



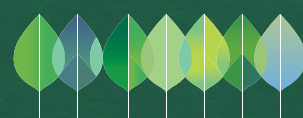
Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

CONFERENCE BROCHURE

Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production (GPC)

INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND RESILIENCE

2–4 November 2022



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INTRODUCTION

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is organizing the **Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production (GPC)** with the theme “*Innovation, Efficiency and Resilience*”, on 2–4 November 2022. The GPC will provide a neutral forum for FAO Members, farmers, scientists, development agencies, policy makers, extension agents, civil society, opinion leaders and private sector to engage in dialogues on **innovation** that creates **efficient** plant production systems with **resilience** to biotic and abiotic stresses, climate change, natural hazards and geopolitical disruptions. Tomorrow’s agriculture will need to produce more food with less environmental footprints and contribute to strong local and diversified agrifood systems that are more resilient to shocks and disruptions.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Globally, over two billion people lacked regular access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food in 2021, in keeping with the continuing trend of **worsening food insecurity and malnutrition**.¹ More concerning still, the COVID-19 pandemic has coalesced with the effects of climate change and ever-increasing population to confound efforts to attain universal food security and nutrition, thereby jeopardizing the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The conflict in Ukraine has further exacerbated the situation, pushing the world closer to the brink of a global food crisis. Urgent

action is required to ensure that agrifood systems become more diverse, productive and resilient to shocks and stresses, particularly in the least developed countries and in the Small Island Developing States. Land and natural resources are increasingly limited and degraded, while their rapidly growing populations are disproportionately vulnerable to the effects of climate change and global supply chain disruptions.

FAO seeks to reverse these trends through the implementation of its Strategic Framework

¹ Ref. FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022. Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable*. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0639en>



2022–31 to transform to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*, leaving no one behind, thus contributing to achieving the SDGs, especially SDGs 1, 2 and 12.

Sustainable plant production aims at producing more food to meet the increasing demand, without exerting further pressure on the environment. Sustainable plant production systems must also promote greater resilience to climate change and protect biodiversity through integrated approaches. Sustainable plant production systems must be farmer-centric and specific to the farmers' heterogeneous production environments.

The **FAO Global Conference on Green Development of Seed Industries in 2021** provided the Organization with a means to synthesize validated evidence for enhancing farmers' access to quality seeds and planting materials of improved crop varieties that meet their needs and those of other end users. This follow-up conference carries a broader focus to encompass all the aspects required for sustainable crop production systems. The GPC will discuss context specific interventions that enable the optimization of production efficiencies combined with the minimization of the deleterious effects of crop production systems on the environment. These will feed into the realization of FAO Strategic Framework 2022–31.

For the proposed multi-theme conference, further evidence on how best to increase the use of quality seeds of superior crop varieties that are nutritious, pest and disease resistant, stress tolerant and input use efficient will be obtained. Also, evidence for requisite agronomic practices and integrated cropping systems under field and protected conditions, to improve crop productivity while diminishing the harmful over-use of agricultural inputs will be identified. The discussions on natural resource management will help identify practices leading to an optimal use of soil, water and nutrients to maintain productive and diverse ecosystems and when necessary, restore those that are degraded. The two-pronged effects of minimized crop yield losses and risk of pesticides will be discussed. Evidence will be generated for the benefits of mechanization and digitalization through the promotion of precision agriculture to increase production efficiencies and create decent jobs. Finally, measures for improving governance and enabling environments while increasing farmers' access to extension and advisory services, inputs and technologies will be discussed. To integrate these different focuses, the farmer's perspective will be maintained as a continuous thread across all sessions, elevating voices of producers from the Global South. The conference will place a common emphasis on systems, practices and technologies that create resilience to climate change, promote food and nutritional and security, and conserve biodiversity.



Objectives

The GPC will convene a wide spectrum of relevant stakeholders to debate and synthesize evidence on innovations that confer efficiency and resilience on the various components of sustainable plant production systems for possible scaling and adoption, particularly in food insecure countries, the core of FAO's work, with **four** objectives:

- i. **Raise awareness** of the contribution of sustainable plant production to implementing the FAO Strategic Framework 2022–31, to attain the SDGs at global, regional and national levels.
- ii. **Share information and knowledge** on the strategic direction and technical developments in sustainable plant production worldwide.
- iii. **Demonstrate FAO's technical leadership** and convening power to support its Members for sustainable plant production.
- iv. **Provide a neutral platform and technical networks** on sustainable plant production for demand-driven and context-specific multi-stakeholder dialogues.

Expected outputs

The GPC will accomplish **four** expected outputs as follows:

- i. **Priorities established** for the targeted mobilization and pooling of scientific, technical and financial resources to achieve sustainable plant production systems.
- ii. **Evidence debated and knowledge shared** through the creation and management of functional technical networks.
- iii. **A global knowledge product published** as an evidence-based guide to promote sustainable plant production through the adoption of appropriate practices, partnerships and policies.
- iv. **A set of recommendations proposed** to guide active innovation for sustainable plant production worldwide.



THEMES

The conference is made up of plenary sessions (opening, eight keynote addresses, reports on conference themes and recommendations, high-level ministerial segment and closing), six parallel thematic sessions, two for each of the themes: seed systems, field cropping systems, protected cropping systems, natural resource management, integrated pest management, and mechanization and digitalization; a seventh thematic session, farmers and enabling environment, takes place in a single session before the plenary session of the final day.

Seed systems

There are no good crops without good seed. Sound policies, regulations and laws are necessary to ensure the development of a well-functioning seed system. Different elements of a sound seed system include the conservation of plant genetic resources, avoiding genetic erosion, producing varieties that are adapted, productive and available to farmers. High quality seed is the foundation of agrifood systems; it is alive, healthy, true to type and free of contaminants. These basic principles need to be applied in all seed systems.

A plant production system that is both sustainable and highly productive relies on a functional, dynamic and well established seed system as a foundational element.

Farmers should use high quality seeds and planting materials of adapted and productive varieties in order to have sustainable plant production systems that enable the required increase in food production for an ever-increasing human population.

Field cropping systems

Farmers need access to a range of practices, technologies and services to improve efficiency and enhance resilience of their production systems. Development approaches must be flexible and participatory, engaging farmers as collaborators, to develop a basket of solutions that are adapted to their needs.



Cropping systems are facing a range of different shocks and stressors. Farmers not only need to have the basic information on climate and soil health but understand the trade-offs of the different interventions and practices available. Efficiency and resilience of production systems are built on economic, social and environmental sustainability, managing the trade-offs through empowering and incentivising farmers to transform their production systems.

Increasing global population and persisting hunger requires us to produce more without drastically increasing the area of production or further contributing to environmental degradation. The adoption of good agricultural practices can drastically improve farm productivity, increase use-efficiency of critical resources (such as nutrients and water), and reduce waste, emissions and pollution.

Protected cropping systems

Protected cultivation (PC) is a critical method to both enhance food security and agrifood systems resilience. PC allows for production in sub-optimal conditions by reducing risk from biotic and abiotic stress. When combined with the right practices and inputs, PC systems produce crops with high yields, higher value and excellent nutritional properties. By reducing the entry and

multiplication of pests and diseases, PC enables farmers to lessen reliance on pesticides, leading to the production of safer and healthier foods.

Urban and peri-urban agriculture also make important contributions to agrifood systems resilience by producing high value, nutritious crops where they are needed, while creating decent employment opportunities, including for vulnerable populations. PC in urban areas creates shorter and more resilient value chains, reducing food loss, greenhouse gas emissions, and pressure on forests. Urban agriculture also offers opportunities to design circular systems to reuse and recirculate nutrients that would otherwise be waste products.

There is a need to promote innovative science and technology in support of better production, better nutrition, a better environment and better livelihoods.

Natural resource management

Promoting sustainable crop production implies techniques, processes, and practices that optimize use of soil, water, and nutrients, using integrated approaches that maintain the multiple services of productive ecosystems, and when necessary, restore those that are degraded. Increasing diversity, recycling, and efficiency of plant production systems based on ecological



principles can enhance the resilience of people, communities and ecosystems, which is key to sustainable food and agricultural systems.

Innovations for sustainable plant production systems respond better to local and global challenges when they are co-created by combining local and scientific knowledge through transdisciplinary and participatory processes aimed at maximizing synergies and minimizing trade-offs.

Sustainable crop production, managed through holistic, systemic approaches, can help humanity to deal simultaneously with the challenges of rural poverty, food security and nutrition, climate change, biodiversity loss, and natural hazards that current agrifood systems are facing.

Integrated pest management

As a component of sustainable plant production, plant protection faces two ongoing challenges: climate change introduces uncertainties in pest and natural enemies' future distribution and demography. Additionally, over reliance on reliance on chemical pesticides threaten the health of the environment, farmers and

consumers. Strong phytosanitary systems are crucial in limiting the spread of costly invasive pests while promoting trade and common prosperity. Routine monitoring activities are needed to control outbreaks of migratory pests.

Technical innovations are needed to make efficacious IPM more efficient, and tactics more available and affordable at the farmers' level. These technical innovations should cover all parts of the IPM pyramid, from monitoring, early warning, new resistant or tolerant varieties, ways to manage soil health, novel biopesticides and green chemistries, new (and less costly) ways to produce and market biocontrol agents, to safer methods of pesticide and biopesticide application. Additionally, innovations in the way information flows in rural communities are required to make IPM products and practices more visible to farmers. Only then can farmers rely on crop protection programmes, techniques and technologies at the base and mid-section of the pyramid leaving the use of chemical pesticides only as the last resort.

Over- and misuse of pesticides in crop protection degrades the environment, contributes to biodiversity decline and puts human health at risk. For crop production to be truly sustainable, the way we protect crops must change for the better by mainstreaming Integrated Pest Management (IPM) products and practices.



Mechanization and digitalization

Given the upcoming changes in the global economy and demographic trends, agricultural mechanization in developing countries will have to evolve significantly. Nevertheless, several challenges are still to be overcome in the years to come, given the socioeconomic as well as institutional issues. Indeed, mechanization must be private-sector driven, environmentally compatible and climate-smart, economically viable and accessible, especially for small-scale farmers, and inclusive of the interests of women and youth. It also should cover the entire agrifood chain, supporting a holistic approach (from agricultural inputs to outputs).

Similarly, today, the agricultural sector has entered a new era of development thanks to integrating new technologies in various fields where digitalization has been of particular interest. These digital technologies offer great potential for productivity gains and sustainability for farming systems and open great opportunities for innovation holding therefore great promise for the agricultural sector even in low-income countries. To achieve the successful adoption of digitalization, the role of different stakeholders is crucial such as the public and private sectors, research institutes, universities, professional organizations, and development partners.

Given the upcoming changes in the broader economy and demographic trends, smart agricultural mechanization and digitalization in developing countries will have to evolve significantly.

Farmers and enabling environment

Global food systems are a result of the cumulative decisions that farmers make at the field-level. Farmers' choices are in turn influenced by culture, market forces and public policy, among numerous other factors which affect access to knowledge and resources. To transform agrifood systems, farmers need to produce in an environment that enables access to a broad range of appropriate solutions, and which rewards and incentivizes positive stewardship of the natural resource base.

An enabling environment for sustainable plant production encompasses the policy, governance structures and regulatory frameworks that enable farmers to access the incentives, knowledge and resources required to transition towards more profitable, environmentally friendly and inclusive approaches. To create an enabling environment, farmers must participate in decision making to influence policies so that their needs and perspectives are at the core of the discussion, while acknowledging the need for differentiated approaches and locally-designed solutions.

Comprehensive policies underpinned by scientific advances in agricultural production are needed to promote transformation to more efficient, inclusive and resilient agrifood systems.



ORGANIZATION

The Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production (GPC) was organized by FAO with the support of a Steering Committee, a Technical Advisory Panel, and a Secretariat.

Steering Committee

The specific role of the Steering Committee is to: provide advice on all aspects of the conference, including its structure; provide advice to the Technical Advisory Panel regarding the draft programme, upon their request; provide advice to the Secretariat, when requested; provide advice on resource mobilization, when requested; act as the event's ambassador among the respective organizations/networks/countries of the Steering Committee members; encourage people to attend the conference; and provide advice on potential follow-up to the conference.

COMPOSITION

Chairperson:

- **Beth Bechdol**, Deputy Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Co-Chairperson:

- **Martin Kropff**, Managing Director, Resilient Agri-Food Systems, CGIAR.

Vice-Chairpersons:

- **Alzbeta Klein**, Director General, International Fertilizer Association (IFA).

- **Josse De Baerdemaeker**, Professor, Department of Biosystems, KU Leuven, Belgium.
- **Michael Keller**, Secretary General, International Seed Federation (ISF).
- **Sunday Ekesi**, Head of Capacity Building and Integrated Sciences, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe).
- **Xiangzhao Gao**, Professor and Chief Scientist, National Agro-Technical Center (NATESC), Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), P.R. China.
- **Marcela Quintero**, Leader CGIAR Agroecology Initiative: Transforming Food, Land and Water Systems Across the Global South, Director Multifunctional Landscapes, Alliance of Bioversity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), CGIAR.
- **Ana María Loboguerrero Rodríguez**, Research Director of Climate Action, Alliance of Bioversity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), CGIAR.

Members:

- **Niels Louwaars**, Director, Plantum.
- **Jon Hellin**, Platform Leader, Sustainable Impact through Rice-Based Systems, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), CGIAR.
- **Yüksel Tüzel**, Professor, Ege University, Türkiye; Former President, International Society for Horticultural Science (2018-2022).
- **Graciela Metternicht**, Professor, University of New South Wales, Sydney (UNSW).



- **Robert Bertram**, Chief Scientist, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
- **Geoffrey Mrema**, Professor, Agricultural Engineering, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania.
- **Channing Arndt**, Director, Environment and Production Technology, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), CGIAR.
- **Elizabeth Nsimadala**, Director, Women Affairs, Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO). Ex-President, PAFO. President, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF).
- **Robert Delve**, Lead Global Technical Advisor (Agronomy), Sustainable Production, Markets and Institutions Division, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).
- **William R. Sutton**, Global Lead Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) and Lead Agricultural Economist, The World Bank.
- **Jerome Bandry**, Secretary General, European Agricultural Machinery Association (CEMA).
- **Sayed Azam Ali**, CEO, Crops for the Future (CFF).
- **Lifeng Li**, Director, Land and Water Division (NSL), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- **Marcela Villarreal**, Director, Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division (PSU), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- **Qu Liang**, Director, Joint FAO/IAEA Centre (Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture) (CJN), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- **Zitouni Ould Dada**, Deputy Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Executive Secretary:

- **Jingyuan Xia**, Director, FAO Plant Production and Protection Division.

Technical Advisory Panel

The Technical Advisory Panel for the Conference has the specific role to develop an innovative and inspiring programme covering the main conference topics, with proposals for the names of potential keynote speakers, presenters, panelists, chairs and rapporteurs for the different sessions. In developing the programme, the TAP follows guidance from the FAO Secretariat to ensure the list of speakers/chairs/panelists is balanced with respect to gender, different geographic areas and to different stakeholder

groups; and seeks internal consensus also based on inputs from professional colleagues on the final programme that will be proposed for final endorsement to the Steering Committee.

COMPOSITION

Chairperson:

- **Martin Kropff**, Managing Director, Resilient Agri-Food Systems, CGIAR.

Co-Chairperson:

- **Ismahane Elouafi**, Chief Scientist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).



Vice-Chairs:

- **Niels Louwaars**, Director, Plantum.
- **Jon Hellin**, Platform Leader, Sustainable Impact through Rice-Based Systems, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), CGIAR.
- **Yüksel Tüzel**, Professor, Department of Horticulture, Ege University; Former President, ISHS (2018-2022).
- **Graciela Metternicht**, Professor, University of New South Wales, Sydney (UNSW).
- **Robert Bertram**, Chief Scientist, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
- **Geoffrey Mrema**, Professor, Agricultural Engineering, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania.
- **Channing Arndt**, Director, Environment and Production Technology, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), CGIAR.

Members:

- **Emmanuel Okogbenin**, Director, Programme Development and Commercialization, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF), Kenya.
- **Tammi Jonas**, President, Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance (AFSA).
- **Juliana Jaramillo**, Lead, Regenerative Agriculture Advocacy and Theme, RAINFOREST ALLIANCE.
- **Bernard Vanlauwe**, Director R4D, Excellence in Agronomy, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), CGIAR.
- **Weijie Jiang**, Professor, Institute of Vegetables and Flowers, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IVF/CAAS).
- **Pietro Tonini**, Doctoral Researcher, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona (ICTA-UAB).
- **Shamie Zingore**, Director of Research & Development, African Plant Nutrition Institute (APNI).

- **Felix Reinders**, Chair, Steering Committee, The Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG).
- **Roma Gwynn**, Vice President, International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA).
- **Ibrahim Al-Jboory**, President, Arab Society for Plant Protection.
- **Saidi Mkomwa**, Executive Secretary, African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT).
- **Salah Sukkarieh**, Professor, Robotics and Intelligent Systems, University of Sydney, Australia.
- **Rasheed Sulaiman**, Director, Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP).
- **Elizabeth Nsimadala**, Director, Women Affairs, Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO). Ex-President, PAFO. President, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF).
- **Fenton Beed**, Senior Agricultural Officer, Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP), FAO.
- **Maher Salman**, Senior Land and Water Officer, Land and Water Division (NSL), FAO.
- **Guilherme Brady**, Partnerships Officer, Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division (PSU), FAO.
- **Anne-Katrin Bogdanski**, Technical Officer, Joint FAO/IAEA Centre (Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture) (CJN), FAO.
- **Preetmoninder Lidder**, Technical Adviser, Office of Chief Scientist (DDCC), FAO.
- **Sheila Willis**, Director, International Programmes, Pesticide Action Network (PAN).
- **Bruno Gérard**, Professor, AgroBioScience Lead, Mohammed VI University, Morocco.
- **Frederic Castell**, Senior Natural Resources Officer, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), FAO.



Secretariat

The Secretariat is in charge of the organization of the conference, including its programme, logistics and communication.

COMPOSITION

Executive Secretary:

- **Jingyuan Xia**, Director, FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP).

Coordinator:

- **Fenton Beed**, Senior Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.

Assistant Coordinator:

- **Makiko Taguchi**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.

Focal points of Thematic Session:

- **Wilson Hugo**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Emma Siliprandi**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Makiko Taguchi**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Fenton Beed**, Senior Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Ivan Landers**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Buyung Hadi**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Maged Elkahky**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Josef Kienzle**, Agricultural Engineer, NSP, FAO.
- **Karim Houmy**, Sustainable Agriculture, Mechanization International Consultant, NSP, FAO.
- **Anne Sophie Poisot**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Joseph Mpagalile**, Agricultural Engineer, NSP, FAO.
- **Shawn Mcguire**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Antonio Mele**, Ecosystem Services Consultant, NSP, FAO.
- **Soren Moller**, Agroecology and Food Systems Consultant, NSP, FAO.

Core Members for Operations and Support:

- **Nadia Sozzi**, Office Assistant, NSP, FAO.
- **Alessia Laurenza**, Office Assistant, NSP, FAO.
- **Ivan Landers**, Agricultural Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Bruno Telemans**, Consultant Sustainable Crop Production, NSP, FAO.
- **Nadine Aschauer**, Intern, NSP, FAO.
- **Haekoo Kim**, Technical Adviser, NSP, FAO.
- **Shangchuan Jiang**, Agriculture Specialist, NSP, FAO.
- **Mirko Montuori**, Communication Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Isabella Trapani**, Crop and Food System Specialist, NSP, FAO.
- **Paul Howard**, Office Assistant, NSP, FAO.

Working groups:

- **Programme:** Fenton Beed, Haekoo Kim, **thematic session focal points**, Bruno Telemans, Nadine Aschauer.
- **Communication:** Mirko Montuori, Shangchuan Jiang, NSP communication group members (Ginevra Virgili, Micah Goldsmith, Maria Soledad Fernandez Gonzalez, Isabella Trapani, Linda Perella, Francisco Martinez, Riccardo Mazzucchelli, Matteo Casling).
- **Resource Mobilization:** Fenton Beed, Wilson Hugo.
- **Logistics:** Makiko Taguchi, Nadia Sozzi, Alessia Laurenza, Bruno Telemans.

Observers:

- **Hafiz Muminjanov**, Technical Advisor, NSP, FAO.
- **Ariella Glinni**, Senior Technical Officer, NSP, FAO.
- **Dina Rahman**, Senior Coordinator, ODG, FAO.
- **Svetlana Velmeskina**, Office Assistant, NSP, FAO.





DETAILED PROGRAMME

Last updated: 26 October 2022¹

Wednesday, 2 November 2022

09.30-09.50

PLENARY SESSION 1: OPENING

Green Room

Moderator: **Beth Bechdol**, FAO Deputy Director-General

Opening remarks

QU Dongyu, FAO Director-General

09.50-12.30

PLENARY SESSION 2: KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Green Room

Keynote Address Section A

Moderator: **Beth Bechdol**, FAO Deputy Director-General

- *A.1 Agrifood systems transformation*
Martin Kropff, Managing Director, Resilient Agri-Food Systems, CGIAR
- *A.2 Transforming Food, Land and Water Systems under Climate Change*
Ana Maria Loboguerrero Rodriguez, Research Director of Climate Action at the Alliance of Bioversity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) – CGIAR
- *A.3 Innovation, Efficiency, Resilience towards SDG 1, 2 and 12*
Michael Keller, Secretary General, International Seed Federation (ISF)
- *A.4 Plant Nutrition - Key Connector between Food and Energy*
Alzbeta Klein, Director General, International Fertilizer Association (IFA)
- *Discussion* (20 minutes)

Keynote Address Section B

Moderator: **Martin Kropff**, Managing Director, Resilient Agri-Food Systems, CGIAR

- *B.1 Agroecology: more than practices. A holistic approach to make sustainable transition to sustainable food systems*
Marcela Quintero, Leader CGIAR Agroecology Initiative: Transforming Food, Land and Water Systems Across the Global South, Director Multifunctional Landscapes, Alliance Bioversity – CIAT, CGIAR
- *B.2 Crop Yield Increase and Green Agricultural Development in China*
Xiangzhao Gao, Professor and Chief Scientist, National Agro-Technical Center (NATESC), Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), P.R. China
- *B.3 Confronting the global burden of pests and pathogens in a changing climate: Challenges and opportunities*
Sunday Ekesi, Director, Research and Partnerships, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe)
- *B.4 Digital opportunities and appropriate agricultural mechanization*
Josse De Baerdemaeker, Professor, Department of Biosystems, KU Leuven, Belgium
- *Discussion* (20 minutes)

12.30-14.00

Lunch Break

¹All times are Central European Time. Interpretation into FAO official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) will be provided for plenary sessions 1, 2 and 4, and for thematic sessions only as additional financial resources become available.



Wednesday, 2 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSIONS 1.1 AND 2.1

Thematic Session 1:
Seed Systems

Green Room

14.00-15.30²

Session 1.1: Adapted varieties

Chair:

- *Niels Louwaars, Director, Plantum*

Co-chairs:

- *Emmanuel Okogbenin, Director, Programme Development and Commercialization, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF)*
- *Tammi Jonas, President, Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance (AFSA)*

Rapporteurs:

- *Wilson Hugo, Agricultural Officer, FAO*
- *Shawn Mcguire, Agricultural Officer, FAO*

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Needs of indigenous farmers in a changing world*
Gisela Illescas Palma, NGO Movimiento Agroecológico de Latino America y Caribe (Mexico)
- *Responding to diversity of farmers' needs*
Ian Barker, Director, Potato AgriFood System, International Potato Centre, Peru
- *Genebanks contributions to seed systems*
Nora Castañeda-Álvarez, Project Manager, Seeds for Resilience, CropTrust
- *Plant Breeding with farmers*
Rene Salazar, Member, Formerly SEARICE, Philippines
- *Hybrid rice and global food security*
Tang Wenbang, Director General of China National Research Center of Hybrid Rice
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*

² Each thematic session (except for the session 7) will be split into two parts, with 90 minutes allocated to each part. The suggested time allocation for each part is as follows: opening speech (5 min); 5 presentations (10 min/each, total of 50 min); discussion (30 min); and concluding remarks (5 min). The session 7 will occur in plenary, with only one 90 minute session, including opening, 5 presentations, discussion, and conclusion. All thematic sessions are encouraged to include topics and speakers that address climate-change, integrated approaches (including agroecology), and maintain a focus on the farmer's perspective.



Wednesday, 2 November 2022

Thematic Session 2:
Field Cropping Systems

Red Room

14.00-15.30

Session 2.1: Efficient cropping systems

Chair:

- *Jon Hellin, Platform Leader, Sustainable Impact through Rice-Based Systems, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), CGIAR*

Co-chairs:

- *Juliana Jaramillo, Lead, Regenerative Agriculture Advocacy and Theme, RAINFOREST ALLIANCE*
- *Bernard Vanlauwe, Director R4D, Excellence in Agronomy, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), CGIAR*

Rapporteurs:

- *Makiko Taguchi, Agricultural Officer, FAO*
- *Ivan Landers, Agricultural Officer, FAO*

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Transition to sustainable and resilient smallholder farming*
Katrien Descheemaeker, Wageningen University
- *Research and development of mechanized rice ratooning technology in China*
Shaobing Peng, Professor, Crop Physiology, Huazhong Agricultural University
- *Practical precision agronomy in perennial systems to reduce cash, carbon, and biodiversity costs*
Piet van Asten, Head Sustainable Production Systems, Olam Food Ingredients
- *Improving dryland production*
Arvind Kumar, Deputy Director General, ICRISAT
- *Climate Change and Variability: Vulnerability, Coping and Adaptation Opportunities*
Mercy Kamau, Senior Research Fellow, Tegemeo Institute
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*

15.30-16.00

Break



Wednesday, 2 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSIONS 1.2 AND 2.2

Thematic Session 1:
Seed Systems

Green Room

16.00-17.30

Session 1.2: Quality seeds

Chair:

- *Niels Louwaars, Director, Plantum*

Co-chairs:

- *Emmanuel Okogbenin, Director, Programme Development and Commercialization, African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF)*
- *Tammi Jonas, President, Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance (AFSA)*

Rapporteurs:

- *Wilson Hugo, Agricultural Officer, FAO*
- *Shawn Mcguire, Agricultural Officer, FAO*

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Facilitating regional seed trade*
Niels Louwaars, Director, Plantum
- *Emergency seed assistance: updates on what to do and what not to do*
Louise Sperling, Research Director, SeedSystem Ilc
- *Seed technology to upgrade crop sustainably*
Marcia Werner, INCOTEC (private – Brasil)
- *Community knowledge and technological innovations*
Andrew Mushita, Executive Director, Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) & Multi Actor Food Systems Champion, UN Secretary-General's 2021 Food Systems Summit
- *Perspectives on the sustainability of seed business and African smallholder seed supply*
Monica Kansiime, Deputy Director Development and Outreach Africa, CABI
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*



Wednesday, 2 November 2022

Thematic Session 2:
Field Cropping Systems

Red Room

16.00-17.30

Session 2.2: Resilient cropping systems

Chair:

- **Jon Hellin**, Platform Leader, Sustainable Impact through Rice-Based Systems, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), CGIAR

Co-chairs:

- **Juliana Jaramillo**, Lead, Regenerative Agriculture Advocacy and Theme, RAINFOREST ALLIANCE
- **Bernard Vanlauwe**, Director R4D, Excellence in Agronomy, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), CGIAR

Rapporteurs:

- **Makiko Taguchi**, Agricultural Officer, FAO
- **Ivan Landers**, Agricultural Officer, FAO

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Integrated transformations to deliver climate smart agriculture*
Rachael McDonnell, Deputy Director-General, International Water Management Institute
- *Fertilizer and soil health – two sides of the same coin?*
Bernard Vanlauwe, Director R4D, Central Africa and Natural Resource Management, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
- *Climate adaptive production systems*
Caroline Mwongera, Senior Scientist, Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
- *Agroforestry and regenerative agriculture in coffee growing areas with climate change*
Elias de Melo, Agroforestry Specialist, Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE)
- *Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems are game changers*
Tania Eulalia Martínez-Cruz, Associate researcher, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*

18.00-20.00

Reception (FAO headquarters, cafeteria, building B, 8th floor)



Thursday, 3 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSIONS 3.1 AND 4.1

Thematic Session 3:
Protected Cropping Systems

Green Room

9.00-10.30

Session 3.1: Optimizing production efficiencies

Chair:

- **Yüksel Tüzel**, Professor, Department of Horticulture, Ege University; Former President, ISHS (2018-2022)

Co-chairs:

- **Weijie Jiang**, Professor, Institute of Vegetables and Flowers, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IVF/CAAS)
- **Pietro Tonini**, Doctoral Researcher, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona (ICTA-UAB)

Rapporteurs:

- **Fenton Beed**, Agricultural Officer, Team Leader NSPLD, FAO
- **Ivan Landers**, Agricultural Officer, FAO

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Improving resource use efficiency*
Yüksel Tüzel, Professor, Department of Horticulture, Ege University. Former President, International Society for Horticultural Science (2018 - 2022)
- *The evolution of Jamaica's PA Value Chain a possible route for others*
Jervis Rowe, President, Jamaica Greenhouse Growers Association
- *Adapting systems for smallholders*
Lusike Wasilwa, Director/Headquarters Secretariat, Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)
- *A biocircular approach to soilless culture in China*
Weijie Jiang, Professor, Institute of vegetables & Flowers, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences(IVF/CAAS)
Dong Ruifang, Private greenhouse grower
- *Evaluating greenhouse production systems based on UN SDGs*
Leo Marcelis, Professor Horticulture and Product Physiology, Wageningen University
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*



Thursday, 3 November 2022

Thematic Session 4:
Natural Resource Management

Red Room

9.00-10.30

Session 4.1: Maximizing resource use efficiency

Chair:

- *Shamie Zingore, Director of Research & Development, African Plant Nutrition Institute (APNI)*

Co-chairs:

- *Felix Reinders, Chair, Steering Committee, the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)*

Rapporteurs:

- *Antonio Mele, Ecosystem Services Consultant, FAO*
- *Soren Moller, Agroecology and Food Systems Consultant, FAO*
- *Emma Siliprandi, Agricultural Officer, FAO*

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Towards a circular bionutrient economy linking sanitation and agriculture*
Rebecca J. Nelson, Professor, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University and former Research Director of McKnight Foundation
- *Optimizing water use*
Marco Arcieri, Vice President Honoraire, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)
- *Improving nutrient management to increase crop productivity and sustainability*
Fusuo Zhang, Professor, Chief Scientist of Plant Nutrition, Professor, China Agricultural University; Academician, member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, China
- *Leveraging local knowledge and biodiversity*
Josef Garvi, Executive Director, Sahara Sahel Foods
- *Co-creation of knowledge between farmers and researchers*
Chukki Nanjundaswamy, International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*

10.30-11.00

Break



Thursday, 3 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSIONS 3.2 AND 4.2

Moderators: *Session Chairs*

Thematic Session 3: Protected Cropping Systems

Green Room

11.00-12.30

Session 3.2: Transforming urban horticulture

Chair:

- **Pietro Tonini**, *Doctoral Researcher, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona (ICTA-UAB)*

Co-chairs:

- **Weijie Jiang**, *Professor, Institute of Vegetables and Flowers, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IVF/CAAS)*

Rapporteurs:

- **Fenton Beed**, *Agricultural Officer, Team Leader NSPLD, FAO*
- **Ivan Landers**, *Agricultural Officer, FAO*

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Protected Horticulture: A Way Forward to Sustainable Agriculture in Arid Regions*
Muhammad Tahir Akram, *Assistant Professor Department of Horticulture, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan*
- *Plant Factory Innovations Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Societies*
Eri Hayashi, *Vice-President, Japan Plant Factory Association*
- *Urban farming and water conservation*
Redouane Choukr-Allah, *Senior Fellow, International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)*
- *Life cycle environmental impact of urban horticulture*
Marti Rufi-Salis, *Professor, Environmental Sciences, Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona*
- *Ecosystem services in urban agriculture in Quito, Ecuador*
Alexandra Rodriguez, *Head of the Participatory Urban Agriculture Project AGRUPAR – Economic Promotion Agency CONQUITO*
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*



Thursday, 3 November 2022

Thematic Session 4:
Natural Resource Management

Red Room

11.00-12.30

Session 4.2: Ecosystem approaches to resilience

Chair:

- **Felix Reinders**, Chair, Steering Committee, the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG)

Co-chairs:

- **Shamie Zingore**, Director of Research & Development, African Plant Nutrition Institute (APNI)

Rapporteurs:

- **Antonio Mele**, Ecosystem Services Consultant, FAO
- **Soren Moller**, Agroecology and Food Systems Consultant, FAO
- **Emma Siliprandi**, Agricultural Officer, FAO

- *Opening Remarks*

- *Multifunctional landscapes*

Lucas Garibaldi, Professor, Universidad Nacional de Río Negro, Argentina & Director, Instituto de Inv. en Recursos Naturales, Agroecología y Desarrollo Rural (IRNAD)

- *Efficient production for resilience in smallholder systems*

Arjumand Nizami, Country Director, HELVETAS Pakistan

- *Climate-proofing landscapes through water-cycle restoration*

Walter Jehne & Ben Fox, Climate Scientist, Microbiologist and Founder of Healty Soils Australia

- *Building resilience from the grassroots in arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL)*

Paulo Petersen, Executive Director, Assessoria e Servicos a Projetoem Agricultura Alternativa (ASPTA)

- *Regenerating the world's grasslands through holistic management*

Nicholas Sharpe, Director, Global Projects, Savory Institute

- *Q&A session and discussion*

- *Concluding remarks*

12.30-14.00

Lunch Break

FAO Launch Event on Implementation of the OCOP Country Projects³

³The FAO Director-General QU Dongyu will launch the Country Projects for Implementation of the FAO Global Action on Green Development of Special Agricultural Products: One Country One Priority Product (OCOP).

You can register at this link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMuf-mtqT0sEtKyrOgUAnlBnRcZu92A7iLh>



Thursday, 3 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSIONS 5.1 AND 6.1

Moderators: *Session Chairs*

Thematic Session 5: Integrated Pest Management

Green Room

14.00-15.30

Session 5.1: Challenges in plant pests and diseases

Chair:

- **Ibrahim Al-Jboory**, President, Arab Society for Plant Protection

Co-chairs:

- **Roma Gwynn**, Vice President, International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA)

Rapporteurs:

- **Buyung Hadi**, Agricultural Officer, Team Leader NSPCD, FAO
- **Maged Elkahky**, Agricultural Officer, FAO

- *Opening Remarks: Challenges, Threats and Opportunities in Plant Health Management*
Ibrahim Al-Jboory, President of the Arab Society for Plant Protection (ASPP)
- *Climate change, plant pests and pathogens*
Dan Bebber, Associate Professor, Ecology, University of Exeter
- *Pesticide Pollution – an underrepresented environmental problem*
Fiona Tang, Lecturer, soil Water Dynamics, School of Environmental and Rural Science, University of New England
- *Global Economic Burden of Biological Invasions in Agriculture*
Franck Courchamp, Director of Research, CNRS & Researcher, Ecology, Evolution and Systematics Laboratory (ESE), University Paris-Saclay
- *Area-wide IPM in locust control: Current Knowledge and Challenges*
Arianne Cease, Associate Professor School of Sustainability, School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University (ASU)
- *Prevention of Transboundary Spread of Pests and Pathogens is Enhanced with Farmer's Support*
Safaa Kumari, Head, ICARDA Seed Health Laboratory & Plant Virologist
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*



Thursday, 3 November 2022

Thematic Session 6:
Mechanization and Digitalization

Red Room

14.00-15.30

Session 6.1: Smart mechanization

Chair:

- **Geoffrey Mrema**, Professor, Agricultural Engineering, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania

Co-chairs:

- **Saidi Mkomwa**, Executive Secretary, African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)
- **Salah Sukkarieh**, Professor, Robotics and Intelligent Systems, University of Sydney, Australia

Rapporteurs:

- **Josef Kienzle**, Agricultural Engineer, FAO
- **Karim Houmy**, Sustainable Agriculture, Mechanization Consultant, FAO

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Agricultural mechanization: Where are we and where are we going*
Gajendra Singh, Chair, Science Committee, Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium of University of Illinois, Michigan State University, Kansas State University and NC A&T State University
- *Digital Innovations and Precision Agriculture – An opportunity for smallholder farming systems in SSA*
Cecilia M. Onyango, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Science and Crop Protection, University of Nairobi
- *Mechanization solutions for enhanced climate resilience, productivity and reduced environmental footprints in SSA*
Mangi Lal Jat, Global Research Program Director, Resilient Farm and Food Systems, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, ICRISAT
- *Business Models and Economics perspectives of Agricultural mechanization development*
Hiroyuki Takeshima, Senior Research Fellow, Development Strategy and Governance Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- *The Africa We Want Vision 2063: The Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization Framework - towards commercial, environmental and socio-economic sustainability*
Pascal Kaumbutho, Lead Consultant of the Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization for Africa (F-SAMA)
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*

15.30-16.00

Break



Thursday, 3 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSIONS 5.2 AND 6.2

Moderators: *Session Chairs*

Thematic Session 5: Integrated Pest Management

Green Room

16.00-17.30

Session 5.2: Solutions for plant pests and diseases management

Chair:

- **Roma Gwynn**, Vice President, International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA)

Co-chairs:

- **Ibrahim Al-Jboory**, President, Arab Society for Plant Protection

Rapporteurs:

- **Buyung Hadi**, Agricultural Officer, Team Leader NSPCD, FAO
- **Maged Elkahky**, Agricultural Officer, FAO

- *Opening Remarks: Pathways to the future in health management*
Roma Gwynn, International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association
- *Coordination of digital tools for locally adapted decision support in IPM*
Berit Nordskog, Research Scientist, Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO)
- *Changes in farmer's perception and adoption of biological control*
Italo Delalibera, Professor, Frugivory and seed dispersal, Biocontrol, and Food web ecology, University of São Paulo
- *Application of Precision Agricultural Aviation technology in Ecological Unmanned Farm*
Yubin Lan, Professor and Dean, South China Agricultural University, foreign academician of the European Academy of Sciences, Arts and Humanities
- *Participatory innovation platform for plant health management*
Rica Flor, Senior Scientist, Rice breeding innovation, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
- *Farmer-oriented and science-driven plant health management for West Africa*
Manuele Tamo, Principal Scientist, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*



Thursday, 3 November 2022

Thematic Session 6:
Mechanization and Digitalization

Red Room

16.00-17.30

Session 6.2: Digital agriculture

Chair:

- **Salah Sukkarieh**, Professor, Robotics and Intelligent Systems, University of Sydney, Australia

Co-chairs:

- **Saidi Mkomwa**, Executive Secretary, African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT)
- **Geoffrey Mrema**, Professor, Agricultural Engineering, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania

Rapporteurs:

- **Josef Kienzle**, Agricultural Engineer, FAO
- **Karim Houmy**, Sustainable Agriculture, Mechanization Consultant, FAO

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Digitalization in the Agricultural System of Southern Africa (Newly released case study SADC Region)*
Majola L. Mabuza, Programme Leader, Agricultural Productivity Programme for Southern Africa (APPSA) at the Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CARDESA)
- *Research and Practice of Digital Agriculture in China*
Zhao Chunjiang, Professor, Chief Scientist, National Engineering Research Center for Information Technology in Agriculture (NERCITA), member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, China
- *Agricultural automation for Small-Scale Producers with applied cases on weed control in vegetables and vineyards*
Ingrid Sarlandie, Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Naïo Technologies
Gaëtan Séverac, Naïo Technologies
- *Opportunities and Challenges in Digital Agriculture: Global Patterns and Policy Issues on the Way towards Sustainable Agriculture*
Sarah Hackfort, Principal Investigator, Leader of Agricultural and Food Policy Group; Thae-Institute, Faculty of Life Sciences Humboldt University Berlin, Germany
- *Digitalization for hire service provision and Data handling: Experiences from Africa*
Kamal Yakub, TROTRO Tractor Ltd.
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*



Friday, 4 November 2022

THEMATIC SESSION 7

Thematic Session 7:
Farmers and Enabling Environment

Green Room

9.00-10.30

Chair:

- *Elizabeth Nsimadala, Director, Women Affairs, Pan Africa Farmers Organization (PAFO). Ex-President, PAFO. President, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)*

Co-chairs:

- *Rasheed Sulaiman, Director, Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP)*

Rapporteurs:

- *Anne Sophie Poisot, Agricultural Officer, FAO*
- *Ivan Landers, Agricultural Officer, FAO*

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Accelerating digital innovation and making big data work for smallholders*
Owen Barder, CEO - Precision Development (PxD)
- *Landscape level management and governance of agroecosystems*
G.V. Ramanjayelu, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainable Agriculture
- *Promoting access and adoption of sustainable inputs and technologies*
Elizabeth Nsimadala, President, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF) & Board Member, PAFO Africa Representative, World Farmers Organisation (WFO)
- *Overcoming extension gaps: increasing access to extension and advisory services*
Kristin Davis, Senior Research Fellow, Development Strategy and Governance Division, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- *Encouraging the agroecological transition towards sustainable agriculture and confronting risks to farmers*
Víctor Suárez, Undersecretary of Food Self-sufficiency, Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Government of Mexico
- *Q&A session and discussion*
- *Concluding remarks*

10.30-11.00

Break



Friday, 4 November 2022

11.00-12.30

PLENARY SESSION 3: REPORTS ON THEMATIC SESSIONS AND CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Green Room

Moderators: *Martin Kropff*, Managing Director, Resilient Agri-Food Systems, CGIAR, and *Jingyuan Xia*, NSP Director, FAO

Reports on thematic sessions

- Introduction (5 minutes)
- Highlights on each thematic session by Chair or Vice-Chair from 7 thematic sessions (5 minutes each)
- Presentation on conference recommendations by Chair or Vice-Chair of Thematic Session 7 (10 minutes)
- Discussion and conclusion (40 minutes)

12.30-14.00

Lunch Break

14.00-15.30

PLENARY SESSION 4: HIGH-LEVEL MINISTERIAL SEGMENT AND CLOSING

Green Room

Moderator: *Beth Bechdol*, FAO Deputy Director-General

- *H.E. Víctor Manuel Villalobos Arámbula*, Secretario de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural, Mexico
- *H.E. Chalermchai Sri-on*, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand
- *H.E. Mohammad M. Abubakar*, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Nigeria
- *H.E. Mohamed Sadiki*, Minister de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du Développement Rural et des Eaux et Forêts, Morocco
- *H.E. Chavonda Jacobs-Young*, United States Department of Agriculture, Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, United States of America
- *Mr Ayhan Baran*, Alternate Permanent Representative, UN Agencies in Rome, Türkiye
- Discussion (20 minutes)

Closing remarks

QU Dongyu, FAO Director-General
(10 minutes)



ZOOM MEETINGS GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPANTS

This Hybrid Conference will be held using the Zoom platform.

- Interpretation will be available in **English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese** and **Russian** for all plenary sessions.
- The in-person sessions will take place in the **Green** and **Red Rooms** at FAO headquarters, Rome.

Virtual participants can access Zoom from all devices, via web browser or App. The download of the App is strongly recommended for a better user experience.

Zoom regularly provides new versions of the App. It is strongly recommended to check for updates frequently to ensure that the new features will work and to enhance the security of the App.

To do so, open the App and click on your profile picture in the top right of the Zoom window, then click Check for Updates.

If there is a newer version, Zoom will download and install it. Please pay specific attention to the following information:

1. Register for the conference by using this unique link: Plenary Sessions (Opening, keynote addresses, reports on conference themes and recommendations, high-level ministerial segment and closing) can be followed directly upon connecting.

2. You will then receive a confirmation email with the link to access the virtual meeting room. This personal link will connect you directly to the meeting, you will not need to register. Do not share this link with others.

Breakout links will be provided during the conference to be directed to the thematic parallel sessions of your choice.

3. Connect your computer via an Ethernet cable to your router, rather than using Wi-Fi and disconnect other devices.

4. Please note that the biggest impediment to interpretation is poor sound quality. If you plan to take the floor, please do not use your built-in computer microphone, as it will not provide sufficient sound quality.

- Use a USB-headset with integrated microphone.
- If not available, cellphone earphones/mic are better than none, but only wired, not Bluetooth.
- If no headset/mic is available, an external USB-wired microphone is the next best solution.

5. Turn off all sound notifications (Skype, WhatsApp, emails, etc.) while attending the meeting and ensure you are in a place with no background noise or echo.

6. Select the language you wish to listen to in the Interpretation menu.

7. If you wish to take the floor, use the Raise Hand function in the Reactions menu.



CONTACTS

For more information visit:

<https://www.fao.org/events/detail/global-conference-on-sustainable-plant-production/en>

or contact us at:

Plant Production and Protection Division
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
Rome, Italy

NSP-Director@fao.org
GPC-Secretariat@fao.org

