

## **GHS2026 Conference Workshops**

***Day One - Tuesday 9 2026, 4pm-6pm  
Room 403***

### **From policy to practice: advancing DNA synthesis screening for security and innovation**

#### **Aim:**

To equip policymakers and practitioners with the evidence, policy tools, and strategic insights needed to advance DNA synthesis screening in ways that strengthen biosecurity, enable responsible innovation, and align with national/regional/global security frameworks.

#### **Objectives:**

- Define the strategic added-value and current landscape of DNA synthesis screening: Explain the role of DNA screening within national and regional security priorities, including connections to the BWC, export control regimes, and WHO's global guidance framework. Present an accessible overview of the global DNA synthesis landscape (through the IBBIS Global Synthesis DNA map), covering existing laws and regulations, company practices, and international norms. This will serve as a shared baseline for discussion.
- Provide practical regulatory, legal, and economic tools for policy design: Introduce actionable mechanisms policymakers can use to require or incentivize DNA screening. Demonstrate approaches for conducting cost-benefit analyses and interpreting results, enabling participants to evaluate policy choices/implementation pathways.
- Highlight best practices and measurable indicators of effective screening: Share international best practices, including accreditation and auditing models such as NIST soft standards. Discuss concrete indicators of screening effectiveness.

#### **Target audience:**

This workshop is intended for policymakers, regulators, biosecurity and defence professionals, researchers, and industry representatives.

It will provide practical guidance on regulatory and legal tools for DNA synthesis screening, approaches to assess costs and benefits, implementation best practices, and how screening programs support national and regional security priorities, including alignment with the BWC and export control regimes.

Proposed geographical or population focus: Open to all conference delegate