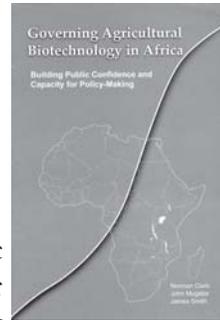


New Arrivals

Governing Agricultural Biotechnology in Africa

Norman Clark, John Mugabe and James Smith
African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)
Nairobi, Kenya, 2005, 42 pages
ISBN: 9966-41-137-2



The monograph elucidates the execution of public policy towards the agricultural biotechnology for human development and food security in Africa. It talks about the opportunities and challenges posed by agricultural biotechnology, in particular reference to the genetic engineering for the African countries. It also discusses the requirements of knowledge-based platforms for participatory decision-making in view of the rapid increase in the application of this frontier technology.

The monograph contains a preliminary output from the project funded by MacArthur Foundation, Chicago, USA in mid 2003. It is based on a detailed empirical investigation of biotechnology and biosafety policy issues in three African countries of Kenya, South Africa, and Uganda, and raises important issue of their integration in the wider innovation process in these countries. The study surveys the status of food security in these countries, which is also a prime policy concern. In this context, the study discusses the need for the capacity building in administrative matters for policy coherence, civil society participation, public confidence and support and utilizing the human resources for public private partnership and institution building for biotechnology policy environment. The monograph emphasizes the crucial role of modern agriculture biotechnology for tackling the twin problems of poor agriculture production and food insecurity. The main cause of low availability of food in these countries is not only owing to the insufficient food production, but also differences in economic, environmental and technological variables. African countries therefore need to build public confidence for tackling environmental degradation

by applying the innovations in the agriculture biotechnology. They may study in detail the international experiences in the application of this technology and work out a strategy for effective adoption. The volume would be useful for researchers, policy planners and practitioners in the field.

***Tailoring Biotechnologies* (Biotechnology and Development Monitor)**

Editors: Guido Ruivenkamp and Joost Jongerden
Centre for Tailormade Biotechnologies and Genomics
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The journal ***Tailoring Biotechnologies*** is a new quarterly published after long years of discontinuation in place of the *Biotechnology and Development Monitor*. It covers the interrelationship between biotechnology and development-related issues. The journal particularly focuses on the socio-economic aspects of biotechnology relevant for developing countries. It attempts to cover the debate and become a forum for exchange of ideas related to the re-designing of biotechnology so as to make it less capital intensive and more focused on the needs of the developing countries.

Tailoring Biotechnologies aims to maintaining a balance between theoretical analysis and case studies with a comparative analysis. The first issue lays special emphasis on the reflection, potentialities, actualities and space of biotechnology. The major focus of the journal is to critically analyze the democratization of biotechnology. It emphasizes issues of genomics and how these affect the social change in developing countries. In the thought-provoking editorial, the editors critically discuss the potentialities of reshaping biotechnologies. The journal is edited by Guide Ruivenkamp and Joost Jongerden and is published from the Centre for Tailormade Biotechnologies and Genomics, Wageningen University of Research, Wageningen, Netherlands.

— Bijaya Kumar Sahu