



SHIFT PRIZE
**Award for transformative agroecological
research for development**

Terms and Conditions

and

Further Information for Applicants



Introduction

The SHIFT Prize is awarded by the Biovision Foundation in partnership with the Agropolis Foundation. This prize aims at recognizing collaborative research for development projects and initiatives, which have made an exemplary contribution to the agroecological transformation of food systems, through their transdisciplinary research for development actions.

A profound transformation of global food systems is needed at all scales in the face of demographic changes, the triple burden of malnutrition, depletion of natural resources, increasingly severe consequences of climate change and the loss of biodiversity. Unsustainable forms of agricultural intensification have been driving negative social and environmental impacts around the globe. Agroecology is emerging as a viable alternative pathway to enhance the resilience and sustainability of farming systems by applying ecological principles to agriculture and ensuring a regenerative use of natural resources and ecosystem services while also addressing the need for socially equitable food systems within which people can exercise choice over what they eat and how and where it is produced. Developing and disseminating knowledge and innovation on agroecology is crucial to achieving sustainability and resilience.

Biovision Foundation is a charitable organization in Switzerland, founded in 1998 by the World Food Prize recipient Dr. Hans Rudolf Herren. Biovision aims at sustainably improving life for people in Africa while conserving the environment as the basis for all life. Core to Biovision's approach is the creation and dissemination of knowledge to sustainably improve the health of people, animals, plants and the environment. In 2013 Biovision and its founder won the Right Livelihood award for pioneering work in promoting a safe, secure and sustainable global food supply.

Agropolis Fondation is a French scientific foundation established in 2007 to promote and support high-level research and higher education as well as to broaden international research partnerships in agricultural sciences and sustainable development research. It coordinates a network of research units in "agriculture and sustainable development". This multidisciplinary scientific network builds a continuum of scientific knowledge on plants: from the gene to the agro-ecosystem and the end use of plants, with recognized expertise on a very large number of plant species in temperate, tropical and Mediterranean regions. This network includes more than 40 research units located in Montpellier and its surroundings. The Foundation is working as well on three cross-cutting issues, namely: climate change: mitigation and adaptation; biodiversity: conservation and sustainable use; and responsible production and consumption.

Outline of the SHIFT Prize

1. About the Prize

The SHIFT Prize awards collaborative research for development projects and initiatives, which have made an exemplary contribution to the agroecological transformation of food systems, through their transdisciplinary research for development actions. The winning project or initiative will receive € 20'000 unrestricted funding to support its further development and strengthen its impacts. The winners will be part of a community of champions that support agroecological transformations via policy dialogue and will have the opportunity to showcase their work in high-level discussions. They will also have access to a global platform aimed at connecting diverse research for development stakeholders, including CSOs, donor organizations and policy makers in addition to research institutes.



2. Eligibility

The SHIFT Prize is intended for projects and initiatives contributing to an evidence-based food system transformation anywhere in the world. Applications are welcomed from any of the following with achieved or potential impact on the resilience of food systems based on agroecological principles.

- Collaborative projects or initiatives with a transdisciplinary approach to research for development.
- Multi- and interdisciplinary applied research projects on food systems, involving agricultural or environmental sciences as well as social sciences or humanities, or other field of scientific research related to food systems, such as health, nutrition, plant, soil, political science and economy.
- Consortia or partnerships of academic or research institutes, civil society organizations, farmer groups, governmental institutions, cooperatives, and/or private sector actors.

3. Jury and judging process

The Prize will be judged and awarded by an independent panel of experts in conjunction with the Agropolis Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food and the Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security.

The Chairman of the Board of Agropolis Fondation appoints jury members. The independent jury is composed of internationally recognised individuals acclaimed for their contribution to agriculture and food as well as knowledge of international issues confronting the sector.

The applications are judged on merit against the evaluation criteria provided, and there will be no positive or negative discrimination based on gender, race, background or nationality.

The jury deliberates and collaboratively selects the winner. It has no obligation to justify or defend its choice. Its decision is final and irrevocable.

4. Confidentiality

Members of the jury and all persons with access to the submitted Application Forms commit themselves to keeping any information provided confidential. Members of the jury agree not to disclose the results of their deliberation prior to the announcement of the winners.

5. Marketing and communications for winning and shortlisted projects

By entering the SHIFT Prize, applicants agree to being included in marketing and communications materials should their entry reach the shortlist. The winner of the Prize is required to provide a quote for inclusion in a press release, and may be asked to speak to the media about their project or initiative and the SHIFT Prize.

6. Conditions and payment of the Prize

The Prize will be made in one payment on acceptance of the Prize to the institution overseeing the winning project or initiative, as specified in the Application Form.

A representative of the winning project or initiative is required to accept the Prize in person at the Award Ceremony. The organisers will cover the costs of transport and accommodation for one representative to attend the Award Ceremony.

All entries must be submitted electronically on or before the specified deadline via the Application submission platform <https://agropolisfondation.optimytool.com/en/> (Note: Applicants need to create an account)

7. Revised Timeline

DATES	ACTION
29 June 2020	2021 Prize Launch Agropolis Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for Agriculture and Food Olam Prize for Innovation in Food Security SHIFT Prize for transformative agroecological research for development
15 March 2021, midnight	Deadline for submission of Nomination/Application Forms Submission in English; Online submission
16 – 19 March 2021	Eligibility check and distribution of dossiers to Jury Members
March – April 2021	Individual evaluation by Jury Members
Week of 03 May 2021	Meeting of the International Jury in Montpellier Background/Reference check of winners <i>Winners will be held confidential at this stage and will be contacted by the Foundation</i>
Week of 10 May 2021	Interviews/videos/articles Travel arrangements (Awardees)
End-May 2021	Finalize results/Press Release
June/July onwards	Award ceremony – tbc