



# Tropentag 2018

17-19 September 2018, Ghent, Belgium



[www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de)

## About

*Tropentag* is an annual, international conference on food security, natural resource management and rural development in the tropics (*sensu lato*). It is jointly organised by the Universities of Berlin, Bonn, Göttingen, Hohenheim, Kassel-Witzenhausen, ZALF e.V., CULS Prague (Czech Republic), BOKU Vienna (Austria) and the Council for Tropical and Subtropical Research (ATSAF e.V.) in cooperation with the GIZ Advisory Service on Agricultural Research for Development (BEAF). *Tropentag* is a development-oriented and interdisciplinary conference. It addresses issues of resource management, environment, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, food, nutrition and related sciences in the context of rural development, sustainable resource use and poverty alleviation worldwide. The conference brings together scientists, students, graduates, development experts, funding organisations and experts from international partner organisations around the world.

*Tropentag* 2018 is organised by Ghent University, Belgium in collaboration with KU Leuven and Antwerp University (both Belgium). All MSc and PhD students, scientists, extension workers, decision makers and politicians interested and engaged in agricultural research and rural development in developing/tropical countries and/or countries in transition are heartily invited to participate and actively contribute. We encourage particularly young scientists (MSc and PhD students and PostDocs) to present their work.

**We look forward to welcoming you in Ghent  
in September 2018**

### Venue:

Ghent University, Faculty of Bioscience Engineering,  
Campus Coupure, Coupure 653,  
9000 Gent, Belgium

## Conference theme

**“Global food security and food safety: the  
role of universities”**

Agriculture is the cultivation and breeding of animals, plants and fungi for food, fibre, biofuel, medicinal plants and other products used to sustain and enhance human life. Its prime vocation is and should be to sustainably maintain and where needed and possible significantly improve the nutrition and health situation of people around the world. Hunger, malnutrition, and poor health are global, and increasing, development challenges. Agriculture has made remarkable advances over the last decades in increasing quantity and quality of (food) produce, but its contribution to improving the nutrition and health of poor farmers and consumers in developing countries often still lags behind. In cases where food provision is structurally guaranteed, food quality may still be a problem. Agricultural research and universities have an important role in addressing and solving both food security and food safety. They should do this in collaboration with (inter)national (non-)governmental donor and policy-oriented organisations, with respect for local, regional and global socio-economic and cultural situations, legal conditions, markets and market mechanisms, limitations and opportunities, gender equity and the natural resource environment, in order to provide for sustainable solutions. We invite you all to present elements to solving these challenges, and send in proposals for workshops, sessions and especially abstracts for oral and poster presentations around this broad theme.

## CGIAR feature programme-of-the-year

In 2018 we spotlight CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH) (<http://www.cgiar.org/about-us/our-programs/cgiar-research-program-on-agriculture-for-nutrition-and-health-2017-2022/>). The programme is built on the notion that agriculture can do much more than reduce hunger and poverty – it has an enormous

potential to significantly improve the nutrition and health of people around the world. It is led by IFPRI, and co-executed by CIAT, IITA, ILRI, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Wageningen UR. A4NH focuses on consumption of healthy, affordable, and safe foods rather than their supply, offering an innovative perspective on the relationship between agriculture, nutrition, and health through research that strengthens the knowledge base and new partnerships that lead to real outcomes. As CGIAR's only research program on nutrition and health, A4NH operates as a lens, with a particular focus on the system-level outcome of improving food and nutrition security for health.

## Conference structure

The theme of Tropentag 2018 will be introduced by invited international guest speakers and pursued further by key note speeches in parallel thematic sessions. Thematic sessions cover the diversity of research fields connected to food security, natural resource management and rural development and will be addressed by both oral presentations and thematically-related guided poster sessions.

The Aperó social evening on September 17 and the informal conference dinner on September 18 will provide opportunities for networking, discussion and exchange among participants.

## Preliminary program

16.09	pm	Pre-conference workshops
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	pm	Opening, plenary talks, <i>fiat panis</i> session, Poster sessions Aperó social evening
18.09	am	Poster sessions Parallel thematic oral sessions
	pm	Parallel thematic oral sessions Poster sessions Conference dinner

19.09	am	Poster sessions Parallel thematic oral sessions Plenary closing session
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## Submission procedure

The conference language is English. Abstracts of original research on the featured topics containing 250–350 words must be submitted using the online form at [www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de) by April 15, 2018. Please ensure that abstracts submitted are meeting a proper level of quality regarding content and language. A panel of referees will decide if an abstract will be accepted, and if yes, as a poster or as an oral presentation. A program committee will allocate the accepted contributions to interdisciplinary sessions. Acceptance of abstracts will be sent by June 15, 2018. Contributors must confirm their participation by June 30, 2018 and pay their conference fee before July 15, 2018. Poster contributions will be grouped into thematic clusters and addressed in guided poster sessions. All presented contributions will be contained in the Book of Abstracts, both in print and online.

## Workshops

We encourage you to organise your own workshop!

You can either network targeting a specific topic (related to food security, natural resource management and rural development), or you offer capacity building, task forces for projects and follow your own initiative. Workshops can take place mainly in the afternoon of September 16 and morning of September 17, before the conference. You need to describe the objective and topic of the workshop and send your application by May 1, 2018 to [info@tropentag.de](mailto:info@tropentag.de). In the case of approval, we help you to find an appropriate venue. For more information, see [www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de).

## Dates and deadlines

Submission of abstracts	15.04.2018
Submission of workshops	01.05.2018
Acceptance of abstracts	15.06.2018
Acceptance of workshops	15.06.2018
Reconfirmation of participation	30.06.2018
Payment of conference fee for contributors	15.07.2018

## Conference fees

	By July 15, 2018	Later
Full participants	125 €	175 €
PhD candidates	75 €	100 €
ATSAF PhD members	50 €	75 €
Students	15 €	25 €
Conference dinner: 30 €; reduced 15 € (students)		

Please transfer your conference fee to:  
Name: DITSL Witzenhausen  
Bank: Sparkasse Werra-Meissner  
Swift: HELADEF1ESW  
IBAN: DE68 5225 0030 0000 0651 85  
Indicate **Your Tropentag ID** and **your name** on the fund transfer.

## Organisation and contacts

**Prof. dr. ir. Patrick Van Damme**  
(Head of organisation team)

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For more information please visit our regularly updated website: [www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de)