

**PRESS RELEASE**

**A NEW DIRECTOR  
FOR THE AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION**



**Eric Fargeas has been appointed as the new Director of Agropolis International Association by its President Bernard Hubert. This decision has been approved by the Association Bureau on September 12th, 2013 and he took up his functions immediately.**

Eric FARGEAS, 54 years old, is a technical engineer in agriculture, a diploma co-delivered by the CNAM (National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts) and AgroParisTech. His career started in 1987, as manager of the animal, poultry and rabbit breeding sectors for "Languedoc-Roussillon Elevage" (LRE).

In collaboration with the regional and national agricultural professional organizations, he led various R&D works on poultry adaptation to climatic hazards and climate change, the improvement of sanitary quality of drinking water and insemination techniques in small animal breeding... He has led the national federation of rabbit producers for 7 years.

Employed by ITAVI (Poultry Farming Technical Institute) since 1996, he joined Agropolis International in December 2005 to handle the innovation and technology transfer department. He was appointed deputy director of the Association in 2011.

Over the last two years, he has worked in particular for Cirad and Acta (Association for Agricultural Technical Coordination) to coordinate the creation of the Network for Agricultural Innovation and Transfer (RITA), a CIOM initiative (Overseas Interministerial Committee), over 5 French overseas departments.

**Eric FARGEAS succeeds Paul LUU, who recently joined the CGIAR Consortium as Senior Liaison Officer (\*).**

Eric FARGEAS aims to raise the global profile of the "agriculture – food – biodiversity – environment" regional pole in both the research and training sectors. He intends to bring out the scientific community's know-how towards the economic development of the regional territory and of the Southern and Mediterranean countries. The idea is to position a regional cluster of international scope in agronomic and environmental sciences, better integrated within the innovation ecosystem, in order to attract innovative companies.

**AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL**

Agropolis International, world center for agricultural, food and agricultural sciences, based in Languedoc-Roussillon region, France, is an association that pools the greatest global concentration of expertise in the fields of agriculture, food science, biodiversity and environment, focused especially on the development of Mediterranean and tropical regions.

The Association collaborates with scientific and technical institutions and brings together many economic and rural development stakeholders — agricultural and agrifood technical institutes, representatives of agricultural industries and companies, consultancy firms, NGOs, etc., as well as local authorities (Conseil regional Languedoc-Roussillon, Conseil général de l'Hérault and Montpellier Agglomération), which strongly support the Association.

[www.agropolis.org](http://www.agropolis.org)

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*(\* ) Appointed to the CGIAR Consortium by the French Ministry of Agriculture, Paul Luu's role is to facilitate interactions with French administrative authorities and political bodies to ensure the successful implementation of the international organization in France and within Agropolis International in Montpellier*