

Despite decades of safe consumption, the data requirements for regulatory approvals of genetically modified (GM) crops are inconsistent around the world.

It's time to unify around a streamlined, science-based approach to GM crop approvals.

A GLOBAL SUCCESS STORY



GM crops have been **safely cultivated** worldwide for more than 25 years.*



\$186bn

GM crops have provided global economic gain of \$186 bn USD over 21 years.*

Since 1996, the global area planted with GM varieties has increased **more than***



113-FOLD

3,500

More than 3,500 food/feed safety evaluations passed, with **0 rejections** based on food/feed safety.*

SUSTAINABLE CAPABILITIES

27.1bn kg SAVING



The commercialization of GM plants led to a saving of 27.1bn kg in CO2 emissions in 2016, equivalent to taking **16.7 million cars** off the road for a year.**

IT'S TIME FOR A NEW APPROACH

Safety assessments for GM crops should focus on characterizing risks



A new approach could look like this:



Core studies

to evaluate safety of GM crops.



Supplementary studies

in specific cases.



Supplementary studies

should be designed depending upon the crop, introduced trait and/or the intended use.

A LACK IN GLOBAL CONSISTENCY LEADS TO:

REDUCED PRODUCT CHOICE

for farmers and consumers



DISRUPTIONS IN TRADE

and delays in commercial launches



ADDED COSTS



\$4.9bn

USD in soybeans



HUGE POTENTIAL

A well-defined, consistent, and science-based approach to assessments would lead to:

- **greater innovation**,
- increased **commercialization** of beneficial GM crops and traits,
- a **streamlined** global review process with more efficient approvals.

With more timely GM plant approvals between **2018-2022**, major export countries could increase production by**:

\$4.3bn

USD in corn



*ISAAA. (2017). Global status of commercialized biotech/GM crops in 2017: Biotech Crop Adoption Surges as Economic Benefits Accumulate in 22 Years. In ISAAA brief (Vol. 53); ISAAA: Ithaca, NY. ISAAA. (2018). Global status of commercialized biotech/GM crops in 2018: Biotech Crops Continue to Help Meet the Challenges of Increased Population and Climate Change. In ISAAA brief (Vol. 54). ISAAA: Ithaca, NY.
 **Informa. (2018). The Impact of Delays in Chinese Approvals of Biotech Crops. In Informa Agribusiness Consulting Group Report.