



SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

Agroecology: A contribution to transformative change towards sustainable agricultural and food systems to achieve the 2030 Agenda

*Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Freiburgstrasse 130, Bern, Switzerland*

Thursday, 15th November 2018, 9:00-13:00

Scope of the seminar:

In its reports, the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) illustrates, from different perspectives, the critical importance of improving food security and nutrition (FSN) for all, as both a necessary condition and a cross-cutting challenge to achieve not only to end hunger and malnutrition (SDG2) but to advance the whole 2030 Agenda. It calls for a radical transformation of our current agriculture and food systems at different scales to enhance FSN and strengthen their sustainability.

With 11% of its agricultural land under certified organic production, Switzerland is among the leading countries for organic agriculture (OA). It plays a key role at the international level in research, extension and training on OA. Both the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Federal Office for Agriculture strive for a more sustainable, resource efficient, and agro-ecological agriculture on the way to SDG2.

The transformation needed is not just incremental and is certainly of the same magnitude as the “Green Revolution”, although with a completely different set of challenges. This special international seminar will gather participants from the public and private sectors, from the civil society and from the academic community to discuss the potential contribution of agroecology to this needed transformation.

Participation is open to anyone interested

For more information and for registration please write to: gpfs@eda.admin.ch
(space is limited, please register early and cancel your registration should you not be able to attend)

9.00-9.15	<p style="text-align: center;">Agroecology and Swiss Agriculture Policy: What is the Gap?</p> <p>Opening/Key Note Address Bernard Lehmann [Director, Federal Office for Agriculture]</p>
9.15-9.30	<p style="text-align: center;">The HLPE, science-policy interface of the CFS</p> <p>The CFS, a multi-stakeholder platform Mario Arvelo (CFS Chair) 5 min</p> <p>Presentation of the HLPE, roles and methods of work Patrick Caron (HLPE Steering Committee Chairperson) 10 min</p>
9.30-10.45	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 1: Agroecology for sustainable development: current knowledge and potential</p> <p><i>Moderated by SDC</i></p> <p>Presentations (15 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Eyhorn (CNS-FAO / Helvetas) • Fergus Sinclair (HLPE Project Team Leader) <p>Discussants (5 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muhammad Azeem Khan (HLPE Steering Committee member) • Urs Niggli (FiBL) • Michelle Grant (World Food System Center, ETH) <p>Questions and Answers to Panelists, followed by open discussion: 35 min</p>
10.45-11.15	<p>Coffee break</p>
11.15-12.40	<p style="text-align: center;">Panel 2: What is needed to make use of this potential?</p> <p><i>Moderated by SDC</i></p> <p>Interventions by Panelists :45 min</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isabelle Chevalley, member of Swiss parliament • Tina Goethe (Bread for all ; NGO) • Regina Ammann (Syngenta) • Beat Rösli, Swiss Farmers' Union • Ulrike Milkner, UNITERRE <p>Questions and Answers to Panelists, followed by open discussion: 45 min</p>
12.40-12.45	<p style="text-align: center;">Lessons learnt from the Seminar</p> <p>Key take-aways for the HLPE Mahmoud El-Solh (HLPE Steering Committee Vice-Chairperson)</p>
12.45-13.00	<p style="text-align: center;">Perspectives of Switzerland's international development cooperation on Agroecology as a transformative pathway to the realization of the SDGs</p> <p>Wrap up of discussion and closing remarks Manuel Sager (Director, SDC)</p>
13.00-14.15	<p>Networking lunch for all participants (next to the meeting venue)</p>