

*French speaking breakout
group*

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Only 1 answer received

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1. Challenges –What are the main challenges in your countries facing the development and application of animal biotechnology (technical, regulatory, funding, communication, ...)

- **Biotechnology is something new in Mali**; therefore, we face several challenges.
- **In Mali research is not really valued**, and then **finding funding** can be very difficult.
- There are **few biotechnology researchers** or researchers working on the detection of GMOs.
- The big challenge is a **lack of communication** between researchers working in the field of biotech such as an exchange of ideas and or share experiences. Because we do not know each other, we then do not organize workshop for example to share experience and issues. A **need for increased cooperation and better sharing of information** and knowledge between Malian researchers is essential.
- Technically we **are behind most African countries**; most of our researchers living in Mali have not had the chance to conduct genomic editing, which is unfortunate.
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What are recommendations to help overcome these challenges?

- **Communication** is the key to overcome these challenges, sharing experience and problems will probably help.
- Moreover, we think that **financial and technical supports** are important to create national capacities conducive to the development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks.

2. Regulatory Cooperation, Alignment and Compatibility – How do you envision regulatory cooperation in animal biotechnology oversight being helpful?

- We both are **not in to regulation**, but we believe that **promoting the sharing of experiences and assess the needs and countries gaps for effective implementation of relevant results** could be helpful in regulatory cooperation in animal biotechnology
- **What types of cooperation or potential regional approaches would be most helpful?** o mutual recognition?
- **Organization of regional capacity building activities**, such as online training and face-to-face workshops in the areas of regulation, detection and identification of GMO could help in prevention biotechnological risks.

3. Preparing for Innovation - What is your country doing to encourage innovation and support developers in the application process?

- For the moment, **it is difficult to identify steps to draft regulations** able to adapt to the future technologies because such specific biotechnology is not at any level.

What are the costs of meeting regulatory requirements in your country(ies)?

- We have not done yet; therefore, it is difficult to estimate the costs

4. *Next steps* - Identify potential follow-up activities that would be beneficial within your region.

- • **What types of activities?**
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- Detection and identification of GMO
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- • **For what target audiences?**
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- Researchers and policies markers
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- • **What can be done virtually?**
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- Discussion about the regulation