

Syngenta Foundation appoints new Executive Director

Prominent agricultural development organization aims to build on numerous successes

Basel, May 17th 2017. The Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (SFSA) has appointed Dr. Simon Winter as its new Executive Director. He succeeds Dr. Marco Ferroni. Winter aims to build on the Foundation's long tradition of successful partnerships in agricultural development.

Michel Demaré, Chairman of the SFSA Board and Syngenta AG, today announced the appointment of Simon Winter as Executive Director, effective September 1. Winter joins SFSA from TechnoServe, where he has most recently been Senior Vice President, Development, in Washington, D.C. "Simon brings a wealth of experience, contacts and strategic skills to his new role", comments Demaré. "I greatly look forward to working with him as we continue and expand SFSA's wide-ranging initiatives in the service of smallholders, improved food security and agricultural modernization worldwide."

Since 2015, Simon Winter has also been a senior fellow of the Mossavar-Rahmani Center at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Earlier career steps included management positions at McKinsey in South Africa and the USA, independent development consultancy, economic planning for a Ministry in Botswana, and roles on three continents at Barclay's Bank. Winter, a UK citizen, holds a PhD in Economics from London University.

Marco Ferroni will be retiring after ten years as SFSA Executive Director. "Under his guidance, the Foundation has significantly extended its reach, geographically and thematically, and as a thought leader in international agriculture", Demaré declares. "SFSA has achieved particularly notable successes for small farmers in the areas of agricultural insurance, access to seeds, digital decision tools and support services for farmers. The organization is an internationally recognized source of expertise on public-private partnerships for agricultural development and growth. I am extremely grateful to Marco for his dynamic and visionary leadership".

SFSA's core budget comes from Syngenta. The agribusiness company is being acquired by ChemChina in a transaction that has been in preparation for some 18 months. "Our new owners recognize that the Foundation, like the company, is at the forefront of sustainably improving food security worldwide", says Michel Demaré. "The purchase agreement specifically provides for continuity and maintenance of SFSA's status and funding. This enables us to move forward confidently, honor our existing partnerships and commitments, and launch and scale up new initiatives and programs".

The **Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture** is based in Basel, Switzerland. Its mission is to modernize small-scale farming through sustainable intensification, diversification and the activation of value chains. SFSA incubates scalable products and solutions, tests them, and catalyzes uptake and dissemination through business partnerships. Focus areas include crop improvement R&D, data management, seed systems, agricultural insurance, and a range of farmer support services.