



PRESS RELEASE

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BIOSAFETRAIN CO-ORGANIZER AND SPONSOR OF THE 1ST ALL AFRICAN CONGRESS ON BIOTECHNOLOGY

BiosafeTrain was a co-organiser of the biosafety session at the 1st All Africa Congress on Biotechnology. The conference took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 22 to 26 September 2008, and the biosafety session was held on Thursday, 25 September 2008. The theme of the session was on "*Policy and Biosafety, Communication, Awareness and Networking*".

In addition to this Prof Jenesio Kinyamario, BiosafeTrain's Nairobi Coordinator gave one of the keynote talks on : "*The Ecosystem Services Concept Provides a Conceptual Basis for Biosafety Tests of Genetically Manipulated Plants in the Developing Countries.*"

The insect-proof glasshouse block at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) an infrastructural development supported by BiosafeTrain was part of the field visit organised by the congress at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute – Biotechnology, Nairobi.

BiosafeTrain is a biosafety and ecological risk assessment project and is in collaboration with scientists from University of Nairobi and Kenya Agricultural Research Institute in Kenya, Makerere University in Uganda, University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, and the universities of Aarhus and Copenhagen in Denmark.

BiosafeTrain is an Enhancement of Research Capacity (ENRECA) project, funded by DANIDA, and aims to improve existing infrastructural capacity by upgrading existing biosafety or biotechnology facilities, offers MSc and PhD fellowships on agricultural and environmental impacts of GM plants, and developed a training program where students and other relevant persons from East African countries can receive practical training on GM plant biosafety.

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