



**University of  
Zurich** <sup>UZH</sup>

**ZKSD**  
Zurich Knowledge Center  
for Sustainable Development

## **Advancing Sustainable Food Systems through Agroecology and Agroforestry in Africa: What kind of research is needed?**

**3 May 2022, 14.00 – 18.00, Kulturpark Zurich**



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In partnership with



**14.00 – 14.30**

**Welcome remarks**

Prof. Dr. Gabriele Siegert, Deputy President, University of Zurich

**Keynote – Global Relevance**

Dr. Hans Rudolf Herren, President Biovision Foundation and Millennium Institute, Laureate of the World Food Prize (1995) and Right Livelihood Award (2013)

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**14.30 – 15.30**

**Premiere of short Film (10min)**

Directed by Amil Shivji, produced by KIJIWENI Productions (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

**Panel 1 - Need, potential and impact of investing in research on sustainable food systems, agroecology and agroforestry (45 Min)**

- Dr. Maximo Torero, Chief Economist of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Janet Maro, Executive Director, Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania, Laureate of the One World Award (2021)
- Dr. Menale Kassie, Head of the Social Sciences and Impact Assessment Unit, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe), Laureate of TWAS-Siwei Cheng Award in Economic Sciences (2022)

*Moderator: Dr. Frank Eyhorn, Executive Director, Biovision Foundation*

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**15.30 – 16.00**

**Break**

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16.00 – 17.00

**Pitches – Examples of successful research projects in the realm of Agroecology and Agroforestry (20min)**

- Beate Huber, Director of Corporate Culture, Leader of the Department of International Cooperation, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland
- Dr. Annah Indeche, Lecturer, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya
- Esther Lupafya, Director, Soils Food and Healthy Communities (SFHC), Malawi
- Dr. Ramadhani Majubwa, Lecturer, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania
- Dr. Michael Brander, Senior Researcher, University of Zurich, Switzerland

*Moderator: Matthias Graf, Partner, Boldt, Zurich*

**Panel 2 - Supporting research on Agroecology and Agroforestry – what are the keys for successful projects and project proposals, and what has to be changed for transformative impact? (30min)**

- Marylaure Crettaz Corredor, Co-Head, Global Programme Food Security, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Martin Herren, Thematic Lead Food Systems, Mercator Foundation Switzerland
- Dr. Robert Mbeche, Lecturer, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture

*Moderator: Stefanie Pondini, Programme Manager Policy & Advocacy, Member of the Executive Committee, Biovision Foundation*

**Concluding remarks (10min)**

Dr. Matthias Huss, University of Zurich, Executive Director, Zurich Knowledge Center for Sustainable Development (ZKSD)

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17.00 – 18.00

## Networking Apéro

All participants are kindly invited to join for a networking apéro at the ZKSD (2-minute walking distance). The pitch participants are each assigned to a table and will place an object/item there to be recognised by others for networking.

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### Context

Ending hunger and poverty is a key goal of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Progress to achieving these goals has been limited, including in Sub-Saharan Africa. A transformation of agriculture and food systems is necessary as highlighted during the Food Systems Summit of the UN Secretary-General last year. This requires a paradigm shift away from short-term increases in agricultural production through intensive resource use towards holistic approaches in agriculture and food systems.

Research on agriculture and food systems has the potential to be a key driver of this transformation. However, in contrast to research on resource intensive conventional agriculture, holistic research projects, such as research on Agroecology or Agroforestry, receive comparatively little support. This situation is particularly problematic because Agroecology and Agroforestry are knowledge intensive as they consider the manifold relations between agriculture, the environment, and the social and economic context. Transdisciplinary, participatory and applied research approaches can play a key role in this regard. However, such research requires adequate support and investments.

The event will provide an avenue to highlight the role of research in advancing the transformation to sustainable agriculture and food systems and to realize food and nutrition security. A particular focus will be placed on research in Agroecology and Agroforestry, and on ways to enhance investments, support and collaboration in this field.

Organized by



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