



**Smallholders – Big Actors?
Including farmers' perspectives in
Agricultural Research for Development**

Award ceremony and public discussion organized by the Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR) hosted by BFH-HAFL

BFH-HAFL (Aula 1)

11 December 2017, 16:15 – 18:30

Award

The Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR) offers an annual Award for graduates and scientists working in agricultural research for development. This years' Team Award goes to MeteoSwiss, SENAMHI Peru, SDC, WMO and other partners for their project "Climandes – User-tailored Climate Services for the Andean Region". The Master Thesis Award goes to Sebastian Mengel of BFH-HAFL for his research on agricultural livelihoods of rural youth in the drylands of Midelt, Morocco.

Event

At this event the two awarded research projects will be presented and set into a wider context. Climandes involves Andean farmers in the development of high-quality climate services. Sebastian Mengel aims to understand realities and aspirations of rural youth as a precondition to effectively engage them in agriculture. So, both projects involve the rural population and their opinions and needs. This is important but can be challenging. Farmers are often meant to be the beneficiaries of research, while their voices and engagement in research planning and implementation are often limited. How can they become important actors in agricultural research for development? The event aims to debate on this issue and provide some practical examples.

Programme

- 16:15 Welcome
(Yuan Zhou, SFIAR President)
- 16:20 Keynote: From beneficiaries to partners:
extending the role of farmers in co-creating
knowledge for agricultural research and
technology development
*(Anja Christinck, Senior Researcher, German
Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture/
Seed4Change Research & Communication)*
- 16:50 SFIAR Award Laudatio
(Yuan Zhou, SFIAR President)
- 17:00 Climandes – User-tailored Climate Services
for the Andean Region
(Moritz Flubacher, MeteoSwiss)
- 17:20 Break
- 17:30 Agricultural livelihoods of rural youth in the
drylands of Midelt, Morocco
(Sebastian Mengel, BFH-HAFL)
- 17:50 Panel Discussion: How to incorporate farmers’
opinions in research?
*(Anja Christinck; Moritz Flubacher; Sebastian
Mengel; Simon Zbinden, SDC; moderation: Angela
Deppeler, Agridea)*
- 18:30 Presentation of the Awards
- 18:35 Refreshments

Information

Registration

Please register until 5 December 2017
at www.sfiar.ch/award.htm

Cost and refreshments

Participation is free of charge.
Refreshments will be served after the event.

Language

The event will be held in English,
no translation will be provided.

Directions

Bern University of Applied Sciences
School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences HAFL
Länggasse 85
3052 Zollikofen
Aula 1: Main building, basement floor

Contact

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Cover photo

by Neil Palmer (CIAT). A rice farmer in the Chuchua, near
Caranavi, Bolivia talks to CIAT and CIRAD rice researchers.

