



Module	Knowledge Management and Transfer in Agriculture and Forestry
Code	MSLS_AF-02
Degree Program	Master of Science in Life Sciences (MSLS)
ECTS Credits	5
Workload	150 h: Contact 45 h; Group Exercise 25 h; Self-study 80 h
Module Coordinator	<p>Name Dr. Urs Scheidegger</p> <p>Phone +41 31 910 21 71</p> <p>Email urs.scheidegger@bfh.ch</p> <p>Address Bern University of Applied Sciences, School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences, Laenggasse 85, 3052 Zollikofen</p>
Lecturers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Lehmann • Katja Schaffer • Dr. Urs Scheidegger • Dr. David Zimmer • Guest lecturers
Entry Requirements	A1 recommended
Learning Outcomes and Competences	<p>After completing the module students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acquire, understand and interpret scientific publications and assess their relevance for solving specific problems; • analyze complex issues based on secondary information and present them concisely, well-structured and according to scientific standards, describing the state-of-the art knowledge; • present the acquired information effectively and discuss it with an interdisciplinary audience; • develop a strategy to valorize the outcomes of a research project and choose the appropriate tools for targeting the different stakeholders; • apply tools of knowledge sharing with practitioners (learning events, articles for print media, facilitation of workshops, etc.).
Module Content	<p>Principles of knowledge management in science; forms, principles and processes of scientific publishing.</p> <p>Systematic literature search in forestry and agriculture (bibliographical databases and their relevance, retrieval platforms); working efficiently with reference management software, especially with the knowledge management functions.</p> <p>Scientific writing: Exercises in class, <i>Students select a narrow topic in forestry or agriculture to deal with state-of-the-art knowledge and write a literature review.</i></p> <p>Concepts and tools for knowledge sharing (examples), e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension approaches • Facilitating group processes • Continuous education sequence • Article for print media and cross-media linking • IT-supported knowledge sharing tools • GIS for sharing knowledge (Q-GIS) <p><i>Students prepare and deliver an article or a continuous education sequence</i></p>
Teaching / Learning Methods	Students select a topic for review in the area of A&F research, development or implementation, in consultation with their personal coach and the module coordinator. They receive short introductions to the different aspects of knowledge

	<p>management and guidance through relevant knowledge management textbooks.</p> <p>The main learning method is self-study, properly introduced by lectures and accompanied by exercises. Students have the possibility to do their individual work in class with support by the lecturers. Additional lectures and skills labs on demand are possible.</p> <p>The module leads to tangible products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review paper presenting the state-of-the-art of the selected topic; • A knowledge sharing product, which will be presented and debated in a seminar
Assessment of Learning Outcome	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review paper (50%) 2) Knowledge sharing product and debate in seminar (50%)
Bibliography	<p>Bennet D.J, Jennings R.C (eds.), 2011. Successful Science Communication: Telling It Like It Is. Cambridge University Press, New York, 462 p.</p> <p>Bolliger E, Zellweger T, 2007. Facilitation. The art of making your meetings and workshops purposeful and time-efficient. Agridea, Lindau, 134 p</p> <p>Hofmann V, Gerster M, Christinck A, Lemma M, (eds) 2009. Rural Extension. Basic Issues and Concepts. GIZ, Weikersheim (Margraf)</p> <p>CSE (Council of Science Editors), 2006. Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers (7th edition). Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Leeuwis C, 2004. Communication for rural innovation: rethinking agricultural extension. Blackwell Science, Oxford.</p> <p>Plüss L, Scheidegger U, Katz E, Thönnissen C, 2008. Understanding the research-extension interface: capitalizing experiences of nine agricultural projects in East Asia. Rural Development News No. 2, 40-46.</p> <p>Ramalingam B, 2006. Tools for Knowledge and Learning: A Guide for Development and Humanitarian Organisation. Overseas Development Institute, London, UK, 87 p.</p> <p>Ridder D, Mostert E, Wolters H.A (eds.), 2005. Learning Together to Manage Together: Improving Participation in Water Management. HarmoniCOP, University of Osnabrück, 99p. Accessed on 11.05.2016, http://www.harmonicop.uni-osnabrueck.de/HarmoniCOPHandbook.pdf</p> <p>Thayer-Hart N (eds) 2007. Facilitator Tool Kit. University of Wisconsin. 81 p</p>
Language	English
Comments	<p>The following sequences are compulsory for students: Participation in the exercises for two out of three knowledge sharing tools (facilitation of workshops, IT-based tools, GIS); participation in one full day of the knowledge sharing seminar. For details on compulsory sequences, please refer to the detailed schedule of the module, which will be uploaded on Moodle 4 weeks before the start of the module.</p>
Last Update	10.06.2016 / Urs Scheidegger