



Agrinatura Newsletter 13/01/2025



Dear members, partners, and colleagues,

Happy New Year 2025! We are excited to bring you the first newsletter of the year, highlighting two key events: the upcoming election for the new President of Agrinatura and important details about the Agrinatura General Assembly 2025 and 4th Conference. Further information on these topics will be shared later in this volume.

As always, we thank the researchers for sharing information to be disseminated in this space and we encourage you to contribute by sharing your events, publications, or suggestions to help us enhance the newsletter.

We look forward to your input and to a productive year ahead!

Warm regards,

Dr Mabel Hernandez-Altamirano

Agrinatura

Agrinatura Activity Overview

Nominations for the position of President of Agrinatura

We are pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the position of President of Agrinatura, encompassing both the Association and EEIG.

The four-year term begins in **May 2025**, with voting to take place during the General Assembly Business Meeting that month with one vote per member institution.

Nominations should be submitted by email to the Secretariat at secretariat@agrinatura-eu.eu by March 31.

General Assembly and 4th Conference 2025

Agrinatura is delighted to announce that the Agrinatura General Assembly 2025 and 4th Conference will take place from May 21 to 22 at the University of Ghent, Belgium. The event will be hosted at the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering. Registration is open [HERE!](#)

For more information about the **4th Conference visit the link [HERE](#)**
Besides invited speakers and organized discussion sessions, the core of the conference will be the presentation of contributed papers that illustrate the contributions of member institutes, projects, and individual

scientists to Sustainable Development in the Global South. The conference aims to provide a forum for PhD students and post-doc researchers to present either orally or in poster sessions their work in the Global South targeting sustainable value chains via collaborative solutions for responsible agri-food systems.

To be eligible for an **oral or poster presentation**, please send an abstract (see template) of max. 1 page with the name of presenter and other authors, affiliations, introduction, problem statement, research plan and methodology, and (provisional) results to Secretary General Dr Mabel Hernandez at secretariat@agrinatura-eu.eu and Susanna Rokka (LUKE) (susanna.rokka@luke.fi) before **March 15 th 2025**.

Please share this information with your students and community.

From our members



VCA4D has launched a podcast, called VCA4D Knowledge Pills!

In this series, we will delve deeper into the functioning of value chains to shed light on the benefits and scope of value chain analysis and how this can be used to achieve development goals and policy dialogue.

*In this first episode, we discuss the “**Concept of value chain: what are we talking about?**“. We clarify the terminology and analytical references of what is meant by a value chain with VCA4D Scientific Director Frédéric*

Lancon.

The episode is available [here](#)

To catch our next episode in January, don't forget to follow us on Spotify.

Calls

Call for project proposals in Europe: Integrating environmental, economic and social perspectives in assessing the performance of agroecology. Value-chain and policy implications.

The Agroecology Partnership has opened a call for project pre-proposals focused on assessing agroecology's performance from environmental, economic, and social perspectives.

Key topics:

Topic 1: Assessing the benefits/impacts and trade-offs of agroecology.

Topic 2: Transforming value chains, business models, and policies to support agroecology.

The call is open to universities, research institutions, non-profits, civil society, and more. Pre-proposals are due by February 17, 2025.

For more details, visit: [Agroecology Partnership Call](#)

For questions: ptj-agroecology-calloffice@fz-juelich.de

AWARD 2025 Leadership Program for Emerging African Women in Agricultural Sciences

AWARD is calling for applications from emerging African women (under 35) in agricultural sciences from Ethiopia, Kenya, Ghana, Malawi, and Nigeria.

Applications open: December 12, 2024

Deadline: February 12, 2025

👉 Apply here: [AWARD 2025 Leadership Program](#)

Vacancies/fellowships/advertisements

Request for Expression of Interest: Conducting Impact Assessment of Agricultural Technologies on Productivity and Farmers' Welfare in APPSA Phase 1 countries (Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia).

The consultancy will focus on evaluating the adoption, accessibility, and impact of agricultural technologies and will include a value chain analysis to identify opportunities for improvement. The assignment is expected to commence in February 2025 and be completed within 40 working days.

Key Requirements

- At least 15 years of experience in similar assignments, with 5 years at a regional level.
- A core business focus on research.
- A robust management structure and availability of two qualified experts.

Please submit your expression of interest by **17 January 2025**, including a list of similar assignments, management structure, and evidence of relevant expertise.

For detailed Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) and Terms of Reference (ToR) kindly click on the link below:

<https://www.knowledgehub.ccardesa.org/request-expression-interest-conducting-impact-assessment-agricultural-technologies-productivity-and>

CGIAR Science Week 2025

Date: April 7–12, 2025

Location: UN Campus, Nairobi, Kenya, co-hosted by KALRO.

This event marks the launch of CGIAR's 2025–2030 Research Portfolio and features:

- Plenary sessions with global leaders in agriculture, food systems, and climate science.
- Exhibitions showcasing innovative solutions.
- Field visits to CGIAR and partner facilities.

Register now and stay updated on event details and in-person attendance. Registration [HERE](#)

Another interesting newsletters

CEA-FIRST Project

Access to the newsletter No. 2 [HERE](#)

Sustainability newsletter from the University of Helsinki

Access [HERE](#)

PAEPARD- Platform for African–European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development

Webinars and events December. Access [HERE](#)

More information about articles, courses, awards



Transportation is a strategic opportunity for strengthening local food systems

[Full PDF HERE](#)



Productivity effects of agroecological practices in Africa: insights from a systematic review and meta-analysis

[Full access HERE](#)

FiBL

Join us on **May 6, 2025**, for a **science-policy event on the Agroecological Transition of Food Systems in Africa**. The event will showcase insights from nine EU-Africa projects, funded by Horizon 2020, DeSIRA, and SDC, highlighting scientific evidence on agroecological approaches for improving resilience among African smallholder farmers. Registration will open soon.

Address:

Museum of Natural Sciences
Rue Vautier 29
1000 Brussels

Contact persons:

Harun Cicek, harun.cicek@fibl.org
Carla Pinho, carla.pinho@fibl.org

[Preliminary conference programme](#)

Secretary General of Agrinatura Association



AGRINATURA is a grouping of European universities and research organizations with a common interest in sustainably supporting agricultural development to improve people's lives. AGRINATURA focuses on initiatives that open up new opportunities for farmers to enhance food security and improve the agro-food sector in general, while reducing the negative impact of agricultural activities on the environment. AGRINATURA members are involved in various issues related to agricultural research and education for development contributing through their expertise and experience. www.agrinatura.eu