Rural women at the forefront of climate resilience

9 November 2021 | 15.00 - 16.30 CET | 14.00 - 15.30 GMT

1. Ndaya Beltchika

Ndaya Beltchika is IFAD’s Lead Technical Specialist - Gender, Targeting and Social Inclusion. Previously, Beltchika was Country Director in the West and Central Africa Division where she led the development of country strategies and provided oversight and coordinated programmes of loans and grants of Benin, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Beltchika holds a Master’s in Agricultural Economics from the University of California at Davis, California, United States, and a Master’s in Business Administration from Babson College F. W. Olin Graduate School of Business, Massachusetts, United States.

2. Jyotsna Puri

Jyotsna Puri is the Associate Vice-President - Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD) at IFAD. Puri has worked previously at the Green Climate Fund, 3ie, UNEP, the World Bank and UNDP. She is also adjunct associate professor at Columbia University, New York where she was also a research scientist. She has published in many academic journals and written for newspapers and provided advice as a board member to several development organizations. She holds a PhD and MSc in Agriculture and Resource Economics and an MA in Development Economics.

3. Peter MacDougall

Peter MacDougall was recently appointed as the new Governor to IFAD. He is currently the Assistant Deputy Minister for the Global Issues and Development Branch at Global Affairs Canada. He previously worked as Assistant Deputy Minister for Europe, Arctic and Maghreb (EGM) in July 2019. Prior to this, Mr. MacDougall was Ambassador of Canada to Jordan from 2016 to 2019. He was the assistant secretary to the Cabinet for Foreign and Defence Policy from January 2015 to August 2016.
4. Satya S. Tripathi

Satya S. Tripathi is Secretary-General of the Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet. A development economist, lawyer and changemaker with over 40 years of varied experience, Mr. Tripathi is the Chancellor of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences. He is also a Senior Distinguished Fellow on Innovative Finance at the World Agroforestry Centre.

He has served with the UN for more than two decades in key positions across the planet and was most recently the UN Assistant Secretary-General, Head of New York Office at UN Environment and Secretary of the UN Environment Management Group.

5. Mueni Mutinda

Ms. Mueni Mutinda is Public Policy Advisor on Climate Change at Canadian Foodgrains Bank, a network of organizations working to end global hunger. She has 15+ years of project management experience in community development, food security and livelihoods programming both in Canada among indigenous populations, and in Northern Ghana, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania.

Mueni holds a Post-Graduate Certificate in International Development (Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning) and a Project Leadership Certificate (Cornell University).

6. Maria Fernanda Espinosa

Ms. Espinosa has also held many leadership positions within the Government of Ecuador, serving as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Defense and Minister of Cultural and Natural Heritage. Furthermore, she was the first female ambassador and permanent representative of Ecuador to the United Nations offices in New York and in Geneva.

Most recently, Ms. Espinosa served as President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, becoming the fourth woman in history and the first from Latin America and the Caribbean to preside over this body.