



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN IN PUBLICA COMMODO
SEIT 1737
UNIKASSEL
VERSITÄT

Tropentag 2026

September, 16-18

Göttingen, Germany and online



Call for papers

***Towards multi-functional agro-eco-
systems promoting climate-resilient
futures***

www.tropentag.de

Organised by: Georg-August-University
Göttingen
Campus-Centre of Biodiversity
and Sustainable Land-Use (CBL)
& University of Kassel

Venue: Central Campus Centre /
Zentrales Hörsaalgebäude (ZHG)
Platz der Göttinger Sieben
37073 Göttingen

About

Tropentag is an annual international conference focused on research in agriculture, natural resource management, and rural development in the tropics and subtropics. It is jointly organised by the universities of Berlin, Bonn, Göttingen, Hohenheim, Kassel-Witzenhausen, ZALF e.V. (Germany), Ghent University (Belgium), the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic), BOKU University (Austria), and ATSAF e.V., in cooperation with the GIZ Fund International Agricultural Research (FIA).

The conference brings together scientists, students, graduates, development practitioners, funding organisations, international partners, and donors from many countries. As an interdisciplinary, development-oriented event, *Tropentag* addresses environmental management, agricultural production, forestry, fisheries, food and nutrition sovereignty, and related fields within the context of global partnerships, sustainable land and water use, climate action, zero hunger, and poverty reduction.

Tropentag 2026 will be hosted by the University of Göttingen in collaboration with the University of Kassel. All scientists, students, and experts working in the above-mentioned areas are invited to participate. In particular early-career scientists are encouraged to present their work.

Thematic areas

Agriculture is at the center of global land-use change, shaping rural livelihoods, food systems, and environmental sustainability. As population growth, urbanisation, and accelerating climate change intensify pressure on land and natural resources, balancing agricultural development with planetary health has become increasingly urgent. Reconciling land-system change with planetary health requires ensuring that agricultural expansion, intensification, and transformation support food security and economic development while safeguarding soil fertility, water resources, and ecosystem functions.

Tropentag 2026 will examine how agriculture, forestry, and land-use systems in the Global South can contribute to a sustainable future amid rapid environmental and social change. The conference will highlight interdisciplinary research on multifunctional systems that integrate ecological, economic, and social dimensions.

Discussions will address strategies to strengthen resilience in farming and forest landscapes, promote biodiversity-based and climate-smart production systems, and advance sustainable value chains that benefit both people and ecosystems. In the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026, particular attention will be given to the ecosystem functions of extensive pasture-based livestock systems.

Participants will explore how innovation, knowledge exchange, and inclusive governance can foster multifunctional agro-ecosystems that enhance food security, build climate resilience, and support global sustainability goals. Emphasis will be placed on equitable partnerships and the essential role of local communities in shaping pathways toward sustainable, multifunctional landscapes.

Key thematic areas include:

Resilient crop, livestock and agroforestry systems
Integrating crops, livestock and trees to build resilient, multifunctional landscapes. Harnessing the value of extensive and mobile livestock systems. Exploring innovations in agro-ecological and agro-silvo-pastoral systems.

Climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation
Climate change poses enormous challenges to agricultural and food systems, impacting crop productivity, altering land use dynamics, and requiring effective adaptation and mitigation strategies. Showcase the use of data, theory and models, through applied studies, model development, data-driven approaches and data-model integration. Deepen understanding of climate change impacts on diverse agro-ecosystems and

on the interactions between impacts, adaptation & mitigation responses.

Food systems, nutrition & livelihoods

Building nutrition-sensitive and fair food systems that improve dietary quality, local value addition, and rural incomes. Examining sustainability and equity along tropical agricultural value chains.

Markets, governance & policy innovation

Understanding the socio-economic transformation of tropical landscapes. Designing governance mechanisms, investment strategies, and policy frameworks that protect landscape multifunctionality, promote sustainable land use and equitable resource access.

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.

Technology, data & knowledge systems

Applying digital tools, remote sensing, modelling, and artificial intelligence to monitor land-use change and guide decision-making. Strengthening participatory research and education networks between Global South and North.

CGIAR feature-of-the-year

Tropentag 2026 spotlights the **CGIAR Science Program on Multifunctional Landscapes**, a global initiative advancing sustainable land use and equitable development across diverse ecosystems. The program aims to create landscapes that balance ecological integrity, agricultural productivity, and social well-being, contributing to climate, biodiversity, and livelihood goals. By integrating research and policy innovation, the program tackles challenges such as herd-mobility restrictions, deforestation, land degradation, and resource competition. It advances integrated management approaches that treat trees, crops, livestock, and water as interconnected agro-silvo-pastoral systems. Through regional partnerships, it links science, governance, and community knowledge to co-design resilient and inclusive land-use solutions.

Conference structure

The theme of **Tropentag 2026** 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. Each contribution must highlight its relevance to the overarching theme. The Apéro social evening on 16th Sept. and the conference dinner on 17th Sept. 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 proposed and upon acceptance will be broadcasted during the conference.

Programme structure

15 th Sept	Pre-conference workshops
16 th Sept	Pre-conference workshops Opening (1 pm CEST) Keynote session <i>fiat panis</i> session Parallel thematic oral sessions Apéro social evening
17 th Sept	Poster and online sessions Parallel thematic oral sessions Poster and online sessions Conference dinner
18 th Sept	Poster and online sessions Keynote session Closing (around 2 pm CEST) Post-conference workshops Optional excursions

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 24th April 2026 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 3rd June 2026. Participants must confirm their participation by 24st June 2026 and pay the conference fee by 20st July 2026. Contributions will be grouped into thematic clusters and presented in oral, poster and online sessions. All presented contributions will be included in the book of abstracts, both in print and online.

Workshops

You can propose and organise a workshops around the thematic areas of the TT 2026 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 2026. You will receive feedback on your application by 10th of June 2026. More information: www.tropentag.de/conference/workshop.php

Dates and deadlines

Submission of abstracts	24 th April, 2026
Submission of workshops	3 rd May, 2026
Acceptance of abstracts	3 rd June, 2026
Acceptance of workshops	10 th June, 2026
Reconfirmation of contribution	24 st June, 2026
Early bird payment of conf. fee	20 st July, 2026

Conference fees (presence and online)

	By 20 st July 2026	Later
Full participants	€ 190	€ 220
PhD candidates	€ 95	€ 120
ATSAF PhD members	€ 80	€ 105
Students	€ 25	€ 30

Optional: Conference dinner € 35; reduced € 20 (students). Printed version of the book-of-abstracts € 15.

Organisation and contacts

Local organisation:

Dr. Simone Pfeiffer, CBL, Büsgenweg 1, 37077 Göttingen / Email: tt26@uni-goettingen.de

Tropentag secretariat:

Dr. ir. Eric Tielkes (DITSL) / Email: info@tropentag.de