



# MORE and BETTER

An international network for support of food, agriculture and rural development to eradicate hunger and poverty

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## FOCUS

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### **IYFF-2014| Promoting peasant farming, agroecology and food sovereignty**

Many of you are engaged in different activities linked to the International Year of Family Farming - 2014 (IYFF-2014). Please, send us short reports, news etc. so we can promote what you are doing on our webpage and so others can learn and get inspiration from you. The IYFF-2014 gives us many opportunities to promote different forms of sustainable agriculture and family farming. You know what is the best in your country and organization. At the same time we have some common issues which we hope that you will focus on; to promote peasant farming, agroecology and food sovereignty.

### **IYFF-2014|The 1st Forum of African Rural Women**

The Forum was convened from the 10th to the 12 of December in Yaoundé, Cameroun. This first edition was organized by PROPAC under the mandate of PAFO (the umbrella organizations for the five African farmers Platforms) and in preparation of the IYFF-2014. In plenary session and working groups, women representatives from farmers and rural communities from all over the African continent animated in an extremely very rich debate on key issues concerning the role of rural women in African agriculture. Among the conclusions that will be addressed to a wide range of stakeholders at all levels (governments, institutions, organizations partners, NGOs, etc.), a set of recommendations concerning : access to credit and land; professional training; the increase of funding opportunities; the establishment of women cooperatives; rural women security and social protection; the institutionalization of ad hoc Fora. For more updates please visit: <http://arw2013.org/>

### **IYFF-2014: Photo competition on family farming**

The International Year of Family Farming (IYFF) highlights the decisive role of family farming in the sustainable production of 80% of the world's food and in the conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity. The More and Better Network support the IYFF-2014 photo competition whose aim is to collect visual expressions to build stronger recognition and support for family farming, thus encouraging a broad participation in the IYFF. Deadline for submission of photographs is May, 1<sup>st</sup> 2014. Send in your best photo and spread the voice!

<http://www.moreandbetter.org/en/news/international-year-of-family-farmers-2014-photo-competition>

### **More and Better General meeting in Rome, October 12-13th, 2014**

The General Meeting of More and Better takes place every second year. The last one was in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The General Meeting in 2014 will take place in Rome in connection with 41st Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 41) and the Annual Session of Civil Society Mechanism (CSM). Even if there will be lots of meetings going on linked to CFS and we will not be able to have one full day meeting, we think this is the best option to get as many members as possible to attend the meeting. All members of More and Better have the right to attend. Please try to get funding for participating. We will have very limited resources for funding.

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## WEB RESOURCES

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### **Seedmap.org , an online portal on seeds, biodiversity and food**

[Seedmap.org](http://www.seedmap.org) is an online portal created by USC Canada and Grain. It is a valuable teaching & advocacy tool and reference point on seeds, biodiversity, and food. The heart of the portal is an interactive map that used Google technology to let you visit hundreds of case studies around the world where agricultural biodiversity originated, is threatened, and where people are working to safeguard it.

### **Some useful web-links on the IYFF-2014**

- The official website of the civil society campaign (EN, ES, FR) coordinated by the World Rural Forum  
<http://www.familyfarmingcampaign.net/>
- The official FAO webpage (EN, ES, FR)  
<http://www.fao.org/family-farming-2014/en/>
- The launch of the IYFF-2014, a video by FAO  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcH0f1qu25k>

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- **5<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting of Farmers' Forum**  
17-20<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Rome (Italy), IFAD Headquarters  
<http://www.ifad.org/farmer/>

*This newsletter is published every month in English, Spanish and French. You can find previous newsletters on the More and Better website ([here](#)). If you have feedback on articles, suggestions of content for future issues or other thoughts please write to: [secretariat@moreandbetter.org](mailto:secretariat@moreandbetter.org)*

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