



Food Safety and Biotechnology in Africa

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Outreach Program for NGOs and CBOs

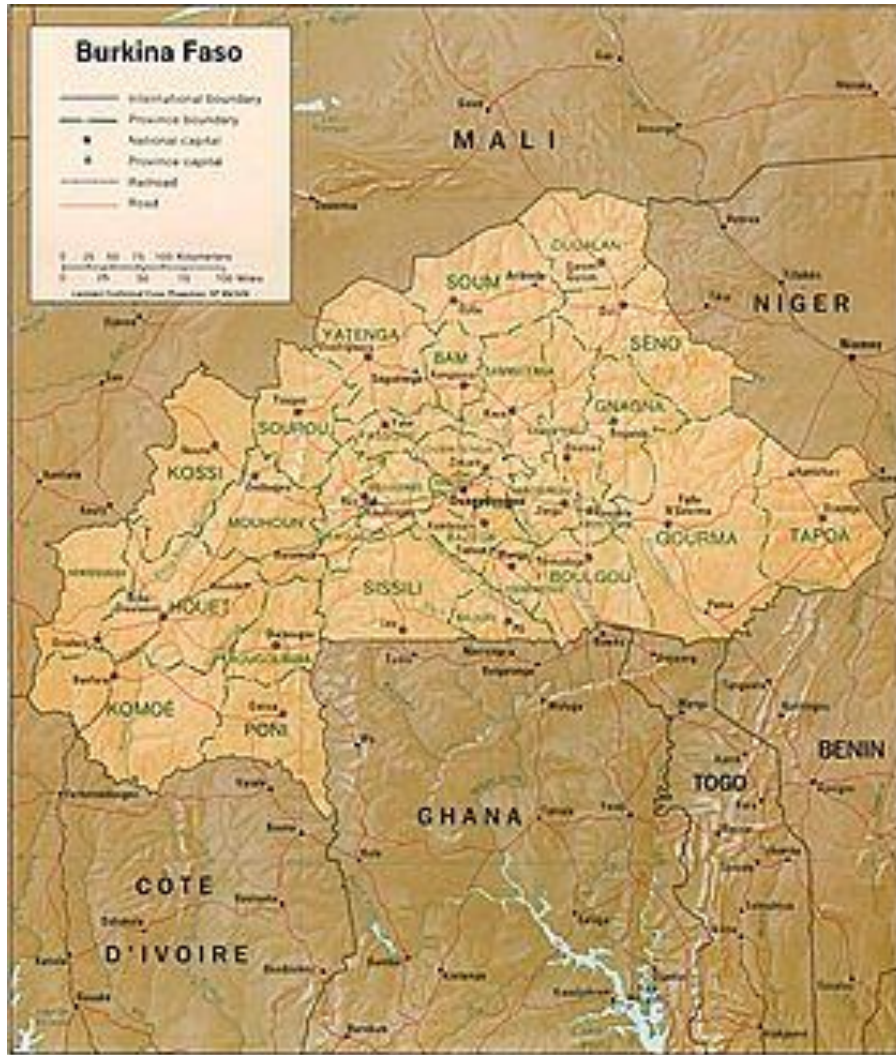
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Burkina Faso is a landlocked Sahelian country with a total area of 274,200 km². It shares borders with six nations (Benin, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mali, Niger, and Togo).

Burkina Faso has a primarily tropical climate with two very distinct seasons: the rainy season approximately four months, May/June to September (with 600-900 mm of rainfall); the dry season. Three climatic zones can be defined: the Sahel, the Sudan-Sahel, and the Sudan-Guinea.

Burkina Faso is an agriculture-based country, over 80% of the active population derives its income from agriculture, and the primary sector accounts for over 30 percent of GDP. Domestically produced millet, sorghum and corn account for 80% of households' grain consumption, and 40% of the country's rice consumption is produced domestically.

Since 1995, Burkina Faso has recorded a 6% annual GDP growth (World Bank, 2012). Despite this growth rate, poverty remains at a high level : 46.7% in 2009 (World Bank, 2012) while about 26% of the population is still considered as undernourished (FAO, 2013). The great majority of Burkina Faso's population is therefore vulnerable and exposed to high food insecurity.

Many NGOs and CBOs are involved in the field of food security. Therefore, it is important to organize for all these actors one day of exchange on food security and biotechnology in Africa.

The specific objectives of the programme are to:

- present succinctly to all stakeholders the backbone of the modules of the Master level developed in the areas of training on food security and biotechnology.
- generate on the part of the participants some criticisms for improvement of the content of the programs and their ownership of these new programs.
- generate debate of idea very often controversial issue on biotechnology and food security in Burkina Faso and in Africa.

- Is there a place for the training of the Master level in the field of food security and biotechnology and what type of content is expected?
- Is it appropriate to create a special program of Master in Food Security and Biotechnology to the horizon 2018 in our universities?
- What strategic directions for food security in West Africa in the context of climate change?
- Which roles the enterprises play in the achievement of food security? What new training programmes the universities must initiate to meet their expectations?"

- What are the perceptions of biotechnology by civil society?
- What is the state of affairs regarding the adoption of GMOs in Africa and particularly in Burkina Faso?
- What are the scientific causes and economic consequences for the suspension of cotton Bt in Burkina Faso since April 2016?
- What is the future of other GM plants in Burkina Faso: sorghum, cowpea, corn etc.?

Of course all participants are free to bring their contribution or to ask other questions!!!!

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Thank you for your contributions!!!!

Program of the morning		Moderator (Responsible)
08h30 - 9h00	Registration of participants	Master of Ceremony MC
9h-9h05	Opening remarks	MC
9H05- 9H10	Opening remarks by resource person Resource	MC
9H10- 9H15	Suspension: Participants registration (Cont.)	MC
9H15- 9H30	Presentation General terms of references	MC
9h30- 10h00	Presentation and discussion in group on module 1 Food security, agricultural systems and the Biotechnology	Scientist

Program of the morning		Moderator/ Responsible
10h00- 10h20	Presentation and discussion in group on module 2 The Biotechnology, the history, the state of the art and the Future	Scientist
10h20- 10h40	Presentation and discussion in group on module 3 The response of the public to the rise of the Biotechnology	Scientist
10h40- 11h00	Coffee break	MC
11h00- 12h20	Presentation and discussion in group on module 4 Regulatory and policy approaches in the field of biotechnology	Scientist /Lawyer

Program of the morning		Moderator (responsible)
12h20- 12h40	Presentation and discussion in group on the module 5 The Ethics and the vision of the world in relation to the Biotechnology	Scientist/ Philosopher
12h40- 13h00	Presentation and discussion in group on module 6 Adaptation of the Biotechnology: toward decision of social responsibility and of specific approaches by country	Scientist/ Sociologist
13h-14h	Lunch break	MC
14h- 16h45	Plenary debate on the sub-theme "State of the art and the need for training of higher level in education and research on food security in Burkina Faso".	Panelists
16h45- 17h00	Synthesis and Recommendations	