

CBGP S3-eForum

Novel Gene Technologies: Evolution and Revolution

CBGP Virtual Forum on Science, Sustainability and Society (CBGP-S3eF)

*CBGP open space for discussion on Agriculture/Green Biotechnology Research & Innovation (R&I)
Discovering the impact of R&I on society sustainability and transformation*

April 12th 2021

(virtual meeting; see ZOOM link below)

10:00 Welcome and Opening

Antonio Molina

Director, Centro de Biotecnología y Genómica de Plantas (CBGP, UPM-INIA)

10:10 HOLGER PUCHTA

Director of the Botanical institute and Chair of Plant Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany

CRISPR/Cas mediated genome engineering: a revolution for plant biology and breeding

11:00 SIGRID BRATLIE

Special Advisor on gene technology for NCE Heidner Biocluster and the Norwegian Cancer Society

Novel governance for novel gene technologies

11:50 GABINO SÁNCHEZ

Business development director at Hudson River Biotechnology, Wageningen (The Netherlands)

CRISPR: a key strategic resource in plant breeding industry

12:40 Closing remarks

This event will be in English without simultaneous translation.

Registration link: Zoom link for CBGP-S3 eForum will be provided upon registration

SPEAKERS BIO

Holger PUCHTA is director of the Botanical institute and holds since 2002 the Chair of Plant Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in Germany. After his study of biochemistry at the University of Tübingen and his PhD at the Max-Planck-Institute for Biochemistry in Munich he joined the laboratory of Barbara Hohn at the Friedrich Miescher Institute in Basel, Switzerland before he became in 1995 group leader at the Leibnitz Institute for Plant Genetics in Gatersleben (IPK). In 2000 he obtained his habilitation in genetics from the University Halle. He was worldwide the first scientist to demonstrate that site-specific nucleases can be applied to induce different kinds of controlled change in plant genomes. His group elucidated major mechanisms of DNA double strand break repair and he was one of leading scientist adopting the CRISPR/Cas technology to plants. For his work on plant genome engineering, he was nominated “Pioneer of Plant Biotechnology” by the Plant Biotechnology Journal and awarded twice with an ERC advanced grant. A recent focus of his research centers around CRISPR/Cas mediated plant chromosome engineering



Sigrid BRATLIE is special advisor on gene technology for NCE Heidner Biocluster and the Norwegian Cancer Society. She has worked with biotech science and policy for several years. During her time as a Senior advisor at the Norwegian Biotechnology Advisory Board for the past five years, she led the work on developing a proposal for a novel GMO regulatory framework that will be discussed during her talk. She is also a member of a newly appointed committee that will review GMO legislation in Norway and advise the government on updates. Sigrid closely follows the cutting edge of biotech R&D, in particular gene editing, and spends a lot of her time on science communication and public dialogue. She is also a primary resource on aspects concerning sustainable use of gene editing, legislation and policy to policymakers and the public. She also participates in several international policy forums. Sigrid is a molecular biologist by training, with a degree in Molecular Biology from the University of Glasgow and Imperial College London, UK, and a Phd from the Institute for Cancer Research at the Norwegian Radium Hospital for which she was awarded the Kings gold medal.



Gabino SÁNCHEZ has experience in disparate scientific fields, with >30 publications ranging from genomics, microbiology, bioinformatics, and plant breeding. After his PhD in biochemistry in Madrid and postdocs in Canada and the Netherlands, in 2012, he became head of the Department of Applied Bioinformatics from Wageningen University & Research. Here, he hosted a state-of-the-art sequencing facility and led numerous collaborative projects with the plant breeding industry. In 2017, he was appointed CEO of Genetwister Technologies, a biotechnology company that makes new technology available to R&D pipelines for its shareholders (five globally operating seed breeding companies). Since 2020, he is the Business Development director at Hudson River Biotechnology (HRB), a Dutch start up focused on genome editing in plants. HRB is a technology provider for the plant breeding industry, offering end-to-end molecular plant breeding solutions through CRISPR-based approaches.

