

The Agricultural Biotechnology Support Project (ABSPII) and Product-Driven Capacity Building for Emerging Markets

Agenda

Date: Tuesday, June 5, 2012
Time: 8:30AM – 4:45PM EST
Location: 1717 H St., NW, Suite 801, Washington, DC
 Also available live online at Agrilinks.org

Description: The Agricultural Biotechnology Support Project II (ABSPII) is a USAID-funded consortium of public and private sector institutions managed by Cornell University that focuses on the safe and effective development and commercialization of bioengineered crops as a complement to traditional agricultural approaches for small-scale farmers. ABSPII’s management team will share the lessons learned from 10 years of supporting agricultural biotechnology research and product development in India, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Indonesia, Uganda and Mali. Presentations will include an overview of the ABSPII philosophy and organization, highlights of banana research in Uganda and eggplant product development in Asia, best practices for communicating about agricultural biotechnology and the benefits of public-private partnerships. The experiences here are a collective example of how the development of new technology became a driving force for capacity building for the potential opening of new markets.

Time	Presentation
8:30-8:45	Opening remarks (Ronnie Coffman, Cornell and Larry Beach, USAID)
8:45-9:00	Importance of ABSPII to the Feed the Future Initiative (Julie Howard, Chief Scientist, USAID)
9:00-10:15	Lessons learned from ABSPII: A decade of taking a product-driven approach to capacity building in agricultural biotechnology research and product development in emerging markets (Frank Shotkoski, Director, ABSPII)
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:45	Banana improvement project in Uganda: Supporting agricultural research through Feed the Future and strong Mission involvement (W. Tushemereuwe, Uganda National Agricultural Research Organization) <i>*USAID/Uganda mission testimonial video on the impact of ABSPII will be shown*</i> (Gaudensia Kenyangi, Senior Agricultural Development Specialist, USAID/Uganda & Simon Byabagambi, Agronomist, USAID/Uganda)
11:45-1:00	Lessons learned in communication: The challenges of communicating about agricultural biotechnology and the importance of public outreach (Randy Hautea, ISAAA)
1:00-1:30	Lunch
1:30-1:45	Building and strengthening functional biosafety regulatory frameworks (Saharah Moon Chapotin, Acting Division Chief for Agricultural Research at USAID)
1:45-3:00	Bt eggplant: an alternative strategy for reduced pesticide use and increased productivity of small-holder eggplant farms in South and Southeast Asia (Desiree Hautea, ABSPII Regional Coordinator Southeast Asia)
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15-4:30	ABSPII: Successful public-private partnerships in agricultural biotechnology research and product development (K. Vijayaraghavan, ABSPII Regional Coordinator, South Asia)
4:30-4:45	Close