



**Bildungshaus  
Kloster St. Ulrich**



## ***Announcement***

### **St. Ulrich Workshop on Democratizing Agricultural Research for Food Sovereignty and Peasant Agrarian Cultures**

**September 22<sup>nd</sup> (Afternoon) – 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

If you are working or concerned about:

- Envisioning an alternative model of agricultural and rural development, - a new modernity with vibrant peasant cultures in Europe and throughout the world
- Democratizing food and agricultural research to ensure that its directions and governance are decided first and foremost by farmers and citizens rather than by corporations
- Focusing on food sovereignty and models of production based on agroecology, peasant control on local seeds and animal breeds, and local institutions
- Giving the excluded a voice that counts in food and agricultural policy making, including in agenda setting for research
- Processes of food sovereignty that allow farmers and other citizens to exercise their right to decide what food and agricultural policies they want

And you are:

- Looking for methodologies to listen to, - and include -, the voices of peasants and indigenous peoples' in policy making and in the choice of technologies and models of production
- Seeking ways to create an impact on mainstream policies and democratize agricultural research for the public good – putting citizens at the centre of decision making instead of corporations
- Working to strengthen horizontal networks of autonomous, farmer-to-farmer research and innovation systems
- Building alliances and networks to strengthen peasant cultures and exchanges for food sovereignty in Europe and in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

You are kindly invited to share your experience and thinking by participating in this European Food Sovereignty Workshop at St. Ulrich from 22<sup>nd</sup> (evening) to 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2012.

## Aims of the workshop

- To enable peasant representatives (women and men) from the Andes, West Africa, Iran and South Asia to share their experiences on the process and outcomes of the *Democratizing Food and Agricultural Research* initiative ([www.excludedvoices.org](http://www.excludedvoices.org)) and present their views on what is needed to secure their future livelihoods, rights, and culture.
- To facilitate an exchange of experiences, viewpoints, and visions of desirable futures between European practitioners (farmers and activists) and the peasant representatives from Africa, Asia and Latin America
- To deliberate on topics of mutual concern and develop strategies for the re-creation of model(s) of agricultural research and development that can strengthen agrarian peasant cultures for the well being of people and nature.
- To identify possible convergences, alliances, and synergies between organizations and farmer networks to strengthen food sovereignty in Europe with the outcomes of the *Democratizing Food and Agricultural Research* initiative in West Africa, South Asia, West Asia, and the Andean Altiplano.
- To develop joint approaches and strategies for i) the democratization of agricultural research, ii) the recovery of a vibrant peasant cultures in rural development, and iii) opening safe spaces for communication and action for peasant farmers and food consumers/citizens working for food sovereignty throughout the world.

## Provisional Programme

There will be a 4 days mutual learning trip to visit German farmers and activists in SW-Germany for the participants coming from India, Iran, Mali, Peru and Bolivia. (18. - 21.9.2013): Black Forest Farmer Forum, Lake Constance Rural Movement, Farmer Market and alternative farm property and alternative farming model near Freiburg.

Day 1                    **22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2013 (afternoon)**

4 pm                    **Inauguration of the St. Ulrich International Workshop**

- Why this workshop is significant.
- Introduction of Participants,
- Objectives of the meeting
- Program and methods of this workshop

Buffet with organic food from local producers of the Black Forest

Day 2                    **23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2013**

**Introduction and Information Exchange – Dare to Share**

- What we know, what we are practicing regarding Food Systems and Peasant Agriculture
- Exchange of experiences of all participants in the form of an Information Sharing Forum
- Highlighting relevant topics
- Media Dialogue

Evening: Cultural Night

Day 3                    **24<sup>th</sup> of September 2013**

**Deepening topics and designing alternatives**

Open spaces for deliberations on:

- Farmer agendas and priorities for knowledge generation and agricultural research,
- Democratizing methodologies and policy making (including excluded voices of peasants in key decisions and agenda setting & intercultural dialogue)
- Equitable collective rights, access to land and other natural resources
- Strengthening indigenous/farmer knowledge & local institutions for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity at the level of farms, production systems, and landscapes

- Autonomous food systems and models of production
- Rethinking economics, trade and markets for food sovereignty

Visit of the St. Trudpert Monastery and Gardens during lunch break is optional. Wine tasting competition in the evening.

Day 4

**25<sup>th</sup> of September 2013**

**Mobilizing ideas and actions for a vibrant rural society**

- Brainstorming and walk about in the Muenster Valley on the following strategic issues:
    - Transforming agricultural research for food sovereignty: strategies to change policies and funding of research & education *with, by and for* citizens
    - Communication for change
    - Farmer sovereignty, food systems, and peasant agrarian cultures for healthy landscapes and people
    - Envisioning autonomous farmer-led research systems and practice
  - How can we influence agricultural policy and change science and technology of food systems for the public good and food sovereignty
  - Our engagement and commitment – locally, nationally regionally and globally
- 4 pm Public Exhibition of results and Press Conference

**Logistics**

Arrival of peasant delegations should be on September 17<sup>th</sup> in Freiburg in SW. Germany. The peasant delegations will stay on till September 26<sup>th</sup> in Muenstertal for an internal meeting of the DFAR project to assess the process of the European workshop and to agree on joint perspectives between the regional projects.

Nearest airports are Zuerich in Switzerland, Frankfurt in Germany and Bale-Mulhouse in nearby France.

Arrival of European participants should be on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, departure on September 25<sup>th</sup> evening or 26<sup>th</sup> morning.

**Venue**

Monastery St. Trudpert

Kloster St. Trudpert  
79244 Münstertal  
Tel.: 07636 - 7802 - 0  
Fax: 07636 - 7802 - 190

<http://www.kloster-st-trudpert.de/>



**Participants**

15 peasant farmers from Asia, Africa, Latin America, 25 farmers and activists from Europe and 10 farmers and activists from Germany plus translators, organizers, student interns and allies – a total of about 65 participants.

## Organizers

Michel Pimbert, CAFS, Coventry University, UK ([michel.pimbert@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:michel.pimbert@coventry.ac.uk))

Bernhard Naegele, Bildungshaus Kloster St. Ulrich ([bernhard.naegele@bildungshaus-kloster-st-ulrich.de](mailto:bernhard.naegele@bildungshaus-kloster-st-ulrich.de))

Caecilia Braun-Mueller ([c.h.mueller@t-online.de](mailto:c.h.mueller@t-online.de)) & Elisabeth Buecking ([ebuecking@sirmadras.de](mailto:ebuecking@sirmadras.de)), Katholische Landvolkbewegung, Diözese Freiburg

Robert Ali Brac de la Perriere, BEDE, France ([brac@bede-asso.org](mailto:brac@bede-asso.org))

Maryam Rhamanian, Cenesta, Iran ([maryam.rahm@gmail.com](mailto:maryam.rahm@gmail.com))

Antonio Onorati, Crocevia, Italy ([mc2535@mclink.it](mailto:mc2535@mclink.it))

Luca Colombo, FIRAB, Italy ([l.colombo@firab.it](mailto:l.colombo@firab.it))

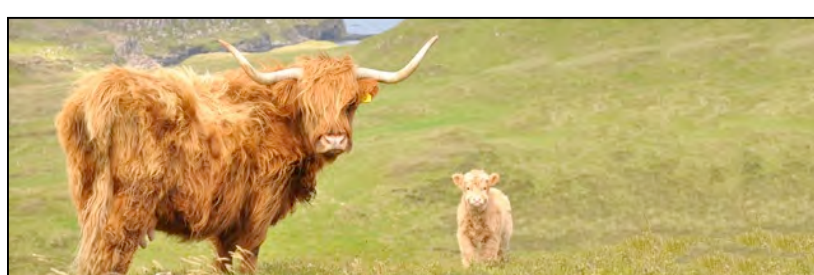
Sabine Pabst, FIAN-International

Fondation Sciences Citoyennes

Siegfried Jaeckle, Forum **Pro** Schwarzwaldbauern e.V.

## Facilitators

Maruja Salas ([salamaruja49@gmail.com](mailto:salamaruja49@gmail.com)), Timmi Tillmann ([timmitillmann@gmail.com](mailto:timmitillmann@gmail.com)), Tübingen



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in Agricoltura Biologica  
e Biodinamica



Forum **Pro** Schwarzwaldbauern e.V.

