



International Association for the
PLANT PROTECTION SCIENCES

NEWSLETTER

Number II

February, 2014

FORMER IAPPS PRESIDENT HANS R. HERREN WINS PRESTIGIOUS RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD



It is my pleasure to announce that our past IAPPS president, **Dr. Hans R. Herren**, has been awarded the prestigious **Right Livelihood Award** for his commitment to end hunger and poverty in our world. The jury of the prize, also known as the alternative Nobel prize, said the decision to award Hans was based on “his expertise and pioneering work in promoting safe, secure and sustainable global food supply”.

The World Food Prize laureate of 1995 sees the award as an important endorsement of his vision: A world which can provide all nine billion people expected to live on our planet in 2050 with sufficient healthy food.

“And this has to happen without overstepping planetary boundaries. This is only possible, if we invest in smallholder structures with sustainable and efficient ecological cultivation methods and move away from the paradigm of industrial agriculture which overuses natural resources and destroys

biodiversity”, Hans said.

He shares the prize with three other key figures active in securing the fundamentals of human life: Paul Walker from the US “for working tirelessly to rid the world of chemical weapons”. Raji Sourani from Palestine “for his unwavering dedication to the rule of law and human rights under exceptionally difficult circumstances” and Denis Mukwege from the Democratic Republic of Congo “for his courageous work healing women survivors of war-time sexual violence and speaking up about its root causes”.

Ole von Uexkull, Executive Director of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation said at the prize announcement: “The world should not have to live with problems that we know we can solve. These four men, whose vision, courage and commitment we honour today, show what the solutions look like.”

Hans started Biovision Foundation in Switzerland 15 years ago to support his projects in East Africa. The primary aim of Biovision is to disseminate knowledge to smallholders who had been largely neglected by scientific research during the “green revolution” and the development of industrial agriculture – despite the fact that even today the majority of all food produced worldwide comes from smallholders. The Farmer Communication Programme of Biovision Foundation reaches around four million farmers in East Africa through its various channels, helping them to help themselves with the information they receive.

In May 2005 Hans was appointed president of the Millennium Institute in Washington DC, which supports governments of developing countries in developing sustainable policies. Currently, Biovision and the Millennium Institute support three African countries, Senegal, Kenya and Ethiopia, in a pilot project analysing their agricultural sector and food systems to explore ways to achieve a change in agricultural policies.

In addition, he is actively involved in the development of the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with the aim of including the change of course in global agriculture and food security for coming generations prominently.

On behalf of the whole IAPPS family, I would like to congratulate Hans on this major achievement.

Prof. E.A. “Short” Heinrichs
IAPPS Secretary General
E-mail: ehinric@vt.edu

CONCLUSIONS FROM THE TECHNICAL WORKING SEMINAR „PLANT PROTECTION WITHOUT BORDERS“

A technical working seminar “*Plant Protection without Borders*,” organized by the Czech Phytomedical Society (www.rostlinolekari.cz) together with the Austrian Society for Integrated Pest Management (www.oaip.at/index.php/) took place in Prague October 2-3, 2013. Thirty one attendants from seven European countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia and Serbia) participated in the seminar. Within the plenary session five lectures on general topics of care of plant health were presented. Abstracts on the activities of non-governmental plant health organizations presented on the seminar are available on the Czech Phytomedical Society website: www.rostlinolekari.cz/pages/abstract.html

Two workshops were organized: 1) “*Importance of care of plant health and the role of the*

non-governmental plant health organizations in strengthening care of plant health, ”and 2) “*Why Integrated Pest Management?*”

Recommendations from the workshops are listed below.

Recommendations from the workshops, “*Importance of care of plant health and the role of the non-governmental plant health organizations in strengthening care of plant health*”

Plant health care definition

Plant health care should be appropriately and clearly defined respecting

- Consumer friendly expression
- No interference with international terminology
- Individual language and culture which might disperse strict nomenclature
- Emphasis on integrated pest management i.e. plant protection including indirect prevention measures with focus on smallholders and non- professional users of plant protection products (with regard to the EU Directive 2009/128/EC)
- That the term phytomedicine/phytofarmacy is erratic

Importance of non-governmental plant health organizations

- Independent expert opinion needs to be communicated stronger
- Industry advisory is welcome but examined on independence

Status of non-governmental plant health organizations by countries:

- Serbia: independent opinion to special committees
- Hungary: supported by governmental authorities
- Czechia: scientific committee to brief governmental decision makers

Non-governmental plant health organizations and public awareness

Non-governmental plant health organizations should:

- Actively contact society/pressure groups
- Advise legislators on professional basis of plant protection in order that an expert opinion is a part of professional political decisions

Cooperation between plant health non-governmental organizations

Intensive communication and cooperation between non-governmental plant health organizations on a European-wide multilateral exchange of professional expertise/opinions is needed.

There is a strong need for an effective global communication platform (plant protection information and training website). It is recommended that this need be fulfilled by an international scientific society such as the International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS).

Recommendations from the workshop, “*Why Integrated Pest Management?*”

Reasons for the implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the world-wide context were analyzed with the following findings:

- Increasing demand for feeding the human population
- Limited conditions for agriculture (selling agriculture land etc.)
- Increasing pressure of environmental point of view on plant protection.

Therefore, sustainable crop production and relevant modern cultivation methods and technology

should be supported and infrastructure to facilitate the adoption and implementation of IPM should be put in place. Farmer support of IPM should be intensified in order to strengthen their public credibility.

The participation of non-governmental plant health organizations is important in the process of IPM implementation in particular by facilitating credible information exchange on IPM.

Michal Hnizdil, Ing.

Agriculture commodities section, plant commodities department

Ministry of Agriculture

Tesnov 17

117 05 Prague 1

Czech Republic

E-mail: michal.hnizdil@mze.cz

The IAPPS Newsletter is published by the International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences and distributed in *Crop Protection* to members and other subscribers. *Crop Protection*, published by Elsevier, is the Official Journal of IAPPS.

IAPPS Mission: to provide a global forum for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, integrating, and promoting plant protection concepts, technologies, and policies that are economically, environmentally, and socially acceptable.

It seeks to provide a global umbrella for the plant protection sciences to facilitate and promote the application of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to the world's crop and forest ecosystems.

Membership Information: IAPPS has four classes of membership (individual, affiliate, associate, and corporate) which are described in the IAPPS Web Site www.plantprotection.org.

The *IAPPS Newsletter* welcomes news, letters, and other items of interest from individuals and organizations. Address correspondence and information to:

Manuele Tamò

Editor, IAPPS Newsletter

IITA-Benin

08 B.P. 0932 Tri Postal, Cotonou, Republic of Benin

E-mail: m.tamo@cgiar.org