



International Encounters “FAMILY FARMING AND RESEARCH”

Montpellier, June 1-3, 2014

As part of the International Year of Family Farming (IYFF) declared by the United Nations for 2014, the research institutions of Montpellier’s hub (Agropolis International) have taken the initiative to organize International Encounters on “Family Farming and Research”, with the support of the French ministries of Agriculture and Foreign Affairs and various national and international organizations (CGIAR Consortium, Global Forum on Agricultural Research - GFAR, World Rural Forum - WRF).

This event will feed the agenda of IYFF and its conclusions will be presented by the Philippines at the end of 2014, it will help prepare the third Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD3), and contribute with ideas and recommendations to the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP21) to be held in Paris in 2015.

The main purpose of these Encounters is to foster exchanges and work between representatives of family farming, decision makers from the political and private sectors, trainers and researchers throughout the world. They aim at questioning and enhancing research agendas dealing with family farming issues and the challenges of global change (society, economics, food security, urbanization, human mobility and migrations, food and health, climate...).

A two-step event

- **A public debate. A lecture** by an outstanding scientist will be followed by a **round table** gathering high level experts and actors in family farming.
- **A 2-day Conference.** Researchers, trainers, decision makers, representatives of family farmers and of civil society organizations will brainstorm and discuss on research needs and priorities about family farming, and on research modalities for higher efficiency. The Conference will include thematic **working sessions** and plenary sessions inviting high level speakers from major institutions, renowned scientists and acknowledged leaders of farmers’ organizations.

Discussion themes:

- How global change impact on family agriculture and its various evolutions?
- How family agriculture can contribute to the global challenges facing society, economy, environment and food security?
- How scientific research and development action can support family agriculture in facing these challenges?

Why Montpellier?

Montpellier is a cluster of the international agricultural research, endowed with numerous and dynamic research institutions in agriculture, food-processing and rural development, with high scientific quality and strong international influence. In addition, the city is hosting since 2011 the headquarters of the Consortium of the CGIAR, whose newly built offices should be inaugurated for this occasion.

Tentative program

<i>Sunday June 1</i>	Public debate Keynote speech for general public Round table with internationally renowned people
	Conference (plenary session) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introductory session- Inaugural addresses by officials from French local and national authorities, European Commission and international organizations
<i>Monday June 2</i>	Working groups (7 parallel sessions) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- FF in the territories- FF and sustainable intensification- In-house issues within FF- FF facing the challenges of urbanization and employment- FF facing the challenges of climate change- Contribution of FF to the food systems- FF as one of the players in the future agriculture
	Inauguration ceremony of the new CGIAR Consortium headquarters
	Working groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Continuing</i>
<i>Tuesday June 3</i>	Conference (plenary session) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wrap-up of the sessions and synthesis- Recommendations for a research agenda- Perspective given by international witnesses- Closing address by the French Ministry of Agriculture or Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Development

- *The Conference will gather around 400 participant (upon invitation).*
- *Simultaneous translation during plenary sessions: English, Spanish and French.*

International Organizing Committee



Consortium



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MUNDUKO LANDAGUNEA



Extracts of the 144th session of the Council of FAO, June 2012

« Some of the goals of the International Year of Family Farming will be to:

- *increase the public awareness about this venture in the large sense, including smallholder farming and fisheries and their contribution not only to food security but also to better nutrition, poverty alleviation, employment and livelihood,*
- *increase knowledge regarding the diversity and the complexity of the different production systems that exist throughout the world,*
- *identify and promote science and technologies, including traditional knowledge and sustainable production systems of many family farms,*
- *bring together public and private sector organizations and build stakeholder partnerships,*
- *strengthen technical support to implement concrete policies and actions at global, regional, and national community levels in ensuring sustainable development of family farming [...] »*