



Tropical News

“Newsletter for
FTA Friends”

JUNE 2022

Find in this issue news and opportunities for further cooperation with the Faculty

Welcome

Dear students, colleagues, alumni, and FTA friends,

Welcome to the fifth issue of Tropical News. Our newsletter will give you a brief insight into the latest activities and international cooperation at the Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences at the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague. This newsletter is distributed twice a year and we would like to inform all our current and future partners of the news from our faculty to create new opportunities for cooperation.

We will be happy to get you involved in FTA activities, so feel free to get in touch with us!

The FTA team

70th Anniversary of the CZU

The Traditional Garden Fest 2022 took place at the CZU campus on the 11th of June. With the fifth year of the garden festival, we also commemorated the 70th anniversary of the independence of the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague.

The FTA opened its doors to graduates, students, staff, and FTA friends. All visitors were welcomed to our sustainable pavilion, Botanical Garden, Herbarium, Laboratory of Molecular Genetics and learned about FTA activities in friendly environment. This event was a great way to network and expand horizons within the FTA community.

In this issue

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Garden Fest 2022



Our Successes

Animal Physiology and Behaviour Research Team



Led by **Assoc. Prof. Francisco Ceacero Herrador**, the [team's research](#) activity focuses on the links between physiological and behavioural patterns in wild and domestic species, with a special interest in mammals.

Currently, the team is conducting research projects worldwide, specialising in tropical and subtropical areas including Ecuador, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Africa, Spain, and Uruguay, as well as the Czech Republic.

The team is based at three main research facilities: [the Laboratory of Animal Science](#) and the [CZU Common Eland](#) and [CZU Guanaco](#) Rese-

96 IF publications
at FTA in 2021



Check out our worldwide projects and activities in the FTA's [annual report](#).

Cooperation in >30 countries

New Double Degree Study Programme at FTA

The double degree Master's study programme „**Agricultural Sciences and Farming Systems in the Tropics and Subtropics**” is the first [double degree \(DD\) programme](#) offered by the Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences. It is a unique opportunity for students to simultaneously receive two Master's degrees in this area of study in only two years and thus enhance their position in the Czech and European labour market.

Tropical Botany and Ethnobiology Lab (TRIBE)

Led by **Assoc. Prof. Zbyněk Polesný**, the [team's research](#) activity focuses on tropical and subtropical useful plants, other biota, and their environments with the aim of **preserving plant species diversity** and related **traditional knowledge** in natural ecosystems and agricultural landscapes. Studies of traditional knowledge of indigenous people and small-scale farmers on use patterns, management, and ecology of the most culturally important as well as neglected and underutilized plant species as sources of food, medicine and materials are of our special interest.

Very Own Herbarium

The [FTA Herbarium](#) is a collection focused on tropical useful plant species, including major and minor crops and wild useful plants.

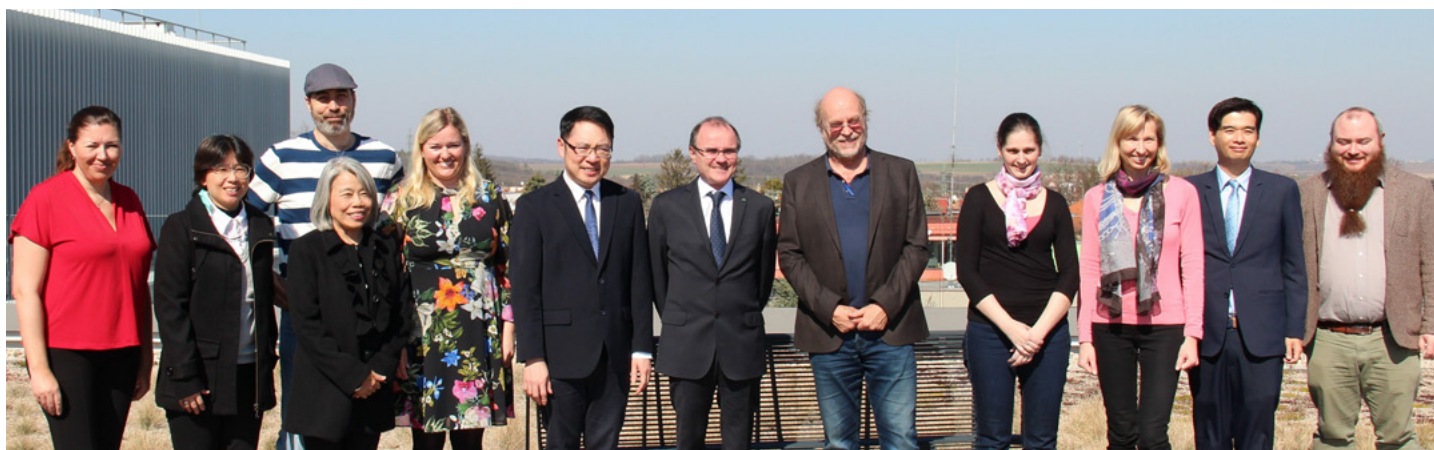
In conjunction with the [Botanical Garden](#), the Herbarium forms FTA's primary facility for research and education in tropical botany and agronomy.

FTA Solar Dryers in Cambodia

Thanks to [FTA solar dryers](#), farmers are able to obtain better-quality products suitable for the local market as well as for export. Fresh fruit has almost zero value here at harvest time, so it is important to preserve this value by processing, whether by drying, canning, or fermentation.



International Cooperation



Tropentag conference at FTA!!!

TROPENTAG 2022

Can agroecological farming feed the world?

This year, [Tropentag 2022](#) is organised by the Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences at the CZU.

Thai delegates at FTA



Five representatives of the **Prince of Songkla University (PSU)** visited CZU in March 2022. [The visit](#) was based on long-term cooperation and previous projects with the FTA. The output of the meetings will lead to a double degree master's study programme, and our cooperation will be strengthened through online formats such as teaching, research, and students' meetings. Thanks to this event, these new opportunities will enrich both universities' research, education and internationalization production period.

Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility in 10 Countries

The Erasmus+ programme ICM has supported exchanges of students and university staff between countries outside Europe and FTA.



In total, **12 projects** are currently running in the following countries: **Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Georgia, Senegal, South Africa, Syria, Ukraine, and Vietnam**. Through Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility were organised more than 30 student and 20 staff mobilities in 8 countries during the summer semester 2022.

Mobilities were highly appreciated by students currently studying and doing training at the FTA during [ICM coffee](#). Find more info about ICM and new opportunities for 22/23 [here](#).

16 development projects

FTA Experts at Forum for the Future of Agriculture

Forum for Agriculture was held on May 18th, 2022, in CZU AULA organised by Forum for the Future of Agriculture with our expert, **Assoc. Prof. Miroslava Bavorova** as a speaker, tackling the theme of „Integrating climate mitigation and biodiversity regeneration in food system transformation“.

Throughout the year, the Forum for the Future of Agriculture organises regional conferences and online events to discuss agriculture and the environment at a national level across Europe.

Speakers
ForumforAg 2022
Regional Edition Prague



Dr. Miroslava Bavorová
Associate Professor
Department of Economics
and Development,
CZU Prague

"What I would support is to provide more trust to farmers to take the responsibility of environmental friendly way to produce food"

 Forum for the Future of Agriculture™

Academic issues / Alumni

Meet our Alumni



Marketa Svejcarova, Field Operations Manager, Park Management. Marketa's dream to work in nature conservation in Africa first brought her to Chinko in the Central African Republic, where she volunteered for a year during her master studies of Wildlife Management. Approached to pursue her career further within the organisation, she then moved to Pendjari National Park in Benin where she worked in various support roles in anti-poaching and operations departments. In 2021, this invaluable experience of setting up control rooms for conservation areas and all different aspects of both departments got her the opportunity to become Field Operations Manager in [Odzala National Park in Congo](#).

Cooperation with Alumnus in Asia



The FTA is proud to cooperate with alumnus Stanislav Flekač, [Diakonia CCE](#) – find more info [here](#).

Alumni Club
SIGN IN

FTA Student Activities

This semester, the [Student Ambassadors](#) have been busy. Within one semester they managed to organise several fruitful events in cooperation with [Be Fair](#).

Most memorably, we opened the Little **Free Library**, which is designed for students and staff to use together to share and take books to explore new literature and bring old books they have finished reading. Currently, the little free library has books in 5 different languages.

Also, this semester we organised two more temporary **SWAPS**: a clothes swap and a plant swap, both of which were extremely popular with the students.

Student ambassadors continued our popular series of **Learn and Discuss** events on topics including 'diet and environment' and 'war in Ukraine and its impact on global food security'. Both evening events brought in crowds to the classroom and online viewers, where the events are streamed over Facebook. We plan to carry on the Learn and Discuss series also next year covering new interesting topics. If you have any suggestions, feel free to get in touch with us. We are ready to get inspired by you.



Enhancing your Career Opportunities

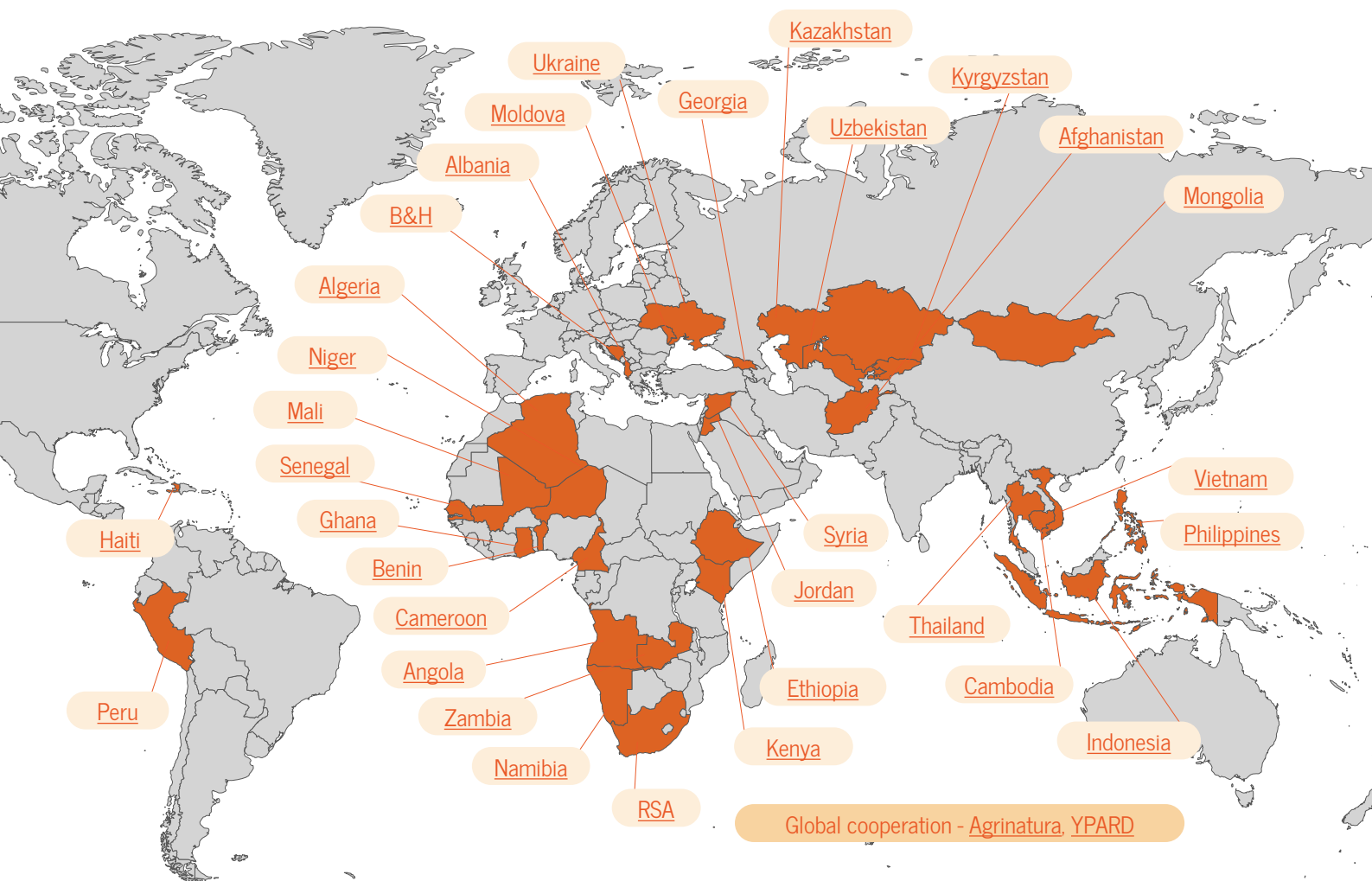
Alumni Recommendation

Young Professionals for Agricultural Development ([YPARD](#)) is an international movement by and for young professionals. Why join YPARD? Being a YPARD member gives youth the opportunity to connect with other professionals and to have access to fantastic food system related opportunities. Moreover, you can get involved in YPARD's [working groups](#), connect with young professionals and enhance your CV.

If you are interested in taking part in these working groups and having access to other opportunities within our community, do not hesitate to [become a member!](#)

FTA Projects and Partnerships

As a Fair Trade Faculty, we support responsible consumption and sustainable development.



Do you want to cooperate with the FTA?

We are interested in cooperation on

- > Research
- > Projects
- > Guest lectures
- > Internships
- > Sharing experiences
- > Other

We look forward to hearing from you!



Contact

- > Please visit <https://www.ftz.czu.cz/en/>
- > Follow us     
- > Contact us! Newsletter and FTA Alumni contact person:
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