



4th International Conference on
**Agriculture, Food
Security and Biotechnology**

13th - 14th November 2018, Rabat, Morocco

Climate-related natural disasters, emerging diseases, rapid growth of World population, and political and social conflicts poses growing threat to food security. These havocs have incapacitated the food availability chain ensuing hunger, poverty and malnutrition around the globe. It is a debilitating fact that globally 815 million people, accounting 11% of the world population, were undernourished in 2016 (FAO 2017) wherein the third-world is bearing the brunt. This scenario, calls for more proactive, innovative yet sustainable approach for attaining and sustaining food self-sufficiency. Besides, the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" is a call for action ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.

The rapidly pacing scientific advancements in the field of biotechnology can offer promising tools, techniques, methods and practices for enhancing agricultural productivity while conserving the natural resources in their best form for the future generations. Agriculture biotechnology – one of the arms of biotechnology – is the key to sustainable food systems, value-added crop production, improved nutrition and green economy.

Keeping in view the importance of above-mentioned issue, the Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), in collaboration with the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) and Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (INIT) is organizing 4th International Conference on 'Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology', from 13th – 14th November 2018 in Rabat, Morocco. The Conference aims to provide an interactive platform to academicians, scientists and researchers to deliberate upon the burning issue of food insecurity while underpinning the significance of Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology.

Academicians, researchers, scientists, policy makers and implementers, and government officials working in the field of Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology in the developing countries are encouraged to participate in this international Conference.

OBJECTIVES

The key objectives of this international Conference are to:

- Provide a forum to scientists, researchers, technologists and faculty members to update their knowledge and share know-how on the recent developments in the field of agriculture and biotechnology;
- Build and strengthen linkages among R&D/S&T organizations working in the field of agriculture, biotechnology and food security for effective South-South cooperation;
- Make recommendations to the policy-makers for developing policies and strategies in order to support biotechnology for food security in the common Member States of COMSATS and ISESCO.

HOW TO REGISTER

Applications for participation are required to be submitted through duly filled-in prescribed form to COMSATS and ISESCO, at the contact addresses given at the end of this announcement on or before Thursday, 1st October 2018.

Moroccan applicants may, however, send their applications till 30th October 2018 directly to ISESCO Headquarters, Rabat.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Travel grants and boarding and lodging will be provided by ISESCO, COMSATS and INIT to a limited number of individuals from the member countries of ISESCO and COMSATS, selected by the International Conference Scientific Committee.

THEMES

Agriculture

- Crop breeding, improvement, protection and management
- Agriculture and sustainable development
- Agricultural innovation and technology
- Agriculture Engineering and Agronomy

Food Security

- Trends and challenges to food security
- Food Nutrition Security: new concepts and strategies
- Food safety regulation and standards
- Food sovereignty, heritage & industry
- Non-timper forest products and food security
- Ecosystem based adaptation for food security

Biotechnology

- Genetic improvement of crops using plant biotechnology
- Functional genomics using genome editing technology
- Industrial biotechnology
- Food and bioprocess technology
- Patent, biosafety, biosecurity, plant breeders rights

For further information, please contact:

Dr. Ismaïla DIALLO

Science Directorate
Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
Tel: + 212 (0) 5 37 56 60 52
Fax: + 212 (0) 5 37 56 60 12-13
Email: idiallo@isESCO.org.ma

Mr. Tajammul Hussain

Advisor (Programmes)
COMSATS Headquarters
Shahrah-e-Jamhuriat, G-5/2
Islamabad - Pakistan
Phone: (+92-51) 9204892, 9214515-7
Fax: (+92-51) 9216539
Email: tajammul@comsats.org

Mr. Tahir Naeem

Executive Director
Inter Islamic Network on Information Technology (INIT)
COMSATS Institute of Information Technology,
Park Road, Islamabad, Pakistan
Tel: (+92-51) 90495169, Fax: (+92-51) 9247006
Email: tnaeem@comsats.edu.pk

REGISTRATION FORM

4th International Conference on

Agriculture, Food Security and Biotechnology

13th - 14th November 2018, Rabat, Morocco

Name (as per passport) _____

Designation _____

Institution/Organization _____

Highest Qualification _____

Present Field of Activity _____

Postal Address _____

City _____ Country _____

Passport No. _____

Tel. _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____