

Subject: FW: CBD Online Forum Update

From: Benjamin Robinson <Ben@emergingag.com>

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To: "npiediab@gmail.com" <npiediab@gmail.com>, "ana.atanassova@bayer.com" <ana.atanassova@bayer.com>, "a.drcrianti@imperial.ac.uk" <a.drcrianti@imperial.ac.uk>, "l.collyns@imperial.ac.uk" <l.collyns@imperial.ac.uk>, "toni.j.piaggio@aphis.usda.gov" <toni.j.piaggio@aphis.usda.gov>, "bdass@fnih.org" <bdass@fnih.org>, "a.badolo@gmail.com" <a.badolo@gmail.com>, "a.burt@imperial.ac.uk" <a.burt@imperial.ac.uk>, "cbloss@ucsd.edu" <cbloss@ucsd.edu>, "dtompkins@landcareresearch.co.nz" <dtompkins@landcareresearch.co.nz>, "dobrocht@umd.edu" <dobrocht@umd.edu>, "d.thizy@imperial.ac.uk" <d.thizy@imperial.ac.uk>, "dwatuku@yahoo.com" <dwatuku@yahoo.com>, "ebier@ucsd.edu" <ebier@ucsd.edu>, "fred_gould@ncsu.edu" <fred_gould@ncsu.edu>, "f.tripet@keele.ac.uk" <f.tripet@keele.ac.uk>, "fredros@ihi.or.tz" <fredros@ihi.or.tz>, "gregg.howald@islandconservation.org" <gregg.howald@islandconservation.org>, "g.immobile@pologgb.com" <g.immobile@pologgb.com>, "heath.packard@islandconservation.org" <heath.packard@islandconservation.org>, "hquemada@danforthcenter.org" <hquemada@danforthcenter.org>, "jadelbor@ncsu.edu" <jadelbor@ncsu.edu>, "Jeff.Chertack@gatesfoundation.org" <Jeff.Chertack@gatesfoundation.org>, "j.mumford@imperial.ac.uk" <j.mumford@imperial.ac.uk>, "jkayondo@uvri.go.ug" <jkayondo@uvri.go.ug>, "jkayondo@gmail.com" <jkayondo@gmail.com>, "karl.campbell@islandconservation.org" <karl.campbell@islandconservation.org>, "kele.lekoape@bayer.com" <kele.lekoape@bayer.com>, "kent@archipelagoconsulting.com" <kent@archipelagoconsulting.com>, "l.cinti@pologgb.com" <l.cinti@pologgb.com>, "luciadesouza100@gmail.com" <luciadesouza100@gmail.com>, "lydia.slobodian@iucn.org" <lydia.slobodian@iucn.org>, "doudou@icermali.org" <doudou@icermali.org>, "mrbenites2002@yahoo.es" <mrbenites2002@yahoo.es>, "mqbenedict@yahoo.com" <mqbenedict@yahoo.com>, "michael.bonsall@zoo.ox.ac.uk" <michael.bonsall@zoo.ox.ac.uk>, "nachee@nd.edu" <nachee@nd.edu>, "nbesansk@nd.edu" <nbesansk@nd.edu>, "p.freemont@imperial.ac.uk" <p.freemont@imperial.ac.uk>, "adrade@ufpe.br" <adrade@ufpe.br>, "filipposaris.papathanos@unipg.it" <filipposaris.papathanos@unipg.it>, "pietvandermeer@gmail.com" <pietvandermeer@gmail.com>, "monnat@uw.edu" <monnat@uw.edu>, "renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil" <renee.wegrzyn@darpa.mil>, "rfriedman@jcv.org" <rfriedman@jcv.org>, "roberta.spaccapelo@unipg.it" <roberta.spaccapelo@unipg.it>, "royden.saah@islandconservation.org" <royden.saah@islandconservation.org>, "r.muller@pologgb.com" <r.muller@pologgb.com>, "ryan@longnow.org" <ryan@longnow.org>, "slwerner@UCSD.EDU" <slwerner@UCSD.EDU>, "carter@sciencepolicyconsulting.com" <carter@sciencepolicyconsulting.com>, "sarah.lukie@croplife.org" <sarah.lukie@croplife.org>, "scott@shorebiotech.com" <scott@shorebiotech.com>, "sjames@fnih.org" <sjames@fnih.org>, "s.russel@gen.cam.ac.uk" <s.russel@gen.cam.ac.uk>, "ssubramani@ucsd.edu" <ssubramani@ucsd.edu>, "tkuiken@nscu.edu" <tkuiken@nscu.edu>, "aajames@uci.edu" <aajames@uci.edu>, "t.nolan@imperial.ac.uk" <t.nolan@imperial.ac.uk>, "zachadel@tamu.edu" <zachadel@tamu.edu>, "sentelle@uci.edu" <sentelle@uci.edu>, "margret.engelhard@bfn.de" <margret.engelhard@bfn.de>

Hi all,

I don't think any pressing issues that need to be addressed have been raised since Friday, but a brief summary of discussions since then is below:

Summary of new developments:

- Discussion continues as to the relative merits of vector control strategies (synbio related or not) for reducing disease burden (e.g. <https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/open-ended/discussion/?threadid=8384#8471> ; <https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/open-ended/discussion/?threadid=8384#8479>). However, I think that at this point the aspects of this question related to gene drive have been adequately addressed, and further discussion on this front may not be relevant to the goals of the forum.
- Beyond vector control, there has been some discussion of the potential beneficial impacts of other uses of synthetic biology, particularly with regards to the environmental effects of reduced dependence on petrochemicals.
- Some participants have again emphasized the adverse impacts of restrictions on synthetic biology research and applications that are not adequately tailored to the risks involved, and the importance of avoiding alarmist stances that are scientifically unsupported on alterations to molecular biology and ecosystem dynamics (e.g. <https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/open-ended/discussion/?threadid=8365#8461> ; <https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/open-ended/discussion/?threadid=8365#8462> ; <https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/open-ended/discussion/?threadid=8365#8460>)

Regards,
Ben



Ben Robinson

Policy Coordinator

+39 334 994 2405

ben@emergingag.com

www.emergingag.com

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CBD Online Forum on Synthetic Biology will take place soon! Experts should [register online](#) to participate.

Contact us if you require assistance.

Supporter of the Manyinga orphan schools project – find out more at www.manyinga.org