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by Jochen Dürr

ISTTH 2016 GlobalHort Symposia a success

Dr. Jochen Dürr and Dr. Hannah Jaenicke participated in the International Symposia on Tropical and Temperate Horticulture 20 - 25 November 2016 in Cairns, Australia. An element of the symposia was the 3-day I International Symposium on Poverty, Hidden Hunger and Horticulture & VI International Symposium on Improving the Performance of Supply Chains in the Transitional Economies, convened by GlobalHort (Detlef Virchow and Hannah Jaenicke with local co-convener Peter Batt). The Hidden Hunger symposium featured 3 keynote presentations, 24 oral and 3 short oral (poster) presentations and attracted a steady audience of around 40 participants, despite the strong competition from parallel symposia. It provided a platform for the NutriHAF project to present its recent research result to an international audience. The following papers were given from this project:

- Participatory evaluation of vegetables to enhance household nutrition in forest garden areas in Ethiopia (SK Kriesemer et al.)
- Gender challenges in horticultural research in Ethiopia and Madagascar (N. Randrianarison et al.)
- Pathways to improve nutrition security through horticultural crops in coffee based farming system: the case of 'Yayu' biosphere reserve area of Ethiopia (A. Teshome et al. – presented by J. Dürr).

Further, J. Dürr presented on "The contribution of vegetable value chains to the Guatemalan economy" and H. Jaenicke presented the Keynote on "The Contribution of Horticulture to Sustainable Development". Another presentation was given by Alisher Ergashev, ZEF PhD student, on "Determinants and Constraints of Fruit and Vegetable Consumption in Uzbekistan". With his presentation, Alisher won an ISHS Award for best student presenter.



The symposium also organised a panel discussion featuring Prof. Dyno Keatinge (Tropical Agriculture Development Advisory Services Ltd.), Dr. Stefano Padulosi (Bioversity International), Prof. Peter Batt (Peter J Batt & Associates) and Dr. Astha Thuladar (Meijo University), moderated by Dr. Hannah Jaenicke (GlobalHort) on the topic of “Horticulture for Sustainable Development – What does it take for lasting success?”. The messages emanating from the discussion include making horticulture more attractive to young people, sending clear messages about the benefit of fruits and vegetables to better nutrition, improving on capacity strengthening and that there is need for innovative fundraising with new investors. While everyone has a role to play as individual ambassador, there is need for better links amongst the players in horticultural research and practice and across to local, regional and global decision takers.

An interview with the panellists has just been published on the DevEx website (<https://www.devex.com/news/prioritizing-horticulture-in-the-sdgs-why-it-matters-89239>).

