

Agriculture for Food Security 2030 welcomes applications to a short training course

How to enhance capacity to transform science into policy and practice in the field of food security

A training course targeting African young researchers with PhD



**22-28 January
2017
Nairobi, Kenya**

The Agriculture for Food Security 2030 (AgriFoSe2030) programme funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) will conduct a training course for African young researchers on effective research-to-policy communication for agricultural development. The course is a collaboration between AgriFoSe2030 and The Gothenburg Center for Environment and Sustainability (GMV) at University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology.

Agriculture is the mainstay of nearly two-thirds of Africans. In addition to being an important source of individual and household incomes, it also constitutes the bedrock of most national economies. Agricultural production and the domestic trade in agricultural products are central to the functioning of local markets, the fight against poverty, the provision of employment, and the quest for greater national food security. Young promising researchers have important roles to play in promoting agriculture for food security by outreach work, dissemination of new findings and actively engaging with policymakers and practitioners. Understanding the needs and priorities of stakeholders and policy makers can promote better knowledge exchange, better research and greater impact.

AgriFoSe2030

Agriculture for Food Security 2030
- Translating science into policy and practice



LUND UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG

Course objectives

The objectives of the short training course are to:

1. Enhance understanding of the policy landscape, research policy linkages and different models for policy engagement and knowledge exchange;
2. Equip young researchers with hands-on tools and skills for effective research-to-policy communication;
3. Share experiences and lessons on best practices in communicating research outputs;
4. Strengthen national networks for policy influence in African agriculture.

Participants will be trained in mapping the policy landscape and stakeholders, different models and strategies for policy engagement, formulating a research-to-policy plan and policy briefs and presenting policy recommendations aimed at the desired target group.

Course structure

The course will be interactive and incorporate practical exercises with both individual and group work.

The course consists of three parts:

1. A three-day general course to enhance the understanding of research-policy linkages, models for policy engagement and hands-on tools for research-to-policy communication
2. A one-day specialization in one of the following themes:
 - i) Social and economic dimensions of smallholder based agriculture and food security
 - ii) Multifunctional landscapes for increased food security
3. A two-day workshop consisting of policymaker and practitioner engagement and stocktaking of regional initiatives regarding science to policy actions for agricultural development.

For the thematic parts, senior scientists and experienced practitioners will teach and share their practical experiences on research-policy interaction in respective themes.

Participation

The course is open to 30 young researchers working on agriculture and food security. 15 places will be available for the specialization in “Socio-economic dimensions” (Theme 1) and 15 places are allocated to the specialization in “Multifunctional landscapes” (Theme 2).

The course will be held from 22-28 January 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. The course is free of charge. Travel, lodging and meals will be covered by the AgriFoSe2030 Programme.

Requirements

The applicants must

- Be university lecturers or post-doctoral researchers currently affiliated with a university in sub-Saharan Africa;
- Have recently completed his or her Ph.D. in a field of relevance, within five years of the course date (no earlier than Jan 2011);
- Have a good record of scientific publications in the areas of agriculture, agroforestry, forestry, environment or any other similar area;
- Have experience or strong interest in knowledge exchange and communicating research outputs to policymakers for impact.

TO APPLY SEND:

1. CV incl. current affiliation, academic specialisation and publication list (max 10 pages)
2. maximum 1-page letter describing i) your motivation to attend the course, and ii) how you intend to use the knowledge and tools from the course in your policy outreach work
3. state your preference for specialisation for the second half of the course in the headline of your e-mail: Theme 1 (Socio-economic dimensions) or Theme 2 (Multifunctional landscapes)

Send your application to Claudia Deijl: claudia.deijl@keg.lu.se
Deadline: 29 August 2016

Successful candidates will be notified by the end of September 2016.

ORGANIZERS

AgriFoSe

The Agriculture for Food Security 2030 (AgriFoSe2030) programme was launched in late 2015 and directly targets the Sustainable Development Goal No 2 in low-income countries, primarily in Africa and Asia. The Swedish AgriFoSe 2030 program is financed by Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) and has been developed by a consortium of scientists from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Lund University, University of Gothenburg and Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and is hosted by the platform Agricultural Sciences for Global Development, SLU Global.

For more info: <http://www.slu.se/agrifose>

Environmental economics and policy group at GMV (EEPG)

The Environmental Economics and Policy Group (EEPG) at University of Gothenburg and Chalmers University of Technology collaborates with agencies and organizations and provides analysis, assessments, investigations and advice for sustainable development. The Environmental Economics and Policy group has long experience of research-based advice. Since 1991 the group has provided advice to Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), lately formalised into a Helpdesk on Environment and Climate Change, which is provided in collaboration with Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), with the overall objective to support integration of environmental and climate change risks and opportunities in Swedish development cooperation. Over the years the group has also collaborated with organizations like the World Bank, EU, UNDP, OECD, The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and other Swedish government agencies.

For more info: <https://www.chalmers.se/gmv/EN/projects/gmv-environmental8568>

