

SFIAR Award 2020 - Guidelines

1) Introduction

The Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research (SFIAR) is an informal multi-stakeholder group of Swiss institutions and private individuals interested in agricultural research for development (ARD). Members come from research institutions, NGOs, the private sector, farmers' organisations and public agencies, as well as individuals. The goals and objectives of SFIAR are:

- a) Sharing information between ARD stakeholders in Switzerland
- b) Promoting the visibility of Swiss ARD
- c) Playing an advocacy role at policy level
- d) Serving as a national partner in international initiatives
- e) Promoting collaboration between actors in Swiss ARD

More information on the SFIAR is available on its website: www.sfiar.ch

2) Aims

In line with its objectives, the SFIAR runs the annual SFIAR Award. With this award the SFIAR pursues the following main aims:

- a) support relevant agricultural research for development
- b) promote knowledge on and visibility of Swiss ARD

3) Scope

The SFIAR intends to award new, innovative and result oriented research. Recent achievements or milestones can be awarded, however no future plans or project proposals.

The thematic scope of the award is broad. Any research that falls within the following definition of ARD given by the European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD) can be submitted:

"ARD is a multi-dimensions research that addresses the agricultural development challenges of developing and emerging countries (DEC). The agricultural domain includes crop production and animal husbandry, agro-forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, agribusiness and related enterprises, animal and human health related issues, as well as the sustainable management of the natural sources on which farming depends and the socio-cultural and bio-diverse landscapes, food systems and ecologies in which it is embedded. ARD provides technological, economic and institutional knowledge and innovations contributing to sustainable development. It encompasses research of a national and international public good character, as well as research that yields private gains."

The application must cover at least one of the following characteristics:

- a) partnership, outreach to the farm level, output and impact
- b) product development (or steps thereof)
- c) tool or instrument that can be applied in the local context

4) Eligibility

Eligible for the SFIAR Award is research that

- has been carried out at or in close collaboration with a Swiss institution
- has involved partners (institutions and/or individuals) located in developing countries
- has been completed preferably no longer than three years ago
(for Master's Thesis Award: master's thesis submitted preferably not longer than 18 months ago)

5) Application

Applicants have to fill in the attached application form and provide the research summary (maximum 2 pages including illustrations) and the other documents mentioned on the form in English, French or German. Applications that do not meet the formal requirements will not be considered. The deadline for applications is **13 July 2020**.

6) Selection

A selection committee of at least three SFIAR experts will review the submissions (based on the 2 pages research summary only) and select the best proposal. If four or less submissions are received, the committee may decide not to make an award that year. The SFIAR members endorse the recommendation by the selection committee, if they do not have a valid challenge.

The main selection criteria are:

- a) research quality
- b) demonstration of potential for development impact
- c) compliance with criteria defined under "Scope"
- d) presentation

7) Award

The Award is offered annually. Based on a recommendation by the Selection Committee the SFIAR may decide that the award for a particular year will be restricted to one category only, i.e. a Master's thesis or PhD or Post Doc/team¹, and that further restrictions may also be applied.

The SFIAR Award 2020 is restricted to the following: one prize (CHF 5'000) for the best PhD project; one prize (CHF 1'000) for the best Master's thesis.

8) Award ceremony

The Award ceremony is organized by SFIAR or integrated into an event organized in Switzerland by one or several SFIAR members. The awardee presents his/her project at the event.

9) Publicity

With the support of SFIAR members and their institutions, the awardee contributes to the publication of a summary of his/her work in the public media.

10) Legal provisions

SFIAR is committed to confidentiality concerning the Award applications. There is no recourse to correspondence or legal action.

¹ The prize sum of the SFIAR Award is CHF 1'000 for a Master's thesis, CHF 5'000 for a PhD project and CHF 10'000 for a Post Doc / team project.

SFIAR Award 2020 – Application Form

I am applying for the SFIAR Award 2020 with a

PhD project Master's thesis project

First Name: Names of other researchers involved:

Family Name:

Address:

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E-Mail:

Telephone:

Swiss institution where I am / was working:

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Title of research:

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For Master thesis projects: Date of master's thesis submission:

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How / from whom did you learn about the SFIAR Award?

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Date:

Signature

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Please send this application form by post and the following documents by e-mail:

<i>PhD project:</i>	<i>Master thesis project:</i>
Short CV (max. 1 page)	Short CV (max. 1 page)
Description of your research (max. 2 pages – longer descriptions are not accepted)	Description of your research (max. 2 pages – longer descriptions are not accepted)
List with further information on your research (publications, websites, referees who may optionally be contacted, etc.)	PDF copy of the Master thesis itself, which may, optionally, be referenced by the Award Committee