

# Biosafety Symposium 2019

## SUSTAINABLE BIOTECH INNOVATION

Building on the great success of last year's inaugural meeting, Biosafety SA is pleased to invite you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Biosafety Symposium. The Symposium offers a unique opportunity to engage with the whole range of role players required for sustainable biotech innovation, i.e. biotech innovation, sustainability R&D, regulation & compliance and communication & engagement experts. The focus topic for this year is Genome Editing.

The event is free of charge, but formal registration is required [HERE](#).

**Date:** Thursday, 14 March 2019

**Venue:** Pretoria, venue TBC

### DRAFT PROGRAM

Time	Presentation / Activity	Presenter	Organisation
07:30 - 08:30	Registration, coffee and networking		
08:30 - 08:35	Welcome	Hennie Groenewald	Biosafety SA
08:35 - 08:45	Opening & context	DST bioeconomy -	DST
<b>Session 1: FOCUS TOPIC: GENOME EDITING</b>		<b>Chair: Wadzi Mandivenyi</b>	
<b>08:45 - 09:20</b>	<b>Keynote address: Ethical, legal &amp; social implications of human genetics &amp; genomics</b>	<b>Michael Pepper</b>	<b>UP</b>
09:20 - 09:40	Genome editing - tech status (FABI & national)	Victoria Maloney	UP
09:40 - 10:00	Intellectual property rights and genome editing: navigating through the patent thicket	Joanne van Harmelen	ENSafrica
10:00 - 10:20	Status of genome editing regulation & way forward for SA	Johan Burger	SU
<b>Session 2: COMMUNICATION &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b>		<b>Chair: Liezel Gouws</b>	
10:20 - 10:40	Public engagement with biotech: our experiences and offerings	Michael Ellis	SAASTA
10:40 - 11:00	Thrown into the deep end: A scientists 1st experiences in GMO C&E	Manuela Campa	SU
<b>11:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break &amp; networking</b>		
<b>Session 3: BIOTECH INNOVATION</b>		<b>Chair: Carlos Bezuidenhout</b>	
11:30 - 11:50	Giving the bioeconomy strategy some real innovation traction	Jasper Rees	TIA
11:50 - 12:10	Current & future biotech developments in the agri industry	Kulani Machaba	Corteva
12:10 - 12:30	BRU's biotech innovation program and approach	Ann Meyers	UCT
12:30 - 12:50	The CSIR's approach to biotech innovation	Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela	CSIR
<b>12:50 - 13:30</b>	<b>LUNCH &amp; networking</b>		
<b>Session 4: SUSTAINABILITY R&amp;D</b>		<b>Chair: Kulani Machaba</b>	
13:30 - 13:50	Community composition and functions of endophytic bacteria of Bt maize	Carlos Bezuidenhout	NWU
13:50 - 14:10	Predicting the invasion potential and damage risk of Fall armyworm in South Africa	Hannalene du Plessis	NWU
14:10 - 14:30	Using an ecological model to identify indicator species for risk assessments of Bt soybean in South Africa	Nadine Schutte	NWU
<b>Session 5: REGULATION &amp; COMPLIANCE</b>		<b>Chair: Boitumelo Semete-Makokotlela</b>	
14:30 - 14:50	CPB & DEA ERA/CPB/Nagoya update	Wadzi Mandivenyi	DEA
14:50 - 15:10	Report on GMO associated pesticides in SA food	Maryke Herbst	DoH
15:10 - 15:30	Compliance challenges for a biotech start-up	Leah Bessa	Gourmet Grubb
15:30 - 16:00	General discussion & closing	Hennie Groenewald	Biosafety SA
<b>16:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>Networking Cocktail</b>		