



Scaling-up Agroecology!

For Forward-looking Decision-making in Policy and Practice

Date: Friday, 18th January 2019, 15:30-17:30h

Location: Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstr. 8, 10117 Berlin, Germany

It seems like trying to square the circle: How can the negative environmental impacts of agriculture be reduced while at the same time increasing productivity? The answer is obvious – by reshaping agricultural production so that it no longer works against the ecological and social systems in which it is located, but with them. This is the most important principle of agroecology. Agroecological systems are not only more productive and nourish more people in a healthy way than input-based systems, they also protect natural resources and make farms more resilient to the effects of climate change such as extreme droughts or prolonged rainfall. The transformation process towards agroecology is multi-faceted, because agroecosystems are different and complex, and as such there cannot be the "one" approach. Across all continents, there are already successful policy and practice examples that strengthen and scale-up agroecology, such as the 100% organic state of Sikkim in India, the Ecuadorian capital of Quito or agroecological practices in Malawi, which will be presented at the event. In addition, the recognition for *Outstanding Practices in Agroecology 2019* will be presented.

How can an environment be created in which agroecology thrives? What fundamental and prompt changes must be implemented, for example, in agricultural, development and subsidy policies? How do the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the German Federal Government see agroecology and with which initiatives do they promote this? What challenges exist? How does civil society view the state of affairs and what do they believe needs to be done to strengthen agroecology? We look forward to discussing these and many other questions with our guests and with you.

Guests:

Abram Bicksler, Agricultural Officer, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Dr. Stefan Schmitz, Commissioner of the “One World, No Hunger” Initiative, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

H.E. Pawan Chamling, Chief Minister of Sikkim, India (video message) and **Bernward Geier**, COLABORA, Germany

Alexandra Rodriguez, Coordinator of AGRUPAR in Quito, Ecuador

Prof. Dr. Franz-Theo Gottwald, Chairman of the Supervisory Board, World Future Council Foundation and Chairman of the Schweisfurth Foundation

Sarah Schneider, Policy Officer for Agriculture and Food Security, MISEREOR

Lena Bassermann, Policy Officer for Agriculture, Welthungerhilfe

Moderation: Dr. Tanja Busse, Journalist

This event will take place in German and English with translation.

In case of any questions, please contact Ms. Ingrid Heindorf: ingrid.heindorf@worldfuturecouncil.org and Mr. Jan Urhahn: urhahn@inkota.de.

This event is sponsored by the Schweisfurth Foundation:

