

**PRESENTATION ON THE STATUS OF PLANT
BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOSAFETY
REGULATION IN GHANA.**

A PRESENTATION BY:

**THE GHANAIAIAN PARTICIPANTS IN BRAZILIA,
BRAZIL**

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ABOUT GHANA

MAP OF WEST AFRICA/GHANA



- Total Area: 238,533 sq km
- GDP is 14 billion USD
- Population-26 Million
- Total land agriculture-



ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

- The Government of Ghana established the NBC in 1998 to advise it on biotech/biosafety issues.
- Ghana prepared its Biosafety Framework in 2006.



The framework put together the following:

- Biosafety Bill.
- Regulatory Agencies,
- Guidelines on Biosafety
- Administrative Processes.



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND POLICIES

- Legislative Instrument (L.I 1887) – 2007

The L.I was prepared based on the Act establishing the CSIR and it regulates confined field trials of GMOs in Ghana.

- National Biosafety Act, 2011 (Act 831) - 2011



IMPLEMENTATION

Three applications for CFTs have been granted for:

- Bt. Cow Pea
- High Protein Sweet Potato
- Nitrogen Use, Salt tolerant and Water Use efficiency rice.

Currently the NBC is reviewing an application on Bt Cotton .

The rice has been planted.



CHALLENGES THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED.

- Sensitization of the public on biotechnology and biosafety issues.
- The absence of professionals in science communication. This is a major training need.
- Lack of experts in risk assessment on general release and risk management.



CONCLUSION

Ghana's biotech/biosafety implementation level is at its early stage and there is political will to promote it. Ghana being an ABNE adopted country and signatory to the Cartagena Protocol, is drawing lessons from Burkina Faso experience in the area of Bt. Cotton.



THANK YOU

