

This lecture series brings together researchers and practitioners working at the intersection of food systems, sustainability science, and societal change. Scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds, including agronomy, public health, economics, political science, and science and technology studies present their work on food-related challenges, from food security and access to the governance of food technologies to the transformation of agricultural systems. The lecture series explores how research can go beyond describing problems and deficiencies by contributing to just, resilient, and sustainable food futures.

The 2026 Basel Sustainability Forum is open to anyone with an interest in sustainability and provides a space for engagement with research and real-world challenges of feeding a growing global population.

Presentations: 23 Sep - 9 Dec 2026

23.09.	Max Bergman Janina Grabs *Professor, Sustainability Research, University of Basel*	Introduction Regulating sustainability in food value chains
30.09.	Rajdeep Singha *Professor, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Assam, India*	The True Colour of Assam's Tea: Cost, Price and Labour
07.10.	Yuan Zhou *Senior Researcher, Social Transitions Research Group, University of Basel*	Is Small Beautiful? Challenges and Opportunities in Smallholder Agriculture in the Global South
14.10.	Olivier Ejderyan *Group Lead, Society & Innovation at Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland*	We drunk wine and broke a robot: Addressing working conditions in steep vineyards through transdisciplinary research
21.10.	Tour of *Brauerei Ferment* with Caroline Kulangara	
28.10.	Philipp Aerni *Director, Center for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (CCRS), Professor, Sustainability and Impact Entrepreneurship at the School of Management Fribourg*	Implementation Challenges of True Cost of Food in Swiss Value Chains'
04.11.	Abdelbagi Ismail *Regional Director for Africa, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Kenya*	Sustainable Rice-Based Systems for Food and Nutrition Security, Poverty Elimination, and Climate Resilience Through Partnerships in Less Favorable Environments of the South
11.11.	Julius Malin *Researcher, Social Transitions Research Group, University of Basel* Cheryl Sullivan *Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)*	Historical Foodways and Sustainable Futures: Christian Farming Initiatives in the Rural United States Family Farmers and Climate Action: Stories, Challenges and Opportunities
18.11.	Basil Bornemann *Senior researcher/Lecturer, Department of Social Sciences, University of Basel*	Community-supported agriculture: potentials and limitations for food democracy
25.11.	Martina Bozzola *Head of the Department of Food System Sciences, FiBL Switzerland*	The future of food system analysis
02.12.	Joshua Okonya *Program Officer, Agricultural Technology & Innovation, Uganda National Academy of Sciences (UNAS)*	How scaling of sustainable agricultural research technologies and innovations drives agrifood systems transformation across East Africa.
09.12.	Arnim Wiek, *University of Freiburg* Markus Hurschler, *Managing Partner Foodways* Petra Heid, *Sustainability Lead Halba Chocolate* Traver Dinten, *Founder GreenMind*	Roundtable: "Who feeds us next?" and Apéro organised by The University of Basel's Sustainability Office, Team Eucor & EPICUR, and the Social Transitions Research Group *****VENUE: Aula at the Kollegienhaus*****

University of Basel

Chair
Max Bergman
Social Transitions Research Group