

Global Growing: International Dialogue / Brussels

In the course of my Master thesis I have got an invitation to the International Dialogue on Global Growing in Brussels. My thesis is part of the SUSFISH project and deals with human impacts on fisheries management in Burkina Faso.

The International Dialogue took place from July 3rd to 4th and shall raise awareness about the living and working conditions of sub-Saharan farmers.

The meeting was organized by the Institut zur Cooperation bei Entwicklungsprojekten (ICEP) and the Istituto per la Cooperazione Universitaria Onlus (ICU), with the goal to bring together active players in development of sub-Saharan Africa as well as junior scientists to exchange ideas and knowledge and present current projects. Therefore, they funded the meeting for all participating junior scientists.

I arrived to Brussels one day in advance in order to visit the fish collection of the African museum in Brussels. The fish collection there holds more than one million species.

Dr. Vreven was very helpful in the selection of important fish in the Volta basin and also showed me a great identification book, I want to thank him once again.

Within the congress there were different working groups, I held my presentation about the SUSFISH project and my thesis within the agro-technical research workgroup.

Two other people focused on sustainable water use, so sustainable fish use fitted well into the context and opened a totally new perspective. There was a broad agreement that sustainable development can only work if also aquatic organisms are considered.

There were also a lot of good inputs and contacts for my work, like Professor Salbitano from the University of Firenze, who is an expert in west African riparian vegetation.

Figure 1: A picture of my working space. There is fish just all around!



Figure 2: A group picture of the global growing meeting (Source: global-growing, <http://global-growing.org/en/content/global-growing-international-dialogue-0>)

