

Year of CfP: 2009

Project No 0900-004

Project title: The future of Agricultural Research for Development: A rendez-vous for young researchers from the South and the North

Unit managing the project: French Initiative for International Agricultural Research (FI4IAR: a Joint venture of INRA and CIRAD) - IFRAI

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Countries involved in the project: CGIAR centres, Africa, North America, South America, Europe and Asia, Young Professionals' Platform for Agricultural Research (YPARD)

Sub-thematic axes: IPB-2 (Integrative Plant Biology 2: *Plant pests and diseases, integrated crop protection, population ecology*); STDI-1 (Socio-Technical Dynamics of Innovation 1: *Agri-environmental innovations, agri-ecosystems, resources management*); STDI-2 (Socio-Technical Dynamics of Innovation 2: *Agrifood innovations, food and non-food use of plant crops*); STDI-3 (Socio-Technical Dynamics of Innovation 3: *Innovation processes, social management of innovations*)

Objectives:

This seminar targets young doctoral and post doctoral fellows. Its objectives are to provide an opportunity for young researchers from the North and the South to exchange on their research projects; to raise awareness about the stakes for agricultural research in the different regions of the world; to heighten understanding among the researchers of the North regarding the problems of the South; to identify synergies and complementarities together; and to build linkages. The overarching theme of the event is "innovation and integration".

The event will gather some 40 young researchers who will reflect on how innovation and integration are factored into their respective research work, what are the obstacles faced, what are the institutional and organizational prerequisites, etc.

Senior discussants, from different parts of the world, will also be involved during the seminar. They will provide their expert's opinion in terms of the innovative dimension of the research projects as well as linkages and cross-cutting issues between these projects. Some young professionals from the agricultural development sector will also be invited to express their point of view on the outputs of these research projects based on their personal experiences.

Follow-up events are envisioned to be organized where some previous participants will be invited to take part again over the course of the years. By then, the same young researcher at a different stage of his/her career would have interesting insights to share with new participants. Such is expected to contribute to building a dynamic community of young researchers from different parts of the world interacting with each other and jointly producing and sharing knowledge on important issues related to agricultural research.

Total Agropolis Fondation funding: €60K

Funding category(ies): Agropolis Foundation Small Grants to sponsor and support the organisation of an international seminar on agricultural research for development for the future involving young researchers from the North and the South

Project duration: 14.5 months (including 5-day seminar scheduled on 25-30 March 2010)

Keywords: innovation, integration, young researchers, young professionals