

BioRisk Assessment Methodologies
and
Models Workshop

Belgium Biosafety Association
15 September 2009

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The biorisk assessment project aims to develop a systematic and standardized methodology for assessing biosafety and biosecurity risks, which allows them to be both repeatable and quantifiable. This workshop will include presentations and discussions on methodologies and models which have been in development over the last few years and provide a starting mechanism for standardizing biorisk assessments. At this workshop, participants will discuss the principles of risk assessment and how risk should be defined in the context of bioscience. The differences between actual risk and concern (or perception) will also be addressed. Additionally, there will be a detailed review of how the various factors used in assessing risk are related to each other and their overall importance in assessing risk. Workshop attendees will have a chance to review and work through a simplified version of the current biosafety risk assessment model, as well as, discuss and review the detailed model. Attendees will also have an opportunity to provide insight into the outcome or reports of the model.

Workshop Objectives:

1. Attendees will be able to define the principles of risk assessment
2. Attendees will be able to explain the main differences between actual risk and concern or perception
3. Attendees will understand the risk assessment process for biosafety and biosecurity.
4. Attendees will learn specific methodologies that can be used to conduct biosafety and biosecurity risk assessments.

Schedule:

- Welcome, Introductions, Course overview
- Introduction to Risk Assessment
 - Presentation: Risk Assessment Introduction
 - Discussion: Risk Perceptions
- Biorisks
- Biosafety Risk Assessment
 - Presentation: Biosafety Risk Assessment
 - Discussion: Biosafety Risks
 - Small Group Exercise: Using a Biosafety Risk Assessment Model to Assess Biosafety Risks
- Biosecurity Risk Assessment
 - Presentation: Biosecurity Risk Assessment
 - Discussion: Biosecurity Risks
 - Small Group Exercise: Using a Biosecurity Risk Assessment Model to Assess Biosecurity Risks
- Using Risk Assessment to Manage Risks