

Trainings/Workshops

- ❖ Workshop on "Low-cost Gene-based Technologies for MAS Application in Rice and Maize", 25-27 April 2007, Barwale Knowledge and Study Centre, India.
- ❖ International training course on "*In vitro* and Cryopreservation Techniques for Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources", 17-27 November 2008, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi.
- ❖ Training course on "Molecular Methodologies for Assessing and Applying Genetic Diversity in Crop Plants", 17-28 November 2008, ICRISAT, Hyderabad.
- ❖ Training course on "Production and Indexing of Pathogen-free Citrus Seedlings", 17-29 November 2008, National Taiwan University, Taipei.
- ❖ "Introductory Course in Bioinformatics", 23 November - 2 December 2008. Agricultural Genetic Engineering Research Institute, Egypt.
- ❖ Training Course on "Rapid Bioassay of Pesticide Residues on Fruits and Vegetables for Market Inspection and Farm Education", 18-23 May 2009, Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung.



Web based information dissemination

- ❖ Database on agribiotech institutes of Asia-Pacific region
- ❖ News and events on agribiotech developments
- ❖ Downloadable APCoAB publications
- ❖ Links to other organizations on agriculture and biotechnology

- ❖ APCoAB website:
Visit at: www.apcoab.org



Main Initiators

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Supporters

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Global Forum on Agricultural Research
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics
Council of Agriculture, Taipei
Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company (Mahyco), India

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Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology



MISSION

"To harness the benefits of agricultural biotechnology for human and animal welfare through the application of latest scientific technologies while safeguarding the environment for the advancement of society in the Asia-Pacific Region"

Genesis

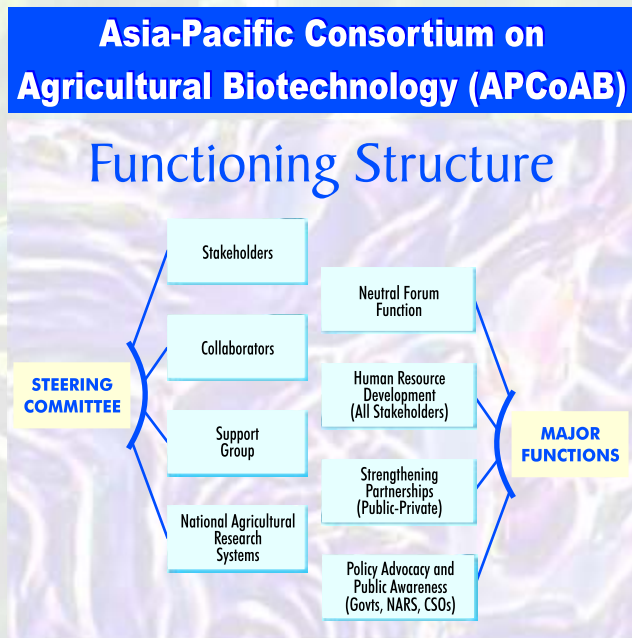
- ❖ In March 2002, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO-RAP) and Asia Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI) jointly organized an **Expert Consultation on the Status of Biotechnology in the Asia-Pacific Region**. The participants unanimously recommended the establishment of an Asia Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology involving the key stakeholders in the region to pool their synergies, harness comparative advantages and ensure judicious use of limited resources to promote application of biotechnology for the sustainable agricultural development in the region.



- ❖ FAO-RAP and APAARI organized a meeting on establishment of Asia-Pacific Consortium on Agricultural Biotechnology (APCoAB) on 4 April 2003 at Bangkok.
- ❖ Established in 2003, APCoAB functions as a program under the umbrella of APAARI.

Objectives

- ❖ To serve as a neutral forum for the key partners engaged in research, development, commercialization and education/learning of agricultural biotechnology as well as environmental safety in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ❖ To facilitate and promote the process of greater public awareness and understanding relating to important issues of IPRs, *sui generis* systems, biosafety, risk assessment, harmonization of regulatory procedures, and benefit sharing in order to address various concerns relating to adoption of agricultural biotechnology.
- ❖ To facilitate human resource development for meaningful application of agricultural biotechnology to enhance sustainable agricultural productivity, as well as product quality, for the welfare of both farmers and consumers



Major Activities

- ❖ Facilitate access to and transfer of proven biotechnologies backed by adequate biosafety, awareness and adoption measures.
- ❖ Public awareness and information sharing regarding benefits and concerns on biosafety issues of Genetically Modified Organisms.
- ❖ Ensure developing appropriate institutional mechanisms for testing and release of biotech products.
- ❖ Create new public-private research partnerships.
- ❖ Convince national policy makers regarding potential benefits of agricultural biotechnology to the society.
- ❖ Identify problem-solving research.
- ❖ Capacity building through consultations, conferences, public fora and workshops.

Recent Activities

Publications

- ❖ Bt Cotton in India- A Status Report (2006)
- ❖ Brainstorming Session on Models of Public-Private-Partnership in Agricultural Biotechnology-Highlights and Recommendations (2007)

- ❖ Tissue Culture Innovations for Production of Quality Potato Seed in Asia-Pacific Region (2007)
- ❖ Micropropagation for Quality Seed Production in Sugarcane in Asia and the Pacific (2008)
- ❖ Biosafety Regulations of Asia-Pacific Countries (2008)
- ❖ Production and Cultivation of Virus-Free Citrus Saplings for Citrus Rehabilitation in Taiwan (2008)
- ❖ Expert Consultation on Agricultural Biotechnology for Promoting Food Security in Developing Countries Proceedings (2009)



Future Publications

- ❖ Bt Cotton in India: A Status Report (Revised Edition)
- ❖ Bt Cotton in China
- ❖ Success Story on Banana Tissue Culture in India
- ❖ Delivery System Model of Tissue-cultured Banana Plantlets for the Management of Diseases in Small-hold Growers: The Philippine Experience

Expert Consultations/Brainstorming Sessions

- ❖ High Level Policy Dialogue on "Biotechnology for Food Security and Poverty Alleviation: Opportunities and Challenges". 7-9 November 2005, Bangkok, Thailand.
- ❖ Workshop on "Biosafety Regulations for Transgenic Crops and the Need for Harmonizing them in the Asia-Pacific Region", 31 July-2 August 2006, ICRISAT, Hyderabad.
- ❖ Brainstorming Sessions on "Models of Public-Private Partnership in Agricultural Biotechnology", 7 April 2007, New Delhi.
- ❖ Expert Consultation on "Agricultural biotechnology for Promoting Food Security in Developing Countries", 20-22 August 2008, Malaysia.
- ❖ Expert Consultation on "Biopesticides and Biofertilizers for Sustainable Agriculture", 26-28 October 2009, Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Taichung.