



Summer School 2017–2019

Designing
Food
Value Chains

TO
FOSTER THE
2030 AGENDA
FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

2017  at Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

Fokus SDG 12
Responsible Consumption and Production

2018  at University of Agricultural Sciences, India

Fokus SDG 2
Zero Hunger

2019  at University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Fokus SDG 15
Life on Land

Challenge for humanity

The existing food system is not in a position to feed the world's population over a prolonged period of time. The main challenges for humanity are not only to reduce environmental pollution, to use resources more efficiently, to preserve soil fertility, and to close nutrient cycles, but also to have a stable harvest, to distribute food-stuffs more efficiently, to avoid waste, and to achieve fairer trade relations and more food sovereignty. In this regard, the restructuring of existing Food Value Chains (FVC), as well as the development of new sustainable ones on a local, at regional and international levels, plays an important role. Exactly which goals this development and restructuring process is expected to focus on are shown by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) established by the United Nations (UN), which came into effect on 1 January 2016.

What will you learn during the Summer School?

During the international Summer School, we will address strategies, capabilities and challenges which are concerned with the structuring of FVCs towards a sustainable food system. As participants, you will be given the opportunity to develop sustainable FVCs and to realise these in a local context. From this you will gain:

- A more in-depth knowledge of sustainability in the food system and the challenges associated with it
- Practicable knowledge concerning the structuring of sustainable value chains
- A greater understanding of the SDGs in the context of sustainable FVCs
- A firm knowledge basis upon which future solutions as to sustainable FVCs can be developed and put into practice in a local context
- Differentiated skills concerning one of the following SDGs: «Sustainable Development and Consumption», «Zero Hunger» and «Life on Land»
- The ability to understand global challenges in a local context (environment, politics, society, economy) and to identify possible solutions
- Intercultural competence to enable you to work in an international context

Summer School concept

The Summer School begins with Phase 1, in which participants prepare themselves for the content of the Summer School with individual e-learning. Phase 2 consists of working on a mini case study of up to 30 hours. Phase 3 is the 10-day Summer School study week, which consists of an intensive programme of workshops, excursions, project work and input presentations.

All registered students prepare for the Summer School study week through participation in the e-learning and planning of the mini case study. Students present their case studies at the beginning of the Summer School.

Phase 1: E-Learning

As preparation for the Summer School, students individually improve their specialist knowledge through three e-learning modules.

- E-learning Module 1: Understanding the Major Challenges of Sustainability and Food Systems
- E-learning Module 2: The Basics of Sustainable Food Value Chain Design
- E-learning Module 3: Understanding the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the Context of Food Value Chain Design

The e-learning modules begin from February 2017. All students wishing to take part in the 2017 Summer School study week must have successfully completed this e-learning by April 2017. This is also the case for the 2018 and 2019 Summer Schools.

Phase 2: Mini case study

Students engage with their respective area of focus in the local context (2017: Sustainable Consumption and Production; 2018: Zero Hunger; 2019: Life on Land). In this regard, they carry out a mini case study (MCS) comprising research conducted on a topic relevant to the local food system or a local FVC which students have chosen themselves. The following are examples of possible topics:

- Exemplification of a local problem in the FVC context
- Exemplification of a local FVC which supports one of the elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Description of how a particular FVC could be redesigned in order to support one of the elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Hungry?

ZHAW - FiBL Summer School

Designing Food Value Chains to Foster the Agenda 2030

Registration

eLearning

Mini
case-study

Summer School
study week

Alumni
Network

Suitable methodologies for working on the mini case studies include a review of the literature, interviews with stakeholders (distributors, producers, consumers), statistical data analysis etc. The time invested in the mini case study should not exceed 30 hours.

At the beginning of the Summer School, students disseminate their mini case studies through a poster presentation. The creation of the poster is part of the 30 hours allocated for Phase 2.

The idea for the content of the mini case study is submitted at the same time as registering for the Summer School. For the 2017 Summer School study week, the case study will be carried out from January to July 2017. For the 2018 and 2019 Summer Schools, the mini case studies will take place between January and June of the relevant year.

A webinar will be organised for interested potential students in which the requirements of the mini case study will be described in detail (www.gof-summerschool.org). During the mini case study, coaching will be offered by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL).

Phase 3: Summer School study week

In 2017, the 10-day Summer School will be held in Switzerland in the greater Zurich area. It addresses the topic «Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12)».

In 2018, the Summer School will take place in India with «Zero Hunger» as the focus topic. In 2019 the Summer School will be in Slovenia, concentrating on the topic «Life on Land».

The Summer School program includes input presentations from a number of invited speakers, plenary discussions, workshops and excursions. As participants in the Summer School study week, you work in a small group on a case study and develop a concrete concept concerning the structuring of sustainable FVCs.

Eligibility

BSc students (from the 4th semester onwards) and MSc students who have focussed on sustainability, sustainable FVCs or other associated topics (e.g. agricultural science, food industry, environment, rural development, geography) may take part in the Summer School.

The number of participants is limited to 30 persons. Every year 10 students from the ZHAW and 7 students from each of the partner universities are chosen. The remaining places will be allocated to BSc or MSc students from other universities.

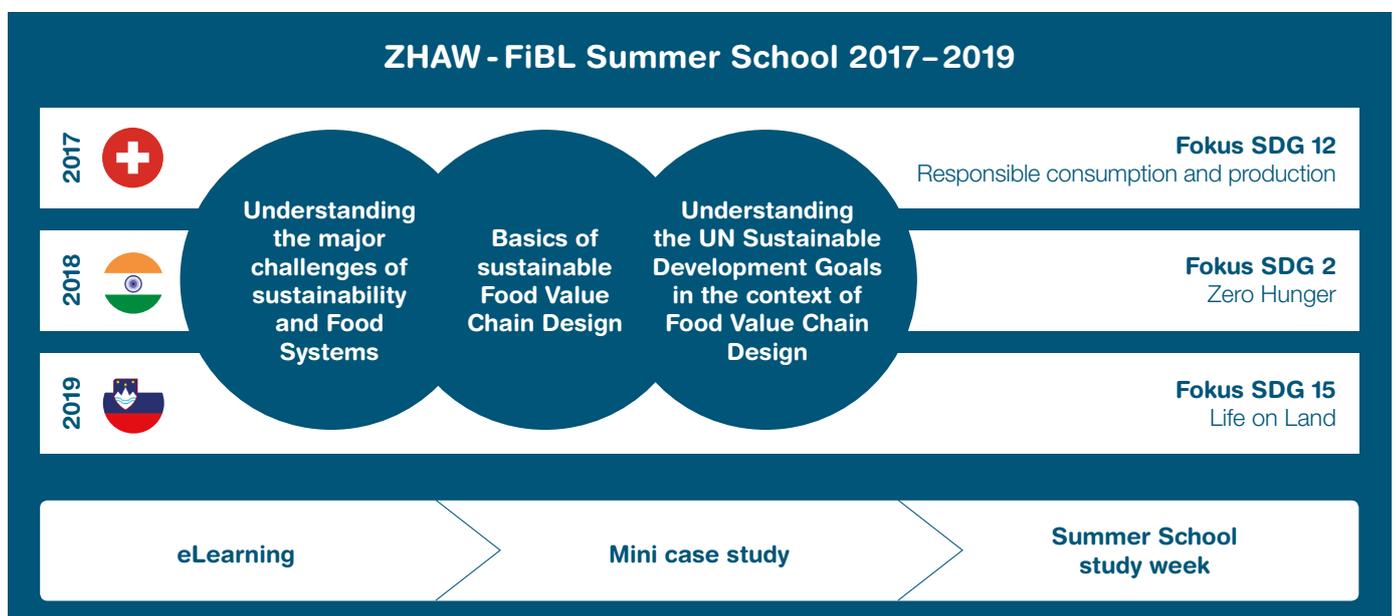
Credit points

For participation in the Summer School combined with successful completion of the e-learning modules and independent carrying out of the mini case study, there are 4 ECTS points available.

Important dates

In order to register for the Summer School, please visit the homepage www.gof-summerschool.org.

Over the next three years, the Summer School will take place at three different universities and countries, the emphasis changing each year. Students only register for one Summer School at a time.



Deadlines for registration as well as the timescale for Phases 1-3 of the Summer School can be found in the following table:

	Appointed Time		
Application period	Sept – 30th Nov 2016 for the 2017 Summer School	Sept – Nov 2017 for the 2018 Summer School	Sept – Nov 2018 for the 2019 Summer School
	Confirmation by end of December 2016	Confirmation by end of December 2017	Confirmation by end of December 2018
E-Learning	February – April 2017	February – April 2018	February – April 2019
Mini case study	January – July 2017	January – July 2018	January – July 2019
Summer School	August 2017, 2018, 2019	August 2018	August 2019

After applications have closed, we will contact you as soon as possible to let you know if you have been offered a place at the Summer School. Participants who are accepted receive an email confirming their admission onto the program, together with an Admissions Letter.

Travel information

The requirements that must be met for a short-term stay in Switzerland are given here:

https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/publiservice/weisungen-kreisschreiben/visa/liste1_staatsangehoerigkeit/i.html

All visa procedures remain the participant's responsibility and must be arranged prior to arriving in Switzerland. Please note that Summer School participants cannot apply for a student visa since they are not official ZHAW students.

Go to <https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen/einreise/visumantragsformular.html> to download and fill in the online visa application form.

Please do not book any flights or accommodation until attendance is confirmed.

	Appointed Time		
Application period	Sept – 11 Nov 2016 for the 2017 Summer School	Sept – Nov 2017 for the 2018 Summer School	Sept – Nov 2018 for the 2019 Summer School
Confirmation	End of December 2016	End of December 2017	End of December 2018

Fees

Travel costs, as well as accommodation and excursion expenses are covered. However, Summer School participants are required to make a contribution. In 2017, the amount is either

CHF 150 – 200 | Euro 135 – 185 | US Dollar 155 – 205

This fee must be paid by the end of January 2017. For 2018 and 2019 Summer School fees, please visit www.gof-summerschool.org.

Registration

Registration documents can be found each year from September to December at www.gof-summerschool.org.

Applications for the Summer School must include the following

- Personal details (age, education, matriculation number)
- Letter of application/motivation (max. 500 characters)
- Submission of an idea for the mini case study (see section on mini case study) as a Word document (not exceeding 200 characters including empty spaces). Please include the following points:
 - What case you are going to research
 - Example of a local problem in the FVC context
 - Example of a local FVC which supports one of the elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - Description of how a particular FVC could be redesigned in order to support one of the elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - Methodology: interviews, literature review, data analysis
 - Relevance to the focus topics of the Summer School

Organizers

The Summer School is a collaboration between the Institute of Natural Resource Sciences at ZHAW and the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL. The partner universities are

University of Ljubljana

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About the Institute of Natural Resource Sciences at ZHAW

The ZHAW Institute of Natural Resource Sciences is a teaching and research institution that perceives the functional diversity of landscapes and considers them as a central resource. The focus of the institute includes assessment and monitoring of landscape influences such as agriculture, regional development and renewable energy production, as well as the preservation of the landscape for people, animals and plants. The way in which these issues are examined is dominated by life-cycle thinking and the goal of making closed production cycles an essential part of our basic approach.

Course content and research questions are based on these principles, the topics mentioned above and the central requirement of social relevance. Accordingly, we measure the success of the institute as an educational and research establishment by the influence of our graduates in the world of work and the implementation and impact of our research projects.

About FiBL

The Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) is one of the world's leading research and information centres for organic agriculture, and employs over 175 experts. One of the major research topics at the FiBL is sustainability, with a focus on agricultural methods, food production and food processing. The overall goal of its activities is the development of practice-oriented solutions for environmental, economic and social problems in food production. FiBL is involved in numerous international projects – not only in research, but also in development.

The close links between different fields of research and the rapid transfer of knowledge from research to advisory work and agricultural practice are FiBL's main strengths.

Funding

The Summer School DESIGNING FOOD VALUE CHAINS TO FOSTER THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT is supported by the Mercator Foundation Switzerland.

