

# Biosafety Regulations in México and the National Network for the Detection, Identification, and Quantitation of Genetically Modified Organisms (RNLD-OGM)



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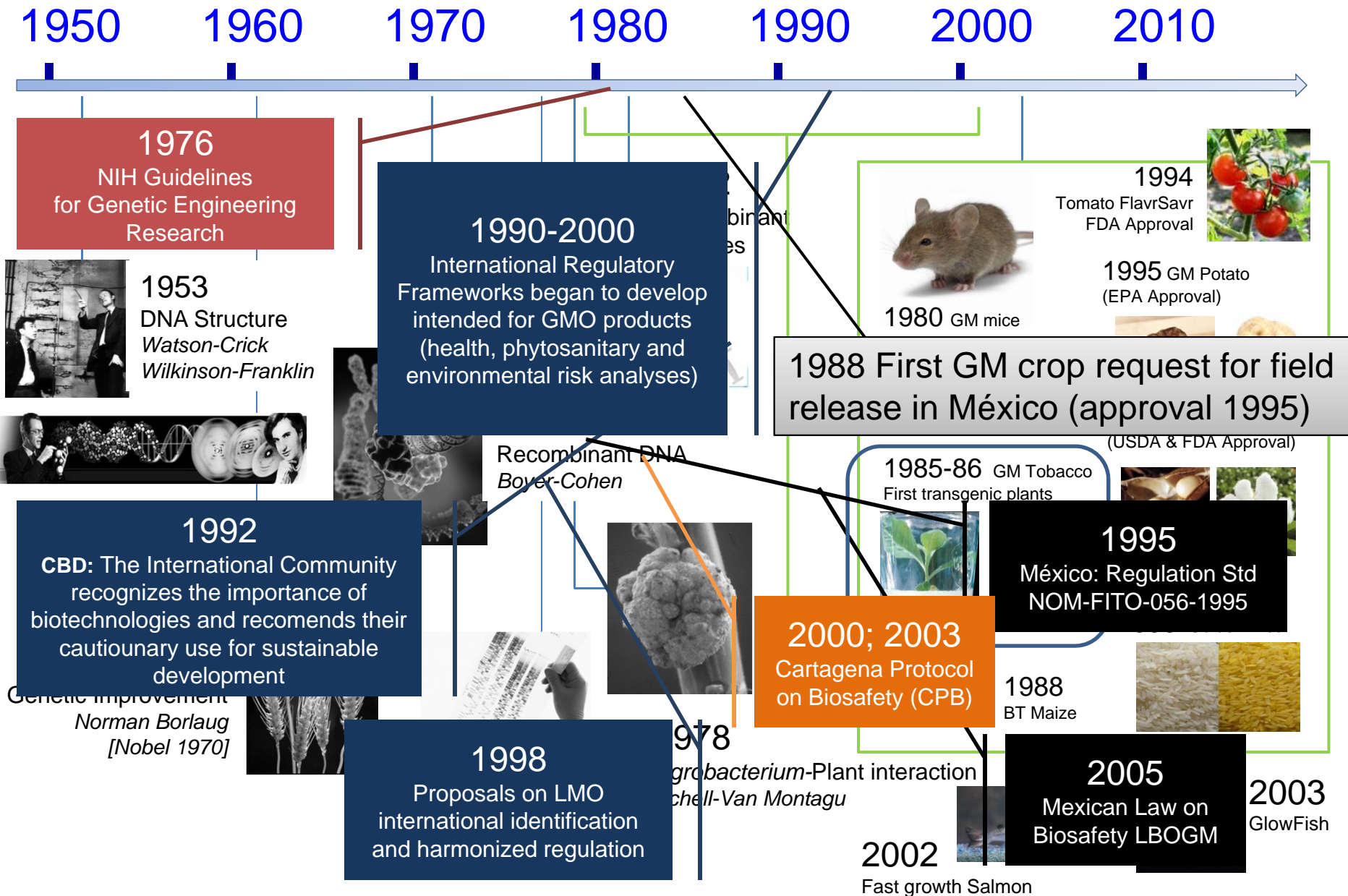
*Area Director, Executive Secretariat of the  
National Commission on Biosafety of GMOs  
CIBIOGEM, México.*

## Contents: The Mexican Experience

- National Regulatory Context:  
International environment, Mexican expertise on biosafety and current regulatory framework  
Installed capacities in México
- Experiences of GMO use and analysis.  
Responsibilities of the National Competent Authorities test labs for the detection of authorized and non authorized events.  
  
Taking advantage of local technical capacities for building-up the National Laboratory Network
- RNLD-OGM Current status, challenges and perspectives.

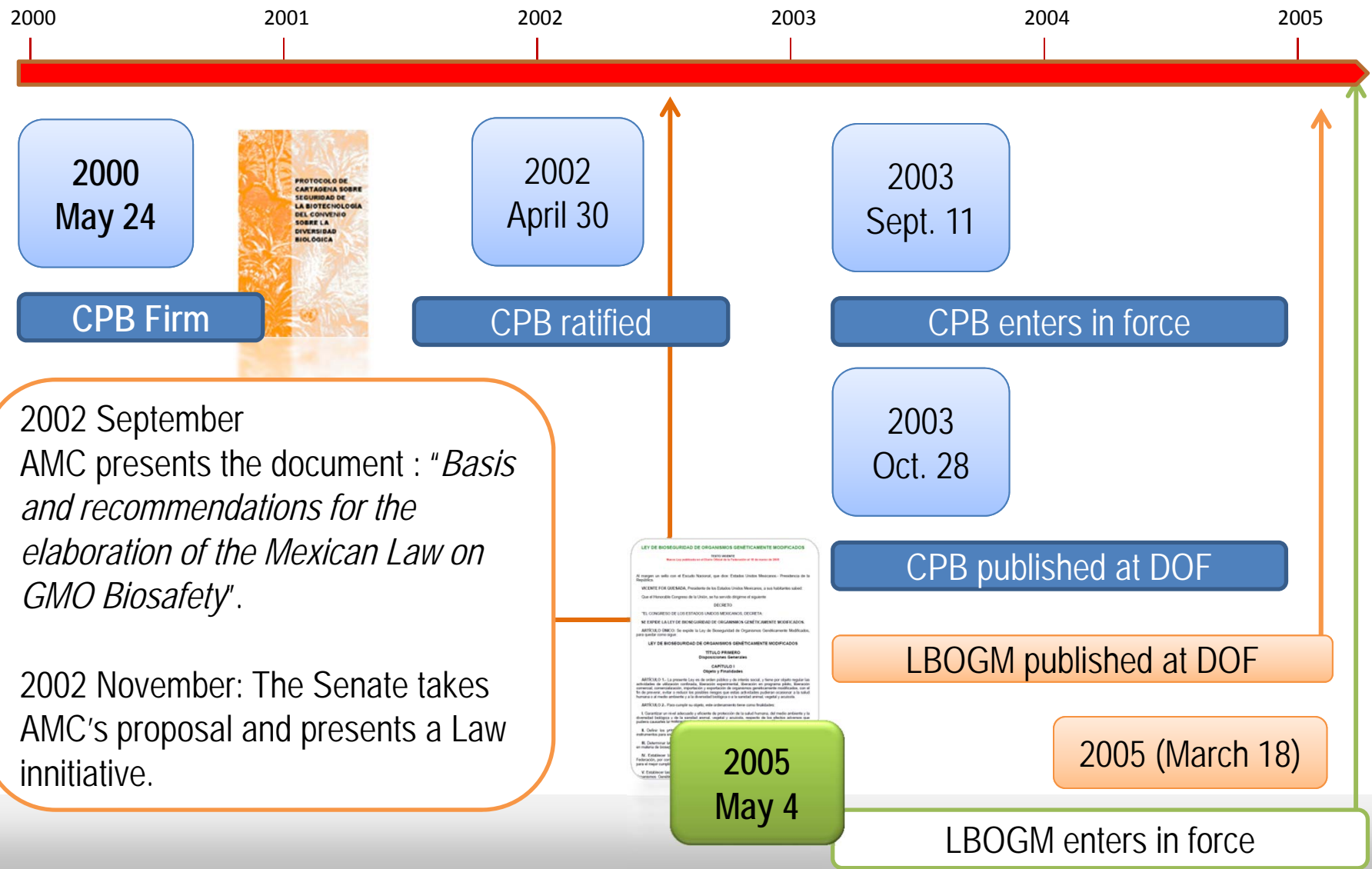
# The National Regulatory Context in México

# The Development of Modern Biotechnology and its Regulation





## Development of the National Biosafety Framework



## LEY DE BIOSEGURIDAD DE ORGANISMOS GENÉTICAMENTE MODIFICADOS

### TEXTO VIGENTE

Nueva Ley publicada en el Diario Oficial de la Federación el 18 de marzo de 2005

Al margen un sello con el Escudo Nacional, que dice: Estados Unidos Mexicanos.- Presidencia de la República.

VICENTE FOX QUESADA, Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, a sus habitantes sabed:

Que el Honorable Congreso de la Unión, se ha servido dirigirme el siguiente

### DECRETO

"EL CONGRESO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS, DECRETA:

SE EXPIDE LA LEY DE BIOSEGURIDAD DE ORGANISMOS GENÉTICAMENTE MODIFICADOS.

ARTÍCULO ÚNICO: Se expide la Ley de Bioseguridad de Organismos Genéticamente Modificados, para quedar como sigue:

## LEY DE BIOSEGURIDAD DE ORGANISMOS GENÉTICAMENTE MODIFICADOS

### TÍTULO PRIMERO Disposiciones Generales

#### CAPÍTULO I Objeto y Finalidades

ARTÍCULO 1.- La presente Ley es de orden público y de interés social, y tiene por objeto regular las actividades de utilización confinada, liberación experimental, liberación en programa piloto, liberación comercial, comercialización, importación y exportación de organismos genéticamente modificados, con el fin de prevenir, evitar o reducir los posibles riesgos que estas actividades pudieran ocasionar a la salud humana o al medio ambiente y a la diversidad biológica o a la sanidad animal, vegetal y acuícola.

ARTÍCULO 2.- Para cumplir su objeto, este ordenamiento tiene como finalidades:

I. Garantizar un nivel adecuado y eficiente de protección de la salud humana, del medio ambiente y la diversidad biológica y de la sanidad animal, vegetal y acuícola, respecto de los efectos adversos que pudiera causarles la realización de actividades con organismos genéticamente modificados;

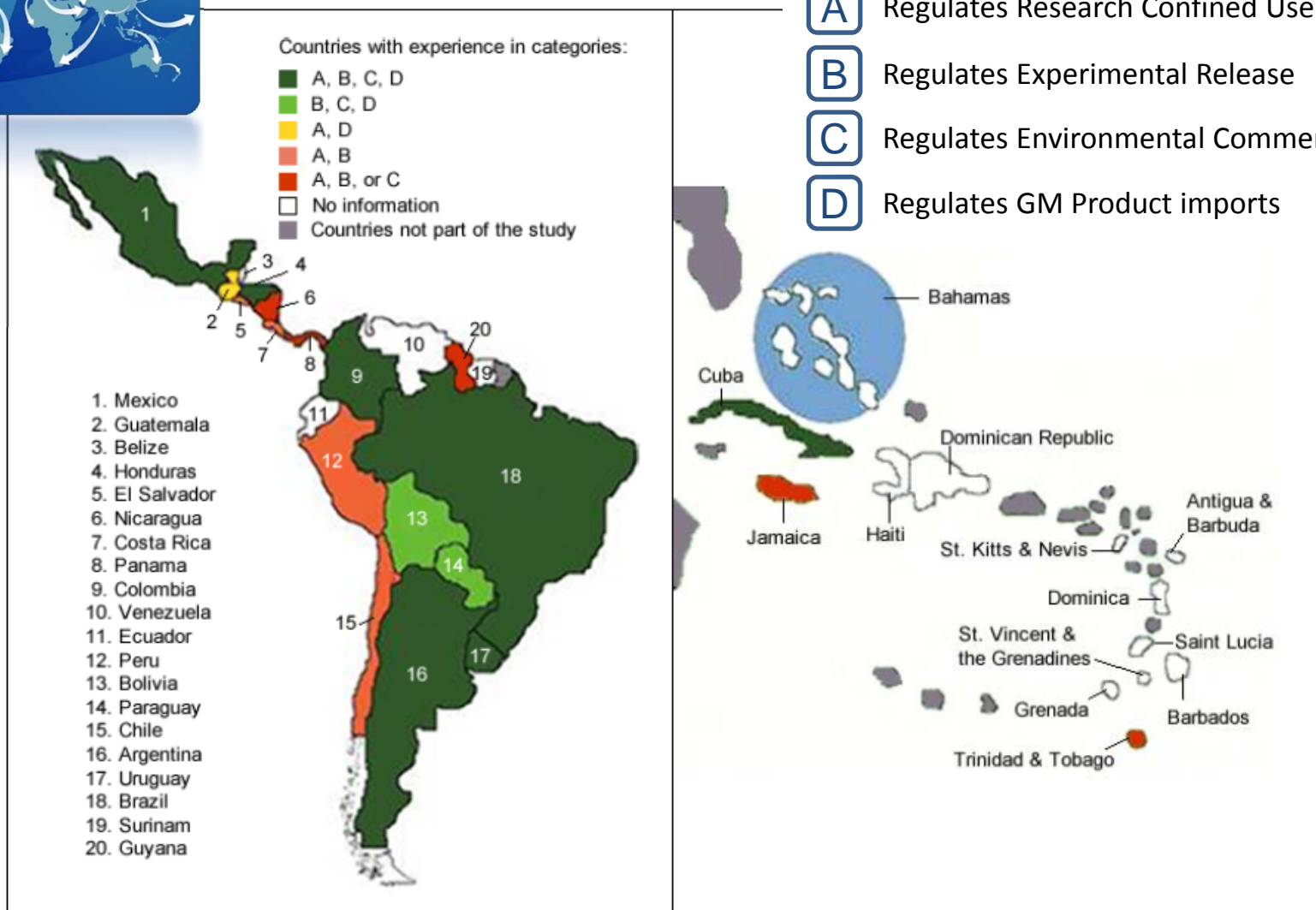
II. Definir los principios y la política nacional en materia de bioseguridad de los OGMs y los instrumentos para su aplicación;

III. Determinar las competencias de las diversas dependencias de la Administración Pública Federal en materia de bioseguridad de los OGMs;

IV. Establecer las bases para la celebración de convenios o acuerdos de coordinación entre la Federación, por conducto de las Secretarías competentes y los gobiernos de las entidades federativas, para el mejor cumplimiento del objeto de esta Ley;

V. Establecer las bases para el funcionamiento de la Comisión Intersecretarial de Bioseguridad de los Organismos Genéticamente Modificados, a través de la cual las Secretarías que la integran deban

- ✿ Federal Law in force since 2005
- ✿ Considers International Regulations
- ✿ Defines national biosafety public policies
- ✿ Establishes regulatory instruments for its implementation
- ✿ Determines the attributions of Federal agencies involved
- ✿ Establishes mechanisms for communication and information
- ✿ Basis for setting national standards
- ✿ Instruments for promoting scientific and technical research
- ✿ 124 articles and 12 transitory



**Figure 1. Biosafety regulatory experience in the LAC region according to the assessment of applications and process taken place in each country.**

*Note. Data compiled from: ICGEB LAC survey 2009-2011, Salazar and Montenegro (2009); USDA (2009a, 2009b); and Roca, Espinoza, and Panta (2004). Maps not to scale. Categories: A=regulating contained (laboratory & glasshouse) research; B=regulating confined field trial releases; C=regulating unconfined (commercial) releases; D=regulating the importation of GM products.*

**2005 Federal Law on the Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms (LBOGM).**

2006 CIBIOGEM Reglament; modification of the Inner Reglament of National Competent Authorities according to LBOGM

2007 Operating Rules of CIBIOGEM

**2008 LBOGM Reglament**

**2009 LBOGM Reglament was reformed to include the special regime of maize protection (REPM) .**

Operation Rules of the Fund for Support and Promotion of Scientific and Technical research on Biosafety and Biotechnology.

Operating Rules of the Mexican Network for GMO Monitoring RED-MEX-MOGMs.

**2011** Unique Format for Notifications of Confined GMO Use

2012 Publication of a Centers of Origin and Genetic Diversity of Maize Agreement

**Mexico Ratifies the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Protocol on Redress and Liability**



## Article 1

The present Law is of public interest and has for an object **regulate the activities of confined use, experimental release, pilot program release, commercial release commercialization, import and export** of genetically modified organisms, with the purpose to **prevent, avoid or reduce the possible risks** that these activities might cause to **human health, environment and biological diversity, animal, vegetal and aquatic health.**

With the purpose to prevent, avoid or reduce the possible risks that activities involving GMO might cause to:

HUMAN HEALTH

ANIMAL, VEGETAL AND FISH  
HEALTH

ENVIRONMENT AND  
BIODIVERSITY

The LBOGM has the Objective of  
Regulating GMO activities

CONFINED USE



Teaching and Research

RELEASE TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Experimental Field-trials

Pilot Field-trials

Comercial Release

Permits

COMERCIAL USE

Imports

Comercial use



Authorizations



Health

Agriculture

Environment

**SALUD**

SECRETARÍA DE SALUD

**SAGARPA**

SECRETARÍA DE AGRICULTURA,  
GANADERÍA, DESARROLLO RURAL,

**SEMARNAT**

SECRETARÍA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE  
Y RECURSOS NATURALES

**SE**

SECRETARÍA DE ECONOMÍA

**SHCP**

SECRETARÍA DE HACIENDA  
Y CRÉDITO PÚBLICO

**SEP**

SECRETARÍA DE  
EDUCACIÓN PÚBLICA



**CONACYT**

Science  
Council

Economy

Finance

Education



**CIBIOGEM**

## Intersecretarial Commission of Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms



**Imports  
Exports**

**SHCP  
SE**

**National Competent Authorities:**

**GMO Destiny**

**Confined Use**

**Environmental Release**

**Comercialization**

Experimental  
Pilot Program  
Commercial

Human consumption  
Biorremediation  
Public Health

**Legal  
Instrument**

**NOTIFICATIONS**

**PERMITS**

**AUTHORIZATIONS**

**National  
Competent  
Authority**

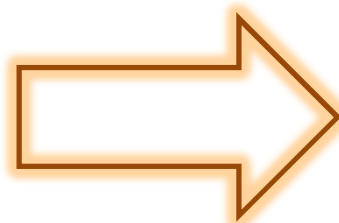
**SAGARPA  
SEMARNAT**

**SAGARPA  
SEMARNAT**

**SALUD**



## National Competent Authorities:



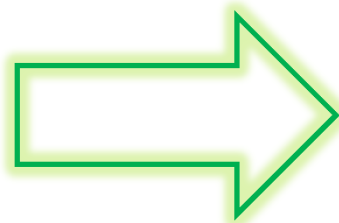
### Food and Feed consumption

#### AUTORIZATIONS

- Human consumption
- Animal Feed
- Public Health



Decisions are sustained on the basis of risk analysis and scientific evidence, according to the use, receptor environment and GMO type.



### Environmental Release

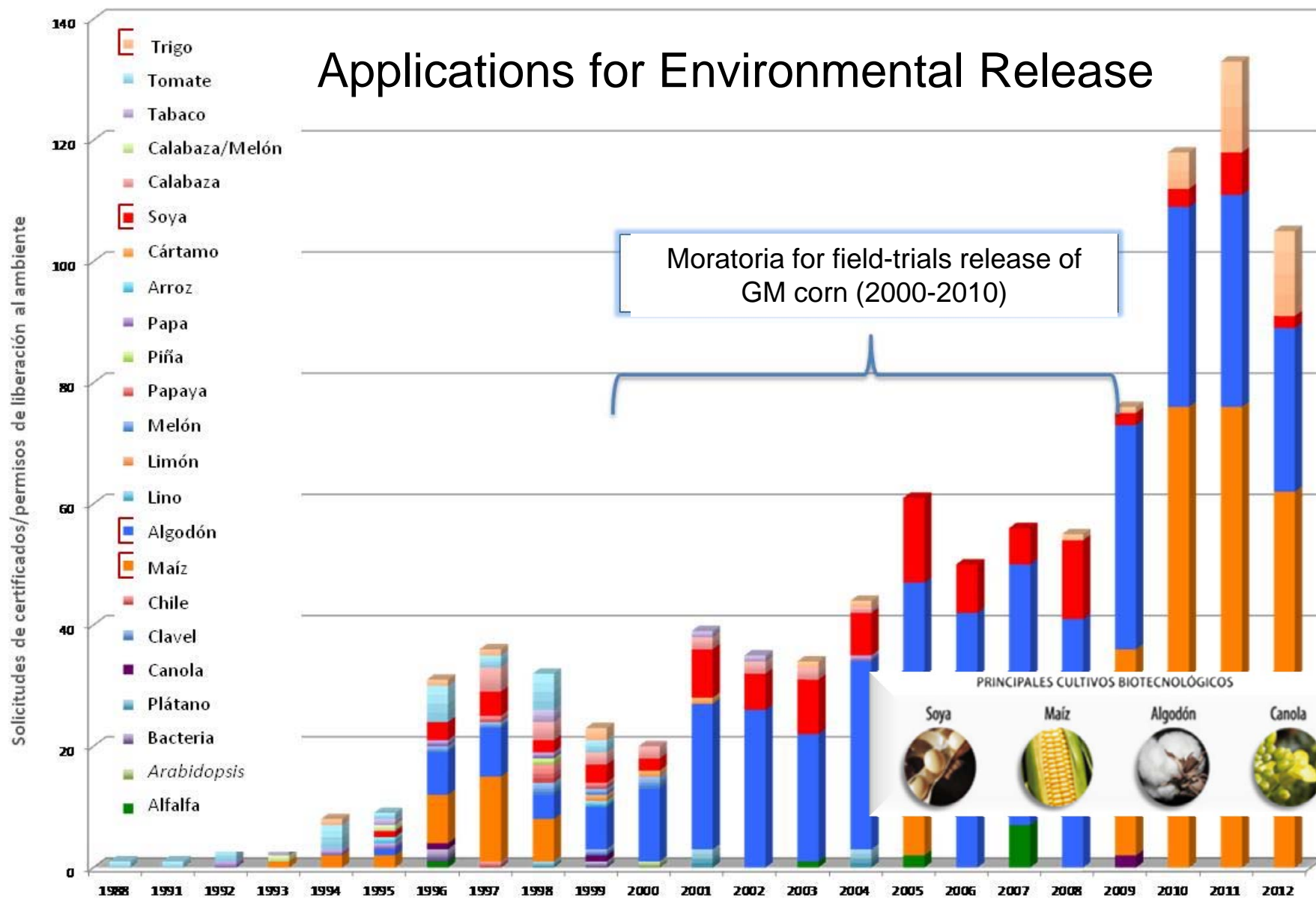
#### PERMITS

- Experimental
- Pilot
- Commercial



Since 1995, the Ministry of Health has evaluated the safety of 116 GM events, granting their import permits and authorizations for their use for human consumption and commercialization.

Cultivar	Número de solicitudes Autorizadas	Cultivar	Número de solicitudes Autorizadas
Maíz ( <i>Zea mays</i> )	55	Algodón ( <i>Gossypium</i> spp)	27
Soya ( <i>Glycine max</i> )	17	Canola ( <i>Brassica napus</i> )	7
Jitomate ( <i>Lycopersicum esculentum</i> )	3	Papa ( <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> )	3
Alfalfa ( <i>Medicago sativa</i> )	2	Arroz ( <i>Oryza sativa</i> )	1
Remolacha ( <i>Beta vulgaris</i> )	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>116 Autorizaciones</b>



## Article 112 | Compliance to National Standards

The **application** of the Mexican Official Standards in Biosafety, as well as **inspection and surveillance measures will correspond exclusively to the Competent Ministries** in terms of this Law.

The fulfillment of such standards may be evaluated by certification organisms, verifying units or test laboratories pproved by such Ministries in conformity with regulatory dispositions deived from the present ordinance and with the Federal Law on Metrology and Normalization.



Center of Origin and diversity  
of important crop species



Escultura de cerámica que representa una mazorca. Procede de la zona arqueológica de Cacahitl, Tlaxcala.

Ceramic sculpture representing an ear of corn. Proved of the archaeological site of Cacahitl, Tlaxcala.

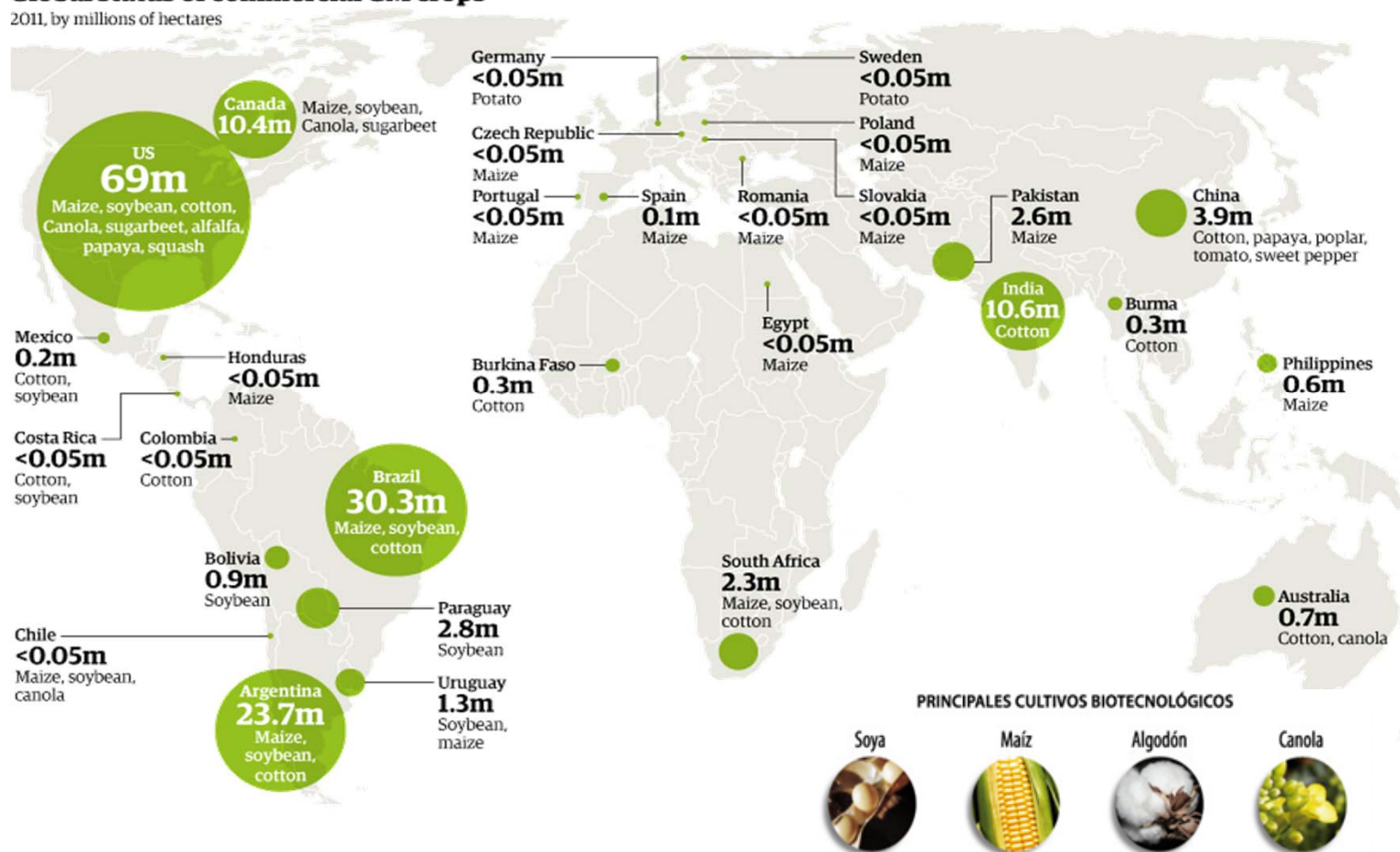




# GM crop adoption

## Global status of commercial GM crops

2011, by millions of hectares



Four of the highest GMO producing countries are located in America: The United States, Brazil, Argentina and Canada, with whom MEXICO sustains active commercial trade.

## AP/LLP status

- Current legislation in Mexico has not yet established minimal thresholds for LLPs.
- CIBIOGEM and its federal agencies are working on the definition and technical aspects related to low level and adventitious presence of GMOs.
- Quality guidelines of the National Seed Certification System serve as a reference at the moment.

# National Detection, Analytical Installed Capacity and Expertise





## CENICA-SEMARNAT (Environment Ministry Test Lab)

- Operating since 2004
- First GMO Detection laboratory in the country to acquire formal Accreditation status.
- Performs Qualitative & Quantitative Analysis by PCR.
- Develops laboratory and field monitoring methods.
- Screening and Event-specific routine testing of several GM events dedicated mainly to environmental samples.
- Provides Training Courses and assistance.
- Actively participates in international proficiency testing and training (JRC, USDA-GIPSA, ISTA)



INECC  
INSTITUTO NACIONAL  
DE ECOLOGÍA  
Y CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO





## Particular Interests and on-going projects:

Monitoring the presence of GM events in the field and standardizing procedures for optimal performance (conventional seed/tissue and pollen sampling in several regions)

Detection **analysis of transgenes in wild relatives and local landraces**

Determinining **environmental effects** associated with GMOs

Novel strategies for emergent situations

Non-authorized GMO detection

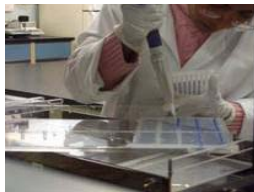
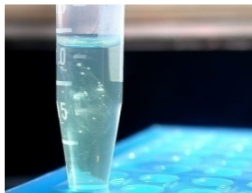


### CNDROGM-SAGARPA (Agriculture Ministry Test Lab)

- National Reference laboratory for fitosanitary inspection and analyses
- High response laboratory, designed to comply fully to ISO17025
- Installed capacity to perform qualitative and quantitative PCR, digital PCR and massive parallel sequencing analysis.
- Validates monitoring and inspection activities that observe field-release biosafety compliance measures.
- Provides specialized training and assistance to a wide range of users
- Collaborative development of Reference Materials (Flour and Plasmids).







Particular Interests and working projects:

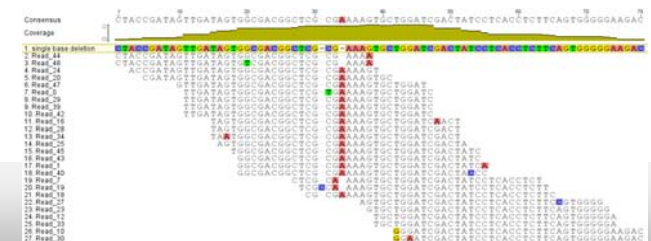
Method verification to fit our national regulatory context and demands as well as preparation of sampling guidelines.

Validation of **digital PCR methods** for absolute GMO quantitation.

**Development of reference materials** with higher concentration than commercially available MRCs.

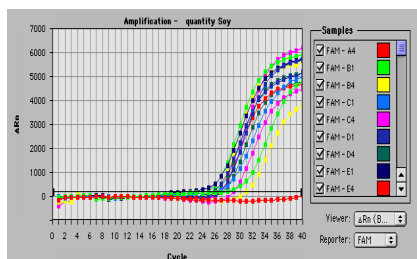
**Plasmidic reference materials** for easy sharing within network collaborations.

Massive paralel sequencing analysis and bioinformatics.





Comisión Federal para la Protección  
contra Riesgos Sanitarios



## CCAyAC-SALUD Health Ministry Reference laboratory

- Accredited laboratory in charge of sanitary risk analyses.
- Capacity for qualitative and quantitative analysis (ELISA, PCR and RT-PCR).
- Experience in molecular methods and analytical procedures for all types of food matrices.
- Adequate performance participating on collaborative studies.

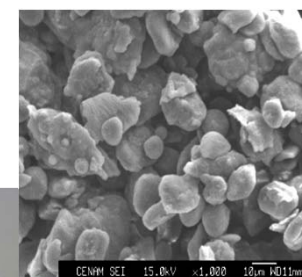
## CENAM-SE

### (National Metrology Laboratory)

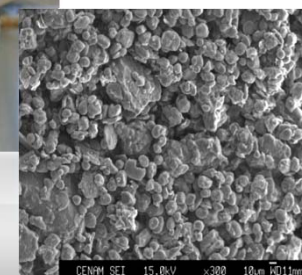
- National laboratory in charge of metrology and measuring reference. Responsible for validating and developing all standards, methods and analytical measurement protocols in the country.
- Development, characterization, certification and preparation of Reference materials in several matrices of relevance in Mexico.
- Preparation of guidelines, method validation and harmonization guidelines.
- Uncertainty measurement and statistical support.
- Technical coordinator of collaborative studies.
- Capacity to perform quantitative PCR and digital PCR analysis.



DMR 436 Ia

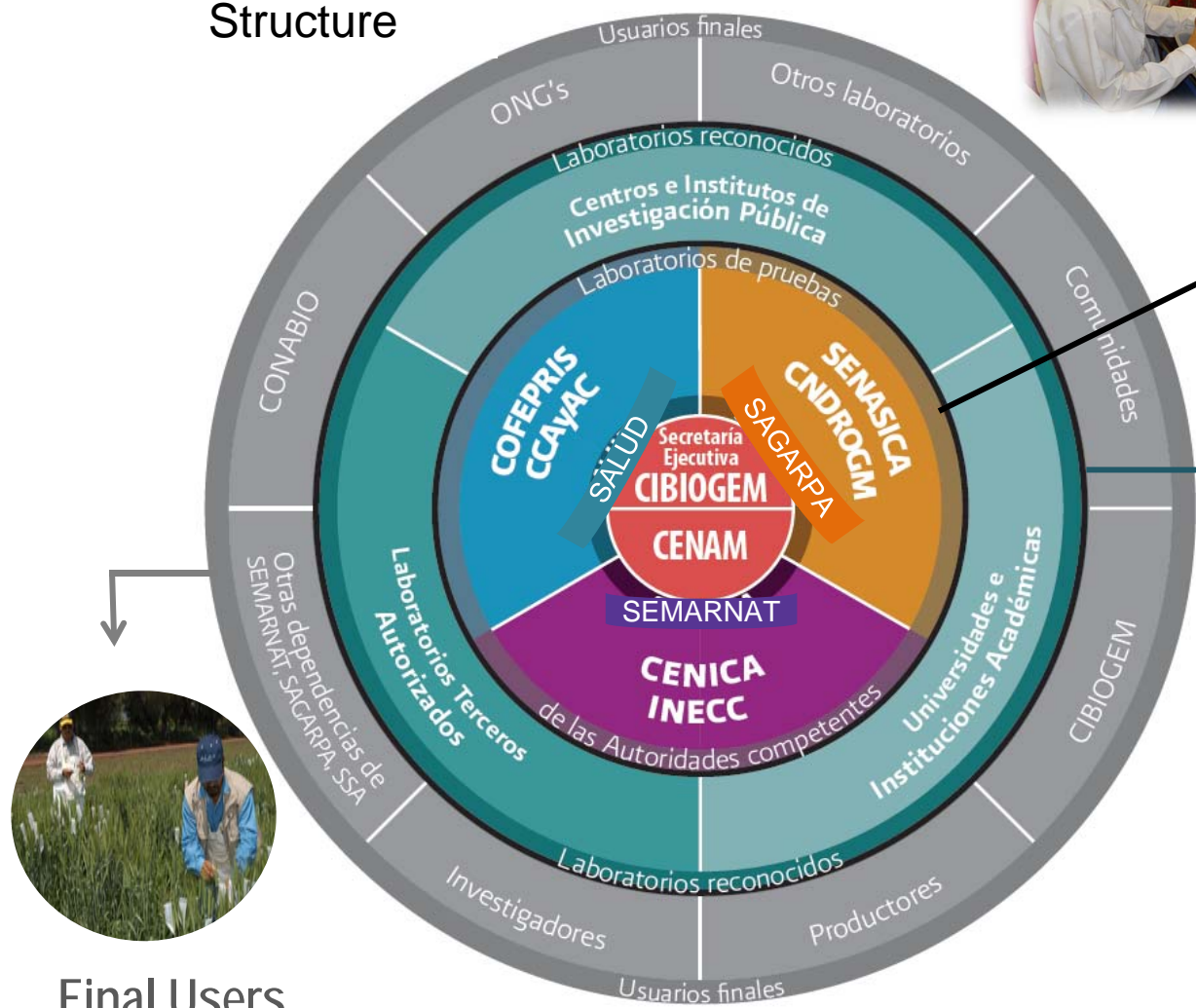


DMR 436 IIa





## RNLD-OGM Structure



### Central Node

From the Competent Authority's reference laboratories.

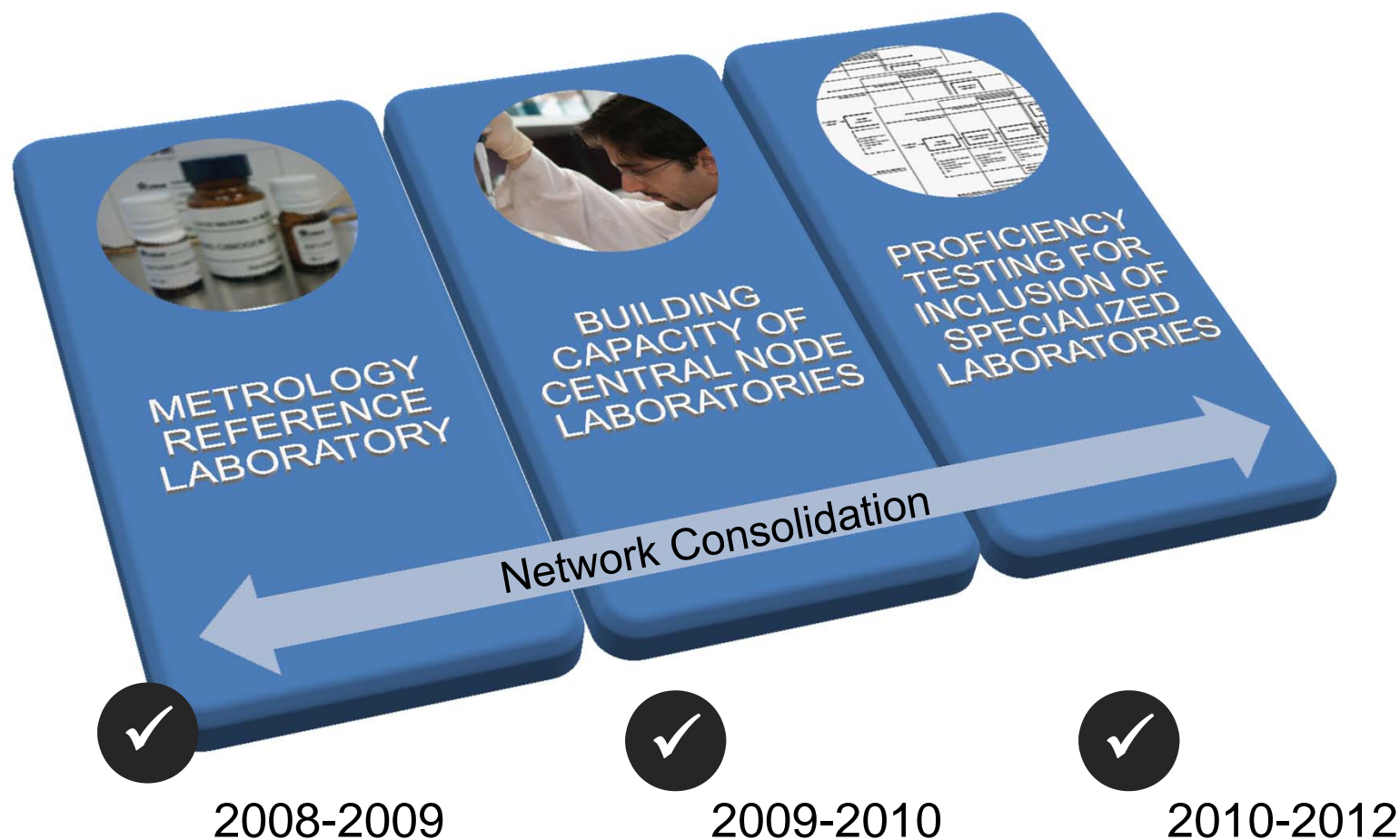


### Network Laboratories

from Universities or Public Research Centers with demonstrated proficiency.

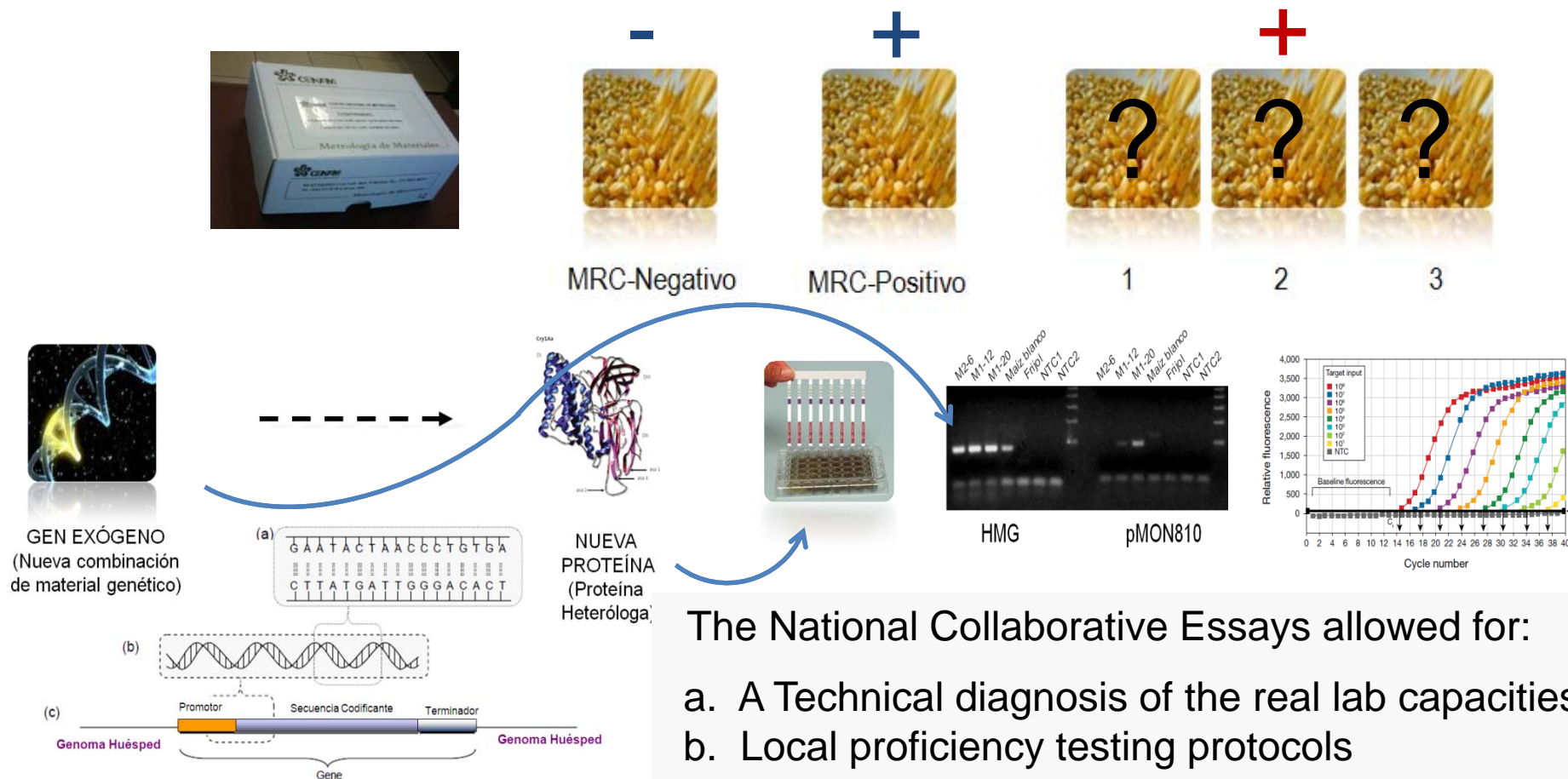


### Final Users





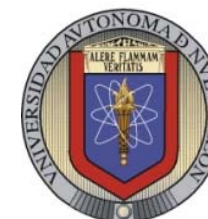
# RNLD Proficiency Testing Scheme



The National Collaborative Essays allowed for:

- A Technical diagnosis of the real lab capacities
- Local proficiency testing protocols
- Harmonization of Analytical Procedures
- Reference Materials and Method Verification
- Rich Technical and Scientific Exchange

## National Laboratory Network for the Detection, Identification and Quantitation of GMOs (RNLD-OGM)



UNIVERSIDAD DE COLIMA



Cinvestav  
Unidad Irapuato

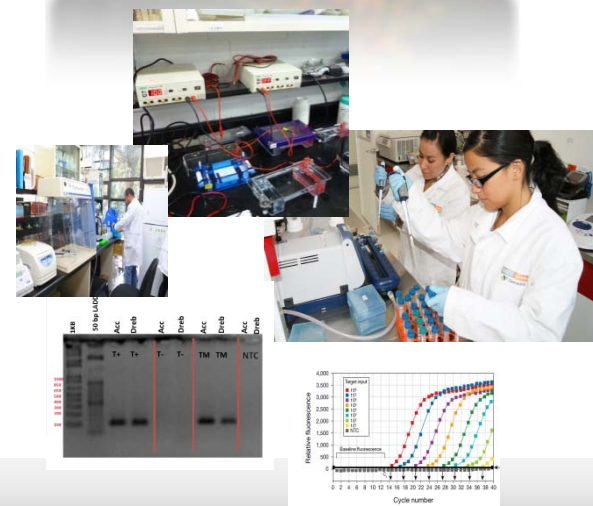
DGCORENA  
COMISION DE RECURSOS NATURALES



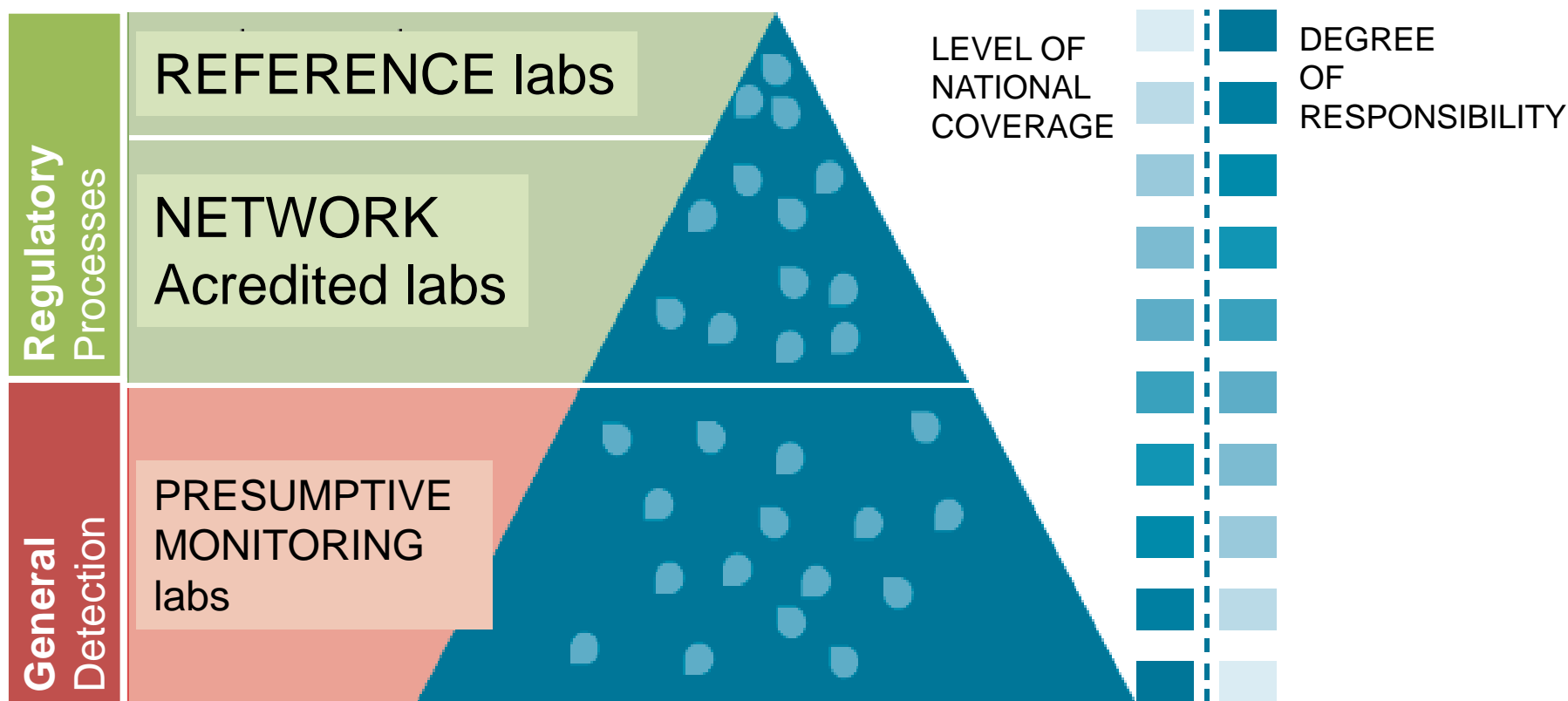
[www.cibiogem.gob.mx](http://www.cibiogem.gob.mx)

[renalabmex@conacyt.mx](mailto:renalabmex@conacyt.mx)

- Formally recognized in 2012, the Network integrates experts and specialists on detection quantitation and identification of GMOs. Its members that have tested their proficiency and demonstrated analytical competence at high laboratory standards.
- The RNLD-GMO is regarded as a scientific and technical mechanism that can act as technical support as required:
  - Metod validation according to international standards
  - Research and development of novel strategies
- The laboratories are taking part of international proficiency testing in order to enhance their capacities and validate the quality and reliability of their preformance.
- RNLD-OGM also collaborates, by means of its members in consolidating the regional innitiative for a Latin- America and the Caribbean Laboratory Network (RLAC-OGM).

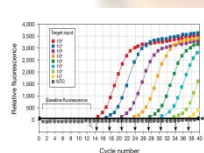


## Network Concept





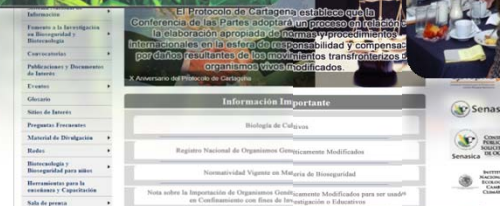
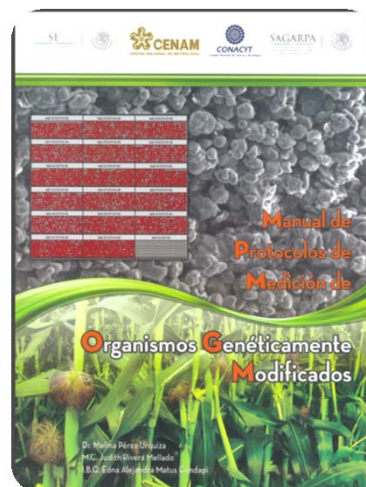
## Capacity Building



Art. 22-CPB

Support and training for enhancing capacity of qualified human resources and institutional development

## Conscience and Public Participation



Art. 23-PCB

Promote conscience, education and public participation, including access to GMO and biosafety information.

<http://www.cibiogem.gob.mx/>

## SPECIFIC Objectives

1

**Promote the integration and coordination within national labs.** Enhance GMO detection and analytical capacities in the country by means of participative collaboration amongst specialists in the area.

2

**Support and strengthen the use of harmonized and validated methodologies for GMO analysis,** with the purpose that laboratories produce reliable and accurate results.

3

**Allow for scientific discussions amongst specialists** that are part of the RNLD network, creating a suitable environment for information exchange, addressing emergent topics on biosafety and GMO analysis.

4

**Bring an excellent service on detection, identification and quantitation of GMOs,** as well as the necessary scientific support to the users of the network.





## RED NACIONAL DE LABORATORIOS DE DETECCIÓN, IDENTIFICACIÓN Y CUANTIFICACIÓN DE ORGANISMOS GENÉTICAMENTE MODIFICADOS





## SECOND INFORMATIVE MEETING , Feb 2011

### National Collaborative Study for Validating Methodologies and Protocols of Detection, Identification and Quantitation of GMOs

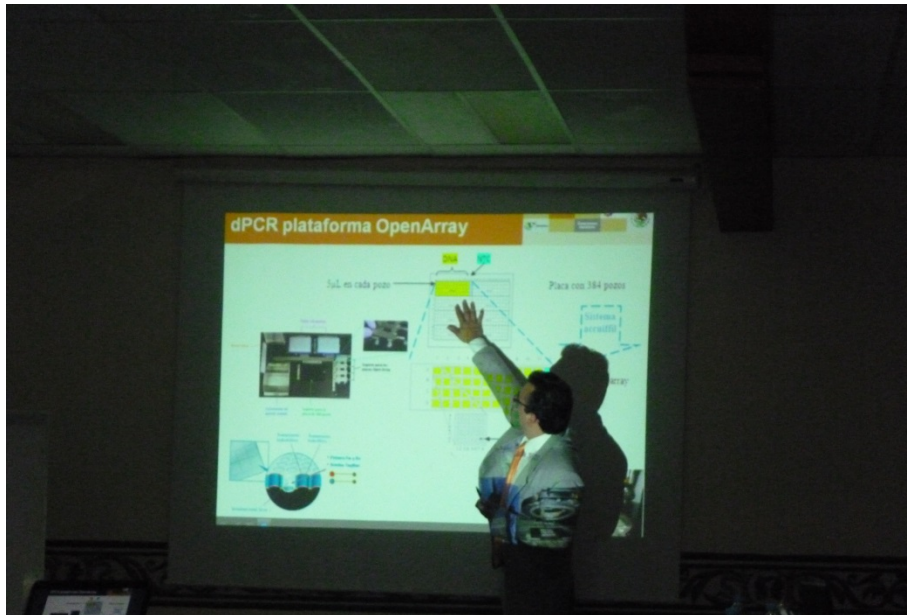






**VISIT TO THE METROLOGY LABORATORY FACILITIES, CENAM March 2012**





**EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE AND REVISION OF TECHNICAL RESULTS,  
Third National Collaborative Study, Sept 2012**







**TECHNICAL EXPERT MEETING [CENAM SAGARPA], Sept 2012**  
**D4 Project: Soy, Weath & Maize Reference Material Certification**

## General Challenges

↓

Availability of Reference Materials

↓

Detection protocols for wild relatives and local landraces

↓

Transit and import commodities used as seeds

↓

Import study-GM material

## Network Challenges

↓

Differential capacities = different needs

↓

Continuous Training and experience exchange

↓

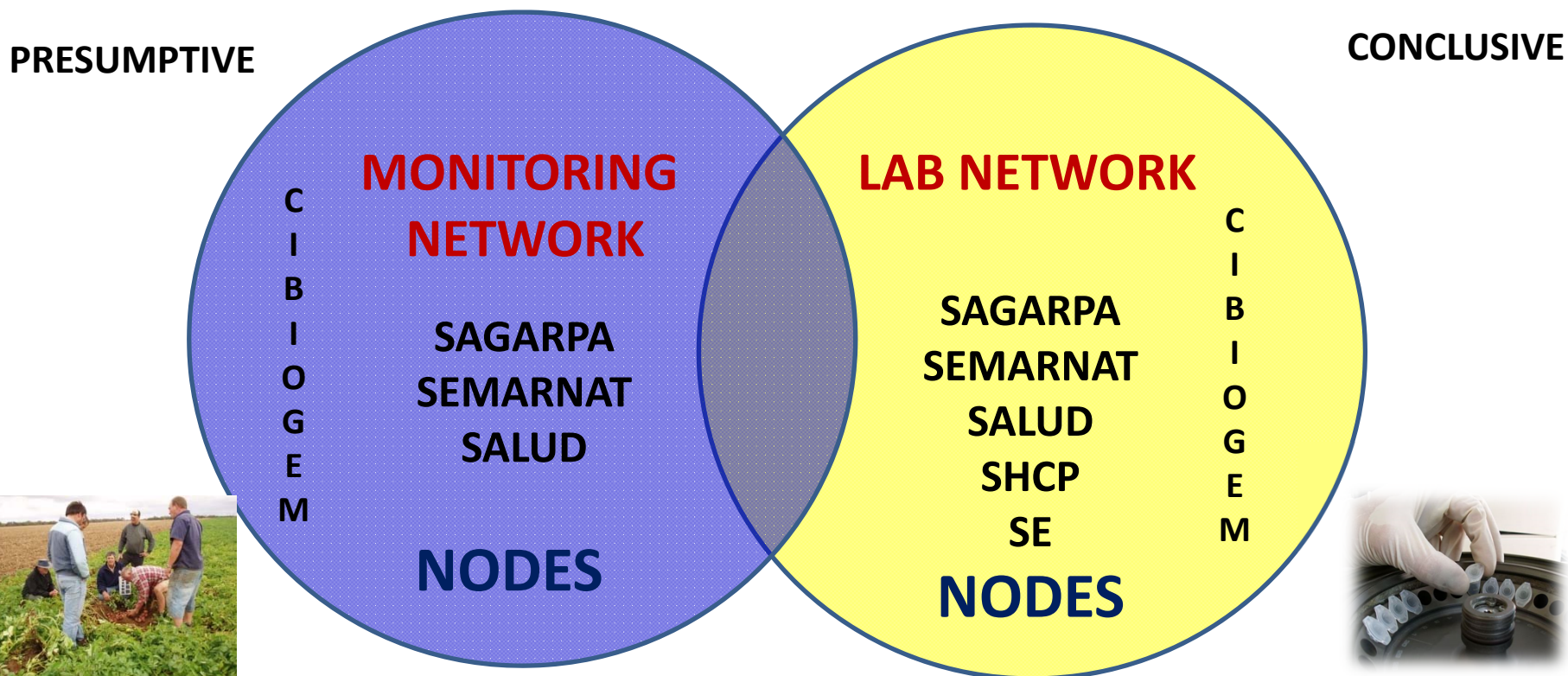
Infrastructure improvement

↓

Limited Human Resources



# Interaction of Biosafety GMO Networks in México



Effects derived from GMO use :

- environmental,
- biological diversity
- human health, vegetal and aquatic.
- socioeconómico effects.

Presumptive Identification of GMO presence/absence.

Final Identification of the presence, type and quantity of GM material with aims to:

- Support monitoring activities
- Assist inspection and surveillance activities
- Evaluate control, mitigation and management measures
- Support reliable data for legal procedures and sanctions

# Latin America & Caribbean Network (RLAC-OGM)





## **3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on Harmonisation of GMO Detection and Analysis for Central and South America**

Cartagena, Colombia 4-5-May 2012



- ☐ Provide Relevant Training Courses and Capacity Building Activities.
- ☐ Maintain periodic communication and relevant information exchange among players.
- ☐ Promote continuous participation in National and International Proficiency Testings.
- ☐ Facilitate the identification of common problems and Technical collaboration opportunities.
- ☐ Effective interaction with the Monitoring Networks (Eg. RED MEX-MOGM) for the standarization of methods of GM detection and effects that might be associated with GMOs in environment.





# Muchas Gracias!



@CIBIOGEM



CIBIOGEM Mexico

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