Dissemination of educational resources and development of a biosecurity network

Sixteenth Session of the Advisory Board on Education and Outreach – 17 April 2024



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SOME PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS



Preventing Chemical Weapons (2018)



Cartoons paper



Education Survey Paper



Essentials of Biological Security (2024)

Preventing Chemical Weapons Book (2018)

Section I: Introduction

Section II: The Chemical and Biological Weapons

Prevention and

Disarmament Regime

Today

Section III: Advances in

Chemistry and Biology

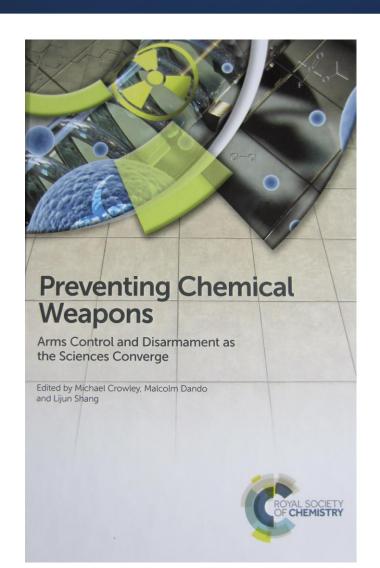
Section IV: Implications for

Arms Control and

Disarmament

Section V: The Role of Civil

Society

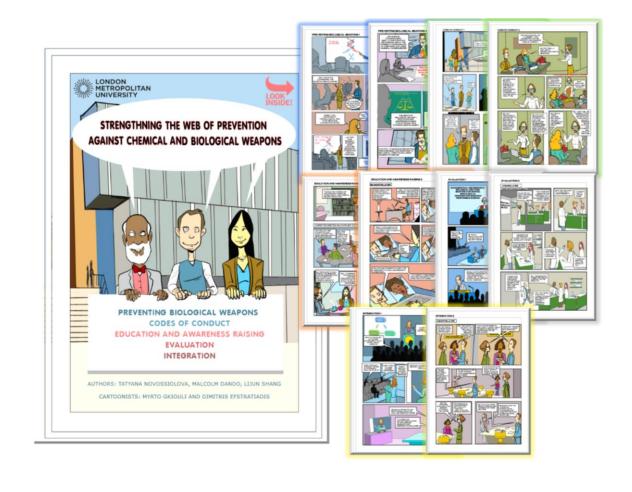


Themes

- 1. The **CWC and BTWC** need to be considered together
- 2. Scientific and Technological change is critical
- 3. Civil Society has an important role to play in support of the regime

Series of cartoons: Innovation Required

- Series of cartoons
 explaining the issue of
 dual-use and the role of the
 BTWC and CWC
- Issues of translation and the necessity to make the information available in different languages



Biosecurity Education Survey: Data Required

- Biosecurity Education survey using 21 closed and open questions to assess the biosecurity education projects carried out in the last two decades
- 1. Elements required to implement the Tianjin Guidelines missing Scientists largely unaware of the dangers of dual use
- 2. The **biosecurity education projects are uncoordinated**A variety of projects carried out but not coordinated
- 3. These deficiencies could be efficiently addressed and remedied IBSEN and OPCW/ABEO provide models of ways forward

Education Tools: Active Learning Required

- Team-based-learning (TBL)
 - TBL Handbook (Biological Security Education Handbook: The Power of Team-Based Learning, Tatyana Novossiolova)
 - Threshold concepts:
 - Transformative, Troublesome, Irreversible, Integrative, Bounded Discursive, Reconstitutive, Liminality
- Training-the-trainer methodology possible
- Podcast demonstration available

Essentials of Biological Security I: Textbook Required

Essentials of Biological Security A Global Perspective **Edited by Lijun Shang** Weiwen Zhang • Malcolm Dando

WILEY



To rapidly produce a one-stop-shop resource to help people teach biological security in support of the Tianjin Guidelines.



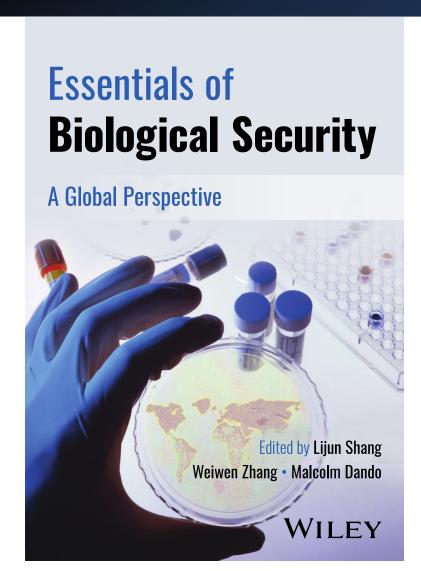
Design

Authors asked to keep a very tight schedule of outline, first draft, and final draft so as to have a book published within a year.

Five sections and 20 chapters. All chapters short (5,000 word suggested limit) with key points, summary and few references (5 suggested limit and key ones starred).

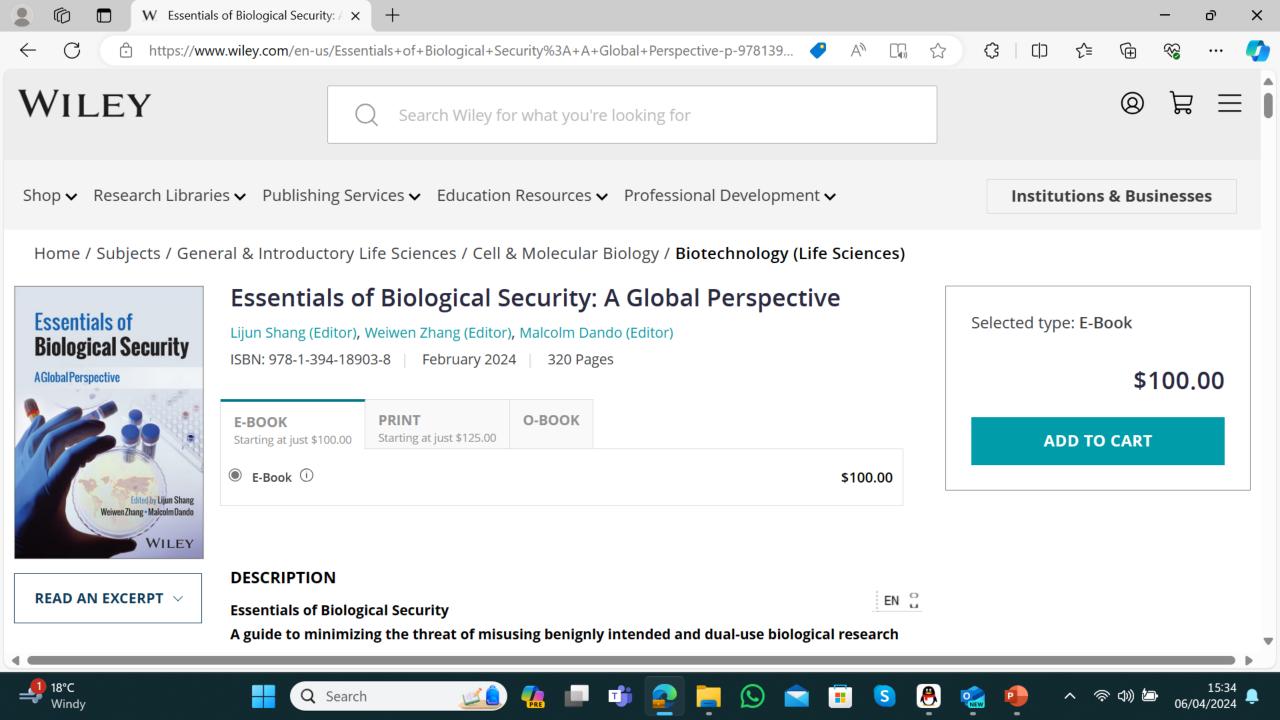
Aim to enable translations into multiple languages and to engage authors from around the world.

Essentials of Biological Security II: Sections of the Textbook



The book is divided into 20 chapters in five sections:

- Introduction and Overview (1 Chapter)
- 2. The Threat (7 Chapters)
- 3. The International Response (4 Chapters)
- 4. The Role of Scientists (6 Chapters)
- **5.** The Future (2 Chapters)



IBSEN Project



Structure



Contact Database



Website



Coordination meeting

Structure of the IBSEN I

Professor Lijun Shang
Director BRSC,
London Metropolitan
University

Professor Malcolm Dando

Bradford University & London Metropolitan Uni

Iris Magne

Research Assistant, London Metropolitan University

8 International Oversight Board Members representing a broad geographic coverage

Structure of the IBSEN II – The International Oversight Board

Dr Maria J. Espona

Prof Brian Balmer

Studies at UCL

• Director of Argentina Information Quality (ArgIQ)

Prof Zabta K Shinwari

 Vice Chancellor of the Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and **Technology**

Prof Kathryn Nixdorff

• Professor of Science Policy Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Genetics, Darmstadt University of Technology

Dr Dana Perkins

• Senior Science Advisor, Administration for Strategic **Preparedness and Response** (ASPR) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Prof Xue Yang

 Professor at Law School and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Biosafety Research and Strategy (CBRS), Tianjin **University**

Prof Halima Benbouza

 Director for Science and Technology at the National Council of Scientific Research and Technologies, Algeria

Dr Samira Senouci

• First Vice-President of the Moroccan Biosafety Association (MOBSA) and manager at LabSolutions

The IBSEN Website

- The IBSEN website is live since March 2024.
- It will host the *Quarterly*Newsletter and the educational tools developed as part of the project.
- It is the essential tool to engage with an academic community and policymakers and raise awareness about the work of the IBSEN.



IBSEN Contact Database

- Objective: create a database of scholars, academics and policymakers who are interested in IBSEN and have a background in biosecurity education.
- Format: The database is divided in 4 categories to include High Schools, Universities, Continuing Professional Education, Government and International Organisations. It aims to have a global coverage to adapt the educational tools developed to different audiences and regions.
- Current stage: It currently has 100 contacts and aims to reach 200 by May 2024.

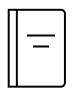
First coordination meeting

• Policy Workshop 16 March 'Toward a collaborative, collective and integrative international CBRN security education: Coordination of International Policy Initiatives on Biosecurity Education'.

 Participants included national and international experts from academic institutions, civil society and international organisations (UNIDIR, CWC ABEO, BWC ISU, IAEA/INSEN).

 Regular dedicated workshops for further coordination seem vital to strengthening global and regional biosecurity education.

THE FUTURE



Book Launch



Next Coordination and BWC meetings



Quarterly Newsletters



Future Grants

IBSEN Book Launch

- Essentials of Biological Security: A Global Perspective
- Book launch in London in May/June
- Book launch later in Tianjin
 - Sub-project to obtain multiple reviews of the book
 - Sub-project to facilitate translations of the book
- Development Possibilities
 - Sub-project to produce chapters as Team-Based Learning Exercises
 - Sub-project to produce cartoons/animations

IBSEN Quarterly Newsletter

- Quarterly Newsletters over two years will be the main means of engaging a large number of interested people.
- First Newsletter set for publication in May 2024 and the main article will be on the International Nuclear Security Education Network (INSEN).
- Second Newsletter will be published in the autumn and the main article will hopefully be on the work of the ABEO.
- Publication mainly on the website and Newsletter to be sent via email to the contact database.

IBSEN Report to Geneva BWC meeting

- Reporting IBSEN developments to the meetings of the BTWC States Parties in Geneva is central to consolidating the network.
- Essential to stress the link to the effective and efficient implementation of the Tianjin Guidelines.
- Will have three people at the meeting and will make an effort to see as many delegations as possible to add to the contacts database.
- Hope to have a Side Event with a State Party sponsor.
- Will make a **Statement** if that is possible.
- Will have hard copies of the first Quarterly Newsletter for distribution.

Second IBSEN Quarterly Newsletter

- Second Quarterly Newsletter hopefully with a main article on the structure and function of the **Advisory Board on Education and Outreach**.
- Publication probably in September 2024 and available for the meeting of the CWC in the autumn and the BTWC meeting in December.
- Probable sections
 - Main article
 - Report on the IBSEN activities at the August BTWC meeting
 - Short reports on **other IBSEN activities**, for example in different regions
 - **Key new literature** notes
 - Invitation to join the contacts database

Next coordination meeting

- Regular coordinated meeting will be arranged across the year (in person and online), 2nd one is scheduled in late 2024
- Will focus on 1) developing education curriculum and exchanges of regional practical excellence with a starting focus on selected countries such as Argentina, Pakistan, Japan and China
- 2) developing and collaborating with other initiatives from CWC, IAEA, etc with focus on developing collaborating grants and addressing common practical issues
- 3) developing communication strategy to attract fundings from State Parties and others for further development of education network

Other IBSEN-Linked Grants

- British Association grant obtained to focus on preparation for a Horizon EU Project application on 'Prevention, detection, response and mitigation of chemical, biological and radiological threats to agricultural production, feed and food processing, distribution and consumption' through enhanced biosecurity education.
- Organising two specific workshops: one to be held at the Biological Security Research Centre (BSRC) at London Metropolitan University, and second in partnership with the Dutch Defense Academy.
- Seeking long term support from various funding routes



Acknowledgements

Thanks to various grant funders

Our collaborators around the world

Thank you!