



**USAID-African Partnership in
Biotechnology:
Strategies for Biotechnology
In AFRICA**

21-23 October, 2002 Nairobi, Kenya

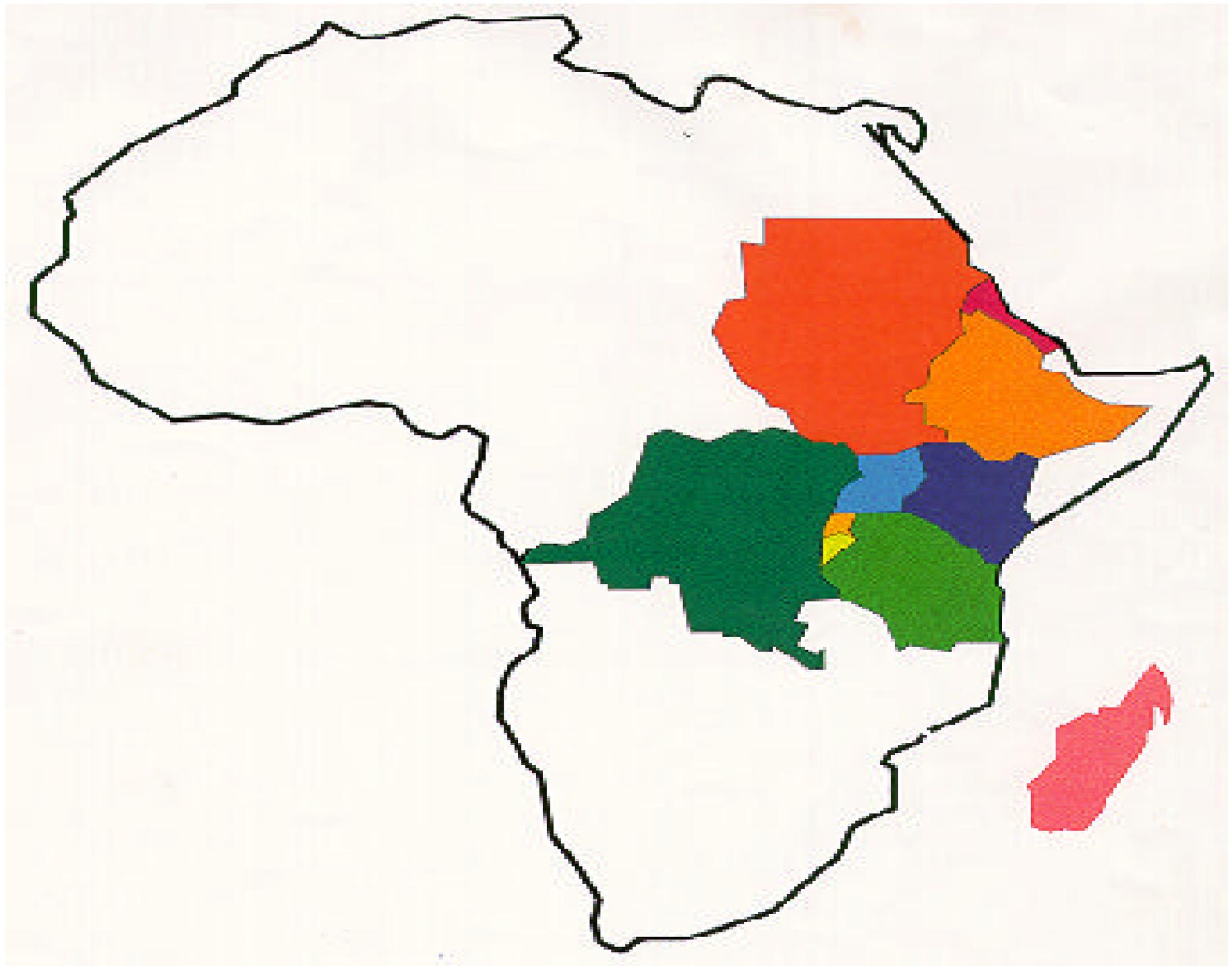


The Sub-Regional Approach to Develop Agricultural Biotechnology in the Eastern and Central Africa Sub- Region

- Report to the Roundtable Conference
Association for Strengthening Agricultural
Research in Eastern and Central Africa
(ASARECA)
- 21-23 October, 2002 Nairobi, Kenya

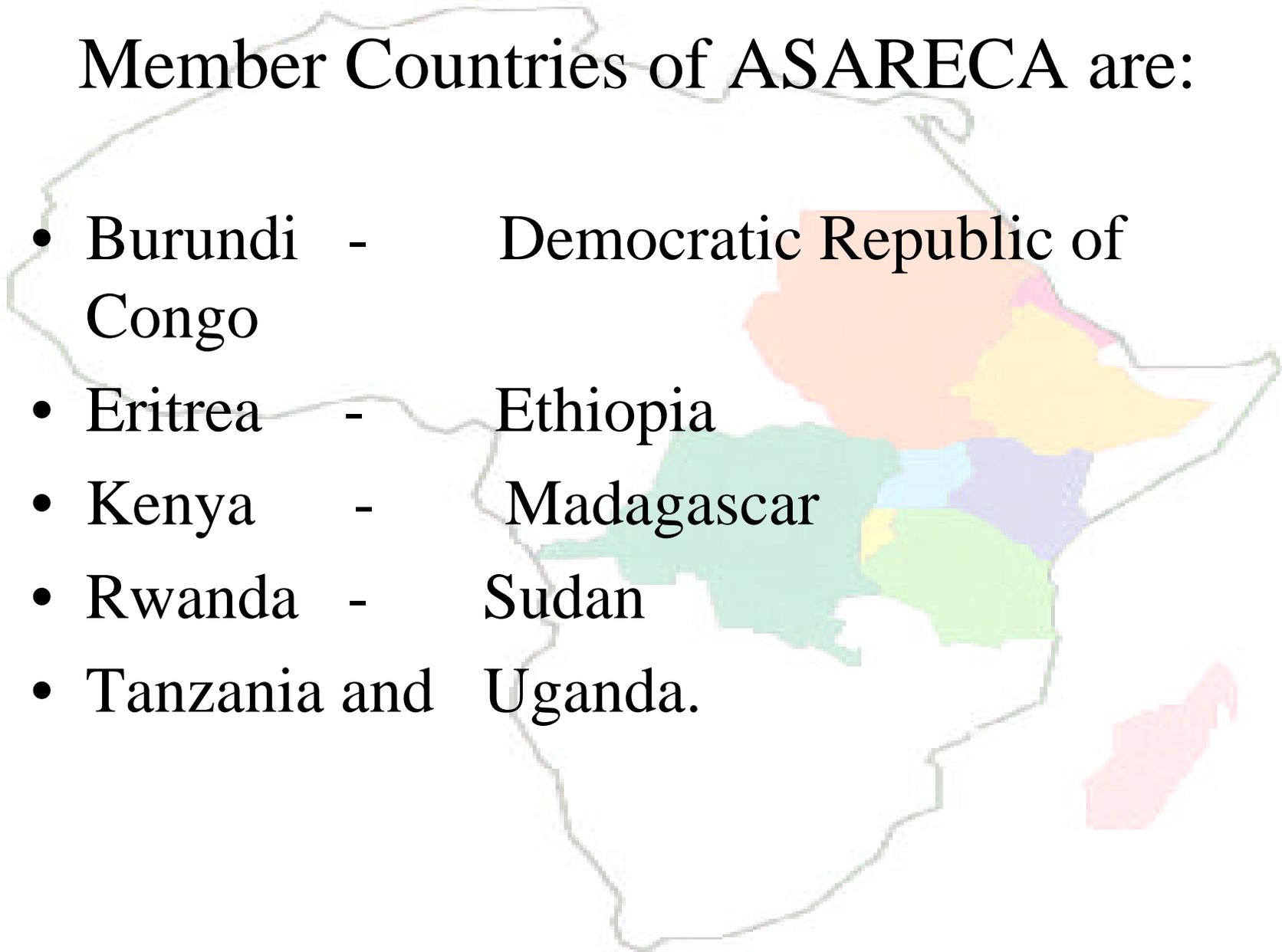
*Association for Strengthening
Agricultural Research in
Eastern and Central Africa
(ASARECA)*





Member Countries of ASARECA are:

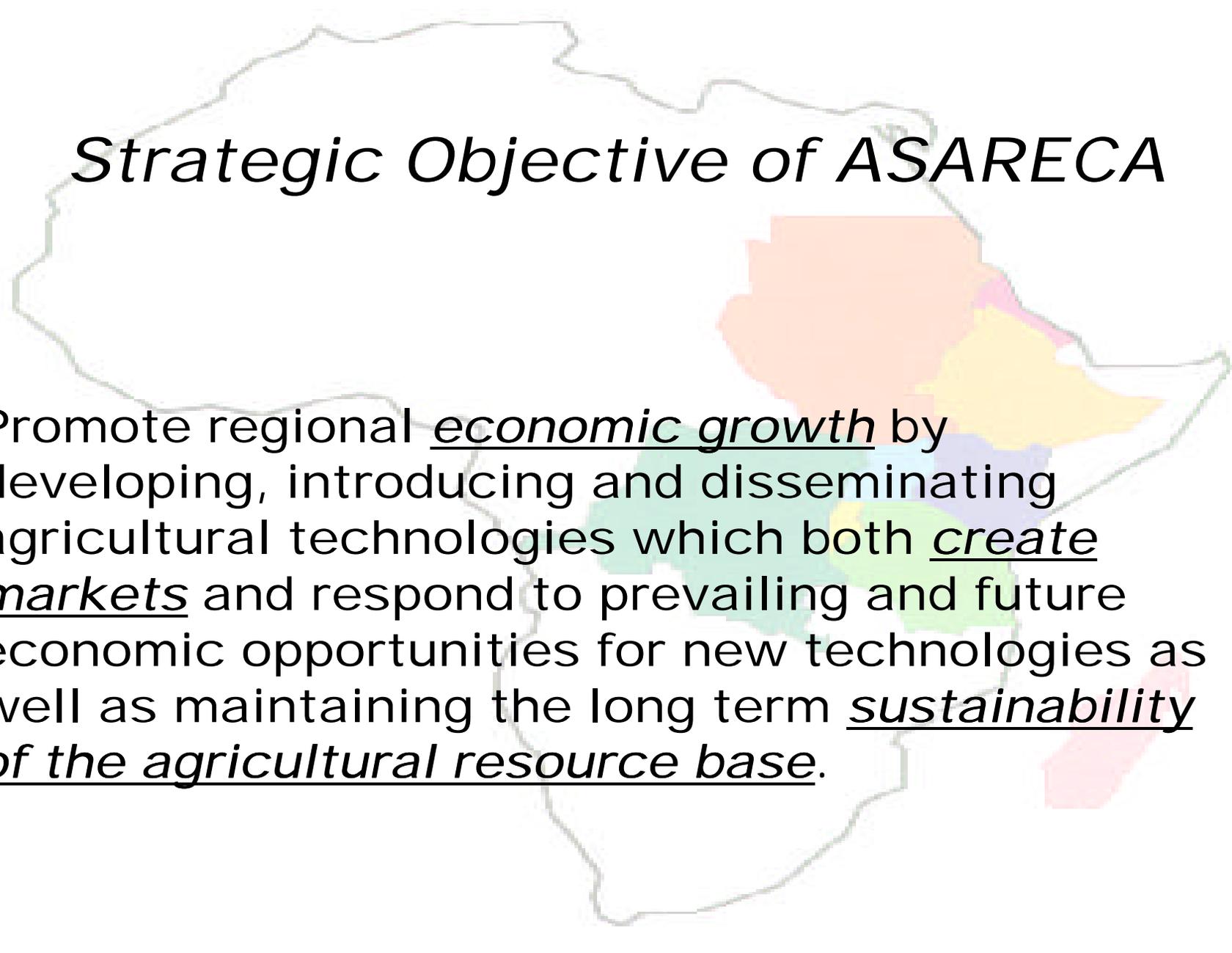
- Burundi - Democratic Republic of Congo
- Eritrea - Ethiopia
- Kenya - Madagascar
- Rwanda - Sudan
- Tanzania and Uganda.



Strategic Goal of ASARECA

- ASARECA's primary goal is to enable agricultural research in the ECA sub-region to play a leading role in promoting market/income generation oriented agriculture.
- The secondary goal is for ASARECA to serve as the main forum where strategies and ideas for agricultural research and their relationship to agricultural development in the sub-region are conceived and exchanged.



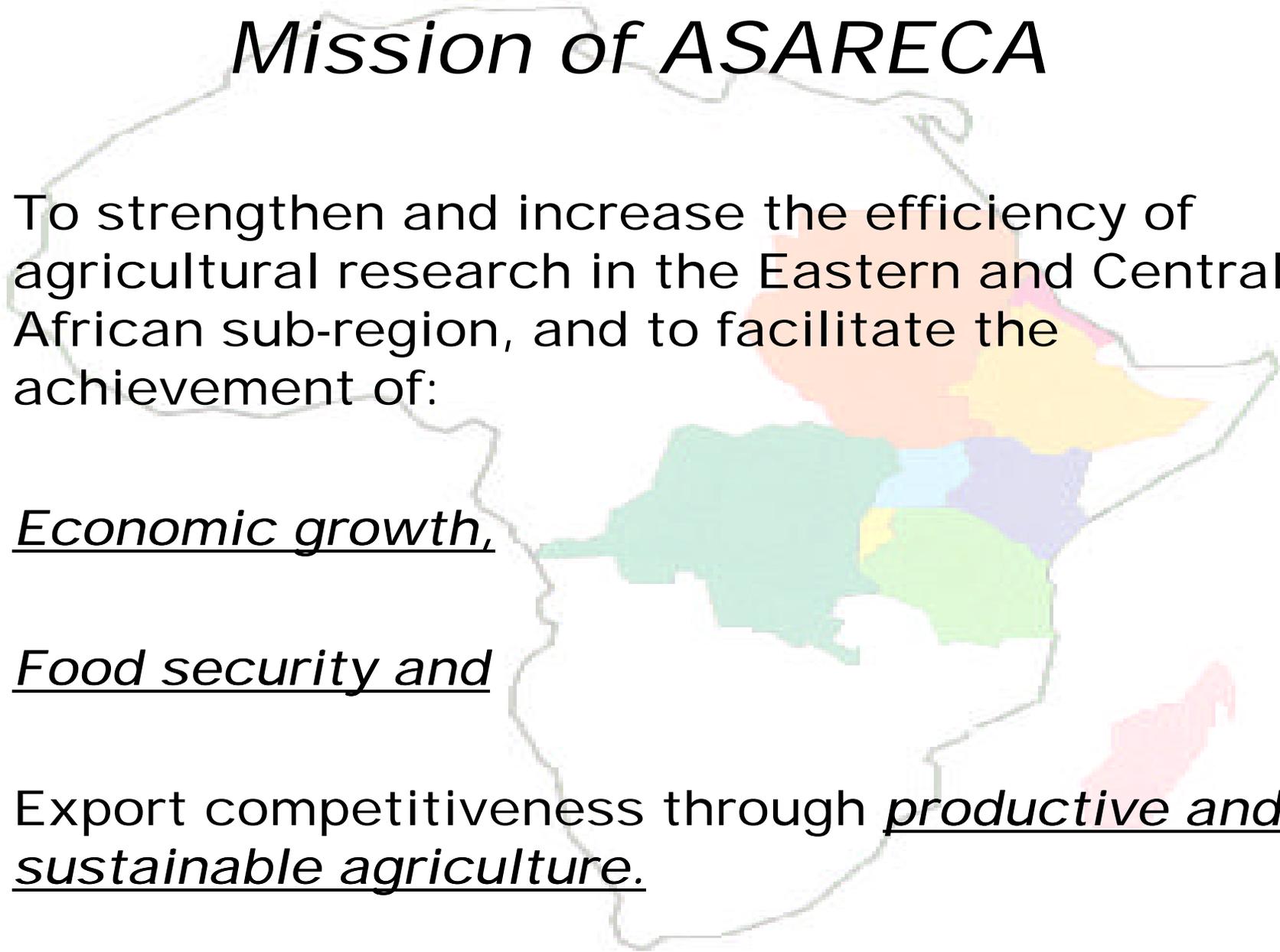


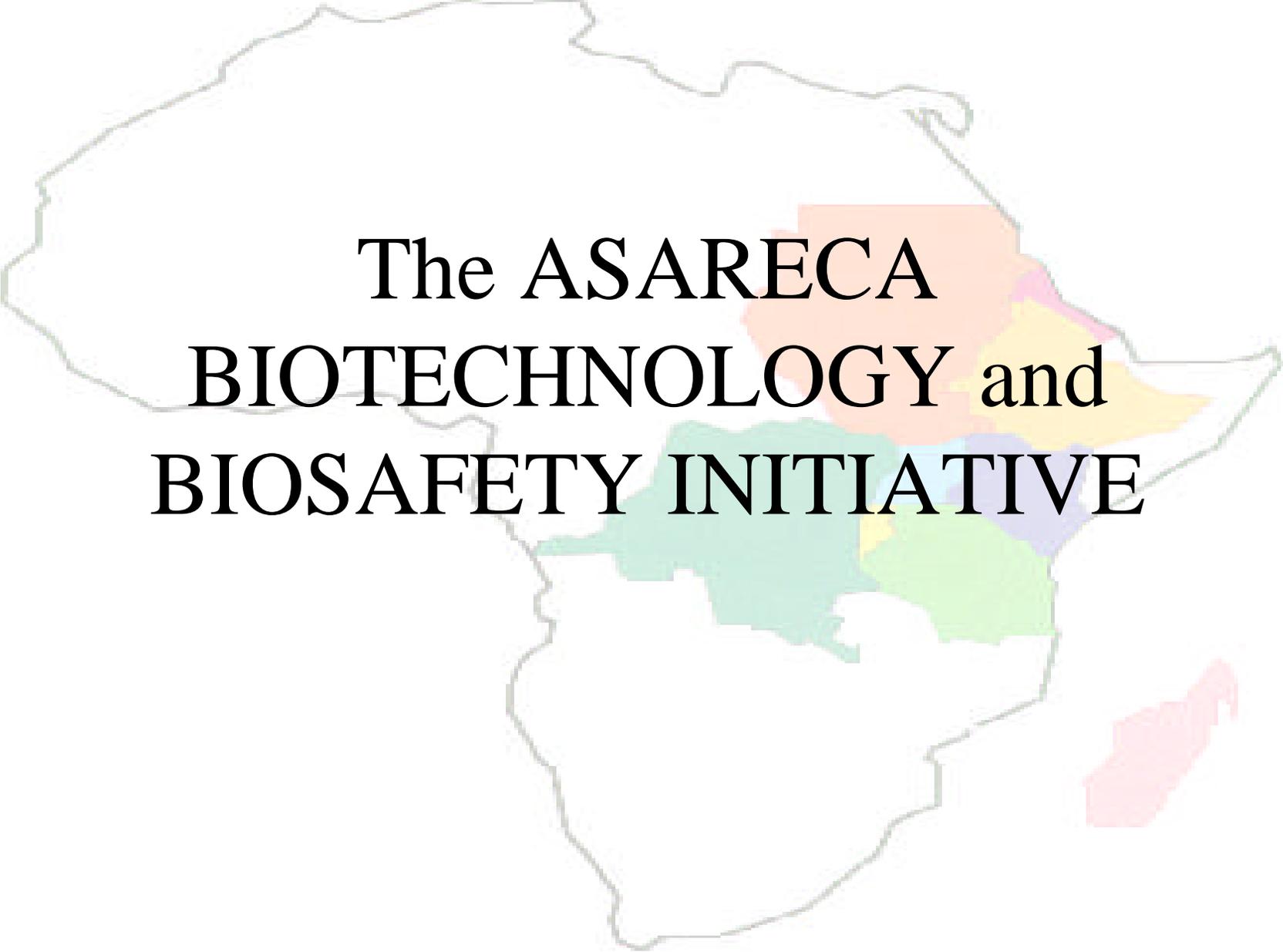
Strategic Objective of ASARECA

Promote regional economic growth by developing, introducing and disseminating agricultural technologies which both create markets and respond to prevailing and future economic opportunities for new technologies as well as maintaining the long term sustainability of the agricultural resource base.

Mission of ASARECA

- To strengthen and increase the efficiency of agricultural research in the Eastern and Central African sub-region, and to facilitate the achievement of:
- *Economic growth,*
- *Food security and*
- Export competitiveness through *productive and sustainable agriculture.*



A map of the African continent with several regions highlighted in different colors: orange in the north, yellow in the northeast, green in the west and south, purple in the east, and pink in the southeast. The text is overlaid on the map.

**The ASARECA
BIOTECHNOLOGY and
BIOSAFETY INITIATIVE**

The CD Recommended to Establish a Working Group on Biotechnology and Biosafety Initiative September 1999 to:

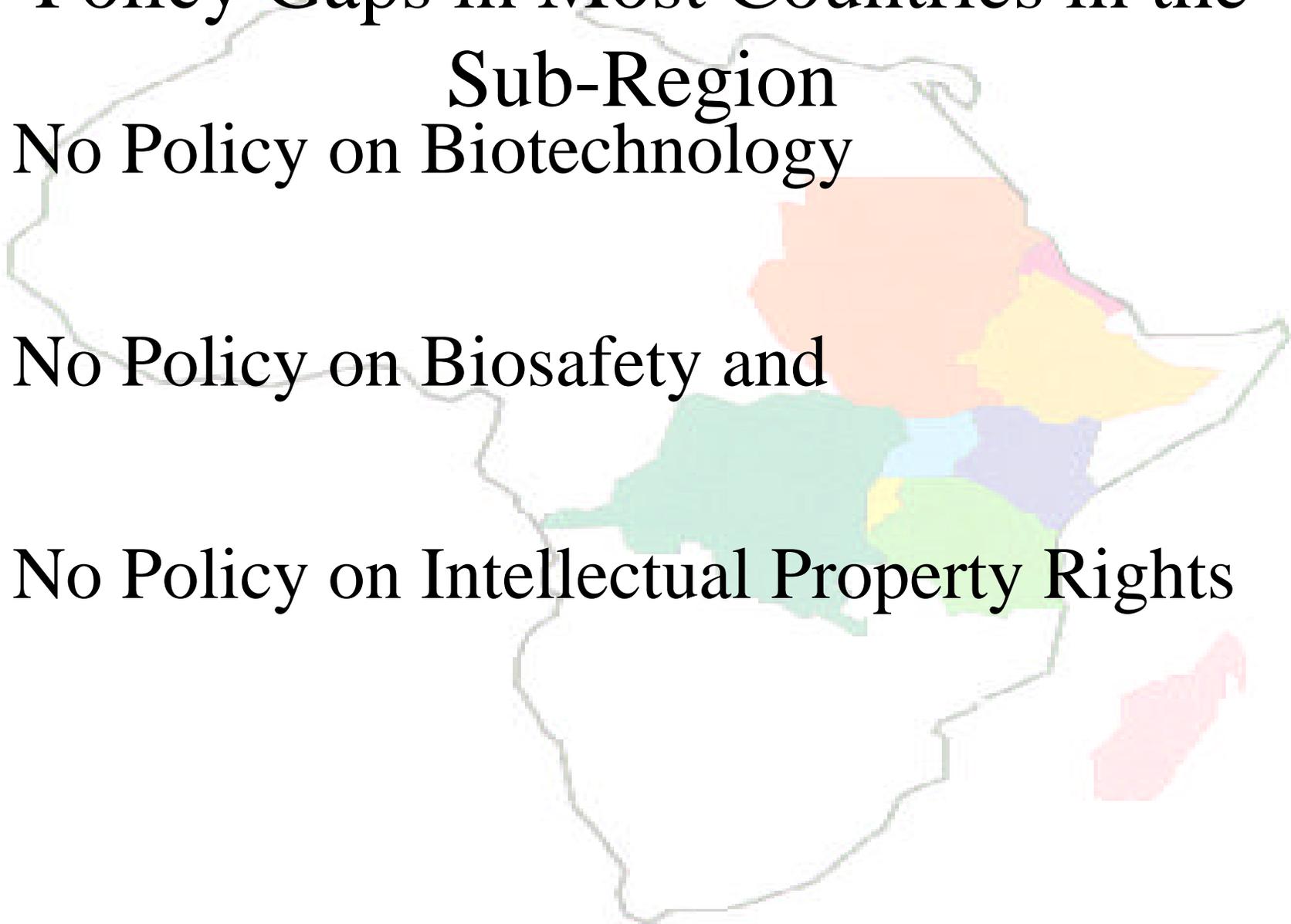
- Steer a Biotechnology and Biosafety Initiative
- Develop a biotechnology and bio-safety initiative and develop a suitable program for the sub-region
- Conduct a broader dialogue among stakeholders
- Identify major thrusts and objectives of the program
- Develop a fundable project proposal
- The Working Group is composed of 10 members one from each ASARECA member country
- It is supported by a part-time Coordinator the ASARECA secretariat and
- **Is Backstopped by ABSP and USAID.**

Benefits of the Biotechnology and Biosafety Initiative

- Benefit from a consolidated regional capacity
- Facilitate dissemination of biotechnology products within the region
- Have a regional biosafety and IPR framework to stimulate regional movements of grmplasm and regional trade in biotechnology products in conformity with the Cartagena Protocol
- Facilitate harmonization of the above

Policy Gaps in Most Countries in the Sub-Region

- No Policy on Biotechnology
- No Policy on Biosafety and
- No Policy on Intellectual Property Rights



The Working Group on the Biotechnology and Biosafety Initiative Commissioned two Consultancy Reports

- Agricultural Biotechnology in the ASARECA region:
“Priorities for Research” and
- Biosafety: Current Status, Mechanisms and Administration



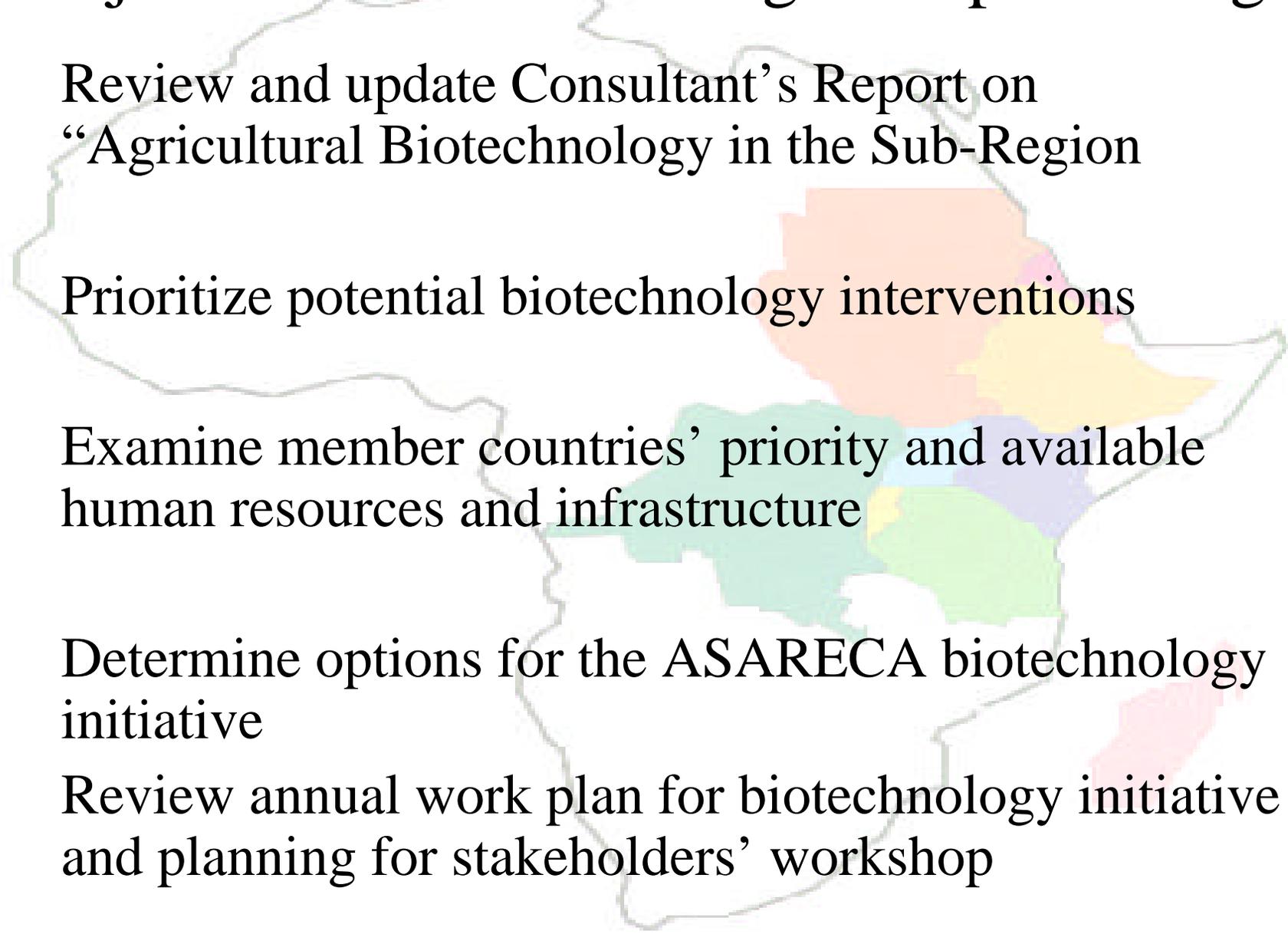


**ASARECA WORKING GROUP MEETING ON
AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY:**

**“PRIORITIES FOR AGRICULTURAL
RESEARCH”**

APRIL 15-17, 2002 Nairobi, Kenya

Objectives of the Working Group Meeting

- Review and update Consultant's Report on "Agricultural Biotechnology in the Sub-Region"
 - Prioritize potential biotechnology interventions
 - Examine member countries' priority and available human resources and infrastructure
 - Determine options for the ASARECA biotechnology initiative
 - Review annual work plan for biotechnology initiative and planning for stakeholders' workshop
- 

The Report on Agricultural Biotechnology in the ASARECA region: “Priorities for Research”

- identified priorities for biotechnology agricultural research and opportunities for strategic partnerships with advanced research institutions.
- Based on the report and additional stakeholder input, the working group identified biotechnology interventions that would address the main production constraints for ECA priority crop and livestock commodities

Regional Livestock Priorities, Constraints and Biotechnology Interventions

Commodity	Intervention	Constraints*							
		V	P	B	R	F	S	Rp	G
Cattle	V;D;MM; H;G	s	m	s					
Sheep & Goats	V;G;H;D	s, m							
Poultry	D;V;H	s	m		m, s				
Cattle, reproduction	BT; MM							s, m	

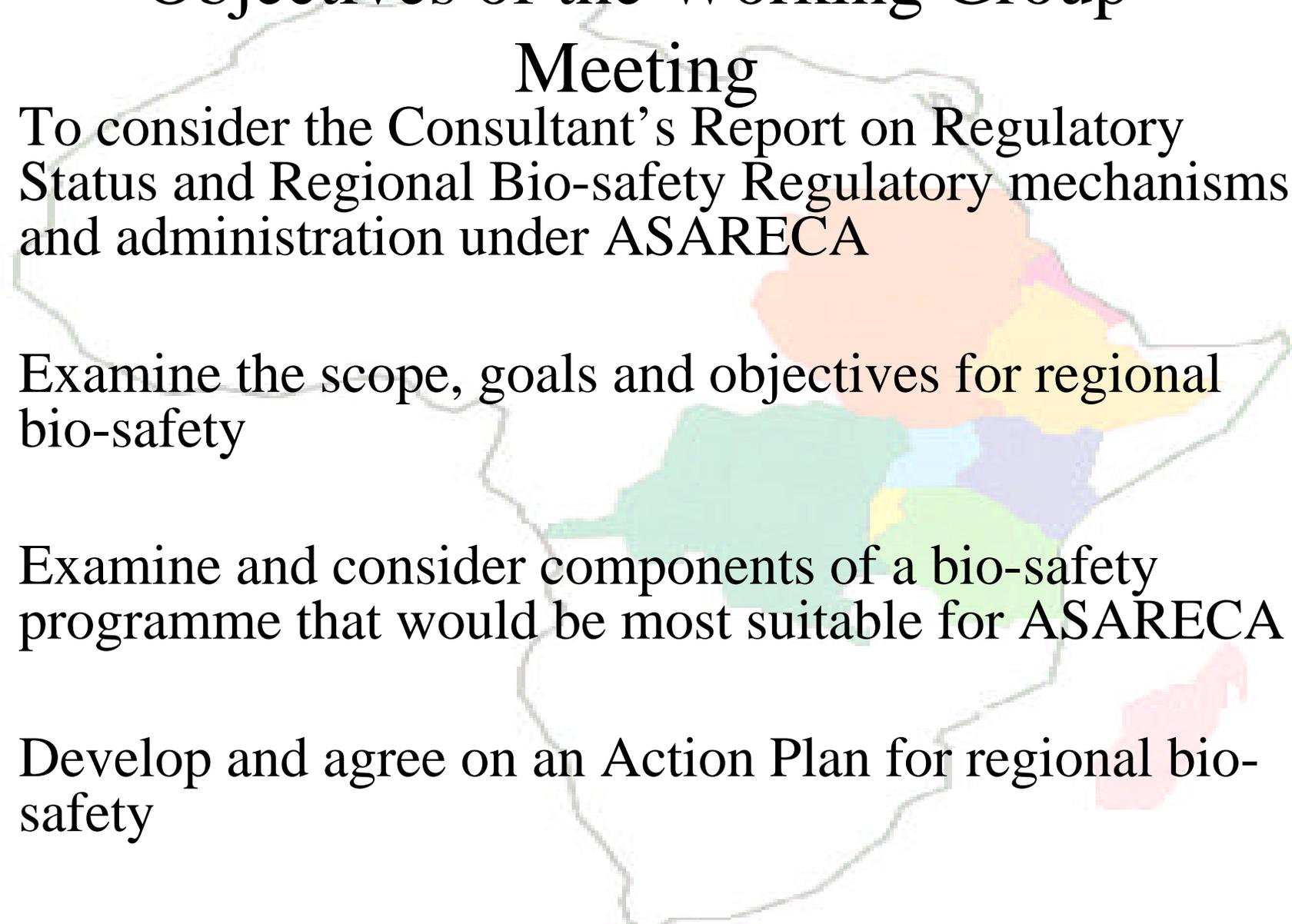
A map of the African continent is shown in the background, with several countries highlighted in different colors: orange (North Africa), yellow (East Africa), green (West Africa), purple (East Africa), and pink (Madagascar).

ASARECA WORKING GROUP MEETING ON BIOSAFETY:

CURRENT STATUS, REGULATORY MECHANISM
AND ADMINISTRATION UNDER ASARECA

JUNE 14-16, 2002 Nairobi, Kenya

Objectives of the Working Group Meeting

- To consider the Consultant's Report on Regulatory Status and Regional Bio-safety Regulatory mechanisms and administration under ASARECA
 - Examine the scope, goals and objectives for regional bio-safety
 - Examine and consider components of a bio-safety programme that would be most suitable for ASARECA
 - Develop and agree on an Action Plan for regional bio-safety
- 

The Report on Biosafety: Current Status, Mechanisms and Administration

- outlined the current status of biosafety in the sub-region
- Bio-safety regulatory mechanisms and
- the feasibility for a sub-regional biosafety approach.

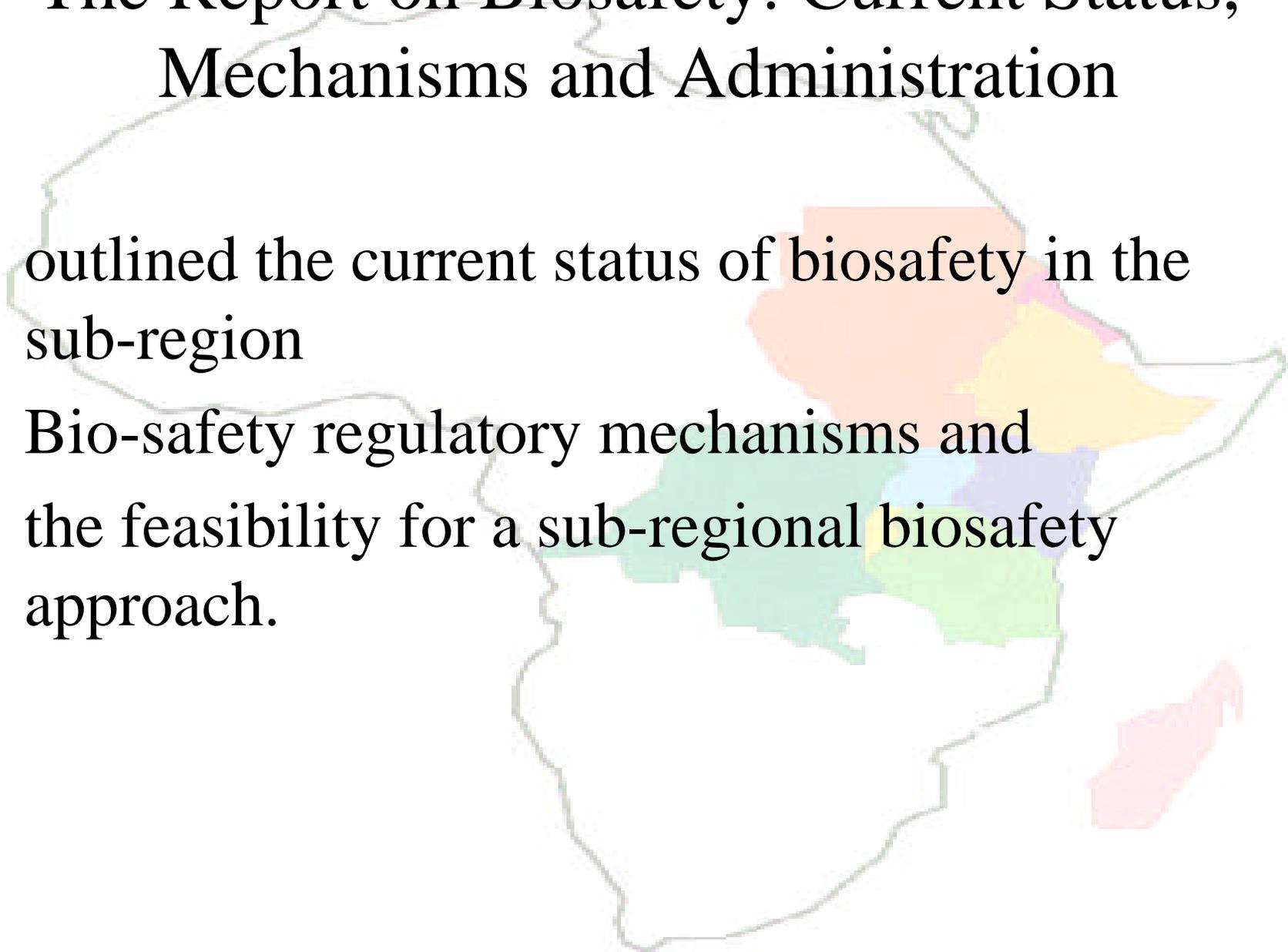
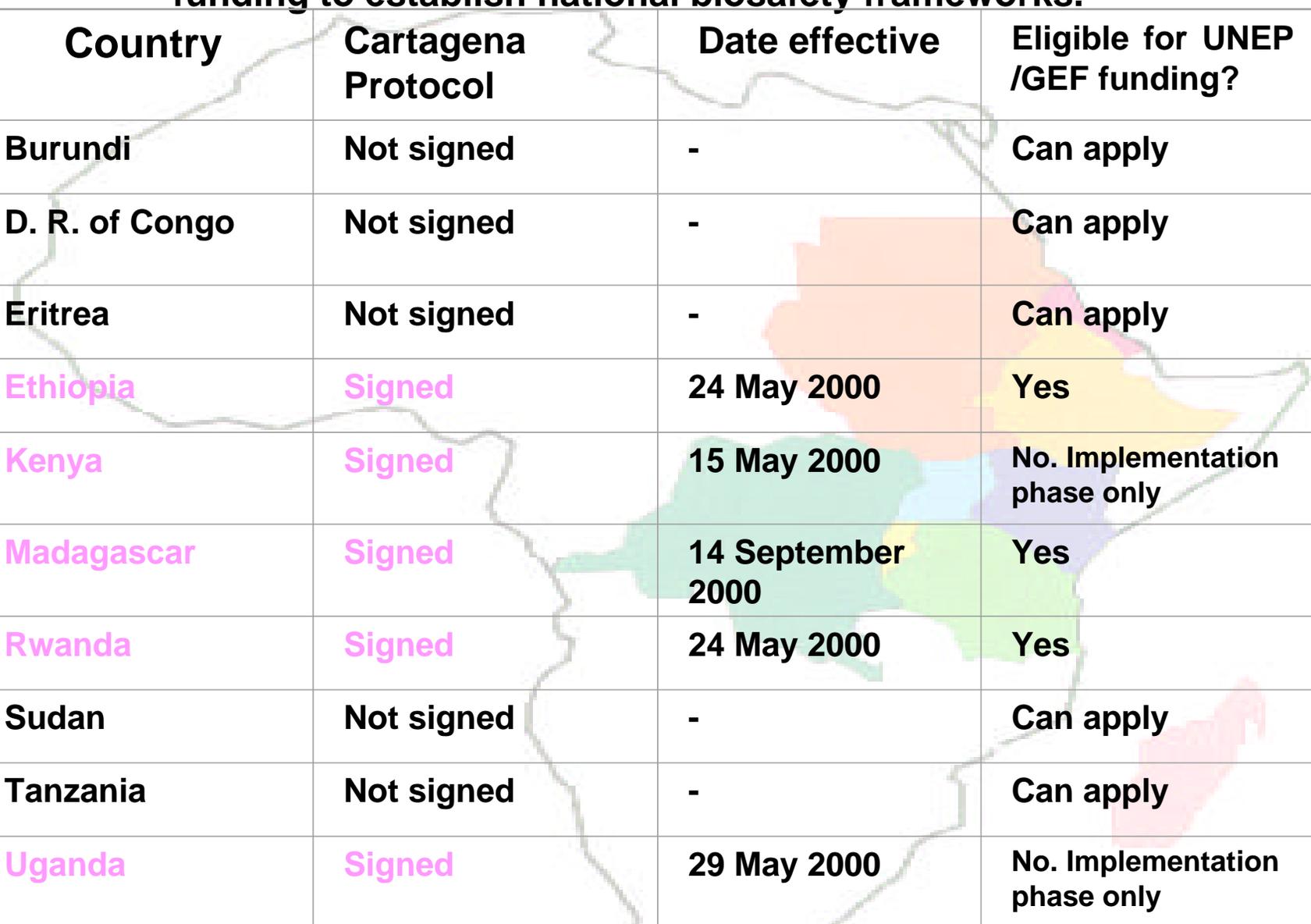


Table 1: Status of ASARECA member countries with respect to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and access to UNEP/GEF funding to establish national biosafety frameworks.



Country	Cartagena Protocol	Date effective	Eligible for UNEP /GEF funding?
Burundi	Not signed	-	Can apply
D. R. of Congo	Not signed	-	Can apply
Eritrea	Not signed	-	Can apply
Ethiopia	Signed	24 May 2000	Yes
Kenya	Signed	15 May 2000	No. Implementation phase only
Madagascar	Signed	14 September 2000	Yes
Rwanda	Signed	24 May 2000	Yes
Sudan	Not signed	-	Can apply
Tanzania	Not signed	-	Can apply
Uganda	Signed	29 May 2000	No. Implementation phase only

Data correct on 1 October 2001

Table 2: The status of biosafety regulation in ASARECA member countries

Country	Framework*	Guidelines & interim process	New or adapted GM legislation
Burundi	No	No	No
Democratic Republic of Congo	No	No	No
Eritrea	No	No	No
Ethiopia	No	No	No
Kenya	Yes	Yes	No
Madagascar	No	No	No
Rwanda	No	No	No
Sudan	No	No	No
Tanzania	No	No	No
Uganda	Yes	Yes	No

*A national biosafety structure for regulation of GM activities.

Conceptual Framework for the Biotechnology and Biosafety Program

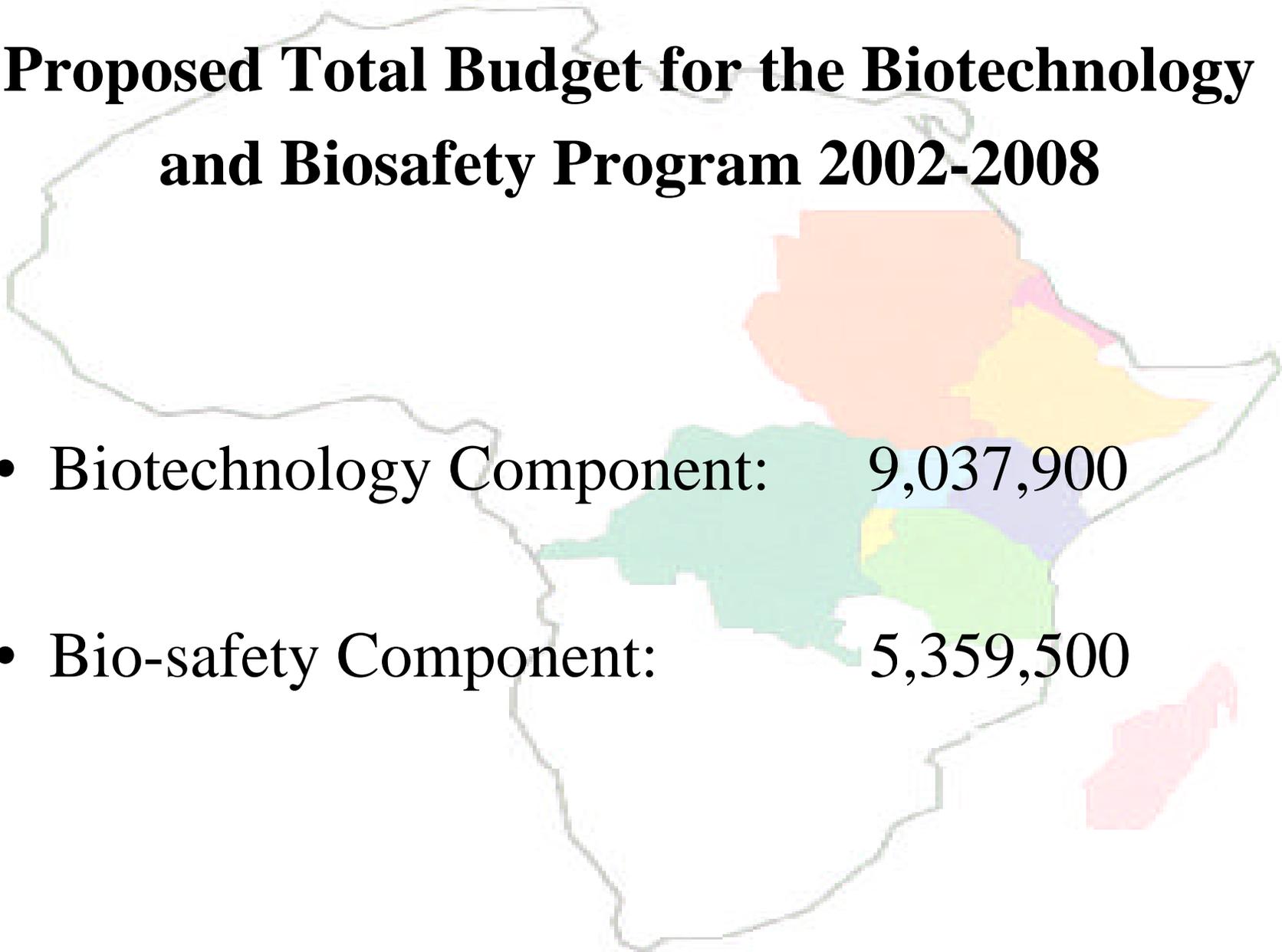
Goal: Enhanced and sustainable productivity and competitiveness in R. Ag.S		
Purpose: Safe application of biotechnology for productivity and competitiveness		
IR 1: Demand driven biotechnologies utilized	IR 2: Enabling bio-policy environment for agricultural transformation facilitated	IR 3: Performance driven institutional arrangements for biotechnology promoted
IR 1.3: Appropriate biotechnologies disseminated	IR 2.3: Sub-regional bio-safety policy dialogue enhanced	IR 3.2: Capacity to integrate biotechnology research and development within the sub-region enhanced
IR 1.2: Appropriate Biotechnologies generated and/or adapted	IR 2.2: Sub-regional templates for conducting bio-safety review and management established and utilized	IR 3.1: Effective Coordination mechanism for biotechnology and bio-safety developed
IR 1.1: Market oriented foresight mechanisms established	IR 2.1: A sub-regional knowledge and skills base sufficient to support bio-safety decision-making in member countries	

Table Five Year Biotechnology Budget Component 2002-2008

Intermediate Result (IR)	Y1	Y2	Y3	Budget Y-1	Budget Y-2	Budget Y-3	Budget Y-4	Budget Y-5	Total US\$
IR 1:Demand Driven Biotechnologies Utilized									
1.1.1 Commission Consultant	—		—		15,000				15,000
1.1.2 Determine priorities	—			92,150			92,150		184,300
1.2.1 Develop, review and award proposals			—	50,000	18,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	128,000
1.2.2 Disseminate results							15,000	15,000	30,000

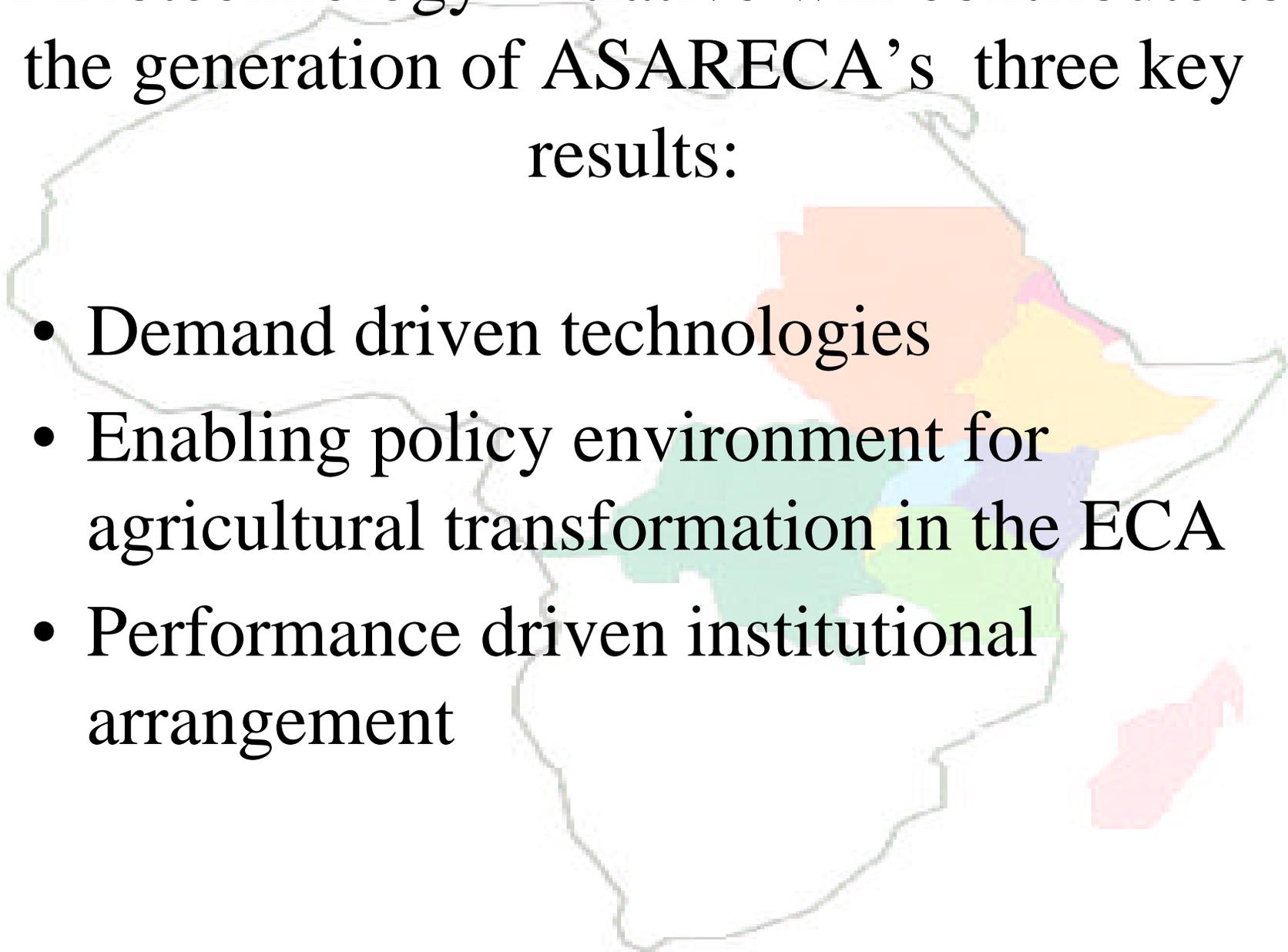
Proposed Total Budget for the Biotechnology and Biosafety Program 2002-2008

- Biotechnology Component: 9,037,900
- Bio-safety Component: 5,359,500



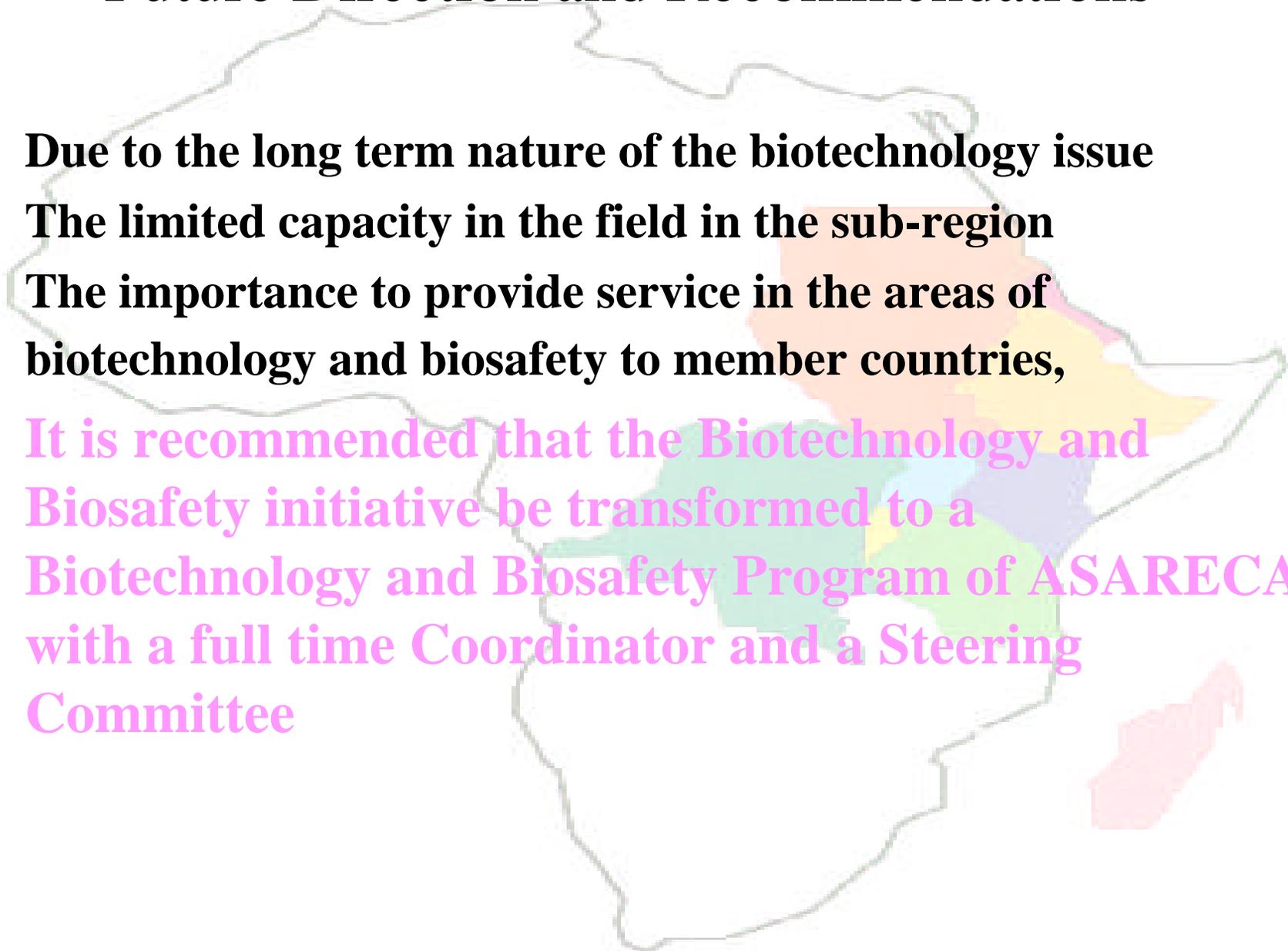
A Biotechnology initiative will contribute to the generation of ASARECA's three key results:

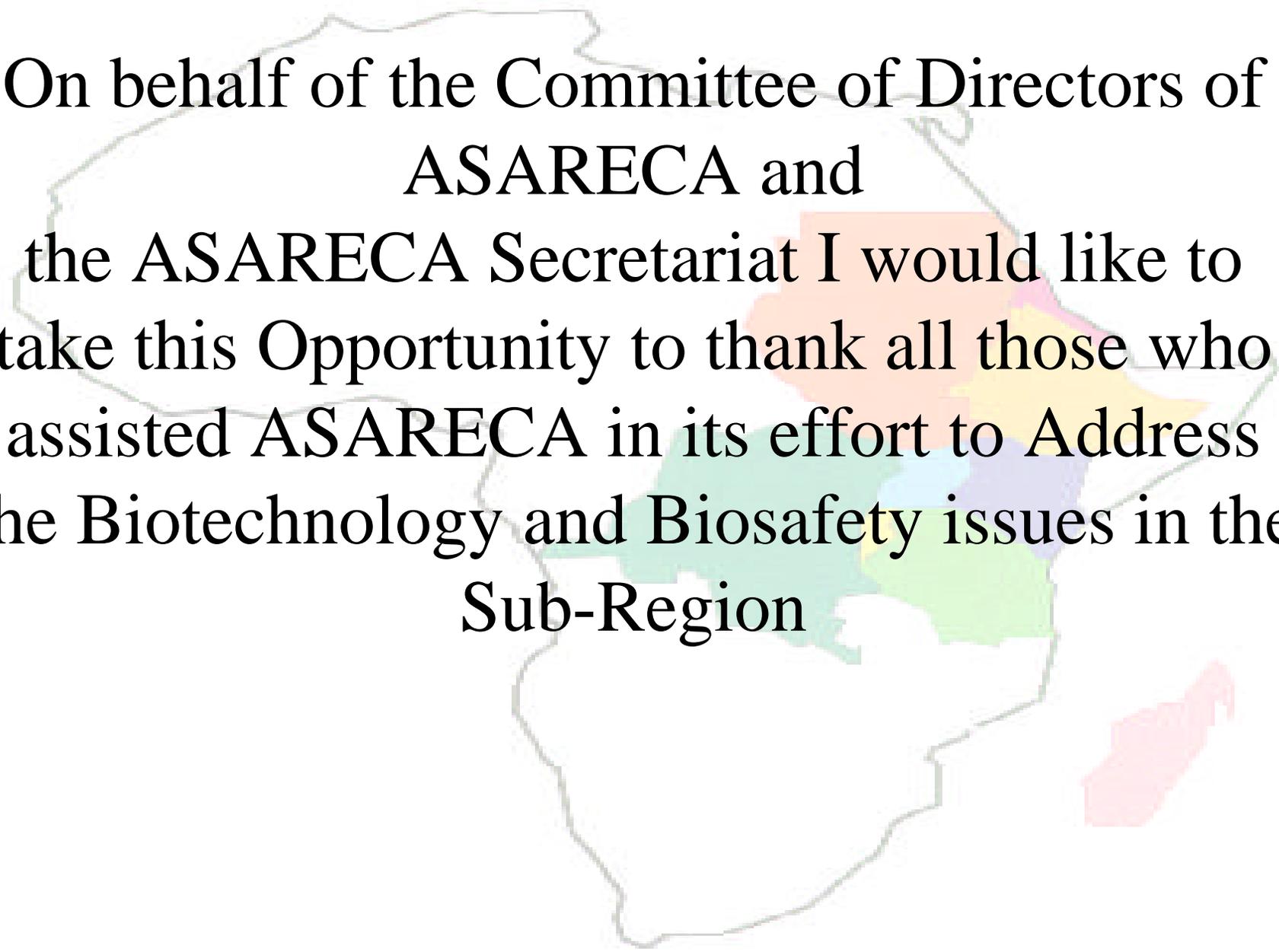
- Demand driven technologies
- Enabling policy environment for agricultural transformation in the ECA
- Performance driven institutional arrangement



Future Direction and Recommendations

- **Due to the long term nature of the biotechnology issue**
- **The limited capacity in the field in the sub-region**
- **The importance to provide service in the areas of biotechnology and biosafety to member countries,**
- **It is recommended that the Biotechnology and Biosafety initiative be transformed to a Biotechnology and Biosafety Program of ASARECA with a full time Coordinator and a Steering Committee**





On behalf of the Committee of Directors of
ASARECA and
the ASARECA Secretariat I would like to
take this Opportunity to thank all those who
assisted ASARECA in its effort to Address
the Biotechnology and Biosafety issues in the
Sub-Region

First of all our great thanks goes to the USAID

- For Providing the Financial Support and enabling all this Positive Developments to Happen and also
- In addition to the financial support for Providing Technical Backstopping



Our thanks goes also to:

- Pro. Rubaihayo, Chairman of Working Group
- DR. Evans, USAID/REDSO/ESA
- Dr Komen ISNAR
- Mrs. Koch, Bio-safety, Biotechnology South Africa
- DR. Makenzie, AGRIBIOS, CANADA
- Dr. Fatokun, and DR. Whyte, IITA
- DR. Fauquet, Plant Biotechnology Plant Virology
Danforth Center, St Louis, USA
- Dr. Kiambi, IPGRI



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- Biotechnology Initiative
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- Dr. Kitch, FAO
- DR. Webster, AfricaBio, South Africa
- Dr. Brink, ABSF, MSU, USA
- Dr. Gbedemah, UNEF/GEF
- DR. Ngichbe, Coordinator, ASARECA



Our thanks goes also to all who participated from
ASARECA Member Countries:

- Burundi - Democratic Republic of Congo
- Eritrea - Ethiopia
- Kenya - Madagascar
- Rwanda - Sudan
- Tanzania and Uganda.





Thank you