



# Annual Review 2015

Think Globally, Act Locally

Acknowledgements

Special thanks go out to all authors, contributors and sources of inspiration making this Annual Review possible. I would like to thank my team, the **EC 2015-2016**, for their contributions and in specific **Josipa Arapović** for her continuous support and willingness to chat about the Review, for her efforts in writing several articles and her feedback on content and design.

Next, special credit goes out to all **Regional and National Directors** who invested their time in writing, so passionately and professionally, about their committee's activities, their experiences and plans. Our committees are our basic entity and their functioning and activity is what drives IAAS. Being able to work with many of my friends and IAAS colleagues and their articles made editing of the Annual Review fascinating and rewarding.

Best regards and enjoy reading!



Brought to you by

**Sam Raeymaekers**

Annual Review Editor  
Vice President of Communication  
2015/16

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Welcome  
to the World  
of IAAS



## Letter from the President

### The connection between IAAS and motivated and passionate young people

Dear reader,

Welcome to the IAAS Annual Review, my name is Josipa Arapović, and I am honoured to be President of IAAS World.

This means being given the opportunity by our members to lead a team that could impact not only more than 40 countries, but a whole generation of young people.

I believe IAAS enables young people to explore the maximum of their potential. Through skill learning, providing experiences, giving them global perspective, enabling project development, exchange experiences and so much more! I saw this change in myself: IAAS gave me the confidence to grow, to understand my values and what I stand for. This amazing experience that IAAS provides brings young people out of their comfort zone and enables them to find their own solutions to environmental, food and agriculture issues and ultimately world issues.

Feeling passionate about something and making people around you believe not only in themselves, but also that change is possible and making the change happen is what being in IAAS is all about! It also means to have the freedom and the ability to exchange ideas, knowledge and experiences in a global, multicultural environment using the global outlook on a local scale.

"Think globally, act locally!" is what IAAS World believes in and stands for.

IAAS taught me in these past years that young people can indeed make a change in the world for the better. IAAS makes you think out of the box and gives you a chance to get involved with both agricultural and world issues on national, regional and global scale

Finally, this experience also taught me that we can not change the world by ourselves. I am incredibly grateful to all our partners, stakeholders and Alumni who make IAAS happen every day and who help us shape the world together. We would not be who we are without them.

Ultimately, my gratitude goes immensely to all our members from all the continents: their dedication brings this organisation to the next level and makes it possible to change our world.



**Josipa Arapović**

President of IAAS World  
2015/16

"We believe that in order to confront the challenges our communities face, we need to define issues and develop clear strategies for action!"

This is why IAAS gives its members experience and knowledge to implement positive changes in the society!"



Josipa Arapović,  
IAAS World President  
2015-2016

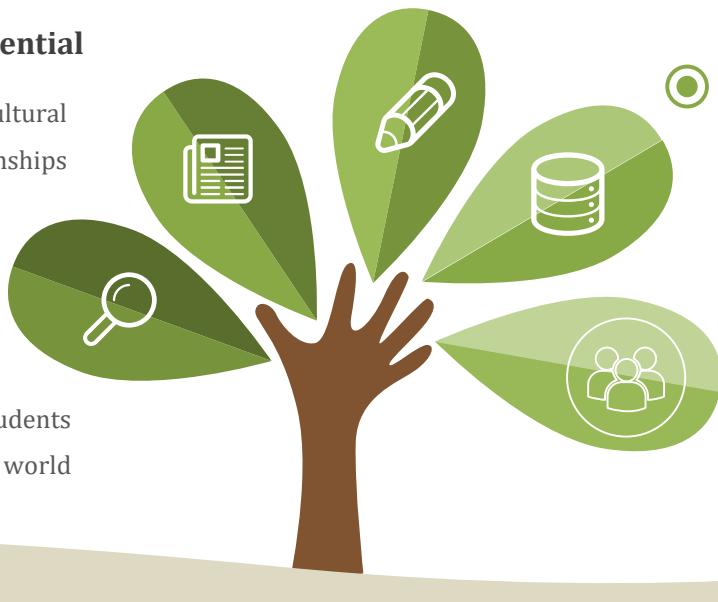
## Why IAAS

### Personal development

With tens of thousands of opportunities in our network

### Activate your potential

Through experiential learning, agricultural experiences and amazing internships



### Make it count

Life changing experiences abroad that lets you discuss global and local issues

### Exchange knowledge

Exchanging experiences with students from all around the world

### Friendships

Make new friends from all around the world

## Start your committee

Organise international IAAS events and projects

Start with the group of interested students

Get in touch with IAAS World

Start

Growth

Stronger

Attend international IAAS events

Ideas

Start

Growth

Stronger

Bigger



### Questions and applications

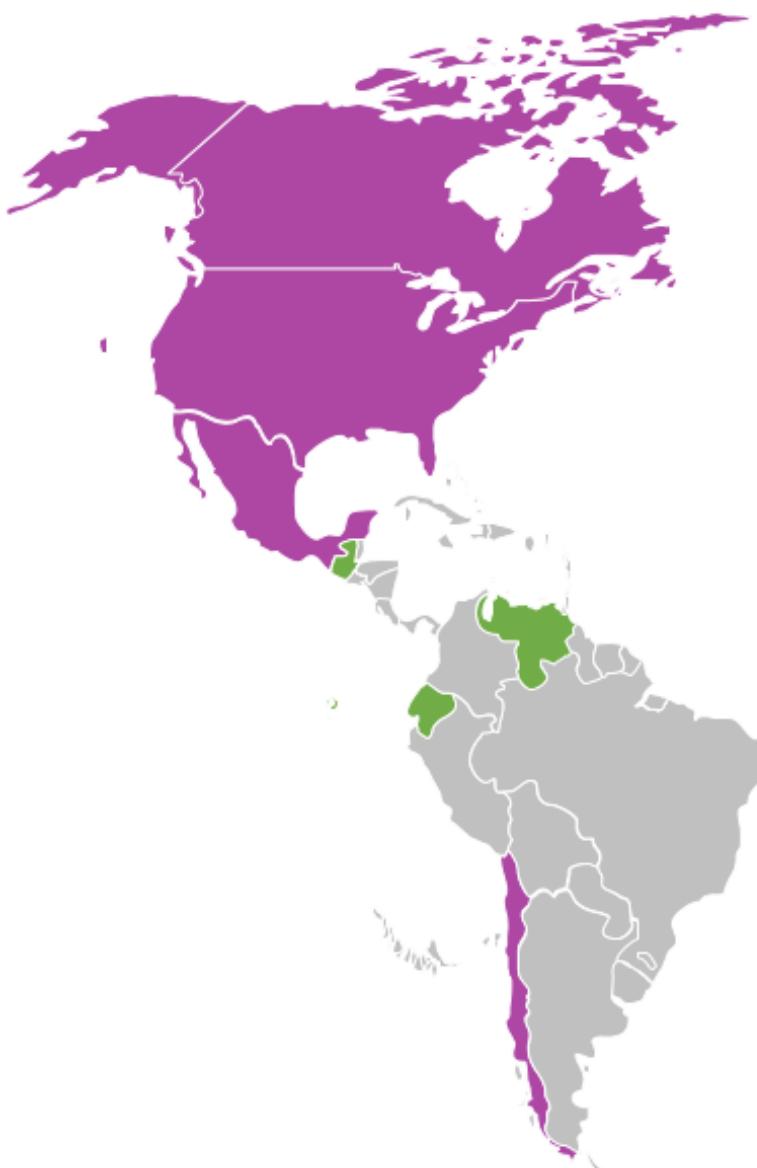
Josipa [president@iaasworld.org](mailto:president@iaasworld.org)  
Sam [vpcommunication@iaasworld.org](mailto:vpcommunication@iaasworld.org)



# The IAAS Network



## Our Impact



### **Americas**

Canada  
Chile  
Mexico  
USA  
**Ecuador**  
**Guatemala**  
**Venezuela**

### **Africa**

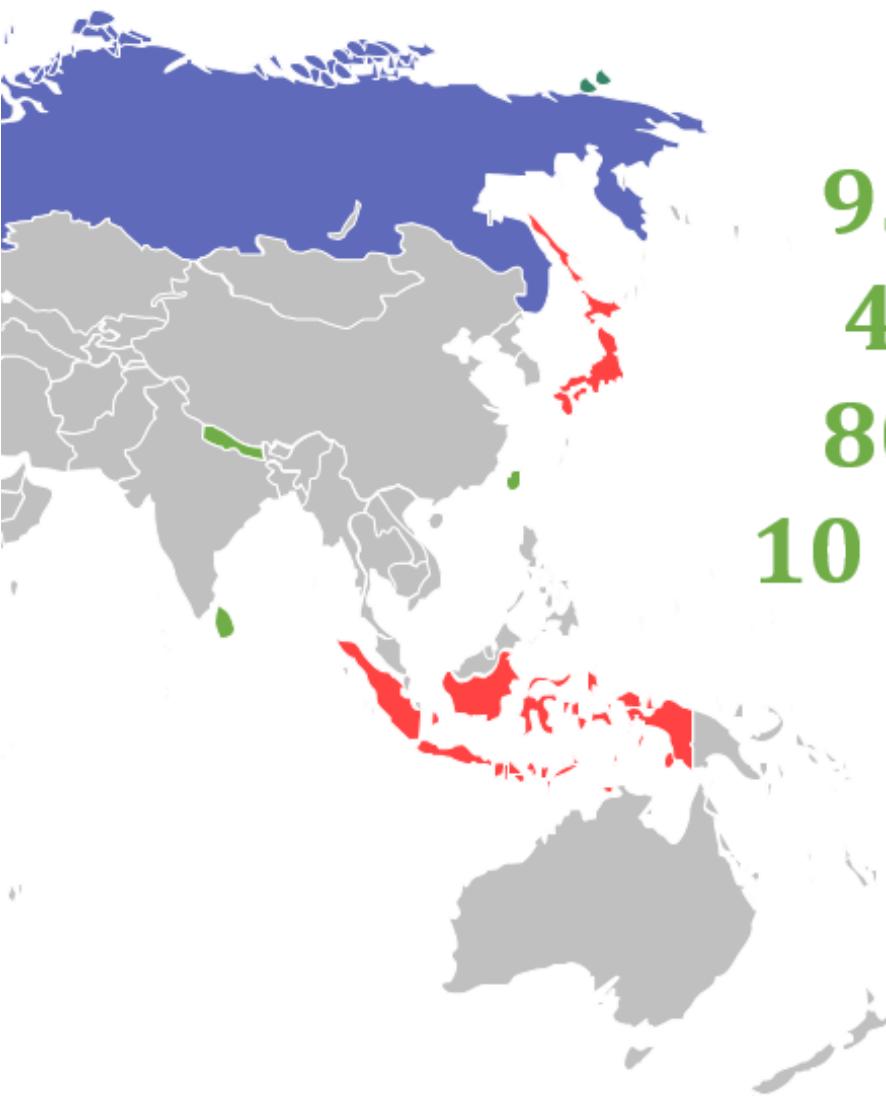
Benin  
Cote d'Ivoire  
Ghana  
Niger  
Nigeria  
Togo  
**Kenya**  
**Mali**  
**Uganda**  
**Zimbabwe**

### **West Europe**

Belgium  
France  
Italy  
Portugal  
Spain  
Switzerland



Last year, IAAS was present in:



**95** Committees

**42** Countries

**80** Universities

**10 000** Members

### Central Europe

Croatia  
Germany  
Greece  
Slovenia

### North-East Europe

Belarus  
Czech Republic  
Finland  
Poland  
Russia  
Sweden  
Ukraine

### Asia-Pacific

Indonesia  
Japan  
**Nepal**  
**Sri Lanka**  
**Taiwan**

\*Candidate Member

# Contribute to a greener future. Study Bioscience Engineering!

Do you also worry about problems like **food shortage**, the **environment** and **health**? Are you interested in **science**? Are you fascinated by questions about life in interaction with its environment? In that case, a **degree in Bioscience Engineering** is your cup of tea!

- ✓ Master of Science in Agro- and Ecosystems Engineering
- ✓ Master of Science in Bioinformatics
- ✓ Master of Science in Bioscience Engineering: Human Health Engineering
- ✓ Master of Science in Food Technology
- ✓ Master of Science in Molecular Biology
- ✓ Master of Science in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology
- ✓ Master of Science in Statistics
- ✓ Master of Science in Water Resources Engineering



# Our Exchange Program



## Our Exchange Program

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The Exchange Program exists for over **45 years** and it has provided exchange opportunities to **20.000 students** worldwide



The IAAS Exchange Program gives opportunities to do a **traineeship/internship abroad**. With Expro, you can learn and experience things that cannot be learned out of course books. Every exchange program is a fascinating event, **an in-depth cultural experience and a great learning opportunity** in the field of agriculture, environment and food.

## Integrate yourself

During an IAAS Exchange Programme abroad, you will be challenged to adapt both personally and professionally, and the payoff of this adaptation will be enormous for your professional development.

While doing an IAAS internship you will not remain an outsider! On the contrary, you will have to integrate yourself in a foreign society and professional of your host country/company. Intercultural communication is a vitally important part of the modern professional world, so employers will drool over the fact that you have already undertaken an internship with ExPro, and therefore have experience in a multicultural environment.

By leaving the comforts of home to immerse yourself in an entirely new culture, you will be pushing the boundaries of what you are capable of. Some even say that the travel and life experience acquired through ExPro internships abroad are more important than the professional experience. With the Exchange Program, IAAS provides intercultural learning opportunities for young people that contribute to positively to their self-realisation. IAAS ExPro is gives a positive learning experience, chance to develop leadership skills and gets young people active. Besides that, IAAS provides the opportunity for students who want to improve their awareness and knowledge about social issues. In addition, IAAS ExPro contributes to student's personal and professional life goals.

Don't hesitate to fulfil your personal and professional goals,  
apply today!

### My best experiences so far

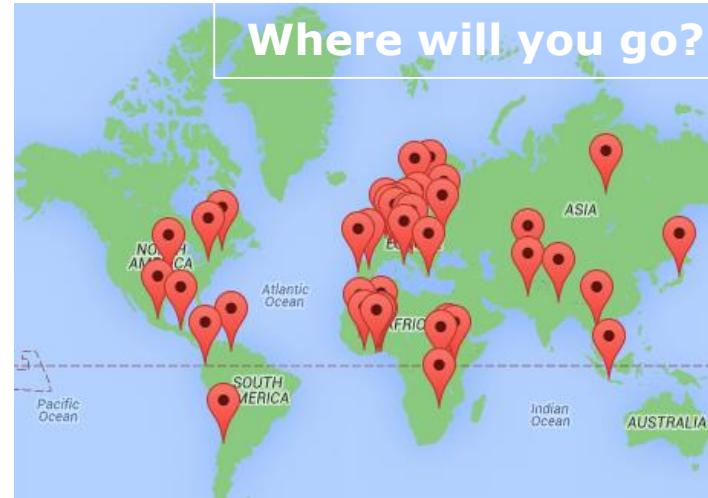
Going on an IAAS internship to Indonesia meant crying twice for me: when I arrived, because of the jetlag and being homesick the first days, and when I had to return. All the time in between were moments of joy, happiness and great friendships.

This internship was not only a great learning opportunity to me, it was the best experience of my life up to now. It combined learning, travelling and getting to know other cultures. Even though my Indonesian friends are living at the other side of the world, I still hear many of them every week. I can't miss them anymore!

**Vere Leybaert**  
Internship in Indonesia

## Where to go?

All IAAS countries can participate in the organisation of the Exchange Program. To find out more about our Exchange Programme click [here](#). Check country specific Expro-information on the IAAS-webpage and don't forget to remind the receiving Exchange Coordinator to send a detailed job offer that describes the working conditions. Keep in mind that, when you register online, you will have to indicate 3 preferred destination countries. Your National Exchange Coordinator or the Exchange Quality Board will be able to help to choose the right country.



From supporting IAAS activities of student development to promoting our work abroad opportunities to students of your university, there are numerous ways you can help.

**"IAAS internships are incredibly worthwhile endeavours that everyone should seek out in order to be successful in the rapidly globalizing world of today"**





# Meet our Team



## The Executive Committee

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### Make it work!

We at the board are dedicated to making IAAS thrive to its full potential!

At IAAS we create a new generation of passionate innovative leaders worldwide in agriculture and related fields. Our motivated and ambitious global youth network is our foundation and together with them we dream, overcome and improve in order to get the best out of IAAS.

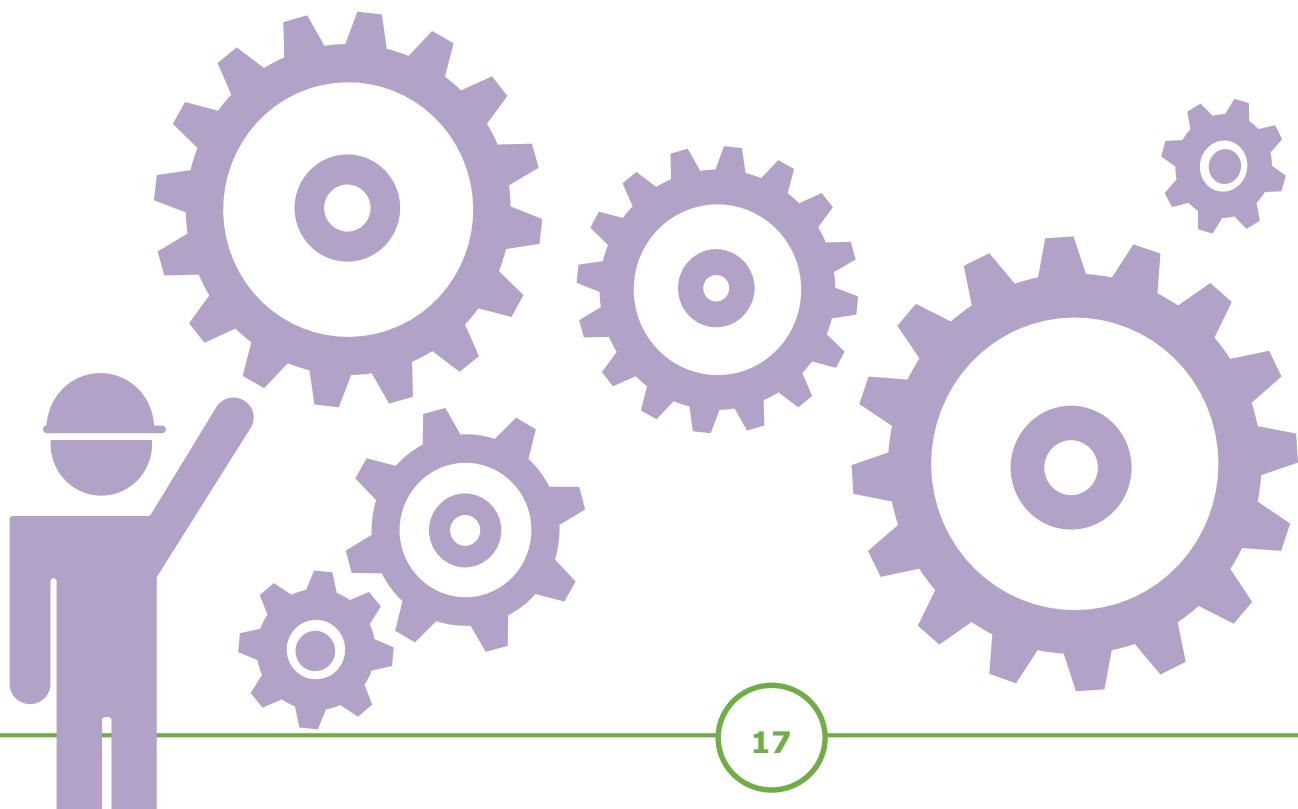
Read on and get to know us and how we want to realize our ideals and ambitions in our future lives.

The IAAS EC 2015/16

### The 2015/16 IAAS Board Vision

*"To use and promote the strongest asset of our organisation: the spirit of FamillIAAS, in order to increase our network's quality and make our connections stronger"*

*"A **more connected** IAAS leads to **more efficient** IAAS, which will benefit the organisation to great extent"*





**Josipa Arapović, IAAS World President**

Croatia, 23 years of life experience

Currently student in Agroecology

*"I see myself as a future professional working in an NGO on a variety of agricultural development issues, from poverty reduction and food security to gender equality and environment protection."*

*"I see myself working on projects and programmes that have impactful work with smallholder farmers around the world since small farmers preserve biodiversity, contribute to climate change mitigation and global food security."*

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**Lucas Martin Vice President of External Relations**

Chile, 26 years of wisdom collected

Graduated in Agronomy, currently working as Quality Control Fruit Inspector, Guangzhou, China

*"I see myself as a future professional working in an NGO improving the development of small farmers and helping eradicating hunger while securing food availability. I think this is key to solving the problems related to the growing population towards 2050."*




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**Sam Raeymaekers Vice President of Communication**

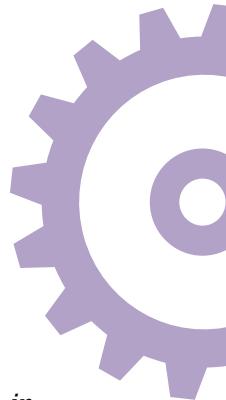
Belgium, 24 years of survival skills

Currently student in Agro & Ecosystems Engineering

*"In see myself as a future professional in' Agridevelopment': using agricultural innovation as tool for rural societies' development."*

*"I'd love working for a agri/food company, where I'll be able to use my skills and knowledge to build bridges between rural communities and world leading innovators, in an economic and socially reasonable way."*





**Steven Adams, Vice President of Exchange**

Belgium, gathered know-how and life related skills over 24 years

Graduated in Animal Husbandry. Currently working as Trainee International Terminal Manager.

*"In the future I hope to use the experience, gained through IAAS, in a fascinating and challenging job. I can use this experience already in my first job! The main criteria for my future work will be: challenging, interest and my motivation to put all my effort in it. "*

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**Giannis Chaniotakis Vice President of Finance**

Greece, 24 years of expertise in managing his life

Currently studying Horticultural Science, Apiculture Science

*"I see myself as a future professional having my own small family beekeeping business where I will be transforming my love for agriculture and bees into high quality products, in a sustainable and innovative way."*

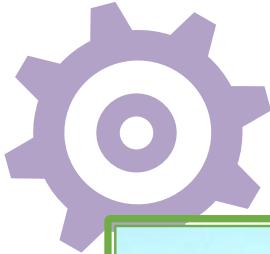


**Getting in touch with the board**

The IAAS Executive Committee is available via:

President	Josipa	<a href="mailto:president@iaasworld.org">president@iaasworld.org</a>
VP External Relations	Lucas	<a href="mailto:vppartnership@iaasworld.org">vppartnership@iaasworld.org</a>
VP Communication	Sam	<a href="mailto:vpcommunication@iaasworld.org">vpcommunication@iaasworld.org</a>
VP Exchange	Steven	<a href="mailto:vpexchange@iaasworld.org">vpexchange@iaasworld.org</a>
VP Finance	Giannis	<a href="mailto:vpfinance@iaasworld.org">vpfinance@iaasworld.org</a>
Control Committee	Team	<a href="mailto:controlcommittee@iaasworld.org">controlcommittee@iaasworld.org</a>

**The IAAS Control Committee**



**Yahor Vetlou**

Belarus, 24 yrs old

Currently student in Agro-economy

**I see myself in the future**  
in two different options:

- I will be fully involved in increasing productivity and modernization of national level
- involved in important world agricultural and social issues, at this moment I'm most of all interested and doing my research in topics like poverty and hunger.



**Ohemaa Ogbolosaa-Mensah**

Ghana, 23 yrs old

Currently student in Crop Science, involved in projects to improve the livelihood of small scale farmers in Ghana, by teaching good agricultural practices and offering training on improved ways of farming and marketing to maximize profitability.

**I see myself as a future professional** 'agripreneur' as well as a voice championing the use of modern technologies in agriculture.



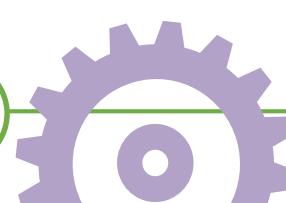
**Genna Tesdall**

USA, 23 yrs old

Currently student in Plant Pathology, International Agriculture matters and Development.

**I see myself as a future professional:**

- working in interdisciplinary, international teams to solve global agricultural and resource challenges
- staying active as IAAS Alumni



## Regional Directors

The Regional Directors are the link between the Executive Committee and the Regional IAAS Committees.

They assist the board in communication with the members in their region, informing them about opportunities and IAAS news. They contribute in matters related to new applications, quality assurance and external communication.

Get in touch with them!

Africa	Omar	<a href="mailto:africa@iaasworld.org">africa@iaasworld.org</a>
The Americas	Luis	<a href="mailto:americas@iaasworld.org">americas@iaasworld.org</a>
Asia-Pacific	William	<a href="mailto:asia.pacific@iaasworld.org">asia.pacific@iaasworld.org</a>
Europe - Central	Paco	<a href="mailto:central.europe@iaasworld.org">central.europe@iaasworld.org</a>
Europe - Western	Ilias	<a href="mailto:western.europe@iaasworld.org">western.europe@iaasworld.org</a>





# Our 2015



## Our Core Meetings

### IAAS 58<sup>th</sup> World Congress 2015

#### How to Feed the Planet

6-27 July

From the North Sea over the Alps into Lombardy - The 58th world Congress of the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS) took place this summer with over 80 students from 24 countries around the world. The annual IAAS World Congress (WoCo) held by IAAS International is our largest and most important event of the year.

This year's event was organized by the IAAS committees of Belgium and Switzerland under the guise of the designated theme "How to feed the planet". From July 6th to 27th, the Congress visited the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and Italy in a diverse and intense adventure looking for answers to the challenge of feeding 9 billion people by 2050 in a sustainable way.



"Discovering new things is always exciting but we want to make sure that at the same time we develop a profound understanding for the topic. That is why we will need further discussions. [...] Practicing how to transform an idea through teamwork into a project and an action plan, that is what'll bring the necessary changes to all the regions of active IAAS members" said Damien Tschopp, the International Coordinator of WoCo, outlining this year's Congress objectives.

WoCo started in the Netherlands with a visit of the beautiful island Texel in the North Sea. Texel is famous for its farming systems in high-salinity soil as well as the Seaweed Centre of the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ). With limited arable lands for farming activity, soil degradation and rapid climate change, new solutions are needed to prevent a global food crisis; the research on Texel provides many new perspectives for agriculture on saline soils. At the research laboratory, the Congress learned about seaweed and its double quality as realistic potential future source of energy



**Innovative techniques that  
meet society's needs while  
safeguarding our future**

and nutritional proteins. Seeking more information on this topic, the Congress also visited the Wageningen University and Research Center with a focus on seaweed production and latest technologies in greenhouses.

On July 8th, the Congress travelled to Leuven in Belgium, where the headquarters of IAAS international are located. At the official opening ceremony, representatives of the Catholic University (KU) Leuven, of our partner organizations EGEA and ICA, of the Dutch Government, of our sponsor Barry Callebaut as well many IAAS Alumni gave us a warm welcome. In the first days of our General Assembly (GA) we discussed internal affairs and of IAAS World. The visit of the European Commission in Brussels gave the participants a good insight into the dynamics of the European agricultural policy. At a symposium about genetic modified organisms (GMO), the topic "What are GMOs exactly and how can we put it in today's context?" was discussed by Dr. ir. Wim Gerundwald, an expert in agrobiotechnology, and Prof G. Gheysen from Ghent University.



Chocolate and beer lovers were then able to improve their knowledge of their favourite goods with a visit to Barry Callebaut and Haacht Brewery, while more technology-affine fans got to know Imec in Belgium: Imec is a world-leading research centre in nano- and microelectronics which delivers industry-relevant technology solutions, also for agriculture. The Haacht brewery is a family-run brewery which has been running for over 110 years, representing true Belgian craftsmanship. The Barry Callebaut factory in Weize is the largest chocolate factory in the world. As a world's leading manufacturer of high-quality chocolate and cocoa, Barry Callebaut is a major player on the international cocoa market.



**Visiting stables of the unique Belgian cattle breed, the Belgian Blue White**

On Wednesday, July 15, the Congress arrived at ETH Zurich in Switzerland, the home of the IAAS Switzerland Committee. We were welcomed by Dr. Nina Buchmann, the Deputy Head of the Department of Environmental Systems Science and Chair of the World Food System Center, and Dr. Alain Gaume, Head Seed Care Research Biology from Syngenta Crop Protection. We were introduced to the ETH's agricultural study programs as well as to Syngenta's contribution to the global agricultural system. During the subsequent Company Fair, we were able to personally meet our sponsors, partners and other new innovative start-ups from the region. In parallel, lectures from professors and PhD students were held in order give us an insight into current ETH research relevant to our theme "How to feed the planet".

During the GA days in Zurich, the next Executive and Control Committee 2015-2016 was elected. The president for the following year will be Josipa Arapovic from Croatia. Additionally, various new projects were kickstarted with the support of invited specialised trainers. These projects will serve as a base for IAAS to foster the promotion and practice of agriculture as students. Amongst others, those projects included are two new Village Concept Project (VCP) in Nepal and Africa respectively, organising a global Earth Day Celebration, the design and realisation of a new IAAS promotion video and the establishment of a "Youth Awareness in Agriculture"-campaign.



## Developing and pitching our solutions to current challenges

After moving from productive weeks in Zurich to the peaceful Campra in the Swiss Alps, we honed our soft skills in training workshops while working on the new projects. Campra proved to be a perfect place for inspiration, we hiked and explored nature. Some participants even touched snow for the first time. From there we headed to Malcantone, a region close to Lugano in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland. Accompanied by the almost Mediterranean sun, we toured the small village and visited Villa Orizzonte in Castelrotto. We enjoyed the village's landscape and learned about its history during a guided visit. Then, we visited a local vineyard and were invited to taste their outstanding locally produced wine, meat and cheese. The Ticinese agriculture has a long history and a distinct taste to their products.

## Soft skill trainings and adventure in the Swiss Alps



For the last part of the Congress, we moved to Milan in Italy. On the first day, we visited the University of Milan. Various professors gave us lectures about automation and security in agriculture, environmental sustainability in agricultural practices and irrigation technologies.

Milan is currently hosting the World Exhibition with the topic "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life". Therefore, visiting the Expo15 gave us an ideal opportunity to reflect upon all that we learned, discussed and experienced the past three weeks and compare it to the presented solutions aiming to reduce this grotesque absurdity of our world: that millions of people suffer from obesity, while simultaneously millions are dying from malnutrition a bit further away. One third of all foods produced is wasted every year. For these reasons, the world

exhibition is a needed occasion to raise awareness and increase knowledge, to help making conscious political choices, to develop sustainable lifestyles, and optimize the technologies that handle availability and consumption of resources.

On July 26, after 21 days in 4 countries and a journey of over 1600km, we ended the congress in the pavilion of the World Association of Agronomists (WAA). We all headed home inspired by unforgettable moments, new friendships and reinvigorated purpose. The organisation's committee is delighted about the success of this year's IAAS World Congress. We believe that new friendships are the fundament needed for the worldwide exchange of knowledge and ideas within the agricultural sector. This unites and empowers us to find common solutions for the challenges of the future.

We would like to express our gratitude to all our sponsors. Such an event would never have been possible without their support.

Our thanks goes out to:

**ETH Zürich** for great financial, infrastructural and administrative support throughout the year.

**KU Leuven** for their financial and infrastructural support beside hosting the IAAS headquarters.

**Syngenta** and **Barry Callebaut** for financial support and a great collaboration.

**Kirchgemeinde Unterstrass** for helping us out on very short notice in a moment of need.

## The WoCo Organising Committee

2015/16



## IAAS 58<sup>th</sup> World Congress 2015 How to Feed the Planet

**All of us students now will be professionals by 2050: we will be the ones facing world hunger and the consequences of the current environmental impacts of producing our food**



*Through this World Congress, we were explored agriculture from different perspectives, in line with the objectives of the congress: to provide us with knowledge about the development of agriculture in Europe, to gain more skills and experiences, and to open our eyes by traveling from country to country.*

*We would like to thank all the participants for their great enthusiasm, all of our sponsors and partners and the organizing committee from IAAS Switzerland and Belgium who have made this event possible.*

## The African Directors Meeting

15-21 December, Togo

From December 15 to 21, 2015 was held in Lome and Kpalimé towns, in TOGO, the African Congress of Agronomy Students and Related Sciences, ADM (African Director's Meeting).

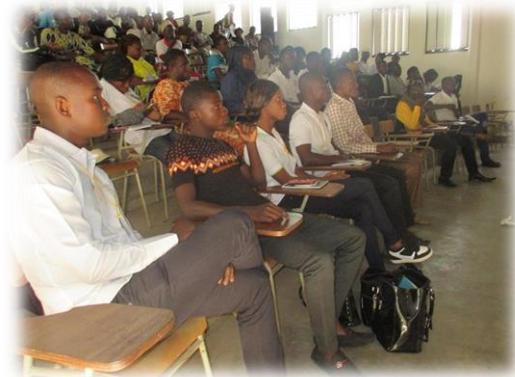
This congress was attended by 185 students of Agronomy Schools coming from seven African countries: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Togo.

For five days, participants exchanged on the theme: "Land Management and Sustainable Agriculture in Africa" through panel discussions, training, and communications. Other activities such as cultural evenings, agricultural, sightseeing and sports activities were at the rendezvous.



**"IAAS is not only about the science of agriculture, food and environment. IAAS stands for friendship and learning from each other."**

Congress activities started on December 16, 2015 with the opening ceremony in which the welcome speech of the National director of Togo and the speech of the authorities invited who encouraged the initiative, were done. Was present at this opening ceremony delegations, partners and sponsors of which the ministry of higher education and research, the Ministry of in charge of Agriculture, livestock and water, FAO and GIZ-Togo.



The conference was officially opened with these words: "No Land, No Agriculture; No Agriculture, No Food; No food, No Life". The participants, apart from plenary sessions, participated in cultural activities such as: the welcome party, trade fair, international night and the closing ceremony. Other activities that were held are the visit to agricultural and touristic centres, the physical activity (football and jogging) and The General Assembly in which the new EB of IAAS Africa was established.

Many Greetings,

IAAS Togo



***"No Land, No Agriculture***

***No Agriculture, No Food***

***No Food, No Life"***

## Directors Meeting of the Americas (DMA)

*"If you don't build your dreams,  
someone else will hire you to build theirs"*

Steve Jobs

With this quote, that Lucas Marín used in his presentation with the World Association of Agronomic Engineers (AMIA) during the first day, we can summarize the whole Directors' Meeting of the Americas, a yearlong work by IAAS Chile that leaves as a result some experiences that will always stay in our minds, friends in other countries that will help us looking for job or will just welcome us with their arms open to visit their homeland, contact networks with internationally renamed companies and knowledge that can be applied in any of our countries to improve agriculture.

This congress, attended by students from 12 countries and which topic was 'Promoting innovation in the agriculture of America' can be considered a milestone in the history of IAAS, as it motivated the participation of people from American countries where IAAS did not exist yet in order to help them create their own committees. We can consider it succeeded on its objectives, as the participants from Argentina, Peru, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Colombia and Uruguay not only enriched the congress with their contributions and enjoyed every single day of DMA, but will also become candidate members of IAAS, and hopefully turn into strong national committees that will keep the IAAS spirit more active than ever in the American continent.

If this was not enough, we even had to organize a voting session to decide who will host DMA 2016, which will be organized by Uruguay in September 2016.

It is very hard to summarize all the visits, lectures and activities that IAAS Chile prepared for DMA on just a few lines, but we will try to name the most representative ones. During the seven days of DMA, we travelled south for more than 1000km, visiting as beautiful cities as Santiago, Valdivia or Frutillar among many others, and getting to taste delicious Chilean food and to know some Chilean traditions such as rodeo. We enjoyed some lectures from the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture, the World Association of Agronomic Engineers (that ended up in an agreement of collaboration between AMIA and IAAS World) or about the use of drones in agriculture and the new irrigation technologies. We as well had the chance to visit a state of the art cherry processing and packing facility, a liquid manure treatment plant, a mobile slaughter facility and a rapeseed farm that also processed their own oil and concentrated feed.

### CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL

DE ESTUDIANTES  
DE AGRONOMÍA Y  
CIENCIAS RELACIONADAS

DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE AMERICAS

IAAS - CHILE 2015

PROMOVENDO INNOVACIÓN EN LA AGRICULTURA DE AMÉRICA



Auditorio  
Comunicaciones  
Campus Huechuraba  
UNIVERSIDAD MAYOR  
SANTIAGO DE CHILE

INFORMACIÓN  
[www.iaaschile.org](http://www.iaaschile.org)



13-20  
12/15

Two workshops were organized during the week, the first one to help the new committees create their IAAS email, constitution and other stuff in order to become candidate members, and a second one on how to properly organize an IAAS event. There is no need to say that the Chileans knew how to entertain the assistants during every night, with different events including Trade Fair, International Night and “asados” (cookouts) and parties.



We, in name of all the participants, would like to thank the organizing committee once again for such a wonderful job. We are sure that all their effort will have recompense in form of a renovated IAAS America, full of new faces and opportunities.

Thanks for letting us be part of such an amazing experience!

**Luis Arturo  
Gandarillas  
Sánchez**

Americas  
Regional Director



**Paco López  
García**

Western  
Regional Director



## European Directors Meeting (EDM)

13 – 18 December, Greece

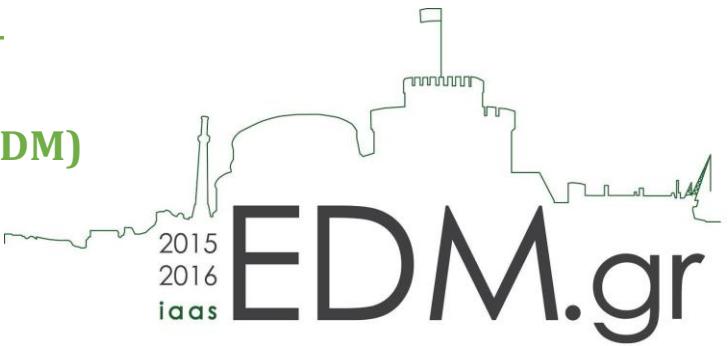
Once upon a time, in a little house into the woods, twenty Greek people decided that they could organize the EDM in only three weeks! And so, the adventure begun!

From the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, IAAS Greece had the honor to host students from many different European countries. During this week, we had the opportunity to visit many agricultural companies, as the biggest greenhouse in the Balkans, a well-known dairy farm and one of the greatest wineries of north Greece. Of course, we gained a lot of experience by harvesting olives and making our own olive oil, something that we will all remember for a long time. Moreover, we had the chance to develop our soft skills through several trainings and workshops and learn a lot about IAAS in the GA and we even had a skype session with the DMA in Chile.

Besides all the above, we got to know each other, had fun and enhance the team spirit. As the most participants of EDM were new members, we have to admit: **IAAS has a great future!** The Greek new members are really excited and full into IAAS spirit. "In the beginning, I thought it would be really difficult to organize such an event, but in the end I was happy to be involved. I can't wait for the next event to come!" says Eftychia, a new member of IAAS Greece.

EDM was a challenge for us, but we did it! We are very happy that we met you guys and hope to see you again. Soon...

All the best,



**Exchange Coordinators  
Meeting**  
**15-21 March, Madrid Spain**



Driven by the desire to know more about Expro, agriculture in Spain and to connect with students involved in agriculture, IAAS members from all over the world attended the ExCo Meeting 2015 under the theme, 'The power of our future'. As interested IAAS members, it was our goal to improve and work on the IAAS Exchange Program. From March 15<sup>th</sup> till 22<sup>nd</sup>, IAAS members gathered in Madrid and Avilla, Spain, to create better understanding and group feeling among each other.



The kick-off was done by country presentations, original tapas workshop, improving tractor driving skills and a tour around the Madrid University and lectures from the main sponsors. Following days, assemblies and debates took place with the help of our coordinators, who work along to improve the program and find solutions to challenges faced by our internship program. After two days of training and intensive workshops, the whole group left Madrid for Avilla, where they stayed at a beautiful cottage. Starting with the well-known IAAS Trade Fair, the following two days were filled with agricultural games, pig farm visits and a lesson in how to make the famous Spanish sausages. Of course, the small but cosy city centre was visited, since it is a must see!

Back in Madrid, the two last days were spent in a hostel in the city centre, allowing visits to the city centre of Madrid. After these two nice days, and short nights, it was time to leave Spain and head home.

All the best,

**Steven Adams**

VP of Exchange



**IAAS Spain**

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## Seminars and Conferences

### Alumni Meeting 2015

#### Slovenia

Every year IAAS alumni are looking forward to one weekend! Usually in spring, Dinosaurs (= IAAS Alumni ☺) meet somewhere around the globe just to see that the IAAS spirit lives on forever! In 2015 we met in Slovenia!

35 alumni from Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Poland, Slovenia, Switzerland and The Netherlands met at the coastal village Šentjane during the last weekend of April. The local Slovenian alumni group was of course the largest, however, as quite a tradition in these meetings, the Dutch were almost as many. The luckiest were members active in 1995 and 1996, they met the most familiar faces. But it does not matter – IAAS connects across generations! The spirit of IAAS has not changed over years!

During the weekend we got to know the lovely (& tiny :) Slovenian coast. We started on Friday evening with a dinner with a taste of the Mediterranean – fish & mussels from the sea and wine from the neighbouring hills.

On Saturday we woke up early, walked down to the city of Portorož and cycled to Sečovlje

Salina Nature Park, where we learned about salt making and the importance of biodiversity protection in the park. We continued our journey to the Mahnič family farm, where we tasted local wine, prosciutto and cheese. The evening was reserved for trade fair!



On Sunday we had time to visit the beautiful city of Piran with its narrow streets. With a jump into the sea two Dutch ladies concluded the meeting and confirmed our thoughts – yes, summer was coming!

The next IAAS Alumni meeting will take place in Croatia in Fall 2016. To stay updated follow us in the IAAS Alumni Facebook group and/or register to the Alumni database on [www.iaasworld.org](http://www.iaasworld.org)!

See you in Croatia!

Kind regards

**Kristina Košmrlj**

IAAS Alumnus



*“The IAAS Alumni meeting is a wonderful occasion not only to **meet your old friends** from the time you were all still studying, attending different universities around the world but also to **meet other alumni** (that are even wiser than yourself)!*

*This thought about socializing with friends alone is enough of a motivation for organizing the event yourself. But also knowing that **next year you will have another occasion** (or a pleasant excuse) for a trip to the site of the next IAAS Alumni meeting helps!”*

**Klemen Oketič**

Member of the Organising Committee  
of the Alumni Meeting 2015



## Exchange Week Kenya – Finland

October 2015, Kenya

A team from the University of Helsinki, Finland, travelled to Kenya last October.

The four students spent an amazing week with IAAS Kenya. The week included visits to farms, hospitals and children's homes. The main goal of the week was to learn about Kenya's nutrition situation. Kennedy Ouma (ND of IAAS Kenya) with the other IAAS Kenya members took really good care of the Finns and made sure they had a good time. The exchange was eye-opening, instructive and diverse.

Hopefully students from all around the world will become more active organizing exchange weeks - it is indeed a great way to learn about agriculture, meet new people and see the world!

All the best,

**Eveliina Hanski**

Former National Director IAAS Finland



## 2nd East Africa Conference 2015

Busitema University in collaboration with IAAS Kenya and IAAS Tanzania (Sokoine University) organized an East Africa conference to under the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences (IAAS) to enhance agricultural research and extension services to achieve food security and sustainable natural resource management from 29th to 30th October 2015. The conference was supported by Busitema University, Bank of Uganda and National fisheries resource research institute (NaFIRRI) Jinja



The aim of the IAAS East Africa Conference was to unite East-African agricultural and related sciences students by strengthening the IAAS network in the East African region. By combining the knowledge of all these students and by offering them a place to exchange experiences IAAS can serve as a platform that in the end can stand up against the major food security problems our world is facing.

Students who had completed their research in form of thesis, papers and books shared their findings with others. Other presentations where in form of Project concepts that can be carried out to enhance agricultural development.



**Topics of discussion:**

1. Extension empowers farmers with production efficiencies but do not solve the problem of sustainability and markets. What should be done to make extension services an all-round agenda?
2. The youths can contribute highly to the future and brighter agricultural production in East Africa. However, they face a number of challenges to meet this objective. Discuss some of the challenges and suggest remedies to the youths challenges in agriculture.

We thank bank of Uganda, Busitema University and National fisheries resource research institute (NaFIRRI) Jinja for the support they gave us to ensure that the conference comes out the way it was.

**John Sekajugo**  
National director IAAS Uganda

## A selection from IAAS Indonesia's various activities

### Youth Agricareture

Youth Agricareture is designed to be the signature of IAAS Indonesia. It aims at gaining youth awareness in agriculture, by enhance the branding of it. Youth Agricareture is held by every local committee all around Indonesia. Here we also celebrate the FAO World Food Day. Agricareture consist of three sub-campaign. The first is the Village Concept Project (VCP), an initiative to increase the social welfare of urban citizen. The second is an active campaign in public sites. The third is Snap Food: an online campaign that designed to support zero-food-waste campaign.



*“Youth Agricareture is a fresh wave  
to re-introduce Agriculture in the coolest way possible”*

### Laskar Carangpulang Village Concept Project and Go Green

A Village Concept Program of IAAS Indonesia LC Bogor Agricultural University. The project aims to introduce Verticulture plants to elementary students. To improve the learning process, the students were divided into small groups. Each of them experienced the practical things and built their own Verticulture setting. In the future, these students are expected to make Verticulture in their house!



Go Green is an annual event held by IAAS Indonesia LC Brawijaya University to improve social awareness and the spirit of reforestation. This event was held in November and December 2015 in Malang. IAAS shared the horticultural plant's seed, educate the children, and did a plantation in

Taji Elementary School 2. This event was a big success due to the enthusiasm of the children in the making of Verticulture Plants and Green life style class.



*"Save our environment, Save our dignity!"*

#### Local Committee Conferences

IAAS Indonesia has 8 Local Committees, and almost all of them conducted the most important event of the year which is Local Committee Conference (LCC). The idea of LCC is simple, giving the opportunity of current committee to reporting their programs and deliberately elect the new committee.

*"The success of every generation is to choose the better successor"*

Kind regards,

**Muhammad Irvan Herviansyah**  
Former National Director of IAAS Indonesia



## Seminar “Let’s feed the people, not landfills”

6 - 13 December, Madrid-Toledo

All week activities were focused on learning about food waste issue and how to tackle this problem, throughout lectures, conferences, visits and workshop during the whole week that participants from Croatia, Greece, Italy, France, Poland and Belgium attended.

We travelled to Toledo to a nice rural estate that allowed us to have more outdoor activities and also learn more about solar cooking and related to IAAS world year projects, how to make proper seed bomb.



We had the chance to visit in Madrid different urban orchards, the Centre for Plant Biotechnology and Genomics (CBGP), University greenhouses and Madrid Food Bank, recycling and food waste workshops which gave us different point of view in this matter. At the end of the week and keeping IAAS Spain new tradition, we organized Tapas workshop, this time, aiming cero food waste by using all the spare food possible that was collected during this week.

We hope you enjoyed as much as we did this exchange! Thank you very much for coming and see you very soon ☺



**Diana Verzier**  
National Director IAAS Spain





# Giving back to the Community



## IAAS Village Concept Projects

Village Concept Projects (VCPs) by IAAS have social impact and strengthen our committees. Read below to learn what VCPs are and how you can start one!

Are you interested in supporting a VCP? Get in touch with us, as we'd love to discuss ideas!

### ◦◦ *What is a Village Concept Project?*

Village Concept Projects are any IAAS activity with a community impact. These projects can be as simple as visiting primary schools to give a lesson on agriculture, and as complex as installing and maintaining irrigation for a community. Village Concept Projects can take place in any country.

### ◦◦ *What is the history of Village Concept Projects?*

Village Concept Projects were most popular in IAAS Africa during the 1990s. Currently, IAAS Indonesia is most active in Village Concept Projects.

### ◦◦ *Why engage in Village Concept Projects?*

Village Concept Projects enrich your IAAS chapter's local connection with agriculture, and adds value to your chapter.

By doing so, we try to give back to the community and make others warm for agriculture, environment and food. VCP is for young and old!

Community involvement is also a huge boost in visibility, appeal to sponsors and other fundraising activities.

If you are interested in supporting us, get in touch!

### How do I start a Village Concept Project?

- **Identify a **need** in your community that matches the interests of your IAAS members.**
- **Define your **scope and timeline**. Start small and let it grow**
- **Find **persons and/or organizations** that will help you reach your goals**
- **Launch your activity and tell others in IAAS about your Village Concept Project!**



## The IAAS Development Fund

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### What is it?

The aim and purpose of the DF is to provide support and resources to develop passionate and motivated youth leaders in underprivileged countries. This way IAAS gives disadvantaged students a chance to participate, improve and grow.

By providing this extra support, our members from underprivileged countries to use for their educational needs, such as travelling abroad to gather valuable experience with agriculture and related sciences in a different country to their own. Through these self-built or provided programs, student members are able to obtain valuable knowledge and training in a different perspective to their local backgrounds.

*Through our Development fund program, you have the opportunity to make a difference in someone's life!*

Via the IAAS Development Fund Program, you are given the opportunity to help passionate, hardworking and motivated youth leaders to get involved in our global events and to implement their ideas for a better future of agriculture and related sciences.

Helping students from underprivileged countries to get involved in our global events is a huge step towards the improvement of their community. We believe that eager, young students with fresh ideas and projects and global outlook can change the world!

### Find out more!

Do you want to support the Development Fund Program? Are you as an IAAS member, interested in applying?

Have a look at the [IAAS World Website!](#)





# egea

Experience Geography  
Explore Europe

*EGEA brings together young geographers in an atmosphere of respect, inclusion and personal development. This inspires global understanding of environmental and social processes and enables us to bring about a positive impact on society.*

## About us

EGEA, the European Geography Association for students and young geographers represents young professionals in the field of Geography in more than 30 countries. We are a non-profit, non-governmental organisation registered in Utrecht, Netherlands. We are locally active in over 90 local groups, called entities. We provide a platform for students and young professionals in the field of geography to encourage sharing, networking, volunteering and alternative informal peer-learning in an international surrounding. Over 3000 active members participate annually in more than 100 international events to experience geography from different points of view and explore Europe in order to better understand the complexity of unique environmental influences on society and nature.



EGEA Entities 03/2016 ([Online Map](#))

## Contact

Do you have any questions or want more detailed information? Don't hesitate to contact: Board of EGEA: [egea@egea.eu](mailto:egea@egea.eu)

And visit our website: [www.egea.eu](http://www.egea.eu)



## Upcoming Events



## 59<sup>th</sup> IAAS World Congress 2016

23 July - 13 August

Indonesia

With proudness we announce the next IAAS World Congress, 59<sup>th</sup> edition!

Find more info on the [Official IAAS WoCo Indonesia Facebook page](#).

Get motivated and warmed-up to participate at our most prestigious annual event in the [Video](#)!

Application deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> round

April 10<sup>th</sup>



## Exchange Coordinators Meeting 2016

8 - 15 April

Greece

IAAS Greece proudly presents the Exchange Coordinator (ExCo) Meeting 2016. Learn about Greece's agriculture and history throughout several excursions. Visit both Thessaloniki's and Volos' Agronomy Universities and their beautiful cities. Last but not least you will enjoy Greece's modern and traditional night-life.

Are you ready to take your IAAS experience a step further?



## Upcoming seminars

***Between tradition and quality, IAAS Poland***

17 - 25 April

This year we are organizing a special 'seminar' for you! – "Between tradition and quality". The main topic will be the policy of the European Union in relation to quality of traditional and organic food. It will be an exciting week full of excursions, farm visits & social activities together with old and new IAAS-members from different countries in Warsaw and Zakopane, near beautiful Polish mountains – Tatry. Do you have questions or wishes? Leave a comment, write an email or ask us in person.

We are looking forward to hear from you!

Applications:

<http://www.iaasworld.org/event/1507/>



**Green Week, IAAS Spain**

**21 - 28 April**

Coinciding with Mother Earth Day on 22nd April, IAAS Spain is glad to invite you to this special event we are organizing. The Greenweek 2016 will acknowledge the importance of sustainable agriculture and good practices in agriculture to make sure we pass on a suitable world for next generations.

Raising awareness in this matter among young people can enhance a better understanding of agriculture nowadays and which course should it take.

Applications:

<http://www.iaasworld.org/event/green-week-2016-in-madrid/>



**An Agricultural Walk along the Rhine, IAAS Germany**

**30 April - 07 May**

This year we are planning to take you on "An Agricultural Walk along the Rhine". The Rhine river is not only the second longest river in Western Europe, it also playing an important role in agriculture in this region.

We are planning to give you a broad impression of German agriculture. Whether it is rather traditional farming or modern organic plant cultivation, new sustainable technologies in agricultural engineering, a political insight into the European agriculture policy or just the most simple thing on earth you would think: holding pigs. Furthermore we will make a quick visit to Strasbourg, France. Besides our excursions and farm visits, we will have discussions on this year's FAO and IAAS topic "Pulses". This will also be the part where you will be able to take the initiative and give a little presentation which you will prepare at home and hopefully bring with you.

Applications:

<http://www.iaasworld.org/event/seminar-iaashohenheim-2016/>

**Agriculture: Changing structures - new ways to success, IAAS Germany**

**12 June - 19 June**

With the title "Agriculture: changing structures-new ways to success" IAAS Bonn wants to offer you the great possibility to take part in an exciting summer seminar week. Our programme contains-next to a lot of fun and exchange- various farm and company visits as well as some workshops and soft-skill training. Follow us on our website (iaas-germany.de) and on Facebook (facebook.com/iaasgermany) to get the latest information concerning our event. Looking forward to seeing you in June.

Your IAAS Bonn-Team

Applications:

<http://www.iaasworld.org/event/seminar-iaasbonn-2016/>

**International Youth Symposium on Creative Agriculture, IAAS Indonesia**  
**27 July**

The International Youth Symposium on Creative Agriculture (IYSCA) 2016 as a part of the 59th IAAS World Congress is an event where all creative youth all over the world create an impact to the world by elucidating their ideas through a scientific paper in agricultural and related sciences sectors.

Prepare your creative ideas about agricultural and related sciences sectors. For further details, check out on <http://www.iaasipb.org/iysca-2016/> or <http://www.ipb.ac.id>

Applications:

<http://www.iaasworld.org/event/international-youth-symposium-on-creative-agriculture-iysca-2016/>

The poster features a green leaf logo at the top left. The text 'IYSCA 2016 International Youth Symposium on Creative Agriculture' is in the top left corner. The main title 'THE 1<sup>ST</sup> INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SYMPOSIUM ON CREATIVE AGRICULTURE' is in the center. Logos for 'IAAS INDONESIA LC-IPB' and 'INSTITUT PERILAKU BOGOR' are in the top right. The date 'JULY 27<sup>th</sup> 2016' and location 'BOGOR AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY' are on the right. A 'TOPICS' section lists 'Creative Applied Agriculture', 'Creative Agribusiness', and 'Creative Agricultural Education and Social Project'. A 'TIMELINE' section shows dates from January 25 to July 27, 2016. A 'REGISTRATION' section provides links for participants and presenters. Contact information at the bottom includes a phone number and email: 'Citra +6285656597796' and 'iysca2016@gmail.com'.

**International Youth Climate Summit, IAAS Indonesia**  
**5 – 8 August**

Hi Young Generation!

IYCS is a platform for youth all over the world to gather for discussing and solve the environmental issues especially climate change which is in urgency to have environmental conservation, but contrary to industrial development. Based on theme 'Environmental Conservation VS Industrial Development', IYCS 2016 presented as part of 59th IAAS World Congress that will be held on August 6-7th, 2016 in University of Brawijaya, Malang.

Kindly check our website for more information: [www.iaas-lcub.org](http://www.iaas-lcub.org).

Applications:

<http://www.iaasworld.org/event/international-youth-climate-summit-iycs-2016/>

The poster features a globe with a tree and a polar bear. The text 'INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT' is in the center. Below it is the subtitle 'Industrial Development VS Environmental Conservation'. A 'REGISTRATION LINK' section provides the URL 'HTTP://GOO.GL/PVY6VT' or 'HTTP://WWW.IAAS-LCUB.ORG'. A 'PASSION TOPIC' section lists 'PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT', 'INDUSTRIAL SAVE EARTH SOLUTION', 'REAL GOOD OF ECOTOURISM', and 'YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT'. An 'APPLICATION DETAILS AND TIMELINE' section shows a timeline from '15 FEB APPLICATION OPEN' to '06-07 AUGUST IYCS DAY'. Logos for 'IAAS INDONESIA LC-IPB' and 'INSTITUT PERILAKU BOGOR' are at the bottom. Sponsor logos for 'iaas.or.id', 'IAAS Indonesia', 'iias\_idonesia', 'escape kid', and 'MEDIAPAYA MUDA' are also present.



# IVSA

International Veterinary  
Students' Association



## CONGRESSES - SYMPOSIA- EXCHANGES



We hold an annual summer congress and an annual winter symposium. These events offer a wide range of both cultural and veterinary activities, integrated into an intensive educational and social program. Most importantly, they offer the opportunity for vet students to meet like-minded professionals from around the world.

## Standing Committees

To integrate the education and interests of veterinary medical students all around the world, IVSA has various Standing Committees that aim to raise awareness, share information and explore ideas. Each of our Standing Committees are run and managed by student members.

### Animal Welfare Committee (AWC):

<http://www.ivsa.org/awc/>

### Standing Committee on One Health (SCOH):

<http://www.ivsa.org/standing-committees/one-health-2/>

### Standing Committee on Veterinary Education (SCoVE):

<http://www.ivsa.org/standing-committees/scove/>



### What is the Development Fund?

The Development Fund (DF), created in 1981, gives students from developing countries the opportunity to gain educational experiences outside of their country and to bring these advancements home and share with their peers.

Through the DF's contribution in the form of money, books, and/or equipment, IVSA is able to provide support and resources to veterinary schools in developing countries - helping to further IVSA's goal of improving veterinary education worldwide.

[www.ivsa.org](http://www.ivsa.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/ivsapage>



[https://twitter.com/IVSA\\_GLOBAL](https://twitter.com/IVSA_GLOBAL)



IVSA\_Global



## Partner Events

### Member countries



## Train New Trainers (TNT)

6 – 13 March, Belgium

IAAS and EGEA in cooperation with BEST organized a Train New Trainers event, held in the lovely Trois-Ponts (Belgium). TNT is an event where you learn the skills you need to guide a working group, to work in a project team, the skills you need to perform in our society that's mainly focused on the network and interactions with the people around you, basically all of the things crucial not only for the NGOs but also for the individual and personal development.

The program of the event was both challenging and inspiring in many ways. It was designed for shaping the participants knowledge about soft-skill trainings, challenging them and helping them to create an open mind-set to continuously learn. The first part of the event was focused on getting the basic skills- getting to know what a trainer is, and the qualifications he obtains. We learned about different learning styles, group dynamics and each of us had a stage performance, delivering a one minute public speech which we later analysed. The next part of the event was based on gaining TNT skills (skills a new trainer has), throughout which we got the knowledge about training design, training delivery and activity management. In between lessons we had a lot of practice time with the help of our amazing trainers, which was going to get us ready for the final part of the event- Creating and delivering our very own training! After our training delivery we had a debriefing with our mentors, who helped us in facilitation of our training every step of the way. On our final day we had a training follow-up and learned about the path we were hopefully going to take as new trainers, we also did the final evaluation and wrap up of the event.

All in all this was an unforgettable event with amazing, dynamic and enthusiastic people from different NGOs from all over the world. Everybody was so open hearted and amazing, that it seemed like we had already known each other for a long time. We laughed together, we cooked together, drank beer together, we went to sauna together, we learnt together and we learnt from each other. It was an inspiring, knowledge and fun-filled experience for all of us- the participants and the trainers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organizers for their amazing job done with organizing this event, also the trainers for sharing their knowledge, experiences and ideas with us- they were always there to help us and inspire us. Last, but not least, I would like to thank the rest of the participants- The Saunas- for sharing the experiences, amazing spirit and love, and of course the sauna time!

**Josipa Arapović**  
IAAS President



## FAO World Forestry Congress 2015

7-11 September



Trees. it is one of the first things you learn to draw as a kid, one of the first things you see if you look out of the window and one of the many things you once tried to climb in your life. We can all agree that trees are very present in our daily lives. But is it even possible to fill a whole week of talking about forestry? And isn't it odd for an IAAS member to participate in this Forestry Congress - we're after all more focused on agriculture, aren't we?

Therefore we, Branwen Peddi and Nastya Bondarenko, proud IAAS-members, were ready to go and explore the great world of forests on an event of one of our partners, the

Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). Walking as a student between all those skilled people, it was quite intimidating at first. However, we quickly found our way through the crowd and were ready to represent IAAS.

First, we had to find the most important place: the Youth Booth. There all the students could present their organisation. After some searching we found it, and well... it wasn't really what we had in mind: fully empty and completely white. We had some work to do, that was clear!

The next days, we decorated the booth and met the other youth organisations: IFSA and YPARD. It was really interesting to learn what they were doing and that there are a lot of similarities between our associations. We had great chats and were thinking about collaborations. Every day you could find us at the booth talking to people and explaining what IAAS actually was. Contacts were exchanged and business cards (or something resembling to that) were handed out. It was a great opportunity to find people for new internship places (a project for smoking fishes in Senegal, a banana plantation in South Africa,...), new members or to just let people know that we exist.

Besides that, we joined the social network group and tried to follow some interesting discussions and presentations. Topics like wildlife, food security, wood energy, climate change, a photography workshop by Stuart Franklin and youth talks were all on the program. And how interesting it all was, also for IAAS-members! One of the things that we've learned is that forestry is more than only about trees, it's about making links with other sectors and using expertise from other fields. So yes, forestry is important to every single one of us. Or could you imagine a world without trees?

**Nastya Bondarenko & Branwen Peddi**  
IAAS Belgium



## World Agronomists Association VI World Congress

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**14 - 18 September, Milan**

My first appearance as VPC towards the external field was immediately a good one! I had the chance to present IAAS to 500 agronomists from all over the world during the World Congress of the WAA, held in Milan at the Expo 2015 in the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>. During the 4 day event we had the chance to talk about IAAS and get new connections.

The weeks before I had been working at the WAA Pavilion at the Expo together with Lisanne and Tomacho (from IAAS Chile) who were just like me volunteering here. Many thanks to them for making those weeks as awesome as they were. We had such good experiences!



**Sam Raeymaekers**

Vice President of Communication

## ICA Rectors & Deans Forum 2015

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**20-23 October, Milan**

ICA is the Association for European Life Science Universities which has as main goal to provide a network and thus connect these universities. They have biannual board meetings, a GA and the Rectors & Deans meeting where IAAS is always invited. The ICA-IAAS agreement is going for 30 years already! I was honored to be invited and represent our association.

Here too I had the chance to present IAAS to all rectors and deans present. Many of them are very positive towards IAAS and towards student input. The support local IAAS committees get from their universities is often very important for their survival. All I can say is: invest in the connection with your local university and think not only about what they can offer to you, more important is '**what can we as IAAS offer to the universities?**'! Something to discuss further!

**Sam Raeymaekers**

Vice President of Communication



## International Conference on Agricultural Higher Education in the 21st Century

15 – 17 June, Spain

IAAS was present at the International Conference on Agricultural Higher Education in the 21st Century. An initiative of a co-operation of several organisations related to agricultural higher education and sponsored by the OECD Co-operative Research Program. The conference had as the aim to discuss with “top-level experts” the challenges agricultural higher education is facing this century.

As the problem is described on the website of the conference:

*“Today in most developed countries, farmers are ageing and fewer and fewer young people are interested in agricultural studies. This is an alarming issue in the OECD countries, where agricultural knowledge is advancing significantly, but whose transfer via the higher education system lags behind. Agricultural studies are not attractive for the new generations of students.*

*This raises concerns about communications, and a gap in understanding between agriculture and society as a whole. .... A major question ahead for all is how to manage the sustainability of the agricultural systems; agriculture undoubtedly needs to increase its productivity while securing the sustainability of the agro-ecosystems.*

*We have to improve the agricultural knowledge transfer system and adapt it to these goals, including new strategies, techniques and incentives to encourage the introduction of production systems and emphasize long-term sustainable goals.”*

IAAS was asked to represent the student view in the debate the 3 days the conference lasted and in particular also was asked to give a presentation about the student view on the attractiveness and employability of agricultural and related sciences. IAAS members from literally all over the world cooperated in this event by sharing their view on this topic by participating in interviews with Lisanne, Vice President of Communication. After this their answers were bundled and a presentation and conference paper were made. The conference paper can be found on: <http://www.iaasworld.org/agricultural-higher-educationin-the-21st-century-student-view-on-attractiveness-employability/>

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND RELATED SCIENCES

From the 15-17th of June Lisanne went to Zaragoza, Spain to represent the results from the interviews and give students in general a voice in the discussion of the future of agricultural higher education. The conference was successful and all attendees (very international public, experts in the field of agricultural higher education, coming from Australia to Canada and much in between) were very happy to see such a great input of such a diverse group of students. Thanks to all those students who have participated in this. This paper and presentation are the amazing result of greatness of our association! A video of the full presentation will be published online soon. If you would like to know more about the conference, please have a look at: <http://www.iamz.cihem.org/educagri2015/index.html>

**Lisanne Meulendijks**

Former IAAS VP Communication



## IROICA Meeting



Not only students are associating themselves, as we are doing within our IAAS. Also people who have made the step to the working phase of their live enjoy doing this. And to be honest, the persons presently member of IROICA do have a very interesting job! They are all 'International Relations Officers' or IRO's at the universities they work for.

IRO's are working in the International Office department of a university and they are putting efforts into improving the Erasmus exchange programs, international masters, they maintain relations with other universities around the globe, and last but not least they are very internationally minded. Probably your university or faculty will have one of these "IRO's" and it might be very interesting to get to know them personally. So, check it out at your university who and where this IRO is located and go for it, introduce yourself and the whole IAAS Committee! Don't worry, they are also very eager to get to know you! And maybe, they could even help you with some tips or contacts when you are trying to organize a next IAAS event... IAAS and IROICA have had good contacts for the past years already and from our side we are definitely happy to have seen this relationship getting stronger during the recent years!

Every year IROICA organizes an Annual Conference. This year the conference was held in Zaragoza, Spain. Vincent Verdug is presently the President of IROICA and the Vice-Chair of the Control Committee of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine.



## Vincent Verdug

Former Control Committee



# THOUGHT FOR FOOD

## Global Summit

Zurich, Switzerland

April 1 & 2, 2016



On April 1 & 2, IAAS students gathered together with 350 of the world's innovators at the Thought For Food (TFF) Global Summit in Zurich, Switzerland to uproot assumptions and take action on the future of food and agriculture.

The TFF Summit is an annual event combining incredible speakers, workshops, next-gen solutions to food security and the powerful energy iconic to TFF events.

On day two of the summit, ten student-led teams from the 2015/16 TFF Challenge pitched their brilliant business ideas for seed funding. This year's TFF Challenge had students from 105 countries and 578 universities sign up and form teams that worked to develop solutions to help feed 9+ billion people by 2050. The finalist pitches ranged from precision agriculture to edible insects, mobile apps to probiotics and everything in between.

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### The TFF Grand Prize of \$10,000 was awarded to **Kulisha**!

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Kulisha produces low-cost, high-quality, sustainable fish feed made from insects. Kulisha aims to revolutionize the aquaculture industry and its local economies in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Kulisha has a global team made up of Arjun Paunranan of University of California, Los Angeles, Eric Katz of University of Michigan, Lunalo Cletus of University of Nairobi, and Maya Faulstich Hon and Viraj Sikand of Brown University.

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### The TFF Runner-up Prize of \$5,000 was awarded to **Biteback**!

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Biteback is creating an alternative, nutrient-dense, insect based cooking oil to replace the need for traditional palm oil.

Biteback is based in Indonesia and made up of students Anik Haryanti, Muhammad Ifdhol Syawkoni, Mush'ab Nursantio and Musyaroh Syamsuri from the University of Brawijaya.



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND RELATED SCIENCES

The Finalist teams received 10 weeks of TFF Bootcamp (online), in addition to in-person pitch training the week before the summit, all facilitated by start-up experts and team mentors before pitching live on stage to the panel of judges. The top 10 finalists, were evaluated based on 5 qualities: Innovation, Feasibility of Implementation, Uniqueness, Team Spirit, and their potential to help feed 9 billion people by 2050.

In addition to the Thought For Food prize winners, the Kirchner Food Fellows awarded a \$5,000 prize to **Peer to Peer Probiotics** of France, who have created vitamin rich yeast and bacteria cultures for use in foods that go through the fermentation process to increase nutritional intake available from everyday foods.

And last but not least, the Borlaug Foundation sponsored, "Take It to the Farmer" prize of \$2,500 was awarded to **Fruti-Cycle** of Uganda. Fruti-Cycle aims to decrease post-harvest loss by building affordable and effective food transportation and storage units. Their refrigeration systems can attach to motorcycles allowing for safer transportation of food, meaning farmers generate more income from the produce they already grow.

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**The 2016/17 TFF Challenge will launch Fall 2016 and is open to all university students.**

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Thought For Food is a not-for-profit organization and next generation innovation platform empowering solutions to feed 9 billion people by 2050. To connect with, or learn more about Thought For Food initiatives please contact [lorena@tffchallenge.com](mailto:lorena@tffchallenge.com).





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This IAAS Annual Review was brought to you by

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