

Bridging Research & Policy Responses to COVID-19

June 12 & 19, 2020
5 pm CEST



Organizers



Partners



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Presentation

The three United Nations Rome-based Agencies **IFAD**, **FAO** and **WFP**, jointly with the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (**ICABR**), the International Committee of Women in Agricultural Economics (**ICWAE**) of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (**IAAE**), **The World Bank**, and **IFPRI** are pleased to announce a 2-day webinar event on:

“Bridging Research and Policy Responses to COVID-19: *Value Chain, Food Security, Women, Youth and Vulnerable Groups*”.

The magnitude and breadth of COVID-19 impacts across the world, as we know today, are colossal and are yet to be quantified, but we already know that nations will experience economic downturns, with the IMF predicting a contraction in global growth in 2020.

While western countries are struggling to provide measures to mitigate the economic impacts due to reduced economic activities, the developing economies are more at risk.

As a response, governments have channeled or redirected significant resources toward addressing COVID-19, limiting the resources available for investment in productive sectors or for official development assistance.

In the last few months, the World has witnessed an endless number of projections, simulations, and predictions about the evolution of the COVID-19. Virologists, scientists, economists have tried to use theoretical models to infer the unknown implications of the pandemics. In the meantime, policy-makers are busy making quick decisions, actions, and fund allocations.

The two Lightning Talks on **Bridging Research and Policy Responses to COVID-19** aim to bring together academics and policy-makers to synthesize responses on the most relevant topics for the RBAs: **the future of the value chain, food security, of women, youth and vulnerable groups in the post-lockdown era.**

For each Lightning Talk, it is expected that:

- Academics suggest max 3 ideas of concrete projects or programs to develop, based on their rigorous analysis and theoretical models.
- Policy-makers present max 3 challenges of the swift policy responses implemented.
- Given the background of the invited speakers, it is also envisaged a combination of the two!

Information for Speakers

Each speaker shall organize their presentation in 7 minutes.

Given the large number of speakers and the time constraints, time will be very strict. The moderator will show a yellow sign when 3 minutes are left, and a red sign when 1 minute is left.

Program

Day 1: June 12, 2020 5 pm CSET: Value Chain and Rural Development Theme

Opening Remarks: IFAD President Gilbert F. Hounbo

Moderator: Sara Savastano, IFAD, ICABR & ICWAE

Policy Perspective	Research Perspective
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IFAD, Marie Haga – Associate Vice-President, of the External Relations and Governance Department• FAO: Maximo Torero, Chief Economist and Assistant Director General for the Economic and Social Development Department• WFP: Arif Husain, Chief Economist and Director of Research, Assessments & Monitoring Division• World Bank, Gero Carletto, Manager Research Data Group• IFPRI: Jo Swinnen, Director General	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marc Bellemare, U. Minnesota: Setting the stage• Scott Rozelle, Stanford University : Rural Development• Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, MSU Food Systems• David Zilberman, UC Berkeley; Natural Disasters• Tom Reardon, MSU : Facts & implications to orient policy discussion about COVID-19

Closing Remarks: Carl Pray, President ICABR

Day 2: June 19, 2020: Food Security, Women, Youth and Vulnerable Groups

Moderator: Romina Cavatassi, IFAD

Policy Perspective	Research Perspective
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IFAD, Paul Winters – Associate Vice President :• Uma Lele , President Elect IAAE & ICWAE;• World Bank: Haishan Fu, Director Development Data Group• FAO: Ben Davis, Strategic Programme Leader, Rural Poverty Reduction (SP3). The Future Social Protection Program• IFPRI: Ruth Meizen-Dick, Senior Fellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sangeeta Bansal, Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. & ICWAE Health and Nutrition• Madhu Khanna, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign & AAEA President Elect & ICWAE. The agro-environmental technologies• Chris Barrett, Cornell U. Food Security• Joanna Upton Cornell U. High frequency survey data• Ruerd Ruben , Wageningen University Food Security and Nutrition




Closing Remarks: Justus Wesseler, Wageningen University and President Elect of ICABR

[WatchLive on IFAD Youtube Page](#)




The event will be [webcast](#) and the audience will be able to ask questions to speakers online by using the hashtag **#IFADBridge**.




[ADD TO CALENDAR: JUNE 12, 2020 5 pm CSET](#)




Bio Presenters

Day 1	Value Chain and Rural Development June 12, 2020 5:00 pm
	Opening Remarks
	<p>Gilbert F. Hougbo, President of IFAD</p> <p>Gilbert F. Hougbo became the sixth President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on 1 April 2017. Born and raised in rural Togo, Hougbo has spent more than 30 years working to improve the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people, with extensive experience in political affairs, international development, diplomacy and financial management. Prior to his appointment as IFAD President, Hougbo was the Deputy Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO) where he led field operations in more than 100 countries and managed its bilateral and multilateral partnerships. He served as Prime Minister of the Republic of Togo from 2008 to 2012, where he introduced economic reforms and enhanced the rule of law and civil liberties. From 1996 to 2008, he undertook a number of roles at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) including Chief of Staff and Assistant Secretary-General, Africa Regional Director, where he led poverty alleviation programmes in 45 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Prior to this, he spent a decade in the private sector, including at Price Waterhouse, Canada, where he worked in Audit and Financial Advisory Services. Hougbo has a <i>Maîtrise en gestion des entreprises</i> from the University of Lomé, Togo, and a <i>Diplôme d'Etudes Supérieures Spécialisées en Spécialised Accounting</i> from the University of Québec, Canada. He is a member of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Professional Accountants.</p>
	Moderator
	<p>Sara Savastano, Director Research and Impact Assessment Division – IFAD, Secretary General ICABR, and ICWAE</p> <p>Sara Savastano is the Director of IFAD's Research and Impact Assessment Division. Starting in 2016, Savastano worked at the World Bank as Senior Economist with the Development Economic Research Group. From 2008 to 2016 she was an Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance at the University of Rome Tor Vergata. After working from 2001 to 2005 with the Development Economic Research Group of the World Bank, Savastano was an economist at the Public Investment Evaluation Unit of the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance until 2008. She is the Secretary General of the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research. Her research focuses on land policies and institutions, rural development, agricultural efficiency and productivity, and technology adoption. She has worked as a consultant with FAO, the World Bank, IFPRI, and other public and private institutions. Savastano holds a PhD in economics from the University of Rome Tor Vergata.</p>
	Policy Perspectives
	<p>Marie Haga, Associate Vice-President, External Relations and Governance Department</p> <p>Marie Haga is Associate Vice-President, of the External Relations and Governance Department, at IFAD. She is responsible for communications, global engagement, partnerships, resource mobilization and relations with IFAD Member States. Haga has extensive experience in conservation, food security, foreign affairs and politics. Before coming to IFAD she worked with the Global Crop Diversity Trust, where she was Executive Director from March 2013. Haga served with Norway's Foreign Service as a career diplomat and held various positions in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including the Norwegian Mission to the United Nations in New York and the Embassy in New Delhi. She was appointed to and held the position of State Secretary/Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1997-1999. Haga's political career includes serving as a Member of Parliament in Norway from 2001-2009. She also held three ministerial positions: Minister of Cultural Affairs (1999–2000), Minister of Local Government and Regional Development (2005–2007) and Minister of Petroleum and Energy (2007–2008). In addition, Haga held the position of Director for Renewable Energy in the Federation of Norwegian Industries (2009–2011) and of Secretary General of the Norwegian Air Ambulance (2011-2013) - the biggest voluntary organization in Norway. Haga studied political science and was a trainee in the Norwegian Foreign Service.</p>

	<p>Maximo Torero, Chief Economist and Assistant Director General for Economic and Social Development FAO</p> <p>Maximo Torero is the chief economist and assistant director general for economic and social development at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, Italy. Before joining FAO in 2019, he served at the World Bank Group in Washington, D.C. as the executive director for Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. Between 2006 – 2016, he led the Markets, Trade and Institutions Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute also in Washington. He is a professor at the University of the Pacific, Peru (on leave) and Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the University of Bonn, Germany. He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed academic articles analyzing poverty, inequality and behavioral economics in top journals – including in <i>Quarterly Journal of Economics</i>, <i>Econometric Theory</i>, <i>American Economic Journal: Applied Economics</i>, <i>Review of Economics and Statistics</i> and <i>Journal of Labor Economics</i>. Specifically, he has studied the role of infrastructure, institutions and technology on poverty reduction, and the importance of geography, infrastructure access and assets in explaining poverty. He is the author of 14 books, including <i>Food Price Volatility and its Implications for Food Security and Policy</i> and <i>Innovations for Inclusive Value Chain Development: Successes and Challenges</i>. He has led several research programs and impact evaluations. He led the impact evaluation of the Millennium Challenge Corporation’s \$450 million-investment in El Salvador’s Northern Transnational Highway and rural electrification to increase access to markets. Torero received the Chevalier de l’Ordre du Mérite Agricole from the French government for exceptional contribution to agriculture. The Global Development Network awarded him twice for outstanding research on development. His work has been cited in numerous media outlets, including CNN, BBC, <i>The Economist</i> and <i>The New York Times</i>. He has a Ph.D. in economics from University of California, Los Angeles, and a B.S. from University of the Pacific in Peru.</p>
	<p>Arif Husain, Chief Economist and Director of Research, Assessments & Monitoring Division WFP</p> <p>Dr. Arif Husain is Chief Economist and Director of Research, Assessments & Monitoring Division at United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Rome, Italy. Arif joined WFP in 2003 and since then he has served in many senior positions both in the field and at Headquarters. He has also worked for the World Bank and taught at the Hubert H Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Arif’s work focuses on analyzing food security and welfare conditions in developing countries to inform humanitarian response. His research interests include application of information technologies to improve humanitarian response; understanding linkages between poverty, hunger, conflict and migration; and analysing how global economic shocks impact food security, social protection and emergency and development assistance. Arif has a Ph.D. in agricultural and applied economics with a minor in forestry from the University of Minnesota.</p>
	<p>Gero Carletto, Lead Economist and Manager Research Data Group</p> <p>Calogero (Gero) Carletto is a Lead Economist and the Manager of the Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS), a long-standing survey program at the World Bank. He is also currently managing the Center for Development Data (C4D2), a Rome-based hub of the World Bank’s Development Data Group dedicated to fostering methodological innovation and strengthening capacity in household surveys in low- and middle-income countries. Gero has more than twenty-five years of experience in the collection, analysis and dissemination of household survey data. He has published more than 80 articles, books and book chapters on various topics ranging from poverty, migration, agriculture and rural development, as well as data collection methods and measurement issues. He has previously worked for various United Nations’ agencies and for the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Gero holds a Ph.D. and a M.Sc. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California at Berkeley and a Laurea cum Laude in Statistics from the University of Siena, Italy.</p>
	<p>Johan Swinnen, Director General IFPRI</p> <p>Jo Swinnen is Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) since January 2020. Prior to joining IFPRI, Dr. Swinnen was professor of economics and director of the LICOS Centre for Institutions and Economic Performance at the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium) and senior research fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies in Brussels. Dr. Swinnen was a lead economist at the World Bank from 2003 to 2004 and economic adviser to the European Commission from 1998 to 2001. Over the course of his career, Dr. Swinnen has been a visiting professor at various universities, including at Stanford University’s Center on Food Security and the Environment, and a frequent adviser to institutions such as the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Dr. Swinnen earned his PhD from Cornell University (USA) and holds honorary doctorates from the University of Göttingen (Germany) and the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (Slovakia). He is a fellow of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association and the European Association of Agricultural Economists, and he served as president of the International Association of Agricultural Economists from 2012 to 2015.</p>

	<p>Dr. Swinnen has published extensively on agricultural and food policies, international development, political economy, institutional reforms, trade, and global value chains, and his body of work has been widely cited. His books include <i>The Political Economy of Agricultural and Food Policies</i> (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018); <i>Quality Standards, Value Chains and International Development</i> (Cambridge University Press, 2015); <i>Political Power and Economic Policy: Theory and Empirical Applications</i> (Cambridge University Press, 2011); and <i>From Marx and Mao to the Market: The Economics and Politics of Agricultural Transition</i> (Oxford University Press, 2006).</p>
	<p>Research Perspectives</p>
	<p>Marc Bellemare, Professor, University of Minnesota</p> <p>Marc Bellemare is Northrop Professor in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota, where I also direct the Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy. He currently serves as one of four co-editors of the <i>American Journal of Agricultural Economics</i>. Prior to that, he served as one of two co-editors of <i>Food Policy</i> from 2015 to 2019. His research lies at the intersection of agricultural economics, food policy, and international development. A few specific areas in which he has been conducting research include agricultural value chains, risk and uncertainty, and the consequences of high and volatile food prices. His research has so far been featured in media outlets such as <i>The Economist</i>, the <i>New York Times</i>, National Public Radio, and the <i>Wall Street Journal</i>. For his teaching, he has won the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award for Graduate Faculty in 2018. In May 2018, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the AAEA for a three-year term.</p>
	<p>Scott Rozelle, Professor, Stanford University</p> <p>Scott Rozelle is the Helen F. Farnsworth Senior Fellow and the co-director of the Rural Education Action Program in the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University. He received his BS from the University of California, Berkeley, and his MS and PhD from Cornell University. Previously, Rozelle was a professor at the University of California, Davis and an assistant professor in Stanford's Food Research Institute and department of economics. He currently is a member of several organizations, including the American Economics Association, the International Association for Agricultural Economists, and the Association for Asian Studies. Rozelle also serves on the editorial boards of <i>Economic Development and Cultural Change</i>, <i>Agricultural Economics</i>, the <i>Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics</i>, and the <i>China Economic Review</i>. His research focuses almost exclusively on China and is concerned with: agricultural policy, including the supply, demand, and trade in agricultural projects; the emergence and evolution of markets and other economic institutions in the transition process and their implications for equity and efficiency; and the economics of poverty and inequality, with an emphasis on rural education, health and nutrition. Rozelle's papers have been published in top academic journals, including <i>Science</i>, <i>Nature</i>, <i>American Economic Review</i>, and the <i>Journal of Economic Literature</i>. He is fluent in Chinese and has established a research program in which he has close working ties with several Chinese collaborators and policymakers. He is the chair of the International Advisory Board of the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy; a co-director of the University of California's Agricultural Issues Center; and a member of Stanford's Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center and the Center on Food Security and the Environment. In recognition of his outstanding achievements, Rozelle has received numerous honors and awards, including the Friendship Award in 2008, the highest award given to a non-Chinese by the Premier; and the National Science and Technology Collaboration Award in 2009 for scientific achievement in collaborative research.</p>
	<p>Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, Professor, MSU</p> <p>Saweda Liverpool-Tasie is a tenured associate professor in the department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics. Her current research focuses on emergent issues related to smallholder productivity and welfare within dynamic and transforming food markets in sub Saharan Africa and alongside poorly functioning markets in the region. In addition to evaluating the heterogeneous effect of poverty reduction strategies (and social networks) on rural household behavior and livelihood, she has a keen interest in understanding input use and input markets as well as evaluating input policies. Before joining MSU, she was a Post Doctoral fellow at The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). She received her PhD in Agriculture and Consumer Economics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She holds an MSc in Urban and Regional Planning and an MA in Third World Development, both from The University of Iowa. She also holds a BSc. (Honors) in Economics from the University of Jos, Nigeria. She currently sits on the advisory boards of the Michigan State University's African Studies Center and the Alliance for African Partnership; a flagship program of Michigan State University's International Programs. She is a 2018/19 winner of the MSU Teacher-Scholar Award; given to six</p>

	MSU faculty members every year, who early in their careers have earned the respect of students and colleagues for their devotion to and skill in teaching that is linked to scholarly work.
	<p>David Zilberman, Professor, UC Berkeley</p> <p>David Zilberman is Professor and Robinson Chair, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Berkeley. He works on agricultural & environmental policy, water, marketing, risk and innovation, and the bioeconomy. He is Fellow and President-Elect (2018) of Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) & Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, & has the AAEA Publication of Enduring Quality Award (2005, 2010), 2015 Quality of Communication Award on agricultural biotechnology, and 2015 Quality of Communication Honorable Mention on climate change and California. He has published 300 refereed articles in Science, American Economic Review, Econometrica, the American Journal of Agricultural Economics, the Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, among others, and has edited 20 books. He is the Co-Founder of the International Water Resource Economics Consortium and the International Consortium of Applied Bioeconomy Research. He established and is Co-Director of Berkeley's Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program and the Masters of Development Practice.</p>
	<p>Thomas Reardon, Professor, Michigan State University</p> <p>Professor Thomas Reardon is Professor of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics at MSU. His researches focus on the links between international development and agribusiness/food industry. He researches the transformation of agri-food systems (supermarkets, processing firms, wholesale and logistics, and agricultural support services) and their effects on farmer incomes, technology, and rural employment. He also researches on agri-food business strategies implementation of innovations via the design of supply chains in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He has also researched rural nonfarm employment and its links to food systems and agricultural technology adoption.</p>
	<p>Closing Remark</p>
	<p>Carl Pray, Distinguished Professor, Rutgers University</p> <p>Carl Pray is a Distinguished Professor in the Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics Department, the School for Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Pray earned his PhD in Economic History from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. The focus of his research is agricultural science and technology policy in China, South Asia, Africa and Latin America. Key issues of his research are: How does government research, science policy, intellectual property rights, regulations and advances in basic sciences influence the development and adoption of new agricultural technology? What are the economic and institutional impacts of new agricultural technology – especially its impact on poor farmers in Asia and Africa?</p>

<p>Day 2</p>	<p><i>Food Security, Women, Youth and Vulnerable Groups</i> June 19, 2020 5:00 pm</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderator</p>
	<p>Romina Cavatassi, Lead Economist, IFAD</p> <p>Romina Cavatassi is in charge leading a number of Impact Assessments (IA) and in setting up a systematic approach for sound IA. This involves defining the theory of change and related indicators, developing the tools for data collection, leading the training and the data collection as well as data analysis and dissemination of results. She is also collaborating in mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation.</p> <p>Prior to joining IFAD, Cavatassi worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations where she focused on development and natural resource economics. Over the last few years she worked on Climate Smart Agriculture and earlier on agrobiodiversity.</p> <p>She holds a PhD in Natural Resource and Development Economics from Wageningen University and Research Centre, an MSc in Environmental Assessment and Evaluation from the London School of Economics and a Masters level degree in Economics from the University of Bologna.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Policy Perspective</p>
	<p>Paul Winters, Associate Vice President, IFAD</p> <p>Paul Winters is the Associate Vice-President of the Strategy and Knowledge Department at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).</p> <p>Prior to his current appointment, he was the Director of Research and Impact Assessment at IFAD, responsible for advancing IFAD's research and impact assessment agendas as well as supporting the development effectiveness of IFAD's operations.</p> <p>From 2004-2015, Winters was a professor in the Department of Economics at American University in Washington, DC where he taught courses on impact evaluation, development economics and environmental economics. Before American University, he worked at the Inter-American Development Bank, the University of New England, and the International Potato Center. He has published numerous journal articles in the areas of impact evaluation, migration, cash transfer programs, rural development and smallholder agriculture.</p> <p>Winters holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California at Berkeley, an MA in Economics from the University of California at San Diego and a BA in Non-Western Studies from the University of San Diego.</p>
	<p>Uma Lele, Independent International Expert and Researcher, President Elect IAAE & ICWAE</p> <p>The first woman to be awarded a Ph. D. in agricultural economics by Cornell University. Uma Lele was elected President Elect of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE) in July 2018. Since leaving services of the World Bank she has operated as an independent scholar and development economist and is affiliated with the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. She has five decades of experience in research, operations, policy analysis, and evaluation in the World Bank, universities and international organizations. Among her notable works are Food Grain Marketing in India: Private Performance and Public Policy (1973), The Design of Rural Development: Lessons from Africa (1976), Managing Agricultural Development in Africa (1991), Transitions in Development: From Aid to Capital Flows (1991), Intellectual Property Rights in Agriculture: The World Bank's Role in Assisting Borrower and Member Countries (1999), and Managing a Global Resource: Challenges of Forest Conservation and Development (2002). She has also written papers on Agricultural Productivity Growth and Structural Transformation, and on the changing roles of forests and water in the course of economic development. As Senior Advisor in the World Bank's Operations Evaluation Department (now called the Independent Evaluation Group), she led evaluations of the World Bank's Forest Strategy (2002), the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) (2003), and the World Bank's approach to global programs (2005).</p>
	<p>Haishan Fu, Director Development Data Group, World Bank</p> <p>Haishan Fu is the Director of the World Bank's Development Data Group, overseeing its global development monitoring and open data initiative, surveys and other technical advisory services, and global statistical programs such as the International Comparison Program. In her capacity as the Ex-Officio member of the WBG Data Council and the Co-Chair of the Development Data Directors Group, Haishan leads and coordinates the development and implementation of the Bank's development data agenda. She has been an active leader in the global statistical community, having served or currently serving as a member of the UN Secretary General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, Council Member of the International Statistical Institute, and Co-Chair of the Global Steering Committee of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics, among others.</p>

	<p>Prior to joining the Bank in 2014, Haishan was Director of the Statistics Division at UNESCAP, leading the strategic development of a number of regional statistics development programs in Asia and the Pacific. During her time as the Chief of Statistics of UNDP's Human Development Report, she led the transformation of the Report's statistical quality and credibility, and built an extensive network with national and international statistical agencies and other partners. She spent a number of years doing health policy-related research as a post-doctoral fellow at University of Pennsylvania and Senior Research Associate at the Guttmacher Institute in New York. Haishan holds a Ph.D. in Demography from Princeton University and a B.A. in Economics from Peking University.</p>
	<p>Ben Davis, Strategic Programme Leader, Rural Poverty Reduction (SP3), FAO</p> <p>Benjamin Davis is Leader of the Strategic Programme to Reduce Rural Poverty at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He has extensive experience in social protection, social policies and agricultural economics. He has previously served as Deputy Director of the Agricultural Development Economics Division at FAO and he was team leader of the From Production to Protection (PtoP) project. He has also worked as Social Policy Advisor for the UNICEF Regional Office in Eastern and Southern Africa and as a Research and Post-Doctoral Fellow at IFPRI. Benjamin holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics and a Master's in Public Policy from UC Berkeley.</p>
	<p>Ruth Meizen-Dick, Senior Fellow, IFPRI</p> <p>Ruth Meizen-Dick has over 25 years' experience in transdisciplinary research. One of her major research areas deals with how institutions and policies affect the way people manage natural resources, especially land and water. She also studies gender issues in agriculture, with a particular focus on gender differences in control over assets, and the impact of agricultural research on poverty. She is the author of over 150 peer-reviewed publications based on this research. In addition to leading numerous large research programs, she is Coordinator of the CGIAR program on Collective Action and Property Rights (CAPRI), and co-leader of IFPRI's research theme on Strengthening Institutions and Governance. Much of her research has been in South Asia and Africa south of the Sahara. A citizen of the United States, Meizen-Dick was raised in India. She received her PhD and MSc degrees in development sociology from Cornell University and her bachelor's degree in anthropology from Washington University.</p>
<p>Research Perspective</p>	
	<p>Sangeeta Bansal, Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. & ICWAE</p> <p>Sangeeta Bansal is a Professor of Economics at the Centre for International Trade and Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University since 2010. She visited the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley in 2013-2014 and in 2015. She has served as the Chairperson of the Centre for International Trade and Development from 2008-2010, and has been an associate professor at the University since 2004. She received her Masters in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics and her PhD in Economics from the Indian Statistical Institute. Her research interests are in environmental and agricultural policy, development economics, economics of technological change, information economics and micro-economic theory. She is an Associate Editor of the journal Resource and Energy Economics, has been Editorial Board member of the journal Environmental and Development Economics, recipient of the 2008 ICSSR-NWO research grant, 2004 European Summer School Grant, 2003 Grant for participating in the Environmental Economics and Policy Making at Goteborg University, Sweden. She has visited the economics department at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, Tilburg University, Netherlands, Goteborg University, Sweden, and the Indian Statistical Institute, India.</p>
	<p>Chris Barrett, Professor, Cornell University</p> <p>Chris Barrett is an agricultural and development economist at Cornell University. He is the Stephen B. and Janice G. Ashley Professor of Applied Economics and Management, and an International Professor of Agriculture at the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, as well as a Professor in the Department of Economics, a Professor in the Department of Global Development, and a Fellow of the David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future. He is co-editor-in-chief of the journal Food Policy, edits the Palgrave Macmillan book series Agricultural Economics and Food Policy, co-edits the Elsevier Handbook of Agricultural Economics, volumes 5 and 6, and previously was editor of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics. He is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, and the African Association of Agricultural Economists, and has won numerous university, national and international awards for teaching, research and policy outreach and public service. His more than 350 publications have been cited more than 40,000 times, placing him among the top five scholars globally in the agricultural economics, development economics, food security, poverty, and resource economics fields, according to Google Scholar. He has served as a principal investigator on more than \$43 million in extramural research grants from various corporate, foundation, government agency and nongovernmental organization sponsors. He has supervised more than 100 graduate students and post-docs, many of whom now serve on faculty and staff at leading universities and research institutes worldwide. He has held leadership roles at Cornell as the Deputy</p>

	<p>Dean and Dean of Academic Affairs of the SC Johnson College of Business, and as the David J. Nolan Director of the Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, and externally as President of the Association of Christian Economists, and Chair of the International Section of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. He serves on a variety of boards and panels, including on the Independent Science and Development Council of the CGIAR and the elected Executive Board of the International Association of Agricultural Economics currently. He previously served on faculty at Utah State University and has been a visiting scholar at Harvard, Melbourne, Monash, Notre Dame, and Stanford Universities. He and his wife are blessed with five adult children.</p>
	<p>Madhu Khanna, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign & AAEA President Elect & ICWAE.</p> <p>Madhu Khanna from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will be the incoming President-Elect for the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association's (AAEA). Khanna previously served on the Board of Directors for AAEA from 2016 to 2019. Madhu Khanna is the ACES Distinguished Professor of Environmental Economics in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics and Associate Director of the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment, at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is also the Theme Leader for the Sustainability Theme in the Center for Advanced Bioenergy and Bioproducts Innovation at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. Her research examines the incentives for adoption of efficiency-enhancing technologies, their potential for protecting the environment and the design and implications of alternative policies to induce adoption.</p>
	<p>Joanna Upton Cornell University</p> <p>Joanna Upton is a Research Associate in the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell. She focuses with her research and outreach on food security, food policy, and resilience in sub-Saharan Africa, and has a passion in particular for working on questions with policy-relevant applications. She works closely with a wide range of collaborators, including academics from diverse disciplines, CGIAR institutions, UN organizations, government agencies, think tanks, and non-profit organizations implementing programs in developing countries. Joanna also thrives on working with students and mentees, both in the classroom and in the field.</p>
	<p>Ruerd Ruben , Wageningen University</p> <p>Ruerd Ruben is professor and coordinator of the research programs on food security, value chains and impact assessment at Wageningen Economic Research, the Netherlands. His research concerns the prospects for smallholder participation in tropical food value chains, the effectiveness of rural cooperative organizations and the impact of fair trade certification in value chains. Ruerd is also Member Program Management Committee A4NH (CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health). Ruerd lived and worked for 14 years in Central America where he was engaged in programs of land reform, cooperative development and smallholder agriculture. He coordinated multidisciplinary research and training programs at Wageningen University on food security and sustainable land use in several sub-Saharan countries and was a visiting research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington, D.C. He was the director of the independent Policy and Operations Evaluation (IOB) department at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and professor in Development Effectiveness and Director of the Centre for International Development Issues (CIDIN) at Radboud University Nijmegen.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing Remark</p>
	<p>Justus Wesseler, Wageningen University and President Elect ICARB</p> <p>Justus Wesseler is Associate Professor at Wageningen University in the Environmental Economics and Natural Resources Group. He is also President elect of the International Consortium on Applied Bioeconomy Research (ICABR). His main field of research is undergoing uncertainty and using the real option approach applied to the impact assessment and cost-benefit analysis of the new agriculture technologies, natural resource management systems and rural development projects. He is Editor of AgBioForum, the leading journal in the field of management and economics of agriculture biotechnology.</p>