CBS News: Anti-GMO movement hurts poor, hungry

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis.

...What no one disputes is this: The controversy over GMOs is creating an ever-lengthening approval process in countries around the world.

Take vitamin-enriched Golden Rice, which could help 250 million children who have a sometimes-fatal vitamin A deficiency.

"We absolutely have to have food that's safe," said Dr. Pam Ronald a plant geneticist at the University of California – Davis. "But what's been put into the Golden Rice is a pigment that we eat every day, or should eat every day, in carrots. And as we impose additional regulatory hurdles that are not placed on other crops, many children are dying every day."

Faced with increasing anti-GMO public opinion, the push to ban them is accelerating in rich countries where there is so much food that obesity is a major health issue.

Yet, their biggest impact could one day be on the increasingly hungry third world — a lesson not lost of Dennis Gonsalves a plant pathologist, the man whose genetic engineering saved Hawaii's papayas.

"We in the United States, we're rich, we have a lot of food, no problem," he said. "But a lot of these people in these other countries don't have much food. And that reaction is really harming the people most in need."

Read full, original post: Digging for seeds of truth in GMO debate