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Family Farming & Research



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Agriculturas familiares & investigación

Le Corum Montpellier France

1-3 Juin June Junio 2014



Press release

International Encounters

'Family Farming and Research'

Montpellier, 1st to 3rd June 2014

Over the course of two days, Montpellier welcomes more than 250 major actors in the fields of agriculture and rural life. Farmers, leaders of rural peoples' organisations and NGOs, policy makers, development workers, researchers and concerned citizens will arrive from the four corners of the planet to reflect on the challenges of research on, for and with family farming.

More broadly, they will assess the place of research in the creation and application of the agricultural models of the future.

The Scientific Event of the International Year of Family Farming (IYFF)

As part of the IYFF, declared by the United Nations for 2014, the research organisations belonging to the Agropolis International hub are organising the 'Family Farming and Research' International Encounters.

In partnership with the CGIAR Consortium, the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) and the World Rural Forum (WRF).

With the support of France's Ministries of Foreign Affairs and International Development, and Agriculture, Food and Forestry, and numerous national and international organisations.

Expected outcomes

To contribute to:

- The ambitions of the International Year of Family Farming.
- The preparation of the 3rd Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD).
- The reflections and propositions for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (COP21) in 2015 in Paris.

Topics addressed

The consequences of major global changes on family farming and its development.

- The contribution of family farming to major cultural, social, economic, political, environmental and food security challenges.
- How research and development can support family farming in facing these challenges.

Objectives of the Encounters

For representatives of family farmers, decision makers from the political and private sectors, representatives of civil society, educators and researchers from around the world to exchange information and work together:

To question and enrich the research agendas relating to family farming and the related global challenges (society, environment, economy, food security, urbanisation, mobility and migration, nutrition and health, climate etc.).

Why in Montpellier?

Because Montpellier is a global centre for agricultural research and is home to numerous top quality, dynamic research institutes dedicated to agriculture, food and rural issues, many of them focusing on the development of agriculture in the South. Montpellier has acquired a great international reputation and, for the past two years, **has played host to the headquarters of the CGIAR Consortium, whose new building on the Agropolis campus will be officially opened on June 2, 2014.**

A two-stage event

An evening conference and debate, open to all, on Sunday June 1st 2014, at 7.30pm, Montpellier / Le Corum / Pasteur meeting room
With: Hans Herren, former Director General of ICIPE and co-chair of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), and currently President of the Millennium Institute; awarded the World Food Prize in 1995 and the Right Livelihood Award in 2013 (the 'Alternative Nobel Prize').

The conference will be followed by a round table debate featuring actors and prominent experts from around the world.

A two-day conference:

Researchers, educators, policy makers, representatives of family farmers and civil society will reflect, via major themes, on the needs and priorities of research concerning family farming and the means of delivering more efficient targeted research. It will include plenary sessions and thematic workshops, with presentations from representatives of major institutions, renowned scientists and recognised experts from rural societies.

For more information:

<http://l.agropolis.fr/aiaf2014en>

Speakers of international renown including:

Hans R. Herren, President of Millennium Institute
Gordon Conway, of Imperial College London

Louise Jackson, University of California, Davis

Maryam Rahmanian, Vice-Chairperson of the Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) for Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security

Ibrahim A. Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer of New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

Carlos Pérez del Castillo, President of the CGIAR Consortium

Marcella Villareal, Coordinator of IYFF for the FAO

Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development)

José Osaba, WRF, Civil Society Coordinator of the IYFF 2014,

-**Esther Penunia**, General Secretary of AFA (Asian Farmers' Association for sustainable rural development)

-**Ibrahim Coulibaly**, FAO Ambassador for IYFF 2014

Laurence Tubiana, President of AFD, IDDRI

Henri Rouillé d'Orfeuil, National Coordinator of IYFF, France

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Comité International d'Organisation / International Organizing Committee / Comité Internacional de Organización



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