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Press Release

## A NEW DIRECTOR FOR THE AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION



**Paul Luu became the new Director of Agropolis International on 2 May 2011**

The Association Bureau unanimously approved of Paul Luu's appointment, who was assigned by the French Ministry of Agriculture, and replaces the former Director Michel Salas, who was nominated as Regional Director at CIRAD.

**Paul Luu, 48 years old, Chief Civil Engineer, is also a qualified Agricultural Engineer (*Institut National Agronomique Paris - Grignon*) and has a PhD in Population Biology (*Université Montpellier 2, France*).**

Paul Luu began his career working in international research and development (St Lucia, West Indies, Sri Lanka, Tonga, South Pacific).

He then had ministerial responsibilities associated with international cooperation (Africa-Mediterranean Bureau, French Ministry of Agriculture) and overseas affairs (Technical Advisor for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests in Wallis and Futuna, under the French Minister of Overseas Affairs).

Over the last 6 years, he has been Director of the *Office de développement de l'économie agricole d'outre-mer* (ODEADOM), a French body that manages French and EU aid for agriculture in the French overseas departments, Mayotte, Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, Saint-Martin and Saint-Barthélemy.

Paul Luu aims to enhance the global legibility and position of the agroenvironmental research platform in Montpellier, in both research and training sectors.

He intends to ensure that Agropolis International will have a leading role, especially by hosting the headquarters of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

*His international experience, in the French overseas departments and territories and elsewhere worldwide, will be clearly beneficial in fulfilling his new responsibilities at Agropolis International.*

Paul Luu, who hails from Montpellier, is married with two children.

### AGROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL

Agropolis International, world centre 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. Agropolis International also obtains substantial support from French local authorities (*Conseil régional, Conseil général de l'Hérault and Montpellier Agglomération*).

**Agropolis International celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. [www.agropolis.fr](http://www.agropolis.fr)**

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