

Croatia and Turkey

Life Sciences and Biotechnology

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Enterprise and Industry DG

Unit F5: Competitiveness in the Pharmaceuticals Industry
and Biotechnology

The potential of biotechnology

Biotechnology has many uses:

- pharmaceuticals,
- environmental sustainability,
- industrial processes, forestry, textiles, plastics, paper, biomass, biofuel,
- food products and animal feed.

The potential of biotechnology

- *New, safer, targeted pharmaceuticals*
- *Improved food quality, environmental benefits*
- *Food products to help the developing world*
- *Biodegradable plastics, cleaner industrial processes*
- *Remediation of polluted air, soil, water and waste*

The potential of biotechnology

- Need to strengthen our competitiveness
- Many competitors: USA, Canada, Japan, China, India, etc



A coherent strategy

Life Sciences and Biotechnology -- A Strategy for Europe

- Launched in 2002
- Runs until 2010

Life Sciences and Biotechnology -- A Strategy for Europe

Three action lines:

1. Harvesting the potential
2. Responsible governance
3. International dimension

Action line 1: Harvesting the potential

- Improve the education, entrepreneurial skills, risk capital, intellectual property
- Networking between Europe's biotechnology communities
- Proactive role for public authorities

Action line 2: Responsible governance

- Societal dialogue and scrutiny
- Ethical issues
- Informed choice
- Freedom of choice –sustainability and diversity of agriculture in Europe

Action line 2: Responsible governance

–Regulatory principles:

- to protect public health and the environment
- to safeguard the Internal Market
- a balanced risk management
- public confidence

Action line 3: International dimension

- International guidelines, standards and recommendations
- Support the developing world:
 - potential of biotech, safe and responsible use
 - conservation of genetic resources
 - research partnerships
 - help fight diseases such as HIV, malaria, TB



Implementation

- yearly report
- rolling work programme for legislation
- mid-term review in 2006-2007
- final review in 2010