

The EDULINK-Food Security and Biotechnology in Africa (FSBA) project funded by the EU-ACP, University of Eldoret, Kenya hosted a National Roundtable of Experts and Stakeholders at Intercontinental hotel, Nairobi on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2016. After the presentation of the developed curriculum, a comprehensive discussion was held deliberating on the status of Biotechnology in the country and the contribution of the newly developed curriculum to the national food security in Kenya. The following policy brief was agreed:

1. Transgenic modification is not the only option for improvement of organisms - modification can also be done within the same organism.
2. Food nutrition is important as an aspect of Food security and should be captured in the proposed curriculum.
3. The Ministry of Education has made commitment to review curriculum used in schools and this review will incorporate new emerging technologies like Biotechnology.
4. All the facets of technology including theory and practicals, for instance gene therapy should be critically evaluated.
5. Curriculum should provide industrial experience through attachment programs
6. Regulation to be enacted to make it mandatory for institutions to provide industrial attachment for students
7. Medium Term Plan 2 mooted to establish centers of excellence and the University of Eldoret should position itself to be one of the centers and focus should go beyond agricultural biotechnology.
8. Policy for biotechnology should be consulted
9. There should be a link made with the County Government - for simplifying biotechnology for policy makers.
10. Local data should be generated for use by policy makers
11. Communication approaches should be well elaborated in the curriculum - in order to eradicate the fear of GMOs because people will be able to get information.
12. Entrepreneurial skills to be elaborated in the curriculum, for instance a course on Bio-entrepreneurship for graduates' job creations
13. Different methods of disseminating information should be used to reach the target audience
14. There should be faculty exchange between Universities in West Africa and Kenya when the curriculum is adopted.

Prof Donald Obeng

Prof. Elizabeth Omami

Prof Miriam Kiaya