

Subject: ISBGMO conference & CRISPRcon: Science, Society and the future of Gene Editing

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Dear all

Two events have come up on our radar for which we were wondering if any of you will be in attendance:

- **ISBGMO 14** ([International Symposium on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms](#)) – taking place in Guadalajara, Mexico, June 4-8. Target Malaria had initially hoped to have someone attending but it looks like it will not happen. This is an important meeting that brings together regulators from a wide group of countries, offering a good opportunity to make contacts with people that are likely to be involved in CBD and other fora. There is a session on gene drive on Thursday 8th, but the theme could emerge in other sessions, in particular around environmental risk assessment questions. I believe Hector will attend the gene drive session, but is anyone else planning to attend the rest of the meeting? If so, it would be great to get a read out of the discussions afterwards and any insights in terms of positions that could affect CBD negotiations.
- **CRISPRcon: Science, Society and the future of Gene Editing** – Berkeley, California, Aug 16-17. This conference is being organised by Keystone, looking broadly at gene editing. We were wondering if anyone had heard of it and was planning to attend or was speaking on any of the sessions. It is meant to cover these topics: societal perceptions and communications of science; social dimensions of CRISPR in medicine, food and conservation; the role of regulation and social acceptance in determining the future of CRISPR. The draft schedule indicates a session on gene drive and a session on CRISPR and conservation, with most of the sessions focused on the social acceptance/ethics elements. If anyone knows more and can share, that would be great.

Best,

Isabelle