

IFSA - International Farming Systems Association

<http://ifsa.boku.ac.at/>

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IFSA

INTERNATIONAL
FARMING SYSTEMS ASSOCIATION
EUROPE GROUP

Building sustainable rural futures

The added value of systems
approaches in times of
change and uncertainty

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Proceedings



Welcome to the IFSA European Group!

Welcome to the website of the International Farming Systems Association - Europe Group. This website is primarily a repository of the **proceedings** of various European IFSA symposia, ensuring that the full-text of the presented papers are widely accessible. You can search the website using the search field (top right of your screen). The website also offers a list of **Books & Papers** which are key sources of further

Farming Systems Research (FSR)

- Initiated 1970s
- Whether implemented in the North or in the South, the core objective of farming systems approaches is to
 - 1) address the **complexity of real-world phenomena** (instead of using reductionist and disciplinary simplifications) and
 - (2) to work on **problems that are relevant to farmers** (instead of focusing on issues that are primarily of academic interest).

Farming Systems Research (FSR)

Social Sciences, but not only:

Agronomists

Sociologists

Economists

Geographers

Foresters

Rural Development experts

Anthropologists

Biologists

»»»» **HIGHY INTERDICPLINARY**



System thinking as the LINK



Unformal network. A heart which is there from the start.

Decisions taken by th Steering Comitee - mostly organization of the IFSA Conferences



Home Themes ▾ (

14th IFSA Conference Évora, 10 - 14 April 2022 “Farming Systems Facing Climate Change and Resource Challenges”.

• Themes

- [1: Innovation support services](#)
- [2: The intersection of science and practice: farming system perspectives](#)
- [3: Agroecology as a response to climate change](#)
- [4: Food systems, networks and power structures](#)
- [5: Smart technologies in farming and food systems](#)
- [6: Landscape integration of farming](#)

150 participants

(for the 1st version of the conference, March 2020, 250 registrations »» postponed due to Covid 19)

PhD Course

Systems Thinking in Practice (STiP) in PhD Research How to contribute to addressing challenges faced by farming systems



8th to 14th April 2022 (including 5 days of IFSA conference)

in Évora, Portugal



The course design draws on tried and tested ways of experiential learning.

- **Through joining this PhD course in IFSA 2022 you will:**
- gain an overview of the intellectual traditions of Farming Systems Research and make links to the history of IFSA
- strengthen your research through developing your understanding of systems theories and methodologies
- have the opportunity to reflect on strengths and weaknesses of different systems approaches and methodologies in relation to your own PhD research
- get added value from your participation in the conference by becoming part of a parallel critical learning systems community
- critically review potential contributions of your research to help meet farming systems challenges, including climate change and resource challenges
- develop an appreciation of multiple perspectives on contemporary issues across multiple disciplines
- build and strengthen your personal networks within the research community

13th European Farming Systems Symposium 'Farming systems: facing uncertainties and enhancing opportunities' Chania, Greece, 1-5 July 2018

Themes:

- **1. Learning and knowledge systems, education, extension and advisory services**
- **2. Agroecology and new farming arrangements**
- **3. Integrating science, technology, policy and practice**
- **4. Smart technologies in farming and food systems**
- **5. Sustainable agrifood systems, value chains and power structures**

250 participants

Also a PhD intensive course, before and after the Conference

Next IFSA conference

- 2024 ITALY

IFSA 2024

The Steering Committee is delighted to announce that the next IFSA conference will take place in northern Italy in early July 2024.

More details will be posted here as the preparations advance!



**Many thanks for your
attention!**

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