

Is EU's anti-GMO stance holding back developing countries?

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

Europe isn't about to change its stance on genetically modified crops any time soon or stop exerting its influence on developing nations, says a supporter of the technology.

Stuart Smyth, industry funded research chair in agri-food innovation at the University of Saskatchewan's agriculture college, said the European Parliament is heavily influenced by environmental groups opposed to the technology.

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He is also concerned about the EU's influence on developing countries when it comes to how they treat GM crops. He believes it is time for drastic action on that front.

"We need to help developing countries opt out of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety," he said.

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"It's the biggest barrier to innovation and agriculture in the developing world," said Smyth.

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His second "radical" idea was for Canada, the U.S. and Australia to seek regional agricultural trade agreements with developing countries, forcing them to break their ties with the EU.

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That would allow developing nations to freely decide whether they want to adopt new technologies.

Read full, original post: [Biotech a tough sell in Europe](#)