

THE IMPACT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION: The Andean Countries as a Model. (C07- artunduaga082004-Oral)

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Abstract:

Latin America and Caribbean-LAC represents close to 6% of the total field trials which are now taking place in developing countries worldwide. The region requires appropriate infrastructures to efficiently manage biotechnologies and to create enabling conditions appropriately addressed to obtain the potential benefits of these new technologies as well as to minimize any possible adverse effects on the environment and the human health. It is clear that LAC countries should continue the development and improvement of both their innovations systems and their regulatory framework along with related international agreements for preventing or minimizing the possible risks of the use and management of the transgenic organisms in their territory; and therefore, be able to make use of biotechnology for supporting national efforts towards food security, improved health care, increased exports potential and Environmental Sustainable Development. This paper is intended to outline how biotechnology may offer effective tools for identifying useful genes in the region's biodiversity and also to present an overview of the current Biosafety regulations in LAC countries.

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