



## **Youth in the driver's seat: How to involve a new generation in Agricultural Research for Development**

**Public Award Ceremony Event organized by the Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR) and hosted by the World Food System Center – ETH Zurich**

**30 October 2014**

**Markus Giger, President SFIAR**



Welcome

A few words about SFIAR

Youth and Agricultural Research for Development

SFIAR Award Laudatio

# Objective of the award ceremony event

showcase the inspiring work of young researchers

discuss the factors furthering the participation of young researchers in research projects

discuss career possibilities for graduates and young researchers in these areas.

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## SFIAR: a platform to promote ARD

**share information**

**promote collaboration**

**promote visibility**

**play an advocacy role**

**serve as a national partner**

# Who we are: **Members**

**Research Institutions**

**NGOs**

**Private sector**

**Farmers' organisations**

**Public agencies**

**Other**

# Who we are: **Members**

## **Research Institutions**

Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station (ART)  
CABI Bioscience, Delémont  
Centre for Development and Environment  
ETH Zurich  
Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology, EPFL  
Research Institute of Organic Agriculture  
School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences  
Swiss Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries

## **NGOs**

Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation  
Swissaid

## **Private sector**

Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture  
Biopartenaire  
Agricultural Consultancy for Development GmbH

## **Farmers' organisations**

Swiss Farmers Union

## **Public agencies**

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation  
Federal Office of Agriculture

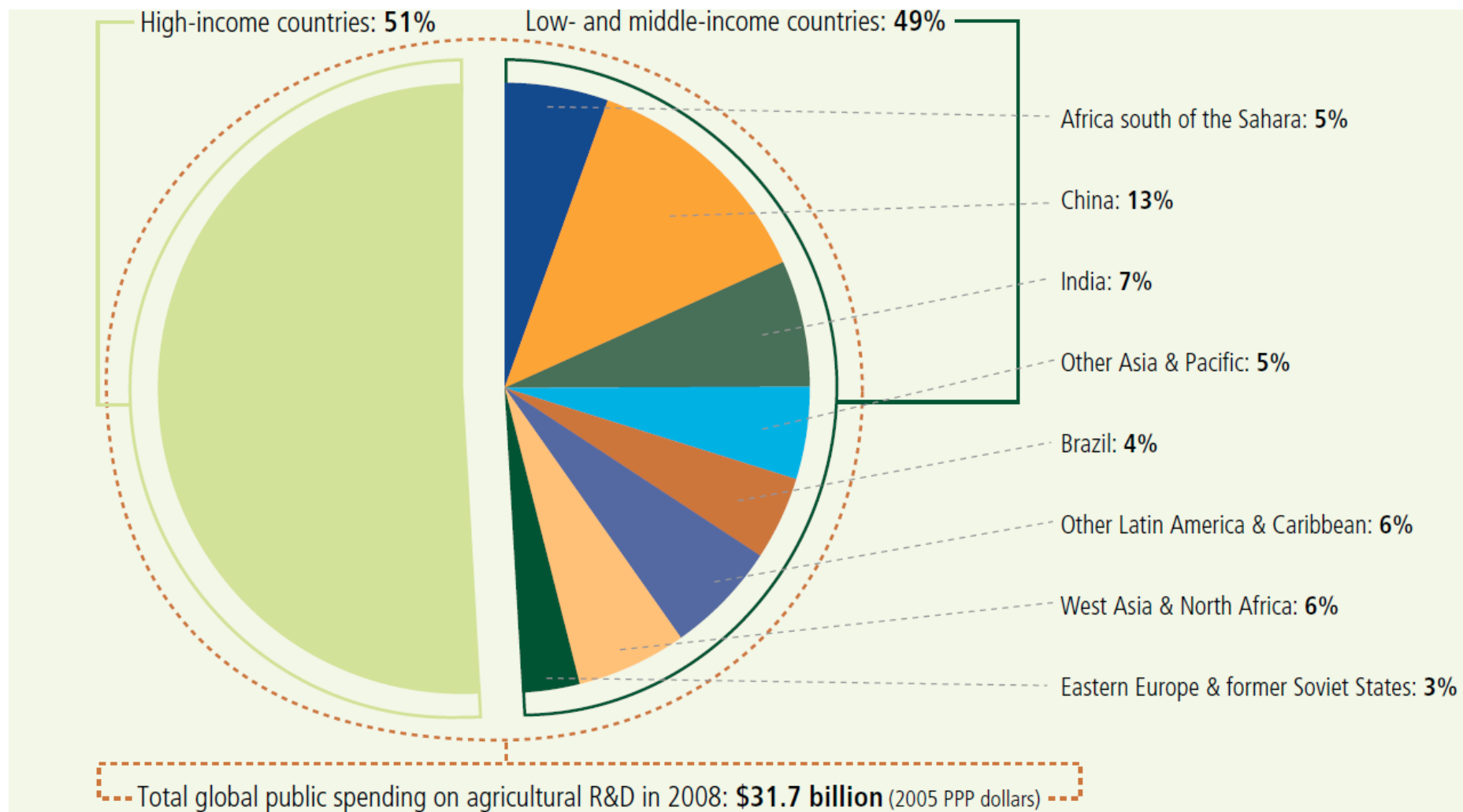
## **Other**

Agridea Lindau  
Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services

# **Youth in the driver's seat: How to involve a new generation in Agricultural Research for Development?**

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# Global public spending on agricultural R&D



Sources: ASTI 2012, Eurostat 2012, OECD 2012, and various country-level secondary resources.

Source: IFPRI, 2012



# Growth in ARD capacity mainly in the South

Investment in agricultural research has increased again. Global investment in agricultural R&D, once heavily weighted toward the developed world, has shifted dramatically in recent years toward the developing world.

*Source: Beintema & Stads, 2014 (In: IFPRI 2014)*

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# Growth concentrated in a few countries

China and India alone accounted for about half the growth in global agricultural R&D spending during 2000–2008.

A number of other large middle-income countries (in particular, Argentina, Brazil, Iran, Nigeria, and Russia) significantly increased their spending levels.

R&D spending in low-income countries as a group also rose during this period, driven primarily by a number of larger African countries

Public agricultural R&D spending in SSA increased by more than one-third in real terms during 2000–2011

*Source: Beintema & Stads, 2014*

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# Worldwide ARD researchers are getting older

In 17 African countries (of 36) more than half of the researchers holding a PhD degree were older than 50, whereas in 9 countries the share of PhD holders older than 50 was higher than 70 percent.

*Source: Beintema & Stads, 2014*

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# Importance of Youth for ARD

Within Africa, more than 61 percent of the entire population is under 25 years of age.

Unfortunately, many young people do not perceive agriculture as a viable or attractive means of earning a living.

In sub-Saharan Africa and Asia respectively, only 2 and 4 percent of university students are enrolled in agricultural studies.

*Source: FAO, CTA, IFAD, 2014*

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# Job Market in Switzerland

Number of graduates of ETH and Universities of Applied Science in the field of Agriculture and Food Science are on lower level than in the eighties or early nineties, but are stable or slightly progressing

Graduates from are in high demand on the job market in Switzerland and abroad.

Many employers, also in research and education, have difficulties in getting suitable candidates for their job offers.

*Source: BASS/SVIAL 2013*

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# Questions

- > What are the job and carrier opportunities in the field of ARD in Switzerland?
  - > Does the growth research capacities in the South create new roles, opportunities (and jobs) for research and education institutions in the North?
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# SFIAR Awards 2014

A novel cropping system for climate neutral and bio-diverse rice farming

*(Gurbir S. Bhullar, winner SFIAR PhD / Post-doc Award)*

Who benefits from certification? Analysis of third-party audited certification schemes in the cocoa sector in Ghana

*(Angela Deppeler, winner SFIAR Master Thesis Award)*

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