

## Young scientist grant

### Objective

The main objective is to support financially young scientists who want to organize and execute activities such as dissemination events or applied research projects which will complement the SysCom project activities but cannot be realized within the existing framework.

### Topic/justification to receive the grant

The activity should be within the SysCom context and benefit the partner countries. Activities should be related to applied research or dissemination of research results from SysCom (i.e. farmers' training, event, conference etc.). As an additional possibility, a common topic can be developed among the three countries: e.g., impact level in the project region, soil carbon/quality, biodiversity, socio-ecological resilience, etc.)

After completing the activity, the recipient must submit a detailed summary of the outputs and outcomes to FiBL. This summary will be used for further dissemination within SysCom and, based on the type of activity conducted, included in the research outcomes.

### Selection criteria

The grant targets young scientists up to 35 years old. The selection will be made among applicants from Europe and the local partner countries (Bolivia, India, Kenya). An average budget of 3 000 CHF will be made available per selected candidate. Depending on the number of selected candidates and the number of countries involved in the developed project, a higher budget can be allowed per internal decision. The funding can cover travel, visa, research, or accommodation costs. In contrast, expenses such as advanced machinery or equipment, laboratory work or fundamental research will not be covered by the grant. The grant offer will be available for one year, with the selection of candidates without a deadline (first come, first served).

Applicants must submit a CV and a 2-pages document presenting their motivation, the concept of the activity to be developed, a timeline and a preliminary budget. The selection will be based first on the relevance of the activity as defined in the objective and justification above, and a second round of selection during an online interview.

### **Selection procedure**

The selection of candidates will be conducted using a two-steps approach: the relevant country teams in Bolivia, India, and Kenya will make a first selection of suitable candidates and send a proposal to the grant secretary. The grant secretary will then manage all proposals and forward them to the selection committee who decides on the final candidates. The committee is constituted of all SysCom countries coordinator in Switzerland (Bolivia, Kenya, India), the grant secretary and the SysCom scientific coordinators. In case of projects proposals from within the partner countries (local application), the relevant coordinator from the partner country will be included in the decision-making.