

Keynote Speakers, Chairs and Panellists' Biographies

**Plenary 1: Opening session
21 November, 9.30-10.30**

Facilitator	<p>Shadrack Moephuli CEO, Agricultural Research Council (ARC), South Africa, Symposium Chair</p> <p>Shadrack Moephuli has been President and Chief Executive Officer of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC), South Africa, since 2006. Prior to joining the ARC, Dr Moephuli was Director Genetic Resources in the Department of Agriculture of South Africa (1999-2003) and Chief Director Agricultural Production (2003-2006). He served as a board member on the CGIAR Genetic Resources Policy Committee and chaired the Executive Council of the Genetically Modified Organisms Act, 1997. He is currently serving as a board member of the National Advisory Council on Innovation (NACI) and the Academy of Science of South Africa Council. Dr. Moephuli was a lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa and obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Connecticut.</p>
Speaker	<p>José Graziano da Silva Director-General, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</p> <hr/> <p>Paul Winters Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Department, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</p> <hr/> <p>Inga Rhonda King President, UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)</p>

**Plenary 2: Setting the scene: The potential of agricultural innovation for family farmers in achieving the SDGs
21 November, 10.30-12.30**

Chair	<p>Mohammad Hossein Emadi Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to FAO and Chair of the FAO Committee on Agriculture</p> <p>His Excellency Ambassador Mohammad Hossein Emadi is the Permanent Representative of Islamic Republic of Iran to UN Agricultural and food Agencies in Rome. He obtained his PhD in "Systems Agriculture" from Australia in 1995. As Deputy Minister of Agriculture for eight years since 1996, he established new systems of national Agricultural Knowledge and Information System (SRI) and initiated private extension system in Iran in 2002 by introducing IPM, Organic farming, and FFS with active participation of NGOs, local communities and farmers. Since 2005, he started working with international communities in Afghanistan on post conflict situation as the Senior Policy Advisor to Minister of Rural Development and Minister of Agriculture until 2012.</p>
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**Keynote
Speakers**

Anil Gupta

Founder, Honey Bee Network, India

Professor Anil K Gupta is a visiting faculty, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; after retiring recently and at IIT Bombay. Dr Gupta is also the founder of Honey Bee Network. He founded the National Innovation Foundation, Nifindia.org, SRISTI.org and, GIAN.org; and is a CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow. He facilitated Festival of Innovation & Entrepreneurship (FINE) through NIFindia.org. He aims to expand the global as well as local space for innovations from and for grassroots and link ideas in informal and formal sectors. He holds a Ph.D. in Management.

Ruramiso Mashumba

Farmer and Founder, Mnandi Africa, Zimbabwe

Ruramiso Mashumba has 5 years experience farming in rural Zimbabwe on a farm she inherited from her parents. She had exported crops into the African Union and parts of Africa. Ms Mashumba holds a BA degree in Agriculture business Management. She is a Mandela Washington Fellow 2016, Echoing green fellow 2017 and recipient of multiple agriculture awards including the AGCO 2015 Award for influence and leading woman into mechanisation in Africa. She is currently the chairperson of the Zimbabwe Farmers Union youth and Vice President for the Southern African Confederation of Agriculture Unions youth. She founded Mnandi Africa in 2016 in order to support rural women farmers in her community.

Marco Gualtieri

Founder and Chairman, Seeds and Chips, Italy.

Marco Gualtieri is Founder and Chairman of *Seeds&Chips the Global Food Innovation Summit* – the world-renowned go to event on Food Innovation. Mr Gualtieri has revolutionized the vision and approach to food as well as becoming an internationally recognized expert in this field, speaking at conferences all over the world and as a board member of some advisory boards and Think Tanks that focus on the future of food and sustainability. He founded (1996) TicketOne, the first and leading e-commerce ticketing platform in Italy as well as co-founded Netcomm, Italy's largest e-commerce association. Since 2004 he is also on the board of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights.

Jaana-Hussu-Kallio

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland

Since February 2012, Jaana Husu-Kallio has been the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland. Previously Dr Hussu-Kallio has been Director-General of the Finnish Food Safety Authority (from 2006) and Deputy-Director General of DG Health and Consumer Protection of the European Commission (from 2002). Before she joined the European Commission she worked in the Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry as a Chief Veterinary Officer and as the Director-General of the Department of Food and Health. Dr. Husu-Kallio represented Finland as a member of EFSA's Advisory Forum (2006 - 2012). She has been a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry since 2004, the Vice Chairman of the Management Board of the University of Helsinki since 2010 and a member of EFSA's Management Board since 2012. She attained a PhD in veterinary



microbiology, a specialisation degree in infectious animal diseases and a Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Helsinki.

Yeming Wang

General Manager EMEA, Alibaba Cloud, China

Yeming Wang is General Manager of Alibaba Cloud EMEA, the cloud computing arm of Alibaba Group. Joining Alibaba Cloud in Aug 2016, he takes on oversight of Alibaba Cloud Global business and has been leading the teams in Europe and Middle East. Alibaba Cloud is among the world's top 3 IaaS providers according to Gartner, and the largest provider of public cloud services in China, according to IDC. Mr Wang has nearly two decades of experience in the Internet and IT industries. Prior to joining Alibaba, He took various senior management positions at Huawei, including President of Hutchison Global Key Account, CEO of Huawei France, Deputy General Manager of Huawei Italy. Mr Wang holds a master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Nanjing University of Aeronautics & Astronautics in China.

Segment I: Sustaining and catalysing innovation

Keynote address 1 21 November, 14.00-14.15

**Keynote
speaker**

Iris Bouwers

Farmer and Vice-President, European Council of Young Farmers, The Netherlands

Iris Bouwers is a young farmer from the Netherlands, actively family farming in a partnership, in the north-eastern part of the country. Ms Bouwers is passionate about the dispersed crops the farm is growing, such as valerian and gluten-free oats. Currently, she is the vice president of the European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA). Over the past years, Ms Bouwers has been actively involved in both national and EU agricultural policy and politics as the international representative of NAJK, the Dutch Young Farmers' Organisation. Furthermore, she has been involved in local politics as an elected councilor. In 2018, Ms. Bouwers was elected 26th of the most sustainable people of The Netherlands and is chosen, with honors, to be part of the Food100, the most influential game-changers in food in The Netherlands.

Parallel 1: Putting family farmers at the centre

21 November, 14.15-17.00

Chair

Fernando López

Gestión, Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del Mercosur Ampliado (COPROFAM), Uruguay

Fernando López is a small Family Farmer in Cuchilla de Sierra Canelones Uruguay. Since 1995, Mr López has been a member of the Executive Board of the National Commission for Rural Development (CNFR). He was President between 1999 and 2007 and is currently Secretary Delegate of CNFR in Commission Users National Seed Institute (INASE) Uruguay. In addition, he is a Member of the CAR National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA Las Brujas)



Uruguay and Secretary of Management of COPROFAM. Mr López is a delegate of CNFR in the Mercosur Family Agriculture Specialized Meeting (REAF), vice President FORAGRO (Regional Research Forum of the Americas) on behalf of farmers and a Member of S. GFAR from its restructuring sector Farmers Organizations.

Panel 1: The key role of family farmers

Panelist

Ann Waters-Bayer

Senior Associate, Prolinnova International, Germany

Ann Waters-Bayer is a Canadian-Dutch agricultural sociologist who is a senior advisor to the international Prolinnova network, promoting local innovation and farmer-led participatory research. From 1989–2014 Dr Waters-Bayer worked with ETC Foundation. She held the CSO seat in the CGIAR Executive Council (2000–02) and EFARD (European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development) Management Team. She was a member of the Strategic Leadership Group of the CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems. She is a member and past president of the Agrecol Association for Agriculture & Ecology. She is also a member of the Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism Core Group, the YPARD Advisory Committee, the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists International Support Group, the UNEP gap analysis on rangeland and pastoralism Advisory Group, and the High-Level Advisory Group for European Commission's Development-Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture initiative.

Daniel Gad

Owner and General Manager, Omega Farms, Ethiopia

Daniel Gad is the owner and general manager of Omega Farms Plc. a leading vegetable production farm in Ethiopia. Omega Farms is engaged in the production and sales of pre-packed exotic high-value vegetables to the EU & UK markets. Omega Farms produces and distributes Sugar Snaps, Mange Tout and Baby Corn on a weekly basis during the season (from early October to end of May). Mr Gad is also an active advocate for smallholder farmers and agriculture investment in Africa. Additionally, he is a management consultant in the field of agribusiness development projects and strategy advice for agriculture transformation projects.

Roberto Moncalvo

Former President, Confederazione Nazionale Coldiretti, Italy.

Roberto Moncalvo is the former President of Coldiretti's Piedmont Regional Federation. Since September 2015, he is the Vice President of the Committee of Professional Agricultural Organisations (COPA). He also chairs the foundations "Campagna Amica" and the "Observatory on crime within agriculture and the agro-food system." He is the owner of a farm located in Settimo Torinese (Piedmont region). He holds a master degree in Automotive Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Turin.

Fatma Ben Rejeb

Chief Executive Officer, Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO)



Fatma Ben Rejeb has evolved for more than 20 years through several positions in national, regional and currently continental farmers organizations. Ms Ben Rejeb is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Pan-African Farmers' Organization (PAFO). Previously, she was the General Secretary (CEO) of the Maghreb and North African Farmers' Union (UMNAGRI). She was also in charge with International Cooperation and Partnership at the Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries (UTAP) where she also held the post of the Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs. Fatma received a Diploma of Advanced Studies in Political Science at the University of Law and Political Sciences of Tunis, a Masters in Juridical Sciences and a Certificate of Specialized Studies in Political and International Studies at the University of Legal, Political and Social Sciences of Tunis.

Panel 2: The critical role of the enabling environment

Panelist

Donal Brown

Associate Vice-President of the Programme Management Department, The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Donal Brown joined IFAD as Associate Vice-President of the Programme Management Department in June this year. Dr Brown is responsible for developing and managing the operations that the Fund supports through its loans and grants. In addition, he oversees the Programme of work of the department, which is undertaken by five regional divisions and the Operational Policy and Results Division. He previously worked at the United Kingdom's Department for International Development in a number of senior positions both at Headquarters and across Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. In 2014-2015, he led UK's Ebola Task Force in Sierra Leone and was awarded Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. He holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Leadership and Management from the University of Warwick and an Honorary Doctorate in Social Justice from the University of Winchester.

Fan-Li Chou

Biotechnology Coordinator, The United States Department of Agriculture

Fan-Li Chou serves as the Biotechnology Coordinator for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Dr Chou provides leadership, coordination, and strategic planning of USDA's biotechnology policy. She is a key contact point for biotechnology policy with industry, non-governmental organizations, other Federal and State government agencies, farmers, and other stakeholders. Dr Chou has over ten years of experiences at the USDA, including positions with the Foreign Agricultural Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. She has represented the USDA at various bilateral and multilateral negotiations, including for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. She is an American Association for the Advancement of Science Diplomacy Fellow (2005-2006).

Laura Lorenzo

Deputy Director, World Rural Forum



	<p>Laura Lorenzo has been the Deputy Director of the World Rural Forum (WRF) since 2017. Ms Lorenzo joined WRF in 2003 as Lobby and international Relations Desk Coordinator and has since taken on different roles in the WRF always dealing with family farming matters, especially the promotion of public policies. She was dealing with the Campaign for the Declaration of the International Year of Family Farming (2014) and, after its very positive results, in the Campaign for the UN Declaration of the Decade of Family Farming. Now she is working in the preparation of the Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028). She studied agronomic engineering at the University of Navarra.</p>
<p>Panelist</p>	<p>Alessandra Gentile Vice President, Agricultural Research and Economical Analysis Council (CREA), Italy.</p> <p>Alessandra Gentile is currently a Professor of Fruitculture at the University of Catania. Dr Gentile is also a Member of the Management Board, Council for Agricultural Research and Economics and a Delegate of the Rector for Research at Catania University. Beforehand, she was Deputy Commissioner of Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Rome, Italy (2015-2016), Vice Rector of Catania University (2013 - 2016), "Shennong Scholar" Chair professor of Hunan Agricultural University Changsha, China (2018-2023) and Director of Department of Horticulture and Food Technology of Catania University (2009-2010). Dr Gentile holds a Ph.D. in "Productivity of cultivated plants" with a thesis on "Biotechnological approaches on genetic improvement of lemon for tolerance to mal secco" (1992).</p>

**Parallel 2: Strengthening research, education and bridging institutions to accelerate innovation
21 November, 14.15-17.00**

<p>Chair</p>	<p>Margaret Gill Chair CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council</p> <p>Margaret Gill is a Professor at the University of Aberdeen but is also seconded to FAO to act as Chair of the Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC) of the CGIAR. Dr Gill was formerly Chief Scientific Advisor for Environment and Rural Affairs for the Scottish Government (2006-2011) and worked at the Department for International Development of the UK Government as a part-time Senior Research Fellow (2009-2016). She was CEO and Director Research of the Macaulay Land Use Research Institute (2000-2006) and CEO of NR International a company spun out of DFID's Natural Resources Institute (1996-2000), where she had been Director of Research. Dr Gill holds a PhD from Massey University, New Zealand.</p>
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Panel 1: Addressing research priorities: Transforming research and education for farmer-centred innovation

<p>Panelist</p>	<p>Nienke Beintema Head, Agricultural Science & Technology Indicators (ASTI) initiative, International Food Policy Research Institute, The Netherlands.</p> <p>Nienke Beintema is head of Agricultural Science & Technology Indicators (ASTI) and has more than 20 years of experience in collecting and analyzing financial and human resource data of and examining institutional developments in agricultural research in low- and middle-income</p>
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countries. Ms Beintema has written numerous reports papers and briefs on regional and global developments in agricultural research and co-edited a book on African agricultural research in 2016. She has also participated in many high-level debates related to agricultural research and agricultural development in general. Before joining IFPRI in 1995 as a research analyst, she worked at ISNAR in The Hague. She received a master's degree in economics from the University of Groningen.

Huang Guixiu

Director, Division of International Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences

Huang Guixiu is a professor in plant-microbe interaction of Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences (CATAS) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the P R. China and he is the Director of International Cooperation Division of CATAS. He is also a supervisor for master and PhD students. Dr. Huang has professional knowledge on plant-microbe interaction and rich experience in Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation System through talent training and international cooperation on tropical agriculture.

Viviana Palmieri

Executive Secretary, Forum for the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO)

Viviana Palmieri is a Specialist in Technological Innovation at the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). Dr Palmieri is currently in charge of coordinating Innovation and Technology as a cross-cutting theme in IICA's technical cooperation programs. IICA's mission is to encourage, promote and support its 34 Member States in their efforts to achieve agricultural development and rural well-being through the international technical cooperation of excellence. She is also the Executive Secretary of the Forum for the Americas on Agricultural Research and Technology Development (FORAGRO). Established in 1997, FORAGRO is the hemispheric mechanism for discussion and promotion of agreements on topics related to research and innovation that impact the agricultural sector in the Americas.

Panelist

Mark Holderness

Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)

Mark Holderness is the Executive Secretary of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation. Dr Holderness began his career working as cocoa pathologist to the Cocoa Board of Papua New Guinea. He was then employed by the intergovernmental technical organization CAB International, managing a wide range of programmes using science to address constraints to agricultural development. He then served as Director of Agriculture and Director of Partnerships for CAB International. As GFAR Executive Secretary, he has overseen three cycles of the Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development, in partnership with the CGIAR, through which thousands of stakeholder inputs established and are putting into practice the GCARD Roadmap for Transforming and Strengthening Agricultural Research for Development.



Panel 2: Strengthening and reforming bridging institutions to accelerate innovation

Panelist

Rasheed Sulaiman V

Chair, Steering Committee of the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS)

Rasheed Sulaiman has 25 years research experience in the area of Agricultural Extension and application of Innovation Systems Framework in Agriculture. Previously Dr Sulaiman worked as Senior Scientist with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) at the ICAR- National Institute for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research at New Delhi. He is currently the Chair of the Steering Committee of GFRAS (Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services) and he coordinates the AESA (Agricultural Extension in South Asia) Network. Dr Sulaiman holds a doctorate degree in Agricultural Extension.

Bernhard Kowatsch

Head, Innovation Accelerator, World Food Programme (WFP)

Bernhard Kowatsch is Head of the Innovation Accelerator at the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). The WFP Innovation Accelerator identifies, nurtures and scales disruptive startups and entrepreneurs that accelerate progress towards zero hunger. Innovations include fintech (e.g. blockchain), agri-tech, UAVs, mobile technology and Artificial Intelligence and working with the private sector. The Accelerator received an award as '10 Most Innovative Companies 2017- Food' by FastCompany. Previously, Mr Kowatsch co-founded the award-winning ShareTheMeal app (SXSW Interactive innovation award 2016, MWC Glomo award, etc.), built up WFP's Business Innovation (internal management consulting) team and worked as Project Leader at the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) for global tech and industrial goods companies.

Cécile Bibiane Ndjebet

Founder & President African Women's Network for Community Management of Forests (REFACOF), Cameroon

Cécile Ndjebet is an Agronomist, a Social Forester, a Gender specialist and a Women Leadership trainer and adviser. Ms Ndjebet is one of the CSO REDD&CC platform leaders in Cameroon and a member of The UN Women Major Group. She is an advocate for women's tenure rights within global women networks such as Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA), Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO), Women's Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural resources management (WOCAN) and Global Women Tenure Network (GWTN). Ms Ndjebet holds an M.Sc. degree in Social forestry from Wageningen Agricultural University in The Netherlands.

Wang Qingyin

President, China Society of Fisheries (CSF)

Wang Qingyin is the President of China Society of Fisheries as well as a senior researcher and former Director General of the Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences. Dr Wang works on maricultural technologies and genetics and breeding of maricultural organisms since the early 1980s'. He has published peer-reviewed articles and books as chief editor on mariculture and breeding relevant themes. His research achievement



“The breeding of ‘Huanghai No. 1’ new variety of shrimp *Fenneropenaeus chinensis* and healthy farming technology” was awarded as the second class prize of National Science & Technology Invention Award of China in 2007.

**Plenary 3: Reporting from parallel sessions 1 & 2
21 November, 17.00-18.00**

Chair	<p>Hassan Abouyoub Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to FAO</p> <p>His Excellency, Ambassador Hassan Abouyoub, is the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to FAO. In 2011 he was appointed Ambassador of Morocco to San Marino, Malta and Albania. In 1999 he was appointed Ambassador of Morocco to France. In February 2010 he was appointed Ambassador of Morocco and Permanent Representative of Morocco to FAO, IFAD and WFP. From 1995 to 1997 he was Minister of Agriculture and negotiated with the European Union an agreement that established free trade between the EU and Morocco in the fishing sector. In 1993 he became a member of the Moroccan parliament, while in 1994 he was the ambassador of Morocco to Saudi Arabia. Between 1990 and 1993 he was Minister of Foreign Trade, Foreign Investment and Tourism.</p>
Chair, Parallel Session 1	<p>Fernando López Gestión, Confederación de Organizaciones de Productores Familiares del Mercosur Ampliado (Coprofam), Uruguay</p>
Chair, Parallel Session 2	<p>Margaret Gill Chair CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council</p>

Segment II: Empowerment for innovation

**Keynote address 2
22 November, 9.30-9.45**

Keynote speaker	<p>Claudia Sadoff Director General, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka</p> <p>Claudia Sadoff is the Director General of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) headquartered in Sri Lanka. Prior to joining IWMI, Dr Sadoff held multiple positions at the World Bank including Global Lead for Water Security and Integrated Resource Management, Leader of the South Asia Water Initiative and the global Water Resources Team, and coordinator of the World Bank Nile Team. She also served as a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Oxford University, Chair of the GWP/OECD Task Force on Water Security and Sustainable Growth, Economic Advisor to IUCN, Member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Water Security, Member of the Global Water Partnership Technical Committee and Fulbright scholar at the Thailand Development Research Institute. She holds a PhD in Economics.</p>
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Parallel 3: Building effective agriculture innovation systems and empowering its actors

22 November, 9.45-12.30

Chair	Frédéric Seppey Assistant Deputy Minister, Market and Industry Services Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
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Frédéric Seppey is Assistant Deputy Minister of the Market and Industry Services Branch and Canada's Chief Agriculture Negotiator at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). Mr Seppey's responsibilities include trade negotiations, agriculture and agri-food sectoral competitiveness, and the regional department operations. Prior to his current assignment, he held several management positions with AAFC and at the Canadian section of the Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council. During his 25-year career in the Public Service, Mr. Seppey also worked at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, as well as the Privy Council Office, the Department of Finance and the Treasury Board Secretariat.

Panel 1: Building effective agriculture innovation systems

Panelist	Senzeni Zokwana Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa
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H.E Senzeni Zokwana has been the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of South Africa since 2016. Mr Zokwana is also chairperson of the South African Communist Party and a Member of Parliament. He previously served as the president of the National Union of Mineworkers and was very involved in trade union activism during the apartheid-era. In 2005 he was elected vice-President of the International Chemical, Energy and Mine Workers' Federation, of which he was re-elected in 2011. He was also elected vice president of the industrial Global Union in 2012.

Philippe Petithuguenin Deputy Director General, Research and Strategy, French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD), France

A farming system agronomist, Philippe Petithuguenin is the Deputy Director General for Research and Strategy at CIRAD, in charge of European and international affairs. Mr Petithuguenin is also Director of the joint INRA and CIRAD support Unit for international affairs as well as vice-chair of the SCAR Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Research on global Challenges (SCAR-ARCH). He was previously Executive Secretary of the European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD) at the European Commission (2009-2012). He was also regional the director for INRA and CIRAD in Brazil (2004-2009). Mr Petithuguenin has also conducted research on farming systems based on cocoa and coffee and the cocoa sector, mainly in Africa and Latin America (1984-2003).

C Partha Sarathi Principal Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Telangana, India
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C Partha Sarathi is Agriculture Production Commissioner and Principal Secretary to the Government of Telangana Secretariat, Vice Chancellor Sri Konda Lakshman Telangana State



Horticultural University and Director of NABARD. Previously Mr Chitla has worked in various capacities in the State Government including Project Director (DRDA, Adilabad; A.P. State AIDS Control Society Hyderabad), Joint Collector (Anantapur; Warangal), Managing Director (MARKFED, Hyderabad), as well as Commissioner of Information and Public Relations, Disaster Management and Civil Supplies. He also Served as Vice-Chancellor of Telangana University, Nizamabad from (2014-12016). Mr Chitla holds a Masters degree in Agronomy with distinction from Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.

Irene Annor-Frempong

Director for Research and Innovation, The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)

Irene Annor-Frempong is the Director for Research and Innovation at The Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). Dr Annor-Frempong is an Animal Scientist and has over 25 years of rich experience as a research scientist, manager and educationist, working in research institutes and Universities in Switzerland, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Ghana, Nigeria and Lesotho. A *Thought Leader* in Agriculture Research for Development in Africa, she currently leads the strategic orientation of FARA including the operationalization of the continental framework on the 'Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa' (S3A) in African countries. A Ghanaian by birth, Dr Annor-Frempong holds a PhD from the Veterinary School, University of Bristol.

Panel 2: Strengthening capacities to innovate

Panelist

Silim Nahdy

Executive Director, African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS)

Silim Nahdy is currently the Executive Director, African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS). Dr Nahdy was inaugural Chairperson of AFAAS (2006-2010). He served as Chairperson of the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS) until 2011 and is currently Steering Committee member. Previously he was Executive Director of the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) in Uganda and served as Council member of National Agricultural Research Organisation (2001-2010). Dr Nahdy graduated with a PhD in Agriculture in 1995 at the University of Reading, UK.

Øyvind Fylling-Jensen

CEO, Norwegian Institute of Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture Research (NOFIMA)

Øyvind Fylling-Jensen is the CEO of Nofima AS, The Norwegian Institute of Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture Research. Dr Fylling-Jensen holds a degree in veterinary medicine from the Justus-Liebig-University, Giessen, Germany (1981) and a PhD in veterinary pathology from the University of Giessen and the Norwegian School of Veterinary Medicine (1985). He has received management training from IMD, Harvard Business School, the Norwegian School of Economics-NHH, Norwegian School of Management-BI and INSEAD. Dr Fylling-Jensen has a broad industrial background in research management, biotechnology, diagnostics, pharmacology, and aquaculture. He serves as a member of the executive board of the Research Council of Norway since 2011.



Myra Wopereis-Pura

Project Coordinator, Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS)

Myra Wopereis-Pura is the overall coordinator of Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems (CDAIS), an EU-funded project that aims to build the capacities to innovate in agriculture. Ms Wopereis-Pura is an agricultural innovation expert with more than twenty-five years of work experience in Asia, Africa and Europe. She is recognized for her skills in mobilizing resources to build and/or strengthen institutions providing services to the agricultural sector. She has a strong profile and network across the African continent as one of the pioneers of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). She held leadership and management positions with Agrinatura, ICRA, AfricaRice and FARA.

Stephanie Barrial

Knowledge Management Coordinator, World Rural Forum

Since April 2015, Stephanie Barrial has been working within the WRF Secretariat as knowledge management coordinator with the aim to advocate for public policies supporting family farming. Ms Barrial’s functions are sharing and generating knowledge and advocating for demand-driven participatory research. For five years, she worked within the international NGO and Trade Union Federation in Geneva and Brussels, managing projects on social and political issues. She has a background in Political Science and Sustainable Development studies. She comes from a family of farmers of a small village in the north of Spain.

Parallel 4: Reaching millions of family farmers: Scaling up successful innovation

22 November, 9.45-12.30

Chair

Bernard Rey

Minister Counsellor, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa

Bernard Rey, since September 2018, serves as the Head of Cooperation of the EU in South Africa. Previously Dr Rey has served in the Delegations of the EU in Nigeria, Kenya, and Madagascar, in charge of the EU Rural Development and Agriculture portfolios in these countries. He was Head of Development Cooperation in Kenya between 2009 and 2012 until he was appointed in the leadership of the food security and agriculture policy department of the European Commission DG International Cooperation and Development (Brussels). Prior to working for the EU, he worked for International Agricultural Research Institutions Mexico, the Netherlands and Ethiopia. He is a doctor in Veterinary medicine by training and holds a Masters of Science in Development Economics.

Panel 1: Replicating and scaling up successful innovation

Panelist

Robin Buruchara

Director, Pan Africa Bean Research Alliance, International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Kenya

Robin Buruchara is the Director of the Pan Africa Bean Research Alliance (PABRA) which is facilitated by the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). Trained as a plant



pathologist, Dr Buruchara has worked with CIAT for over 25 years in various disciplines and capacities including facilitating collaborative research through a wide range of institutional partnerships and strengthening. For nearly ten years, he served as the Regional Director for CIAT in Africa. His professional interest, contributions and experiences, have largely focused on supporting R&D partnerships whose efforts are meant to ultimately enable smallholder farmers to exploit opportunities offered by the bean value chain to achieve food and nutrition security, and income impact outcomes.

Pamella Thomas

Executive Director, Agriculture Alliance for the Caribbean (AACARI)

President, Team Fresh Produce Cooperative Society Limited, Antigua & Barbuda

Pamella Thomas is the Executive Director of The Agriculture Alliance of the Caribbean Inc. AACARI. Ms Thomas represented Caribbean Farmers at the Third International SIDS Conference (2014) under the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) Civil Society Major Groups Umbrella. She has continued to represent and to advocate for and on behalf of Caribbean Farmers. She is also a third generation farmer who owns a small family farm in Antigua and Barbuda. The farm, being family owned, continues to provide the people of her county with fresh, nutritious vegetable.

Leonel Osorio Quiñonez

President, Cooperativa Agrícola Integral Atescatel, Guatemala

Leonel Osorio Quiñonez is a family farmer, whom after completing his high school education approved 24 courses of the Agronomy program at the Rafael Landívar University. Mr Osorio Quiñonez has participated in various trainings on agricultural related issues and has been associated for 21 years to the Cooperativa Agrícola Integral Atescatel, of which he is the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Legal Representative. The Cooperative is dedicated to the production of beans, corn and coffee.

Iftikhar Mostafa

Senior Agriculture Economist, Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)

Coordination Unit, The World Bank

Iftikhar Mostafa is a Senior Agriculture Economist in the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) Coordination Unit housed at the World Bank. Prior to his current position, Dr Mostafa was Governance Advisor in the CGIAR Fund Office at the World Bank. He has held senior positions in the Islamic Development Bank and the Australian Government Department of Finance. He was Executive Manager of Corporate Strategy, Grains Research and Development Corporation in Australia, and served as Co-Chair of the Sustainable Food System working group of the United Nations Zero Hunger Challenge. As Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance, Dr. Mostafa also taught in the School of Business at Saint Bonaventure University, New York. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University.

Panel 2: Bridging the knowledge gap: Learning from others

Panelist **David Hughes**



Panelist

Associate Professor, Pennsylvania State University, United States of America and visiting scientist, FAO Plant Production and Protection Division

David Hughes is a disease biologist at the Department of Entomology and Biology at Penn State University and during 2018-2019 a UN Fellow at FAO in the Plant Protection and Production Division. In 2012 Dr Hughes co-founded PlantVillage, a global platform of open access content that has reached over 8 million users. In 2015 he began the development of an Artificially Intelligent assistant, *Nuru*, in collaboration with Google, computer scientists at Penn State/Notre Dame and with disease experts at CGIAR. His goal in joining FAO is to determine ways PlantVillage can support the mission of FAO and country level partners. Dr Hughes holds a PhD in Entomology from Oxford University.

Dannie Romney

Global Director, Development Communication and Extension, Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI)

Dannie Romney is currently Global Director for Development, Communication and Extension, one of CABI's four themes that supports activities designed to get research into use in Africa, South and South East Asia as well as in Latin America. Work under this theme addresses plant health systems, seed systems, integrated crop management and knowledge sharing and integrates innovation systems principles. Dr Romney has lived in Africa for 19 years and worked with smallholder farming systems in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Before joining CABI in 2007 she worked at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), looking at nutrient recycling and feed resources with a focus on smallholder intensive dairy mixed crop-livestock systems. She was also the Acting Director for the ILRI Innovation Systems theme.

Severine von Tscharner Fleming

Founding Board Secretary, Farm Hack and National Young Farmers Coalition, United States of America

Severine von Tscharner Fleming is an organic blueberry farmer, young farmers advocate, publisher and organizer. Ms von Tscharner Fleming has served as director of the grassroots young farmers organization Greenhorns since 2008. She also serves on the board of Schumacher Center for New Economics and the advisory board of Savanna Institute. She was a co-founder of Farm Hack, an open-source online platform and an ongoing series of community events where farmers share designs for farm-tools. In 2010 she co-founded the organization National Young Farmers Coalition and since 2013 has served as a founding board president of Agrarian Trust. Ms von Tscharner Fleming holds a B.S. in Conservation/AgroEcology from the University of California.

Andre Laperriere

Executive Director, Global Open Data Initiative for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN)

André Laperrière joined the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) initiative as its first Executive Director, in September 2015. Mr. Laperriere has led/managed numerous projects on behalf of large Private Corporations and subsequently, within the United Nations and the World Bank. Before joining GODAN, he was Deputy Chief Executive Officer at the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in Washington DC and the first Executive Director of the



Trust Fund for Victims at the International Criminal Court (ICC). He was additionally Director of the Administration and Finance Division in the World Health Organization (WHO), and Coordinator for reconstruction and rehabilitation activities under the responsibility of UNICEF in Iraq. Prior to his career in the UN, Mr. Laperrière was Director in the International Services of Price Waterhouse. He completed postgraduate studies in Administration and Industrial Relations.

Segment III: Unlocking the potential of innovation

Keynote address 3 22 November, 14.00-14.15

Keynote speaker **R S Sodhi**
Managing Director, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited (AMUL), India

R.S. Sodhi is Managing Director of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, Ltd., (AMUL), India’s largest Food Products organization, which works on technological, marketing and supply-chain innovations. He previously headed the Marketing and Sales function of AMUL and led successful digital marketing and social media marketing innovations in Indian dairy industry to ensure that younger generation of India enhances consumption of milk and dairy products. Dr Sodhi obtained his B.E. (Ag) degree from CTAE, Udaipur, India and then joined Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA).

**Parallel 5: Driving successful innovation through effective decision-making and innovative partnerships
22 November, 14.15-17.00**

Chair **Carla Montesi**
**Director of Planet and Prosperity, European Commission Directorate-General of
International Cooperation and Development**

Carla Montesi is currently Director at the European Commission’s Directorate General for Development and Cooperation, responsible for the Directorate “Planet and Prosperity” since September 2018. Before she was Director for Western and Central Africa (2014-2018). She was also Director at the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Formerly a lawyer in Italy specialised in European affairs at the College of Europe in Bruges, Ms Montesi's worked in the field of EU external policy for development and cooperation both at Headquarters and in EU Delegations in Africa. She also worked in the private office of EU Commissioner Emma Bonino for External Policy and Humanitarian Affairs.

Panel 1: Driving successful innovation through effective decision-making

Panelist **Roberto Rodrigues**
Coordinator, Agribusiness Studies Centre, Getulio Vargas Foundation, Brazil

Roberto Rodrigues is an agronomist and farmer, coordinator of the Agribusiness Center at FGV, FAO Special Ambassador for Cooperatives. Dr Rodrigues is also a member of countless business, institutional and academic boards. He has also served as Secretary of Agriculture of



the State of São Paulo (1993/1994) and Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (2003-2006).

Caleb Harper

Director, Open Agriculture (OpenAG), MIT Media Lab, United States of America

Caleb Harper is a Principal Research Scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Director of the Open Agriculture (OpenAg) Initiative at the MIT Media Lab. Dr Harper leads a diverse team of hardware and software engineers, plant scientists, dieticians and educators in the exploration and development of future food systems. His lab is developing an open-source agricultural hardware, software and data common with the goal of creating a more distributed, transparent and collaborative food system.

Eve Luvumu Namutebi

Principal Agricultural Extension Coordinator, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, Uganda

Eve Luvumu is Principal Agricultural Extension Coordinator at Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of Uganda, coordinating agricultural extension services in all the Districts. Previously Ms Luvumu was Senior Animal Nutritionist at the Ministry as well as NAADS coordinator in the District of Masaka and Livestock Improvement Officer in the District of Mukono . She is experienced in agricultural Extension service delivery and animal production. She obtained a Masters of Science Degree in Agriculture from Makerere University.

Agung Hendriadi

Director General/ Head of Agency for Food Security, Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia

Agung Hendriadi is the Director General of Agency for Food Security, at the Ministry of Agriculture of Indonesia. Previously, within the same Ministry, Dr Hendriadi was Chief of Bureau for Public Relation and Information in the Secretariat General’s office. He has also worked for the Indonesia Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (IAARD) within the Ministry as Deputy Director of Programme and Evaluation, Head of the Institute for Agricultural Technology Transfer, Director for the Indonesian Center for Agricultural Technology Assesment and Development (ICATAD), and Executive Secretary. Dr Hendriadi holds a Phd in Agricultural System Engineering from the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok.

Panel 2: Building on innovative partnerships

Panelist

**Angelo Riccaboni
Chair, Fundación PRIMA**

Angelo Riccaboni, Past Rector of University of Siena, is Professor of “Management Control Systems” at the Richard Goodwin School of Economics and Management (University of Siena). Dr Riccaboni is a member of the Leadership Council of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Chair of the Regional Centre of the SDSN for the Mediterranean since 2012. Since 2017 he is Chair of PRIMA Foundation, an agency located in



Barcelona in charge to implement a 10-year research and innovation programme on food systems and water resources, with a budget of 500 million euros funded by the European Commission and 19 Euro-Mediterranean Countries. He chaired the General Assembly of the PRIMA Consortium, made up of representatives of Euro-Mediterranean governments, in charge to prepare the PRIMA Programme (2013-2017).

Judith Francis

Chair, the Tropical Agricultural Platform (TAP) Steering Committee.

Judith Ann Francis is Senior Programme Coordinator Science and Technology Policy, CTA. Ms Francis has focused on strengthening north-south and south-south collaboration on science, technology and Innovation and building capacity on agricultural innovation systems for transformational change in support of agricultural and rural development. Prior to this she worked with the Inter-American Institute on Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) managing a 15 country project in support of research, innovation and tropical fruit industry expansion in the Caribbean. She is also Chair of the Tropical Agricultural Platform, Executive Secretary of the European Forum on Agricultural Research for Development and a member of the International Advisory Panel of both RUFORUM and the BecA-ILRI Hub. Presently Ms Francis manages a CTA-IFAD co-funded 7-country project 'Promoting Nutritious Food Systems in the Pacific Island States'.

Francisco Reifschneider

Senior Researcher, Embrapa; Coordinator, Agricultural Innovation MKTPlace, Brasil.

Francisco J. B. Reifschneider is a Senior Researcher at Embrapa (Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation) and former Advisor to the President. Dr Reifschneider has technical and scientific expertise focused on Plant Pathology and Plant Breeding, including the development of disease resistant vegetable cultivars and hybrids. He was previously Technical Director and Director General of the National Research Center for Vegetable Crops in Brasilia; Agricultural Officer at the Investment Center, FAO, in Rome (1991-1995); Director of the Secretariat for International Cooperation at Embrapa (1996-2000), and Director (CEO) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, World Bank, (2001-2007). Dr Reifschneider holds a PhD in Plant Pathology from the University of Wisconsin.

Nguyen Do Anh Tuan

Director General, Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam

Nguyen Do Anh Tuan is the Director General of Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD), an agricultural sectoral policy and strategy think tank of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) of Viet Nam. Dr Tuan has more than 20 years of experience in research, consultant, and teaching in agricultural policy. He is also the author and co-author of various books and papers, including the 'Viet Nam 2035' and 'Viet Nam Development Report 2016'; 'The Fourth Industrial Revolution and the Socio - Economic Development of Viet Nam', which cover the topics of innovation and application of high technology in agricultural production and agribusiness management. Dr. Tuan got his Ph.D. in Development Studies at the Institute of Social Sciences (The Hague, Netherlands).



Parallel 6: Increasing access to markets and engaging the private sector to accelerate innovation

22 November, 14.15-17.00

Chair	<p>María Cristina Boldorini Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Argentina to FAO</p> <p>H.E María Cristina Boldorini is the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Argentina to FAO. Previously Ms Boldorini was the Minister responsible for MERCOSUR and the secretary of International Economic Relations at Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Argentina.</p>
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Panel 1: Increasing access to markets and targeted strategic investments

Panelist	<p>Jyoti Macwan General Secretary, Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), India</p> <p>Jyoti Macwan is currently the General Secretary of SEWA. Ms Macwan coordinates the work of SEWA in 17 States in India and for about 1.9 million poor women workers to ensure full employment and Self Reliance for them. She also represents SEWA as the Vice President in the Executive Committee of International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Worker's Association and International Trade Union Confederation. Ms Macwan, herself a former tobacco worker, completed her graduation in commerce and was organized at SEWA in the year 1986. She is a member of the Board of Director of SEWA Bank, Director on the Board of SEWA Trade Facilitation Centre, a member of the Grassroots Trading Network for Women implementing Green Livelihood Activities and a Board member of the Women's World Summit Foundation of Geneva.</p>
	<p>Marco Alberti Head of International Institutional Affairs, Ente nazionale per l'energia elettrica (Enel), Italy</p> <p>Marco Alberti started working for Enel spa in 2012, the largest world's utility in terms of green electricity generation and customer network. Mr Alberti coordinates the international institutional affairs, supports the business development of the Group, implements a variety of cross-sector partnerships with private and public entities, mainly focusing on energy transition and new related business, sustainability and climate change policy, the geopolitics of energy and State-to-city diplomacy. Beforehand, Mr Alberti worked for the Foreign Service and served as a career diplomat in Argentina, working as chief of staff of the Ambassador, and as Consul of Italy in New York. He also worked for the Communication and External Relations Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr Alberti Graduated <i>cum laude</i> in International law from Bologna University.</p>
	<p>Margaret Nakato Executive Director, World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF)</p> <p>Margaret Nakato is the Executive Director of the World Forum of Fish Harvesters & Fish workers (WFF) an international network of small-scale fisher organizations. Ms Nakato is also the Coordinator and founder of Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT), a women organization in the fisher communities north of Lake Victoria in Uganda. For 22 years, she has</p>



successfully mobilized women to work together, empowering them with knowledge and skills that centrally place women as drivers of transformative initiatives with a multiplier effect on the wider community. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Development Studies; specializing in Community Development from the University of South Africa.

Patrick Struebi
Co-Founder and Co-President, Bloom

Patrick Struebi is the co-founder of Bloom, a cutting-edge AgTech platform with the goal of lifting millions of family farmers out of poverty. Mr Struebi is also the founder of the Fairtrasa Group, a pioneering social enterprise in the field of smallholder development and one of the largest organic and fairtrade exporters from Latin America with a vertically integrated business structure. For his work with Fairtrasa, he was selected as an Ashoka Fellow, an Endeavor high-impact Entrepreneur, a Yale World Fellow and a Gabelli Fellow. Furthermore, he has been named four times Social Entrepreneur of the Year by the Schwab Foundation (2014), the abc* Foundation (2012), Univision (2012), and Visionaris (2009). Patrick is also an Adjunct Professor at Fordham University and a member of the World Economic Forum.

Panel 2: Engaging the private sector to accelerate agricultural innovation

Panelist

Michael Keller
Secretary General, International Seed Federation

Michael Keller was appointed Secretary General of the International Seed Federation in June 2014. In 1999 Mr Keller joined the French Senate in Paris as a Parliamentary Advisor and moved to the Mayor's Association of France where, as Head of European and International Affairs, he represented his constituents' interests at European level. Between 2008 and 2014 he held the post of Director of Regulatory and Public Affairs at DuPont Pioneer in France. During the same period, Mr Keller was a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee at the Union Française des Semenciers (UFS) and Chairman of the UFS Regulation and Innovation Commission. He graduated from the Universities of Manheim and Bonn where he completed a Law State examination and pursued post-graduate studies at the Paris-Sorbonne University.

Ayşe Sabuncu
Co-founder, Impact Hub Istanbul, Turkey

Ayşe Sabuncu is one of the co-founders of Impact Hub Istanbul. Ms Sabuncu started her career in the banking industry at Citi Group in New York where she served at different levels for five years. Then in 2014, she started working in the field of microfinance with Kiva - a global non-profit organization - in Zimbabwe and South Africa where she was introduced to Impact Hub. In the last three years, Ms Sabuncu and her Impact Hub partners have been spearheading the growth of the social innovation ecosystem in Turkey. As well as having a double major in computer engineering and business at Johns Hopkins University, she has also completed a Masters program in social impact, innovation and entrepreneurship at Stern School of New York University.



**Michael Sudarkasa
Chief Executive Officer, Africa Business Group (ABG), South Africa**

Michael Sudarkasa is the CEO of Africa Business Group (ABG), a South Africa based continentally active, African economic development company. Mr Sudarkasa is also the founder of ABG’s Global African Agribusiness Accelerator Platform and its renewable energy project development firm, Africa Business Energy. He holds a B.A. degree from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (High Honors in History), a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School and is currently completing a doctorate in Management of Technology (Green Mini-Grids) at Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne.

**Bram Govaerts
Global Director Innovative Business Strategies, International Maize and Wheat
Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), Mexico**

Bram Govaerts is currently Global Director of Innovative Business Strategies, Regional Representative for the Americas and Mexico country Representative at CIMMYT, leading the Latin America Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification strategy. Mr Govaerts was previously a Research Associate with the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven working in Mexico and Ethiopia (2003-2007). He has received numerous awards including the Development Cooperation Prize of the Belgian Federal Government (2003), the World Food Prize (2014), and the Premio Tecnoagro (2018) for the development of sustainable agricultural systems. Mr Govaerts holds a Master of Science in Bioscience Engineering, specializing in Soil Conservation in combination with Tropical Agriculture at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium.

**Plenary 4: Reporting from parallel sessions 3-6
22 November, 17.00-18.00**

Chair

**Thomas M. Duffy
Chargé d’Affaires a.i., US Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome**

Thomas M. Duffy assumed duties as Deputy Permanent Representative and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Mission to the UN Agencies in Rome in July 2016 and has served as Chargé d’Affaires since August 2016. He served on the faculty of the U.S. National War College in Washington DC and served for four years in the UN Security Council and General Assembly as a member of the U.S. Mission to the UN in New York, and for three years as the Director of the State Department’s Office of UN Political Affairs. Mr. Duffy also served as the U.S. Consul General in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Mr. Duffy served in the U.S. Navy as a deck officer aboard a ship home-ported in Japan and as a strategist with the Navy Staff in the Pentagon. He received his M.A. from the University of London.

**Chair,
Parallel
Session 3**

**Frédéric Seppey
Assistant Deputy Minister, Market and Industry Services Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food
Canada**



Chair, Parallel Session 4	Bernard Rey Minister Counsellor, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to South Africa
Chair, Parallel Session 5	Carla Montesi Director of Planet and Prosperity, European Commission Directorate-General of International Cooperation and Development
Chair, Parallel Session 6	María Cristina Boldorini Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Argentina to FAO

Keynote address 4 23 November, 9.00-9.15

Keynote speaker	Ren Wang Special Advisor to the Chairman, Beijing Genomics Institute (BGI), China Ren Wang is the Senior Vice President of the BGI Group and the President of BGI Global Development, the world's largest genomics organization. Dr Wang previously served as Assistant Director General of FAO's Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department (2013-2018). He was also the Chinese Academy of Research's first Vice President. He also served as a member of the Standing Committee of the China Science and Technology Association, Vice Chair of the China Association for Agricultural Technology Extension, and Vice Chair of the China Rural Technology Services Association. Dr Wang holds a Ph.D. in Entomology from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia.
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