology, biotechnology and food safety resource within USAID Food for Peace Office, supporting country missions, local suppliers and assisting throughout USAID food aid supply chain.

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**Dr. Faith Nguthi**

Faith Nguthi works as a Senior Programme Officer for the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA, AfriCenter) since 2009. She is involved in managing and implementing ISAAA's mandate in Africa which includes coordinating implementation of ISAAA-facilitated projects in Africa, including needs assessment, capacity building of biotech stakeholders in communication, knowledge-sharing, initiating institutional linkages and strategic partnerships and resource mobilization. Prior to joining ISAAA, she worked as a Senior Research Scientist with the KARLO, from 1987-2008 where she coordinated research in fruits and was instrumental in the introduction of the tissue-cultured banana in Kenya. She was also the Deputy Center Director of the National Horticultural Research Centre, Thika from 1996-2003. Dr. Nguthi has a PhD in Social Science from Wageningen University in the Netherlands. She also holds an MSc in Horticulture and a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Nairobi.

Faith is passionate about improving prosperity of smallholder farmers in Africa through adoption of new agricultural technologies.

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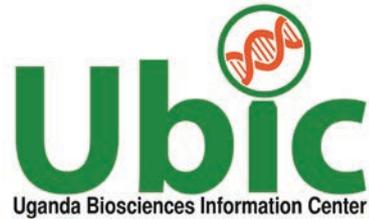
## General Information

<b>TRAVEL</b>	<p>Things to carry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passport with a valid Visa</li> <li>• Yellow fever and polio certificate,</li> <li>• Copy of your ticket,</li> </ul> <p>In case of unanticipated last-minute change or delay in flight schedules, please text us on +254 722 912111 or email amukuna@isaaa.org</p>
<b>HOTEL ACCOMMODATION</b>	<p>All participants will be accommodated at the <b>Laico Lake Victoria Hotel</b> in Entebbe and bookings has already been made in your name. You are booked for bed and breakfast. The workshop package will provide morning tea, lunch and evening tea. <b>Laico Lake Victoria Hotel</b>, Tel. +256-312310100/+256-414-351600/+256772-674 642</p> <p><b>Meeting Venue</b> All the meeting sessions will be as per the program.</p>
<b>AIRPORT TRANSFERS</b>	Arrangements have been made for you airport transfers by the hotel
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	English will be the main language
<b>TEA BREAKS &amp; MEALS</b>	Arrangements for group coffee, lunches and dinners have been made.
<b>BOARDING PASSES</b>	<b>For accountability purposes, please retain your boarding passes, they will be collected by the organizers.</b>
<b>INCIDENTALS</b>	For the sponsored group, the organizers will pay you a modest allowance of USD 77/day to cater for your dinner, Incidental Expenses and miscellaneous expenses such as telephone, laundry, e-mail/internet etc. Please note that the organizers will not be responsible of phone calls, laundry, room service you should clear for such extras before checking out.
<b>SECURITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that you have emergency contact numbers on you at all times</li> <li>• Make sure you have your valuables (cash, passport, lap-top and mobile phone) with you at all times.</li> </ul>
<b>CLIMATE</b>	The average temperature in Uganda during this period is fairly cool with temperature ranging from to 20° to 27°
<b>CURRENCY</b>	The official currency in Uganda is the Shillings. Exchange rate: UGX 3,563.70 per Dollar is the average.
<b>TIME ZONE</b>	EAT (East Africa Time) - Uganda is GMT/UTC + 3h Standard Time.
<b>ELECTRICITY/POWER</b>	Electrical current is 220 - 240 volts. Three-pin plugs are used. You will need to bring an adaptor plug with you to match whatever type of adaptor you need to plug into.

### EMERGENCY CONTACTS

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 Dr. Barbara Mugwanya- **Email:** bmugwanya@gmail.com **Cell:** + 256 772206237

# Workshop Partners



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