Forum 2

Nematology Education Forum: the current situation and the ideal way forward

General abstract:

Given the immediate concerns over food security combined with the drive towards a more sustainable world, it is more important than ever that education in nematology is actively promoted in academia and elsewhere to ensure adequate nematological capacity building. The landscape of nematology education at Higher Education Institutions ranges from nematology as a rather marginalised discipline in agricultural oriented curricula in institutions around the world to a full Master of Science devoted entirely to nematology. However, this situation is changing due to new investments in education projects in sub-Saharan Africa (Erasmus+ CBHE NEMEDUSSA), but also due to crucial changes in financial support from long-term donors (VLIR-UOS). This workshop is conceived as an interactive forum with two components. Firstly, sharing experiences with nematology education from the perspective of a diverse group of stakeholders such as educators, students, but also potential employers. Secondly, to discuss the design of a future-proof curriculum in nematology, starting from a case study of the MSc in Agro- and Environmental Nematology at Ghent University, and then moving on to different options and opportunities around the world.