

Call for Abstracts

WG4 Meeting on “Plant RNAi technology and products in the EU bioeconomy: market prospects and social impact”. Bruxelles, 17-18 October 2018

The WG4 of the COST action iPLANTA organizes a workshop on “Plant RNAi technology and products in the EU bioeconomy: market prospects and social impact”. The meeting will last two days, the first of which will be reserved to discussion with stakeholders and policymakers. The second day will be dedicated to scientific communications and a general discussion regarding future activities of the working Group 4-5.

OBJECTIVES:

During the meeting the iPlanta WG4 and other experts will present the results of the scientific activity including socio-economic impact of RNAi products and the exploratory activity on consumer attitudes analysis. The workshops will also help the identification of groups interested in the marketing of specific products and establishing links with a wide range of stakeholders and policy makers from different EU countries.

The workshop will address important issues about social and economic assessment of RNAi technology:

1. Ag Biotech Market: structure, evolution and potential impact of RNAi products development.
2. Stakeholders/consumers perception of RNAi products and measures to improve social acceptance.

The workshop will contribute to the following research objectives:

- Analyse the future development of Ag-Biotech Market, to estimate the impact of
- Outline RNAi-based innovation in the EU context, with specific focus on the potential application of topical RNAi products for pest control
- Collect preliminary findings on consumer acceptance of RNAi based products
- Identify the economic impact of EU Regulatory uncertainties on biotechnology and New Breeding Techniques

- Collate stakeholders' viewpoint on RNAi-based products: industrial organizations, plant breeders, biotech companies, SMEs, growers associations, farming organizations, food manufacturers, retailers.

TARGET

The event is specifically targeted at the different stakeholder to allow interchange between the different specialties.

- Scientists and scientific organizations
- Industries, SMGs, research and industry associations;
- Public organizations, NGOs, consumer organizations, media, journalists.
- Decision makers at political and scientific level

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME:

Wed 17th October (morning) Meeting with Industry, SMEs, start-up firms operating in the Agbiotech market. Invited presentations and contributions from the working group.

Wed 17th October (Afternoon) Meeting with decision makers and politicians, delegates from the EU DGs Sanco, Agriculture and Rural Development and Environment. Invited speakers and contributions from the working group.

Wed 18th October (morning) Cost Action scientific session, summary of the main outputs of iPlanta particularly WG4 and a WG4-WG5 joint session for discussing new strategic activities and communication plans.

Contributions on the following themes will be particularly welcomed:

- Ag Biotech Market analysis: state of the art and possible development
- Market perspective for RNAi-based products
- EU Consumers' attitudes and perception towards biotechnology and new breeding technologies
- The social and economic impact of EU Regulatory uncertainties
- Stakeholders' viewpoints: industrial organizations, plant breeders, biotech companies, SMEs, growers associations, farming organizations, food manufacturers, retailers

Abstract submissions for the iPlanta meeting must be made electronically through the iPlanta web site (<http://iplanta.univpm.it/>). The abstract submission deadline is September 1st, 2018. In case of a high number of abstracts, a specific poster session will be organized. As for all meetings will be reimbursed only experts selected for abstract presentation.