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KEYNOTE SPEAKER ABSTRACT BOOK
International Congress on
APPLIED BIOLOGY
1 - 2 Sep. 2011, Mashhad - IRAN



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Biotechnology and the flat world

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Abstract:

Thomas Friedman, foreign affairs columnist for The New York Times, following a trip to the East, and in response to developments of India and China in the field of science and technology, wrote, a book entitled "The World is Flat". He describes ten flatteners for this phenomenon: the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the emergence of Web browser, work flow software, Open sourcing, Outsourcing, Offshoring ; Supply chain), Insourcing, In-forming and steroids (digital technologies, mobile, PC and virtual world. To accept that, the world, in its current state, is flat does not appear to be true. In the meantime, it is not logical to deny the beginning of the process of so called "the flat world". I do believe, in Friedman's analysis, a big flattening driver "the biotechnology" has been overlooked. Without the engine of economic development in developing and under-developing countries, the world can not be flat ground for the competition. The North-South Gap is the fruits of decades of relentless efforts of the West, following of the Renaissance and the Industrial Revolution. To fill the gap between the North and by conventional technologies is a difficult, time-consuming and not-logical process. Biotechnology, Nanotechnology and stem cell technology are among technologies which have created an invaluable opportunity for the South to fill the gap. The development of recombinant DNA technology to produce various products can be summarized in a microtube. In an optimistic estimate, that could happen in a small laboratory in a remote country. In this speech, various areas of biotechnology, including agriculture, animal husbandry, molecular medicine, forensic science, microbial genetics, environmental science, oil industry will be discussed. Furthermore, the potential role they may play in the development of the South will be explored and the strategies to achieve the goal will be proposed. Hoping, the country's political elite understand the potential role of biotechnology in the current situation of the flattening world.

