

Detailed CV

Camilo Rodriguez-Beltran

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Research emphasis and expertise

I have been involved in the public arena of science communication, and have participated as speaker in number of public seminars, conferences, courses and media interviews around the world. My consultancy work relates to the understanding, screening and analysis of biosafety, food safety and environmental safety preferably for agencies (governmental and NGOs) in developing countries. These can include novel scientific approaches, monitoring strategies, consumer actions and frameworks, risk assessment and decision making at the international (and regional) level and project external evaluation. My main interests focus on the study of global interactions and the forecast of unintended consequences for the release of potentially hazardous material such as GMOs.

As a scientist I am motivated to provide research that focuses on the public good and that is built as an integrated, collaborative and independent entity. My research emphasis is the preservation of human health and biodiversity, particularly for developing countries. I am particularly interested in effective and sustainable scientific international cooperation. I have dedicated my research in the last 6 years to the development of scientific capacity, in the fields of biosafety and food safety evaluation of risks of genetically modified organisms, for scientists, government agencies, local communities and NGOs in developing countries. I am dedicated to research that involves a holistic approach, that take into account social sciences, economics, law, molecular biology, genetics and ecology.

I have also participated since 2003 in basic molecular biology research projects involving the genomic study of the variability of gene expression, the diversity of mobile genetic elements and the genetic transfer between species. I have special expertise with the use of single cell organisms (yeast, bacteria) as models of study.

Since 2005 I have participated in developing strategies for low cost approaches to molecular biology and since 2007 I have been involved in their application for monitoring of global changes in the form of low cost DNA analysis units used by communities in different parts of the globe. This work has been inspiration for the long feature documentary "Autrement" which I have co-directed in 2010 and that is currently at the post production stage <http://www.autrement.taleo-initiative.org>.

In the future I intend to continue contributing to the building up of scientific development and cooperation projects, particularly for developing countries, in matters of environmental changes and preservation of human health. I aim to work in the framing of projects that ensure a proper and durable improvement of the quality of life of the most vulnerable.

Education

Sep 1999- Jul 2004.

Master of Science in Biochemistry, Food Science and Microbial Genetics Engineering. Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (INSA). Toulouse, France.

Major in Post-genomic sciences.

Sep 1999- Jul 2004.

Degree in Biochemistry, Food Science and Microbial Genetics Engineering. Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (INSA). Toulouse, France.

Aug 1996-May 1999.

High School Diploma (w/ Honorific mention). Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM). Toluca, Mexico.

Professional experience

Jan 2008- until now

Independent Scientific Researcher, Consultant and Voluntary worker. Freelance and self-employed.

Consultancies on scientific issues including scientific advice on biosafety, biodiversity protection, global changes and food security, writing of reports, project external evaluations and communications in meetings and seminars. These have included work for: governmental agencies (Bolivia-Feb08, Cambodia-Jun08, China-Sep08, Mexico-Nov08, Philippines-Jul09 and Sep10) and NGOs (Third World Network- Jun-Sep08, Jul-Aug09, Mar-Jun10 and Sep-Nov10, Jinukun-Nov08-Feb09, Conservation International and Live and Learn- May08, CEJ/Mexico- Feb10 and Consumers International- Mar-Apr10 and Oct-Dec10).

Participation as a nominated expert in 2009 and 2011 to the Open-Ended Online Expert Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management by the Convention on Biological Diversity of the UN.

Creation of integrated research through the founding and development of the Taleo Initiative (Nov08 <http://www.taleo-initiative.org>), a multidisciplinary think tank whose work focus on the creation of innovative ideas for global challenges, and collaborations with multidisciplinary research groups such as: INBI (Centre for Integrated Research in Biosafety), New Zealand and IKI (Islands Knowledge Institute), Solomon Islands.

Coordinator and project leader of “Science in a different way”. This project involves strategies for low cost approaches for monitoring of global changes by communities in different parts of the globe. These include workshops in communities in Choiseul island (Solomon Islands, May08), Mindanao and Negros areas (Philippines, Jul08 and Jul-Ago09) and Southern Benin (Benin, Nov08-Feb09).

Voluntary teaching in biotechnology, science and society for diverse universities (Philippines, Vanuatu, Benin, Bolivia, Peru), in addition to lecturing at biosafety capacity building courses and workshops in Norway, Brazil, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Philippines, Brazil and China. Invited speaker on biosafety, biotechnology and global challenges at diverse conferences, public fora, media interviews and official meetings.

Oct 2004-Jan 2008.

Research Associate. Centre for Integrated Research in Biosafety (INBI), University of Canterbury. Christchurch, New Zealand.

Responsible for research, design and budget management of the Biosafety Forecast Service, a multiyear project, part of the UNEP-GENØK Biosafety Capacity Building Package. A research-based risk identification and analysis project designed to support the scientific assessment of the environmental, food safety and health effects of the use of modern biotechnology and nanotechnology. This project is aimed not only for governmental agencies of developing countries but also for NGOs and scientists. One result of this project was the development of the Biosafety Assessment Tool (BAT): a free to the public online tool finally released in April 2009 (<http://bat.genok.org>)

In charge of organizing and participating in international capacity building courses and workshops in biosafety for the Pacific region, Africa and Latin America. Yearly participation at the International Biosafety course held in Tromso, Norway. Science communication at diverse conferences and UN meetings.

Responsible of conducting molecular biology research. In charge of the projects:

-“Mutator Project” an experimental analysis of the effect of the mismatch repair system in horizontal gene transfer in yeast.

-“Metagenome project” a study of the diversity of mobile elements (integrons) in *Dichelobacter nodosus*.

Supervision of student thesis and work (1 MSc degree, 1Bsc degree, 1 summer project- see teaching experiences for details)

Nov 2003- Jun 2004.

Research Assistant. Biotechnology and Bioprocesses Laboratory (UMR CNRS 5504, UMR INRA 792). Toulouse, France.

Responsible of conducting molecular biology research. In charge of the project: “Genetics of noise in gene expression” a genomic study of the inter-individual variability of protein expression in yeast. This project involved collaboration with the University Paul Sabatier and other CNRS (French Scientific Research National Centre) units.

Jul-Aug 2000.

Engineer assistant. Nestlé Company. Toluca, Mexico.

Responsible for the creation of a virtual interactive inventory of machinery and commodities of the factory. his virtual inventory was created using Autocad software and it was supervised by the Engineering department.

Professional exchanges/ Research stays

Nov 2007-Jan 2008

Visiting Academic. Landscape and Environment Ecology Group (GEPAMA), University of Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Working on the study of gene flow and weed resistance development for GM soybean.

Apr-May 2007.

Visiting Academic. Norwegian Institute of Gene Ecology (GENØK), Tromsø, Norway.

Working on novel strategies for capacity development in biosafety and for GMO monitoring and detection in developing countries.

Jun-Sep 2003.

Visiting Academic. New Zealand Institute of Gene Ecology (NZIGE), University of Canterbury. Christchurch, New Zealand.

Working on the “Mutator Project”: an experimental analysis of the effect of the mismatch repair system in horizontal gene transfer in yeast.

Publications

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2010. “Typology of Environmental impacts of GMOs”. *Forthcoming*.

Heinemann J.A., Goven J., Moore B., **Rodriguez-Beltran C.** and Cretenet M. 2010. “Experiences with the Food Standards Australia New Zealand regulatory framework for genetically modified foods in New Zealand”. *Forthcoming*.

Agapito S.Z., **Rodriguez-Beltran C.** Heinemann J. A., Kurenbach B. and Nodari R.O. 2010. “A risk analysis for the T25 GM corn event released in Brazil”. In Poster abstract Proceedings of the 11th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2009. “Biosafety research: gaps and critical questions”. In: Proceedings of the 3rd Workshop of the China International Biosafety Forum. Beijing, China.

Ansel J., Bottin H., **Rodriguez-Beltran C.**, Damon C., Nagarajan M., Fehrmann S., Francois J. and Yvert G. 2008. “Cell-to-Cell Stochastic Variation in Gene Expression Is a Complex Genetic Trait”. *PLoS Genet.* 2008 April; 4(4): e1000049. doi: 10.1371/journal.pgen.1000049. PMID: PMC2289839

Rodriguez-Beltran C., Moore B., Cretenet M., Heinemann J. A., Goven J., and Roughtan P. 2007. “Biosafety Forecast Service: the Precautionary Approach in practical Biosafety”. Chapter in:

*Curriculum Vitae
Camilo Rodriguez-Beltran*

Biosafety First- Holistic Approaches to Risk and Uncertainty in Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Traavik, T and Lim, L.C. (Eds.). Tapir Academic Press. Trondheim, Norway. ISBN 978-519-2113-8.

Cretenet, M., Goven, J., Heinemann, J.A., Moore, B. and **Rodriguez-Beltran, C.** 2006. Submission on the DAR for Application A549 Food Derived from High-Lysine Corm LY038: to permit the use in food of high-lysine corn. www.inbi.canterbury.ac.nz

Rodriguez-Beltran C., Cretenet M., Moore B., Goven J. and Heinemann J. A. 2006. "BAT: A new tool for the biosafety community". p. 265. In: Poster abstracts Proceedings of the 9th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms. Jeju Island, Korea.

Heinemann J.A., Goven J., Moore B., **Rodriguez-Beltran C.** and Cretenet M. 2006. "Experiences with the Food Standards Australia New Zealand regulatory framework for genetically modified foods in New Zealand". p. 225-226. In: Poster abstracts Proceedings of the 9th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms. Jeju Island, Korea.

Rodriguez C., Damon C. and Yvert G. 2006. "Cell-to-cell variability in gene expression is a complex genetic trait". In: Poster abstracts Proceedings of the Yeast transcription ESF/EMBO meeting 2006. San Feliu de Guixols, Spain.

Heinemann, J.A., **Rodriguez-Beltran, C.**, Goven, J., Moore, B., Turner L., Bohn T., Gerrard J., Cretenet, M. and Traavik T. 2005. Submission on Application A549 Food Derived from High-Lysine Corm LY038: to permit the use in food of high-lysine corn. www.inbi.canterbury.ac.nz

Published translations

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2010. "Avanzando en el Conocimiento sobre Bioseguridad" A translation to Spanish from the original publication "Avancing in the Understanding of Biosafety- Scientific Findings". 2010. TWN publishers. ISBN: 978-967-5412-38-7

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2010. "Hope not hype". A translation to Spanish from the original book by Jack Heinemann. "Hope Not Hype: The Future of Agriculture Guided by the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development". 2009. TWN publishers. ISBN: 978-983-2729-81-5.

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2010. "Riesgos potenciales de las plantas Bt sobre la salud humana" A translation to Spanish from the original article by Heinemann, J. "Potential human health risks from Bt plants". In Biosafety Briefing, January 2010, Third World Network.

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2010. "Amenazas particulares al ecosistema por la combinación de plantas genéticamente modificadas & glifosato" A translation to Spanish from the original article by Heinemann, J. and Kurenbach, B. "Special threats to the agroecosystem from the combination of genetically modified crops & glyphosate". In Biosafety Briefing, August 2008, Third World Network. 8pp.

Posters

2010. "A risk analysis for the T25 GM corn event released in Brazil ". 11th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

2010. "Culture and movement: the earthquake representations". 9th International Workshop on Seismic Microzoning and Risk Reduction. Cuernavaca, Mexico.

2006. "BAT: A new tool for the biosafety community". 9th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms. Jeju Island, Korea.

2006. "Experiences with the Food Standards Australia New Zealand regulatory framework for genetically modified foods in New Zealand". 9th International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms. Jeju Island, Korea.

2006. "Cell-to-cell variability in gene expression is a complex genetic trait". Yeast transcription ESF/EMBO meeting 2006. San Feliu de Guixols, Spain.

Non scientific publications

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2009. "Letter to the Editor", Daily Star newspaper. 27 July 2009. Philippines.

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2009. "Letter to the Editor", Agila newspaper. 25 July 2009. Philippines.

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2009. "La última provocación", Travel + Leisure Magazine. July 2009. Editorial Expansión. 60-69, 88.

Rodriguez-Beltran C. 2007. "Iran vor dem Abbruch", Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. October 27. Bilder und Zeiten No 250, Z1-Z2.

Technical Experience and Related Skills

I am experienced with standard molecular and microbiological laboratory practices particularly working with bacteria and yeast. I have worked extensively in PC2 facilities. My particular area of laboratory expertise is in yeast and bacterial transformation and the use of PCR-based methods in projects involving horizontal gene transfers and analysis of gene expression. I am familiar with techniques such as Southern blot, DNA extraction, plasmid preparations, culturing and maintenance of yeast and bacteria, cloning, DNA sequencing, yeast dissection and flow cytometry analysis.

I am also familiar with the setting up and use of bioreactors for analysis of bacterial and yeast cultures. In addition, I have practice in the preparation of microarrays and the analysis of their results for the global study of gene expression.

I have been involved in the development of low-cost instrumentation and protocols for global monitoring, especially mobile DNA analysis units.

Informatics

I am experienced in the use of sequence analysis software (BLAST, FASTA) and genome databases. Additionally I am well versed in the use of Autocad, FinalCut, Microsoft Macromedia (Flash, Dreamweaver, Fireworks) Open office and Microsoft office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) packages. Experience in web application management. Website designer and manager for diverse websites such as: www.gko-gallery.com, www.taleo-initiative.org, www.eventos.iingen.unam.mx/9thIWSMRR and www.loft-buenosaires.com.

Teaching experience

I have been involved in capacity building courses, presenting lectures/workshops in the field of biosafety and food safety risk assessment of genetically modified organisms at:

- International Biosafety course (2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 Tromsø, Norway).
- Regional Biosafety course (2005 Honiara, Solomon Islands).
- China Biosafety workshop (2008 Beijing, China)
- Southeast Asian Risk Assessment workshop (2008 Siem Reap, Cambodia).
- West African Biosafety course (2007, 2009 and 2010 Cotonou, Benin).
- Negros Capacity Building workshop (2009, Bacolod city, Philippines).
- South America Biosafety course (2010, Florianopolis, Brazil).

I have also conducted a workshop on GM detection and monitoring as a side event to the International Conference on GE, food aid and hunger in 2005 held in Leon, Nicaragua. I have conducted other workshops on the same issues at the community/participatory based biosafety course in Polomolok (2008)

and Bacolod city (2009), Philippines and at the West African Biosafety Course in Cotonou, Benin (2009 and 2010).

I have been an invited lecturer at:

- Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics (2007 Dresden, Germany).
- Department of Agronomy of the Federal University of Santa Catarina (2007 Florianopolis, Brazil).
- Law school of the University of the South Pacific (2008 Emalus Campus, Port Vila, Vanuatu).
- Department of Agronomy of the Universidad Mayor de San Andres (2008 La Paz, Bolivia).
- Department of Agriculture of the University of Mindanao (2008 and 2009 General Santos, Philippines).
- School of Medicine of the University of the Philippines Manila (2008 Quezon City, Philippines).
- Department of Genetics of the Université d'Abomey-Caravi (2009, Cotonou, Benin).
- Universidad Lasalle (2009 Bacolod city, Philippines).
- Faculty of Sciences and Arts of the University Negros Occidental Recoletos (2009 Bacolod, Philippines).
- College of Agriculture of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (2009 Los Baños, Philippines).
- Universidad Científica del Sur (2010 Lima, Peru).

I have supervised the MSc degree project “Discovering the integrons diversity of *Dichelobacter nodosus*” of Ms Chloé Bonninneau (2006, INSA France) and the bachelor degree project “Risk assessment of genetically modified T25 event ‘Liberty Link’ corn” of Ms Sarah Agapito (2007, University of Santa Catarina Brazil). I was part of the evaluating commission for this latest degree thesis (Ms Sarah Agapito 2007, University of Santa Catarina Brazil). I have also supervised an undergraduate student, Mr. Leighton Turner, on a summer project on the development of an interface for a risk assessment tool (2006).

Additionally in 2001 I worked as a voluntary English teacher for young children in a summer school in Yangzhou, China

Recent honors/awards

2010. Awarded a TED Fellowship for 2010-2011. An international program for young innovators in technology, entertainment, design, science and arts. www.ted.com/fellows/

2009-2011. Nominated observer to the Open-Ended Online Expert Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management by the Convention on Biological Diversity of the UN. http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/forum_ra.shtml

2009. Awarded a grant from the Cultural Ministry of the Basque Government for the artistic exchange project RepublicV 2110-3010.

2009. Invited resource person by the Negros Occidental Provincial Government of the Philippines for the revision series of Ordinance 007.

2008. Invited speaker by the China’s Ministry of Environmental Protection for the Workshop of the China International Biosafety Forum.

2008. Invited speaker and session chair by the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and Cambodia’s Ministry of Environment for the Seminar on Risk Assessment and Enforcement of Biosafety Regulations.

2007. Invited speaker by the Dresden Forum on Science and Society hosted by the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics. Dresden, Germany.

2006. Invited speaker by the government of Parana, Brazil for the Seminar on the Precautionary Principle previous to the UN meeting on the Convention of Biological Diversity.

2004. Awarded a CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) scholarship for research at the Biotechnology and Bioprocesses Laboratory. Toulouse, France.

Presentations

“BAT un outil en biosécurité”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 5 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Analyse de risques: Santé et Environnement”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 5 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Caractérisation moléculaire: début de l'analyse de risque”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 4 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Les moustiques transgéniques: éradication du paludisme à quel risque?”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 3 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Questions scientifiques posées par l'introduction du génie génétique et des OGM dans l'agriculture, l'alimentation et l'environnement”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 2 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Les animaux transgéniques”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 2 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Les bases moléculaires pour la création des OGM”. 3rd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 2 November 2010. Cotonou, Benin.

“Biotecnología moderna, contexto, riesgos y desafíos para la alimentación”. 22 October 2010. Semana de la Ingeniería de Industrias Alimentarias y Agroindustrias del Colegio de Ingenieros del Perú. Lima, Perú.

“Análisis de Riesgo de Organismos Vivos Modificados”. 22 October 2010. Peruvian Ministry of Environment, Lima, Peru

“Biotecnología moderna y analisis de riesgos: la importancia del contexto en bioseguridad” 20 October 2010. Peruvian Ministry of Health - Unit Lima IV, Lima, Peru

“Biotecnología Moderna y Bioseguridad: conceptos y contexto global”. 19 October 2010. Jornada Universidad Científica del Sur. Hotel Casa Andina, Lima, Peru.

“Observation as a tool for creation”. TEDGlobal 2010 : And now the good news. 11 July 2010. Keble College, Oxford, England.

“Evaluación de riesgos : BAT una herramienta en Bioseguridad”. I Curso Regional da América do Sul: Fundamentos holísticos para avaliação e regulamentação da engenharia genética e dos OGMs. 30 April 2010. Florianopolis, Brazil.

“Análisis de riesgo, la historia de un OGM y su evaluación”. I Curso Regional da América do Sul: Fundamentos holísticos para avaliação e regulamentação da engenharia genética e dos OGMs. 30 April 2010. Florianopolis, Brazil.

“Fundamentos científicos, riesgos actuales y futuras aplicaciones de la ingeniería genética”. Reunión de formación CEJ. 22 February 2010. Guadalajara, Mexico.

“Analyse de risque- BAT un outil en biosécurité”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 8 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“Gestion et surveillance, les limites et les stratégies”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 7 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“Analyse de risque- Point final une étude de cas”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 7 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“Analyse de risque- Sante et environnement”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 4 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“Analyse de risque- Caractérisation moléculaire”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 3 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“ OGMs et l’interaction avec les écosystèmes”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 3 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“OGMs bases scientifiques”. 2nd West African Regional Biosafety Course. 1 December 2009. Cotonou, Benin.

“Modern biotechnology, scientific foundations and actual context”. At:

- Forum on GMOs and public participation. 10 August 2009. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- College of Agriculture, University of the Phillipines Los Baños. 17 July 2009. Los Baños, Philippines.
- GenSan Chamber of Commerce and Industry meeting. 15 July 2009. General Santos, Philippines.
- Forum on Biosafety for Justice and Peace coordinators. 13 July 2009. Polomolok, Philippines.

“Genetic Engineering: Health, Environment, Agriculture and Food Security”. At:

- Forum on GMOs and public participation. 10 August 2009. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Forum on Biodiversity and Genetic Engineering. 21 July 2009. Iloilo, Philippines.
- GenSan Chamber of Commerce and Industry meeting. 15 July 2009. General Santos, Philippines.

“Understanding Genetic Engineering: Genes and Biosafety for health and environment”. At:

- Forum on Biodiversity and Genetic Engineering. 6 August 2009. Dumaguete city, Philippines.
- Forum on Biodiversity and Genetic Engineering. 4 August 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Overview: Health and Environment considerations for Genetic Engineering”. At:

- Negros Oriental stakeholder meeting. 5 August 2009. Dumaguete city, Philippines.
- Negros Occidental Provincial Government revision session. 23 July 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Understanding Genetic Engineering: Genes and Biodiversity”. Sciences teachers Forum. 3 August 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Current trends and researches in genomics and its application in agriculture, food production and human health”. 1st Scientific Meeting in Biotechnology, University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos. 1 August 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Detection and monitoring strategies”. Negros Capacity Building workshop. 30 July 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Detection and monitoring: bases and challenges” Negros Capacity Building workshop. 29 July 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Biosafety and Genetic Engineering: Health and Environmental assessment”. Negros Capacity Building workshop. 28 July 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Scientific foundations of Genetic Engineering: Genes and context for Biosafety”. Negros Capacity Building workshop. 27 July 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Integrating sciences for global challenges: the case study of biotechnology and modern biotechnology”. University of Lasalle. 28 July 2009. Bacolod city, Philippines.

“Current trends and novel approaches for biotechnology”. Forum on GE Technologies. 20 July 2009. Manila, Philippines.

“Biodiversity and agriculture, ensuring food and environmental safety”. At:
-Department of Agriculture, University of Mindanao. 16 July 2009. General Santos, Philippines.
-Kukabildo SA Barangay Kagawads meeting. 14 July 2009. Polomolok, Philippines.
-Farmers’ Forum encounter. 13 July 2009. Polomolok, Philippines.

“Participatory GMO monitoring for Glamang community” 15 July 2009. Glamang, Philippines.

“La science autrement: développement créatif”. Atelier ‘Une science autrement’. 6 Janvier 2009. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

“OGMs: Present, bases scientifiques et future”. 6 Janvier 2009. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

“La science autrement: développement créatif”. Atelier ‘Une science autrement’ reflexion pour le programme Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre. 20 Decembre 2008. Cotonou, Benin.

“Desafíos globales: Cambio climático, contaminación y alimentación”. Feria de la alimentación, DIF Estado de México. 24 October 2008. Naucalpan, Mexico.

“Biosafety research: gaps and critical questions”. 3rd Workshop of the China International Biosafety Forum. 25 September 2008. Beijing, China.

“GMO risk assessment: LY038” 6th International Biosafety Course. 7 August 2008. Tromsø, Norway.

“Context, values and decisions: the socio-economic and cultural implications” 6th International Biosafety Course. 1 August 2008. Tromsø, Norway.

“Novel challenges for biosafety regulation and risk assessment”. School of Medicine of the University of the Philippines. 23 July 2008. Quezon City, Philippines.

“Agricultural challenges and biosafety considerations for the Philippines”. Department of Agriculture of the University of Mindanao. 21 July 2008. General Santos, Philippines.

“Genes and traits: Scientific foundations for community-based biosafety”. 20 July 2008. Polomolok, Philippines.

“Does the context matters?: Lessons from Genes and GMOs”. Forum ‘GMOs: what can go wrong?’ Davao Medical Training Centre. 18 July 2008. Davao, Philippines.

“North to South Experience: Adaptive Approach on Risk Assessment and Risk Management”. Risk Assessment and Enforcement of Biosafety Regulations workshop. 23 June 2008. Siem Riep, Cambodia.

“Biodiversity and Food security: community-based engagement”. Workshop for Environmental Education and Sustainable Development for Communities. 10 June 2008. Pandezama Village, Choiseul, Solomon Islands.

“Integral approaches for global challenges: The case study of biosafety and modern biotechnology”. University of the South Pacific. Emalus Campus. 2 June 2008. Port Vila, Vanuatu.

“El contexto internacional de los OGMs: las implicancias para Bolivia”. Bolivian preparatory meeting for the 4th UN COP/MOP meeting. Ministry of Biodiversity. 10 March 2008. La Paz, Bolivia.

“Sesión 2: Organismos Genéticamente Modificados y Bioseguridad en América Latina”. Universidad Mayor de San Andres. 10 March 2008. La Paz, Bolivia.

“Sesión 1: Organismos Genéticamente Modificados y Bioseguridad en América Latina”. Universidad Mayor de San Andres. 6 March 2008. La Paz, Bolivia.

“Bioapplications du Génie génétique”. West African Regional Biosafety Course. 12 December 2007. Cotonou, Benin.

“Détection des OGM: Bases et limites”. West African Regional Biosafety Course. 12 December 2007. Cotonou, Benin.

“Développement et science durable: une nouvelle approche de la biosécurité”. West African Regional Biosafety Course. 12 December 2007. Cotonou, Benin.

“Biosécurité, évaluation de risques et Principe de Précaution”. West African Regional Biosafety Course. 11 December 2007. Cotonou, Benin.

“L’environnement du gène, le génie génétique et le monde des OGM”. West African Regional Biosafety Course. 10 December 2007. Cotonou, Benin.

“Comprendre le genome”. West African Regional Biosafety Course. 10 December 2007. Cotonou, Benin.

“Bioseguridad colaborativa e integral”. Federal University of Santa Catarina. 26 November 2007. Florianopolis, Brazil

“LY038: The case study of a GMO risk assessment” 5th International Biosafety Course. 9 August 2007. Tromsø, Norway.

“Does “sound science” sound the same to everyone?: The case study of a GMO risk assessment”. Forum on Science and Society, Max Plank Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics. 2 April 2007. Dresden, Germany.

“The GE Biosafety Forecast Service”. 4th International Biosafety Course. 30 July 2006. Tromsø, Norway

“Capacity Development in Biosafety”. Centre for Integrated Research in Biosafety. 13 June 2006. Christchurch, New Zealand

“Presentation of the Biosafety Assessment Tool”. Side event during the 3rd Meeting of the Parties of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. 17 March 2006. Curitiba, Brazil.

“The precautionary approach and the science behind GMOs”. International seminar on the precautionary principle. 12 March 2006. Curitiba, Brazil.

“The GE Biosafety Forecast Service”. 3rd International Biosafety Course. 1 September 2005. Tromsø, Norway.

“Biosafety Forecast Service ‘The Prototype’”. 1st Regional Biosafety Course. 22 August 2005. Honiara, Solomon Islands.

“Risk assessment case study: High Lysine Corn”. 1st Regional Biosafety Course. 19 August 2005. Honiara, Solomon Islands.

“OGM: Analisis de riesgos”. 2nd International Conference on GE, food aid and hunger. 28 April 2005. Leon, Nicaragua.

“Que es un OGM?”. 2nd International Conference on GE, food aid and hunger. 28 April 2005. Leon, Nicaragua

“Bioseguridad: contexto actual y futuro”. 1st International Meeting on Political Incidence and Biosafety Regulation. 26 April 2005. Leon, Nicaragua.

“Genetics of noise in gene expression”. Biological Sciences Seminar Series. 22 March 2005. University of Canterbury Christchurch, New Zealand.

Technical Workshops conducted

2010. Risk evaluation practical series. At the 3rd West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course «Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique». Cotonou, Benin.

2010. Laboratory practicals: DNA extraction and GMO detection. At the 3rd West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course «Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique». Cotonou, Benin.

2010. Practical risk assessment session. At the I Curso Regional da América do Sul: Fundamentos holísticos para avaliação e regulamentação da engenharia genética e dos OGMs. Florianópolis, Brazil.

2010. Laboratory practicals. At the I Curso Regional da América do Sul: Fundamentos holísticos para avaliação e regulamentação da engenharia genética e dos OGMs. Florianópolis, Brazil.

2009. Risk Assessment Sessions. At the 2nd West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course «Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique». Cotonou, Benin.

2009. Molecular biology and GM detection laboratory workshop. At the 2nd West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course «Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique». Cotonou, Benin.

2009. GMO detection and monitoring strategies for participatory biosafety. At Negros Capacity Building course. Bacolod city, Philippines.

2008-9. Low cost DNA laboratory. At:

-Département de Génétique, Université Abomey-Calavi. Cotonou, Benin.

-Atelier 'Une science autrement'. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

-Atelier 'Une science autrement' réflexion pour le programme Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre'. Cotonou, Benin.

2008. Risk assessment workshop. At the Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway.

2008. Breakout sessions for risk assessment. At the Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway.

2008. Low cost DNA analysis unit and community biosafety workshop. Polomolok, Philippines.

2007. DNA laboratory workshop. At «Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique». Cotonou, Benin.

2007. Risk assessment workshop: LY038 case study. At the Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway

2007. Breakout sessions for risk assessment. At the Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway.

2006. Risk assessment workshop: LY038 case study (the molecular characterization). At the Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway.

2005. Risk assessment workshop: GM fruit application. At the Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway

2005. DNA laboratory workshop. At the Regional Biosafety Course. Honiara, Solomon Islands.

2005. Workshop on risk assessment and monitoring of GMOs. At the International Conference on GE, food aid and hunger. Leon, Nicaragua.

Conferences attended

2010. 3rd West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course. Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique. Cotonou, Benin. *November 1-14; Course coordinator and oral contribution .*

2010. TEDGlobal 2010 : And now the good news. Oxford, England. *July 12-16; Invited participant.*

2010. I Curso Regional da América do Sul: Fundamentos holísticos para avaliação e regulamentação da engenharia genética e dos OGMs. Florianopolis, Brazil. *April 26-May 1; Oral contribution*

2009. 2nd West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course. Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique. Cotonou, Benin. *November 30-December 11; Course coordinator and oral contribution.*

2009. II Seminar and Public Dialogue "Cultivos Transgénicos en Chile: consensos y desafíos para un marco regulatorio". Santiago, Chile. *November 12; Participant.*

2009. 1st Scientific Meeting in Biotechnology, University of Negros Occidental-Recoletos. Bacolod city, Philippines. *August 1; Invited Speaker*

2009. Negros Capacity Building workshop. Bacolod city, Philippines. *July 27-31; Oral contribution.*

2008. International Scientific Congress: Gene an evolving concept. Evry, France. *November 25; Participant.*

2008. First International Congress on Biotechnology and Bioengineering. Mexico city, Mexico. *November 5-8; Participant.*

2008. 3rd Workshop of the China International Biosafety Forum. Beijing, China. *September 24-26; Invited speaker.*

2008. 6th International Biosafety Course. Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway. *July 28-August 8; Oral contribution.*

2008. Risk Assessment of GMOs/LMOs and Enforcement of Biosafety Regulations workshop for Southeast-Asian nations. Siem Riep, Cambodia. *June 22-24; Invited speaker and session chair.*

2008. Workshop for Environmental Education and Sustainable Development for Communities. Pandezama Village, Choiseul, Solomon Islands. *June 8-10; Oral contribution.*

2007. West-Africa Regional Biosafety Course. Les fondements holistiques pour l'évaluation et la régulation du Génie génétique et des Organismes Génétiquement Modifiés (OGM) en Afrique. Cotonou, Benin. *December 10-21; Oral contribution.*

2007. 5th International Biosafety Course. Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway. *July 30-August 10; Oral contribution.*

2007. Workshop: Rethinking causation. University of Tromsø. Tromsø, Norway. *April 21-23; Participant.*

2007. 10th Annual Conference of the European Biosafety Association. Heidelberg, Germany. *March 29-30; Participant.*

2006. Meeting to review: A typology of the Effects of (Tran)gene Flow on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Genetic Resources. Christchurch, New Zealand. *December 5-7; Session chair.*

2006. 4th International Biosafety Course. Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway. *July 31-August 11; Oral contribution.*

2006. 3rd Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP/MOP3). Curitiba, Brazil. *March 13-17; Participant.*

2006. International seminar on the precautionary principle. Curitiba, Brazil. *March 12; Invited speaker.*

2005. 3rd International Biosafety Course. Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms. Tromsø, Norway. *August 22-September 2; Oral contribution.*

2005. 1st Regional Biosafety Course. Honiara, Solomon Islands. *August 15-23; Oral contribution.*

2005. 2nd International Conference on GE, food aid and hunger. Leon, Nicaragua. *April 28-29; Invited speaker.*

2005. 1st International Meeting on Political Incidence and Biosafety Regulation. Leon, Nicaragua *April 26-27; Invited speaker.*

2002. 1eres Assises Nationales du Développement Durable. Toulouse, France. *Mars 11-12; Participant.*

Conferences/panel discussions organized

2006. Public seminar: The future of agriculture: what can we learn from South America? Christchurch, New Zealand.

Current professional affiliations

- TED Fellow 2010-2011. Selected for the international program for young innovators in technology, entertainment, design, science and arts. www.ted.com/fellows/
- Member of the Centre for Integrated Research in Biosafety (INBI). www.inbi.canterbury.ac.nz
- Expert nominated for the Open-ended Online Expert Forum for Risk Assessment and Risk Management of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/forum_ra.shtml
- Founder and fellow of the multidisciplinary think tank “Taleo initiative” whose work focus on the creation of innovative ideas for global challenges. www.taleo-initiative.org
- Founder of “GKo Gallery” (2008) and “Latex-GKo Gallery” (2011) art galleries situated in the Basque Country and in Chile. www.gko-gallery.com
- Member of Box.A, an art collective from the Basque Country. www.boxagara.com
- Research member of the Islands Knowledge Institute (IKI) www.islands-knowledge.org

Travel/Exposure to Cultural Experiences

I have traveled to more than 50 countries principally in Western and Northern Europe, Latin America, South East Asia and Oceania. I have had professional experiences in France, Argentina, Cambodia, Philippines, Chile, China, Norway, New Zealand, Mexico, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Malaysia, Burkina Faso, Vanuatu, Brazil, Benin and Solomon Islands.

The exposure to different cultures and environments has been part of my personal development since early childhood and has forged my values and perspectives of cooperation, respect and tolerance.

Media experience

Participation in press conferences for newspaper, radio and TV journalists. Experience dealing with interviews in national and cable TV and radio broadcast programs (Philippines, Benin, Chile, Peru, Brazil

and Nicaragua). Collaboration with German newspaper Frankfurter Allegemeine Zeitung (2007) and Travel+Leisure Magazine (2009).

Foreign Languages

Spanish, French and English (fluent). Italian, Portuguese (working knowledge)

Other Interests and Activities

- Literature, politics, cinema and modern/urban art.
- Music: guitar, piano and DJing. Former member of Welcome Werko.
- Sports: jujitsu, soccer, squash, tennis, athletics, surf, ski and scuba-diving.
- Founder and co-manager of an art gallery (2008): GKO Gallery. Ongoing participation as a curator and budget and management reviser. <http://www.gko-gallery.com>
- Direction of the long feature documentary films “Autrement” (2009) <http://www.autrement.taleo-initiative.org> , and “Txile Tour”, both which are currently in post-production. .
- Preparation of a script for a fiction movie.

References

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