

Abstract for Parallel Session: new developments in policy and governance of gene drive technologies: implications for research.

Abstract Title: Stakeholder engagement and public consultation for gene drive research.

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The transition of novel technologies for public health from laboratory to field is accompanied by a broadening scope of challenges. Developments of genetically engineered organisms with gene drives have stimulated active discussion and debate surrounding social and ethical issues associated with its application. These include stakeholder and community engagement and consent, policy and governance, and general decision-making processes surrounding the development and deployment of the technology. This talk will focus on the importance of stakeholder engagement and public consultation in the application of gene drive technologies for public health and the challenges associated with this work. Additionally, it will highlight some of the strategies that UCMI (a gene drive research project) has adopted to address the challenges, and how the project is approaching next phases of research.