



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
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

AgriFoSe2030

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



A training course targeting young Asian researchers with PhD

Date: 21-27 January 2018
Where: Bangkok, Thailand

EXTENDED DEADLINE: 2 OCTOBER

The Agriculture for Food Security 2030 (AgriFoSe2030) programme, a Swedish initiative, will conduct a training course for young Asian 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, Sweden. AgriFoSe2030 speaks directly to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the promotion of smallholder agricultural development.

Our context: The AgriFoSe2030 focuses on three main cross-cutting themes that the programme believes are of high relevance for sustainable food security:

1. Sustainable intensification,
2. Access to markets and value chains, and
3. Women and youth

www.slu.se/agrifose

Being the seedbed of the Green Revolution, Asian agriculture is of high relevance for food security and development in the region. The diversity of agriculture is large and the links to markets are also at different levels. The roles of women and youth are of particular interest in societies where the transitions of strong urbanization, technological shifts, and globalisation are taking place.

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 ultimately greater impact.

Course objectives

The objectives of the short training course are to:

1. Enhance understanding of the policy and practice landscape, research policy linkages and different models for 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 Asian 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 (Theme 1)
 - ii) Multifunctional landscapes for increased food security (Theme 2)
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). We strive for equal gender participation and therefore encourage female researchers to apply.

The course will be held from 22-27 January 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand. 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 South Asia and South East Asia – participants from Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar are given priority;
- Have recently completed his or her Ph.D. in a field of relevance, within five years of the course date (no earlier than Jan 2013);
- 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 and practitioners for impact.

To apply:

1. CV incl. current affiliation, academic specialisation and publication list (max 2 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 or practical 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)
4. proof of English proficiency; formal statement or certificate of ability to speak, read, write and understand the English language.

Send to:

Cheryl Sjöström, cheryl.sjostrom@keg.lu.se
Deadline: 2 October 2017

Only complete applications will be considered. Successful candidates will be notified by the end of October 2017.

Organizers

AgriFoSe2030

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 AgriFoSe2030 programme 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. Read more at 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. Read more at www.chalmers.se/gmv/EN/projects/gmv-environmental8568