

CASE STUDY (CSSD07):

Submitting data to the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH): An academic institution submits a biosafety course and workshop.

Objective:

Learn how to use the BCH to create 'Capacity Development Initiatives (CDI)' records.

Scenario

Optional alternative: If you or your organization has an existing biosafety course, workshop, or conference, you may wish to submit your actual programs instead of using the scenarios outlined below.

As a lecturer in Slovenia, you are keen to publicize information about a new biosafety curriculum your university offers to help attract international students. You offer a new course that forms part of a post-graduate degree program and a capacity-building workshop that the university will convene. You decide to submit both programs with the BCH. Descriptions of both programs are attached.

Extra work: If time permits, you may wish to carry out some of the additional tasks outlined below.

• Attach the conference advertisement below to your record (if you do not have an electronic copy of the text, please ask your instructor).

(a) Environmental Safety of Agricultural Biotechnology – Course Curriculum

Title: International Course in Environmental Safety of Agricultural Biotechnology

Organized by: Univerza v Gorica – Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics

Course Rationale: The new and emerging biotechnology tools offer significant opportunities to enhance agricultural productivity, food and nutritional security, and environmental quality. Many countries have already developed and are commercializing genetically engineered transgenic crops. Others are undertaking biotechnology research and development programs and importing biotechnology products.





However, the import and use of biotechnology products have raised several international regulatory issues related to risk/benefit analysis associated with biodiversity, the environment, and human health. Managing environmental and food safety risk assessment and management becomes increasingly critical as we move from laboratory research to research field trials and large-scale commercial releases of biotechnology products.

When new transgenic crops are ready to be tested in the environment, national and institutional biosafety committees must first conduct a biosafety review of the planned release. To ensure that scientists, regulators, and decision-makers have the science-based information, skills, and resources required to appropriately evaluate the biosafety issues inherent in the release of a particular genetically modified organism into the environment, Univerza v Gorica will offer a single-semester course in the Environmental Safety aspects of Agricultural Biotechnology as part of its Biosafety Masters Program. Graduate students and professionals with relevant experience are welcome to attend – students not taking the course as part of the Masters's Program will receive a Certificate of Completion on passing the final exam.

Course Description: The course is offered in the first semester of each year. It will give participants a thorough grounding in all biosafety aspects for the environmental release and commercialization of genetically engineered organisms. It will also cover the theory and practice of environmental risk assessment and management and communication of benefits and risks of agricultural biotechnology applications. The program also provides practical experience in biosafety evaluation through real-world case studies covering a diverse group of genes, crops, and possible environmental considerations. The course will be run in English and Slovene, and the class size is limited to 80 students.

Further information: Please visit the course website for more details: http://www.univerzagorica.si/biosafety

Registration:

Please Contact:

Prof Polona Primorska

Univerza v Gorica

Vipavska cesta 99

SI-5000 Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Phone: 386 – 5 331 1234 Fax: 386 – 5 331 2345

E-mail: primorska@univerzagorica.si

Application Deadline: 30 June of the year preceding the course.

Registration Fee: US\$100

Course Fee: US\$2,000

(b) Biosafety 2025: Best Practices in Biosafety Training – Workshop Advertisement

10-14 December 2025 Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Biosafety 2025: Best Practices in Biosafety Training
An international workshop organized by Univerza v Gorica

Workshop Agenda:

- Running Short courses
- Using institutional training grants
- Establishing unmet training needs

About the Workshop:

This workshop will focus on lessons learned and best practices in biosafety and biosecurity training events. Academic personnel, communications officers, and others working in biosafety capacity-building would benefit from this workshop by sharing their experiences and learning from international best practices.

This workshop will include keynote presentations by regional and international experts as well as presentations by members of the Slovenian scientific community. (All conference proceedings will be in English.)

Closing date for applications:

30 May 2024

Funding:

Applicants that are citizens of the European Union may apply for a grant to cover their travel and accommodation for the duration of the workshop.

There is no registration fee, but places are limited.

Contact:

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SI-5000 Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Phone: 386 – 5 331 1234



Fax: 386 – 5 331 2345

E-mail: primorska@univerzagorica.si

Mechanics:

Participants should be divided into four groups of four members each. Each group will be assigned a given country.

Groups and log-in details are summarized below:

Group	Country	Role	User name	Password
1	Greece	NFP	greece.nfp@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	greece.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	greece.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	greece.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
2	Angola	NFP	angola.nfp@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	angola.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	angola.nau2@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	angola.nau3@gmail.com	Abdef1234\$
3	Andorra	NFP	andorra.nfp@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	andorra.nau1@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	andorra.nau2@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	andorra.nau3@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
4	Comoros	NFP	comoros.nfp@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	comoros.nau1@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	comoros.nau2@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$
		NAU	comoros.nau3@hotmail.com	Abdef1234\$

Participants should visit the BCH' Training Site' (https://<u>bch.cbd.int</u>> Help> Training Site). Then log in using the assigned country user names and passwords.

Each participant should submit a 'Capacity Development Initiatives (CDI)' using the fictitious scenario information above. After that, S/He will see its status as 'Pending SCBD Approval.'

During this exercise, participants can also explore the following functions:

- Submitting the record in multiple languages by selecting the languages in the 'Please select in which language(s) you wish to submit this record' drop-down menu and including translation in the newly added fields.
- Use the 'Review' tab to check entered data and if any mandatory data is missing quickly.
- Use the 'Save Draft' functionality to save your data and make changes later.