

# West Africa Animal Ag Workshop

*Perspectives on the Regulation of Novel GM Insects*

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# Forward-Looking Statements

## Safe Harbor Statement

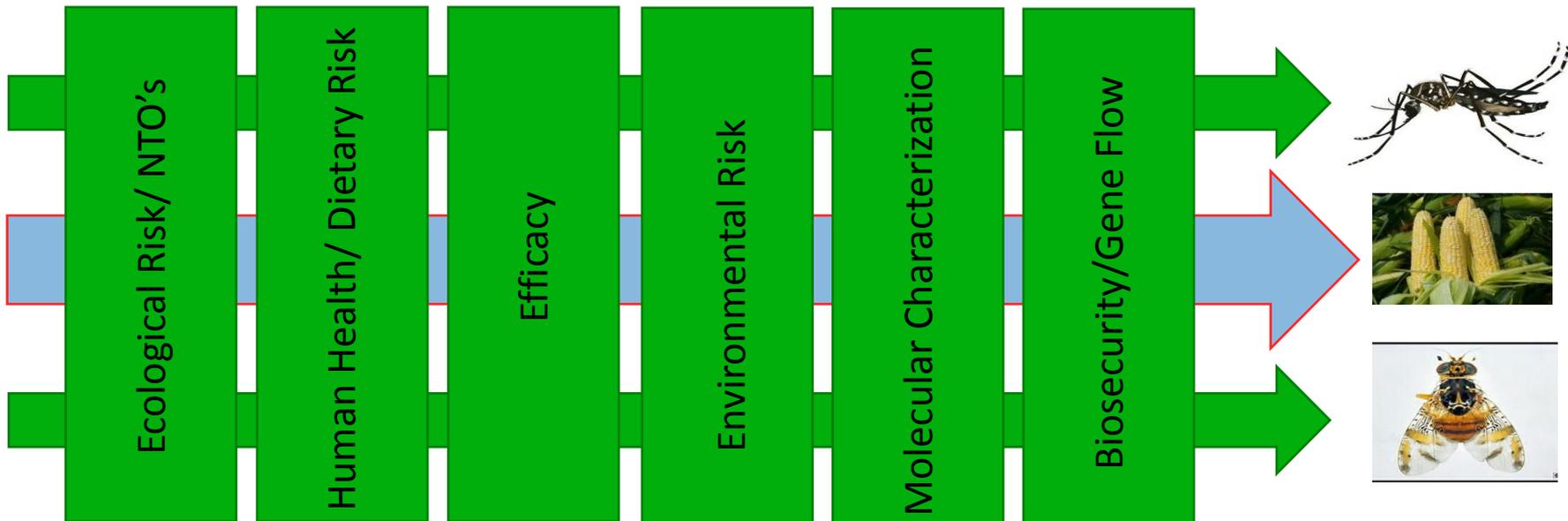
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# Regulatory Overview: Technology and Risk Assessment Elements

	Mosquito	Ag Pest	Plant Biotech
<b><u>Technology</u></b>			
GMO	★	★	★
Biopesticide	★	★	★
Biocontrol Agent	★	★	
Disease Vector/ Human Health	★		
Plant Pest		★	★
<b><u>Risk Assessment</u></b>			
Human Risk	★	★	★
Environmental Risk	★	★	★
NTO Risk	★	★	★
Biocontainment/ Gene Flow	★	★	★
GMO Risk	★	★	★

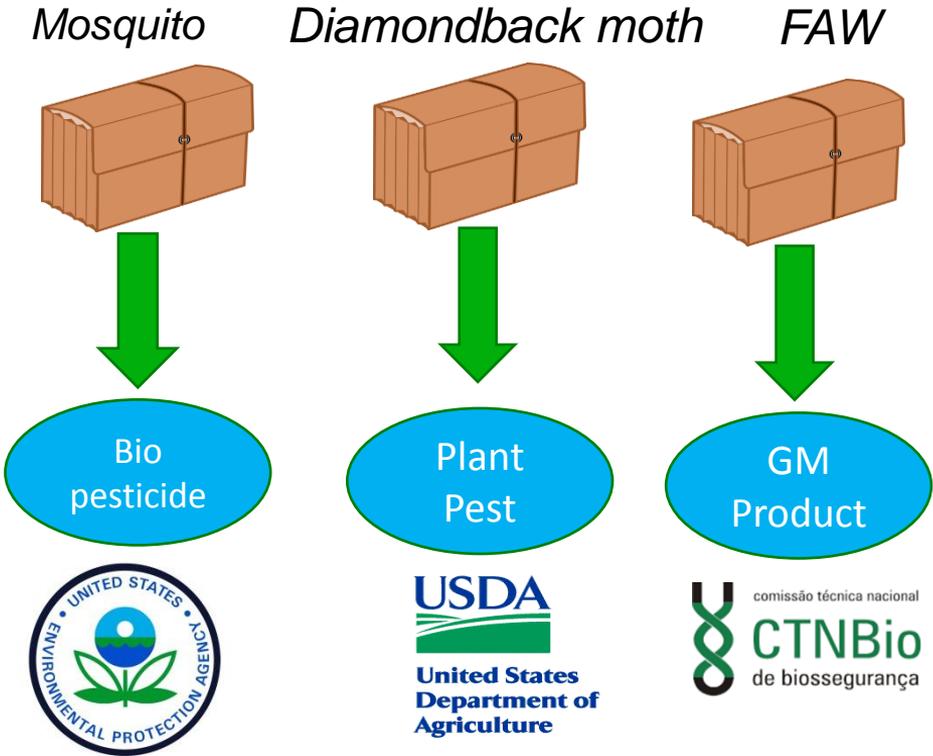
# Regulatory/ Risk Assessment Paradigm An Overview



- Regulatory jurisdiction and oversight may differ, but problem formulation and core scientific risk assessments related to human health and environmental safety are very similar.

# Example: Regulatory Oversight in US and Brazil

- Depending on countries and biosafety legislation, regulatory oversight and jurisdiction may either be based on technology (GM vs conventional) or nature of product (biopesticide, vector control, public health application)



# Overview: Regulation of GM Insects

- Conceptually analogous to framework for GM plants
  - Focus on safety of constituent proteins
  - Adapt to differences in behavior and characteristics of regulated organism
- Focus on key data to characterize:
  - Human safety
  - Ecological safety
  - Environmental safety
  - Efficacy

# Regulatory Data Summary for GM Insects

- Human safety
  - Protein tox
  - Bioinformatic assessment
  - Molecular characterization
  - Allergenicity/ Digestibility of proteins
  - Residues of constituent proteins in grain
- Ecological/ Environmental safety
  - Protein persistence and degradation
  - Insect persistence
  - Biocontainment
  - NTO assessment ie avian, predator feeding studies
- Socio-economic considerations
  - Global import approvals not required (GM pest control product vs GM article in commerce)

# SLI Regulatory Assessment Summary

## ■ >14 Years of Studies – Biosafety Profile for SLI Technology

Characteristics	SLI
Free of toxic or allergenic components	✓
Safe for predators ( <i>Two oral exposure studies available</i> )	✓
Fully susceptible to insecticides	✓
Species-specific insect control	✓
Ability to monitor and assess efficacy	✓
Ability to confine & contain/management of off-target impacts	✓
<i>De minimis</i> protein exposures to humans/NTOs	✓
Genetically and phenotypically stable	✓
Efficacious control of target pests demonstrated	✓

# Global Regulatory Progress for SLI Insects

## Import & contained trials approved

- Austria
- France
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Israel
- Singapore
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- India
- Morocco
- Australia
- USA



## Environmental release approved

- Brazil
- Cayman
- Malaysia
- USA
- Panama



## Current outdoor release

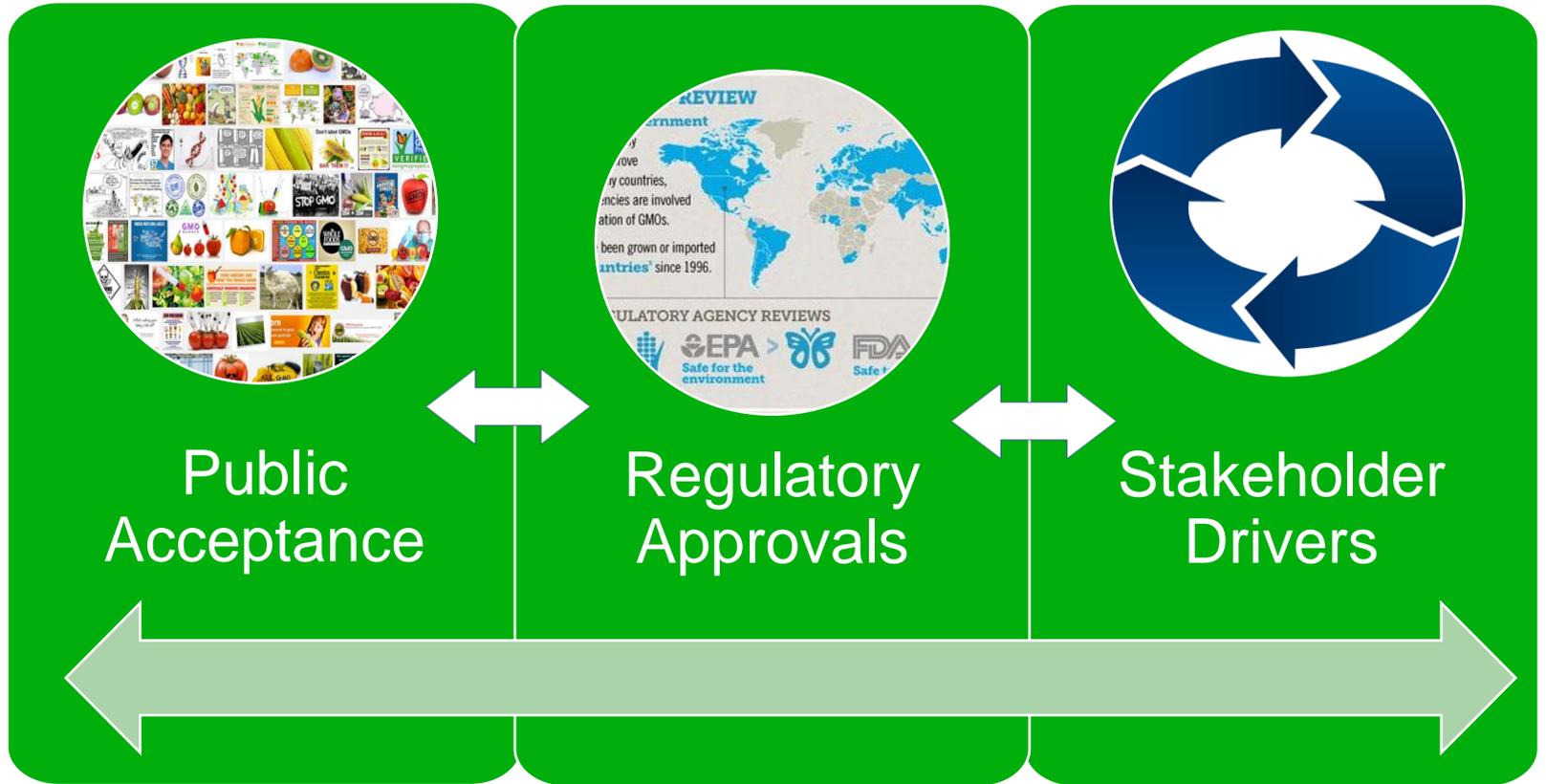
### Multiple ongoing

- USDA - DBM
- Dutch - EU standard



National Institute for Public Health  
and the Environment  
*Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport*

# Regulatory Drivers



# Stakeholder Engagement: Acceptance

## Demand Drivers

- Race to increase trait durability
- Preservation and sustainability of widely adopted traits
- Opportunity to mitigate or maintain current IRM requirements without addition of onerous, untenable measures

## 'Greener' Solutions

- Significantly reduced environmental footprint
- Reduce off target NTO impacts
- Opportunity to curb increasing use of chemistries to manage hard to control and resistant insects

## Stakeholder Acceptance

- Market access: will not be subject to import approvals or other GMO barriers to trade
- *De minimis* exposures and risks to consumers
- Supplement current crop production input methods

### Stakeholder Engagement across the Value Chain



# Public Engagement—Example: Mosquitoes

Fundamental component of release program:

- Robust public engagement plan
- Stakeholder mapping
- Adopt culturally appropriate methods
- Train staff
- Train partnering public health/vector control agents
- 6-8 week intensive campaign before release
- Ongoing engagement throughout project
- Channels for 2 way communication – listen and respond



Cayman Islands



■ Support ■ Neutral ■ Oppose

Piracicaba, Brazil



■ Support ■ Neutral ■ Oppose

Florida, USA



■ Support ■ Neutral ■ Oppose

# In Closing...Summary and Learnings

- Global regulatory systems evolving for the evaluation of novel GM animal products
- Most countries have shown a keen ability to adapt to a novel technology utilizing existing authorities and guidelines
- Common risk assessment principles apply across GM organisms released into the environment, including insects
- Harmonization of regulatory requirements and transportability of data will be necessary to ensure timely regulatory approvals
- Proactive engagement and communication with regulators, the public and value chain stakeholders critical to regulatory process and subsequent introduction
- Risk-benefit aspects (public health, resistance development) need to be consistently considered in regulatory decision-making and timing

The logo features a stylized lowercase letter 'i' on the left. The dot of the 'i' is a solid green circle. The stem of the 'i' is composed of two overlapping shapes: an orange shape on top and a pink shape on the bottom, both with a curved, leaf-like right edge.

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