



Tropentag 2025

September, 10-12

Bonn, Germany and online



Call for papers

***Reconciling land system changes
with planetary health***

www.tropentag.de

Organised by: University of Bonn
Center for Development
Research (ZEF) & Institute of
Crop Science and Resource
Conservation (INRES)
53113 Bonn

Venue: Hörsaalzentrum Poppelsdorf
Friedrich-Hirzebruch-Allee 5
53115 Bonn

About

Tropentag is an annual international conference on research in tropical and subtropical agriculture, natural resource management and rural development.

Tropentag is jointly organised by the Universities of Berlin, Bonn, Göttingen, Hohenheim, Kassel-Witzenhausen, ZALF e.V. (all Germany), Ghent University (Belgium), Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic), BOKU University (Austria) and the Council for Tropical and Subtropical Research (ATSAF e.V.) in cooperation with the GIZ Fund International Agricultural Research (FIA). It brings together scientists, students, graduates, development experts, funding organizations, collaborators and donors from several countries and their various international partner institutions.

Tropentag is a development-oriented, interdisciplinary conference. It addresses environmental management, agricultural production, forestry, fisheries, food, nutrition sovereignty, and related sciences in the context of global partnership, sustainable land-water resource use, climate action, zero hunger and poverty reduction.

Tropentag 2025 will take place at the University of Bonn and invites all scientists, students, and experts addressing topics in the above-mentioned fields. Young scientists are particularly encouraged to present their research projects and results.

Thematic areas

Agriculture is at the center of global land-use changes, shaping rural livelihoods, food production, and environmental sustainability. As population growth, urbanisation, and climate change increase pressure on land and natural resources, balancing agricultural development with planetary health is more critical than ever. Reconciling land system changes with planetary health means ensuring that agricultural expansion, intensification, and transformation contribute to food security and economic growth while maintaining soil fertility, water availability, and ecosystem functions.

Tropentag 2025 will explore how agricultural systems can adapt to global challenges while ensuring sustainable land use. Discussions will focus on balancing productivity and conservation, improving soil and water management, and integrating livestock, crops, and agroforestry into resilient farming landscapes. The conference will also examine the role of policies, market mechanisms, and knowledge transfer in fostering land-use systems that support both human and planetary health.

Emphasis will be placed on gender equity and social inclusion, recognizing the crucial role of women, youth, and marginalised communities in shaping the future of agriculture and land management. By focusing on innovative practices, knowledge-based decision-making, and inclusive governance, the conference will highlight pathways to resilient and sustainable agricultural landscapes.

Key thematic areas include:

Resilient Crop & Livestock Systems

Enhancing crop and livestock productivity through optimized management, breeding, and climate-smart agriculture. Addressing biotic (pests, diseases) and abiotic (drought, salinity) stresses to improve resilience and resource efficiency.

Soil, Water & Biodiversity

Strengthening soil fertility, water management, and agricultural biodiversity. Applying nature-based solutions for soil conservation, water retention, and ecosystem services in agricultural landscapes.

Land Use, Forestry & Agroecology

Optimizing land management and farming systems through regenerative agriculture, sustainable forestry and agroecological approaches. Balancing productivity, soil health, and ecosystem functions to enhance long-term agricultural and forest sustainability.

Food Systems & Nutrition

Improving food quality, safety, and biofortification while ensuring seed system sustainability.

Strengthening nutrition-sensitive agricultural value chains for healthier diets and resilient food systems.

Markets, Economics & Science Policy

Understanding farmer decision-making, risk management, and innovation adoption. Co-design of policies and market mechanisms that support climate-resilient agriculture while ensuring economic viability.

Social Learning & Governance

Promoting knowledge transfer, participatory governance, and institutional change. Addressing land tenure security, gender equity, and access to resources to support inclusive agricultural transitions.

Technology & Agricultural Innovation

Leveraging artificial intelligence, remote sensing, and smart farming for better decision-making and resource efficiency. Advancing biotechnology and precision agriculture to enhance productivity with minimal environmental impact.

CGIAR feature center-of-the-year

In 2025, Tropentag spotlights the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), a leading research institute dedicated to transforming African agriculture. IITA is at the forefront of developing sustainable solutions for African smallholder farmers, addressing food security challenges, improving rural livelihoods, and promoting climate-resilient agriculture.

With a strong focus on agricultural research-for-development, IITA works across multiple domains, including crop improvement, soil and water management, digital innovations in farming, and sustainable agrifood systems. The institute collaborates with governments, universities, private sector partners, and local communities to scale up science-driven solutions that enhance productivity while safeguarding environmental health.

Conference structure

The theme of *Tropentag 2025* will be introduced by invited international guest speakers and developed by keynote speeches in parallel thematic sessions. The key conference themes will be addressed through oral

presentations thematically related guided poster sessions, and online presentations, and each contribution should highlight its relevance to the overarching theme.

The Apéro social evening on 10th September and the conference dinner on 11th September will allow participants to network, discuss, and exchange ideas.

Online participants will have access to the conference (keynotes, parallel thematic sessions, and special online sessions). Pre-recorded short presentations can be accepted and upon acceptance will be broadcasted during the conference.

Programme structure

9 th Sept	Pre-conference workshops
10 th Sept	Pre-conference workshops Opening (1 pm CEST) Keynote session <i>fiat panis</i> session Parallel thematic oral sessions Apéro social evening
11 th Sept	Poster and online sessions Parallel thematic oral sessions Conference dinner
12 th Sept	Poster and online sessions Plenary keynote session Closing (around 2 pm CEST)

Submission procedure

The conference's language will be English. Abstracts of 250-350 words of original research on the featured topic must be submitted by 3rd May 2025 using the online form at www.tropentag.de. Please ensure that the abstracts are of an appropriate level of quality in terms of content and language. A panel of reviewers will decide on accepting an abstract as a poster or oral presentation. Acceptance of abstracts will be notified by 10th June 2025. Participants must confirm their participation by 5th July 2025 and pay the conference fee by 1st August 2025. Contributions will be grouped into thematic clusters and presented in guided oral or

poster sessions. All presented contributions will be included in the book of abstracts, both in print and online.

Workshops

You can propose and organise pre-conference workshops around the thematic areas of the TT 2025 and/ or focus on capacity building. You need to describe the aim and theme of the workshop and send your application to info@tropentag.de by 3rd May 2025. You will receive feedback on your application by 10th of June 2025. For more information: www.tropentag.de/conference/workshop.php.

Dates and deadlines

Submission of abstracts	3 rd May, 2025
Submission of workshops	3 rd May, 2025
Acceptance of abstracts	10 th June, 2025
Acceptance of workshops	10 th June, 2025
Reconfirmation of contribution	5 th July, 2025
Early bird payment of conf. fee	1 st August, 2025

Conference fees (presence and online)

	By 1 st August 2025	Later
Full participants	€ 190	€ 220
PhD candidates	€ 95	€ 120
ATSAF PhD members	€ 80	€ 105
Students	€ 25	€ 30

Optional: Conference dinner € 30; reduced € 15 (students). Printed version of the book-of-abstracts € 10.

Organisation and contacts

Local organisation:

ZEF, Genscherallee 3, 53113 Bonn
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Tropentag secretariat:

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