

Launch of the digital toolbox: Sustainable and Resilient Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems for Improved Nutrition

Side event - UNPFII Twenty-First Session

Wednesday, 4 May 2022
12:45-14:00 New York time – 18:45-20:00 Rome time

Speakers' bios



Antonella Cordone, Ad-interim Senior Technical Specialist - Indigenous Peoples, IFAD, Moderator. She also represents IFAD at the international level and leads partnerships with the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples (IASG) and indigenous peoples organizations.



Satu Santala, Associate Vice-President, External Relations and Governance Department, IFAD. She is responsible for communications, global engagement, partnerships, and resource mobilization, as well as overseeing the relations with IFAD's 177 Member States. Santala has extensive experience in international relations and development. Prior to her role at IFAD, she served as Director General for Development Policy at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Santala has held various positions at the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, including as Director for the Unit for Development Finance and at Finland's Embassies in New Delhi and Dar es Salaam. She was Executive Director at the World Bank, where she represented Nordic and Baltic countries and she has also represented Finland in replenishment negotiations and governing bodies for MDBs as well as the Green Climate Fund. She has also worked with the Finnish Red Cross. Santala holds a Master of Political Science, International Public Law & Development Studies from the Åbo Akademi in Finland.



Gloria Wiseman, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Canada to the Food and Agriculture Agencies of the U.N. Ms. Gloria Wiseman was appointed to the position of Deputy Permanent Representative of Canada to the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Agencies of the United Nations in August 2019. Ms. Wiseman (BA, Queen's University, 1986; Queen's Public Executive Program, 2004) joined Global Affairs Canada in 2013, serving first as Director for Human Development and Gender Equality for the Strategic Policy and Planning Branch and then Director for Global Health and Nutrition, in the Global Issues Branch. She most recently served as Director of the Pakistan and Sri Lanka Development program in the Asia Specific Branch. Before joining Global Affairs Canada she was Director for Multilateral Relations Division for Health Canada and Director for the Office of International Affairs for the Public Health Agency, where she advanced Canada's health priorities in numerous international forums, most notably Canada's engagement with the World Health Organization, the Pan American Organization, the Asia Pacific Co-operation, and in the Global Health Security Initiative. She is the recipient of numerous leadership awards for her work on pandemic preparedness, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, the negotiation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and for advancing Gender Equality in Pakistan. She is married and has four children.



Phrang Roy, Coordinator, The Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty. He is the Coordinator of the Rome-based Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty. He belongs to the Khasi indigenous peoples community of north-east India.



Myrna Cunningham, Member, Food Systems Summit Advisory Committee and Chairperson, Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD, Nicaragua. Worldwide known indigenous rights activist, former chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and current President of the Center for Indigenous Peoples' Autonomy and Development, Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua.



Yon Fernández-de-Larrinoa, Head, Indigenous Peoples Unit, FAO. An Agricultural Economist, he joined FAO in 1998, having worked in the Policy Assistance Division; the Investment Center; and in the Emergencies Division. Yon has worked in Asia, Latin America and Africa. Before joining the Partnerships and Advocacy Division in 2010, he coordinated emergency relief operations for FAO at the Haiti Earthquake, Peru Earthquake; H5N1 Influenza; and Asian Tsunami.



Mai Thin Yu Mon, Vice-chair, Food Systems Summit's Action Track on Equitable Livelihoods and Indigenous Youth Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD, Myanmar. She is the Program Director for the Indigenous Peoples Development Program of Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO).



Joyce Njoro, Lead Technical Specialist - Nutrition, IFAD, Prior to joining IFAD in November 2017, she worked in various capacities at global, regional and country level for the Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger (REACH), hosted by the World Food Programme.