Innovation Day at the “Jobs, Innovation and Rural Value Chains in the Age of Climate Change, IFAD '22 Conference”

21 June 2022

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**MORNING SESSION**

**09:00 – 09.30**

**OPENING CEREMONY**

**Welcome**
Dominik Ziller, Vice-President, IFAD

- His Excellency Ville Skinnari, Minister for Development Cooperation and International Trade, Finland
- Luc Christiaensen, Programme Manager of the Rome Centre on Jobs and Labour Mobility, The World Bank Group

**Moderator:** Hélène Papper, Director of Global Communications and Advocacy Division, IFAD

10-minute break

**09.40 – 10.50**

**Plenary session**

**INGREDIENTS FOR INNOVATION: THE EMERGING DIGITAL AGRICULTURE REVOLUTION IN KENYA**

**Introduction**
Luc Christiaensen, Programme Manager of the Rome Centre on Jobs and Labour Mobility, The World Bank Group

- Scaling Digital Interventions in Agriculture: Perspectives from Kenya
  Thule Lenneiye, Agricultural Transformation Office Coordinator, Government of Kenya

**HYBRID FORMAT** (In-person, via zoom and streamed via YouTube)
Main Plenary Hall: ITALIAN ROOM (55 people max) | Side Events: OVAL ROOM (35 people max)
VIP Room: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ ROOM (12 people max) | Media Room: EXECUTIVE DINING ROOM (35 people max)
**MORNING SESSION**

- **Leveraging World Bank Projects to Scale-up the Use of Data and Digital Technologies in Agriculture**  
  Vinay Vutukuru, Senior Agricultural Specialist, World Bank  
- **Revolutionizing the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers through Digital Agripreneurs in Africa**  
  Sriram Bharatam, Founder and Chief Mentor, Kuza Biashara  
- **Systematic Learning for Innovation: An Integrated Research Approach for Kenya**  
  Michael Keenan, Consultant, World Bank  
- **Q&A**

**Moderator:** Luc Christiaensen, Programme Manager of the Rome Centre on Jobs and Labour Mobility, The World Bank Group

10-minute break

**10.00 – 11.30**

**Side event**

**APPLYING FRONTIER TECHNOLOGIES TO SECURE LAND RIGHTS**  

**Keynote:** Leveraging frontier technologies to secure land tenure - lessons learnt and future directions  
*Simon Hull, Senior Lecturer, Geomatics Division of the University of Cape Town*

**Panellists:**  
- Claudia Stöcker, SmartLandMaps  
- Didier Sagashya, Zambia Country Manager, Medici Land Governance  
- Keith Bell, Senior Advisor Land Registration and Geospatial, Public Investment Fund, Saudi Arabia  
- Maria Paola Rizzo, Land Tenure Specialist, FAO  
- Amy Coughenour Betancourt, President & Chief Executive Officer, Cadasta Foundation  
- Mila Koeva, Associate Professor, International Institute of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation ITC, University Twente

**Moderators:** Harold Liversage, Lead Global Technical Specialist on Land Tenure, IFAD; and Vladimir Evtimov, Land Tenure Officer, FAO

**11.00 – 11.50**

**Plenary session**

**INTERCONNECTED REGENERATIVE PRACTICES FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF INNOVATION AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**  
MORNING SESSION

Opening remarks
Jo Puri, Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD), IFAD
- Pilot projects with public-private partnerships: models to be scaled up
  Renzo Tomellini, Chief Technical Secretariat, Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition
- The role of private business: the regenerative model
  Andrea Illy, co-founder and co-chair, Regenerative Society Foundation and Chairman of illycaffè, Italy
- Connecting rural communities with global market: innovations in food supply chains
  Luca Alinovi and Alessio Colussi, Founders, Farmshine, Kenya

Closing remarks
Sara Mbago-Bhunu, Regional Director, East and Southern Africa Division (ESA), IFAD
Moderator: Giovanna Gregori, Director, Regenerative Society Foundation

10-minute break

12.00 – 12.50
Plenary session
TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY: EXPERIENCES FROM SOUTHERN AFRICA AND FINLAND
Locations: In person in the Italian Room at IFAD headquarters / live webcast on Youtube / through Zoom – register here https://bit.ly/3G0nHSC

Opening remarks
Tanja Gren, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Finland to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome
- Circular Economy transition leading the way
  Mari Pantsar, Director Sustainability solutions, The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra, Finland
- Biogas from market waste using circular economy model
  Admore Chiumia, Founder, Green Impact Technologies
- Restoring rangelands: building soils, building peace
  Eero Wahlstedt, Co-Founder and MEAL Specialist, SoilWatch
- Solar Foods: Food out of thin air
  Shilei Zhang, CCO, Solar Foods

Closing remarks
Tanja Gren, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Finland to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome
Moderator: Silva Paananen, Embassy of Finland, Rome
MORNING SESSION

12.00 – 13.00
Side event
GOVERNMENT POLICIES THAT ACCELERATE INNOVATION: LESSONS FROM INNOVATORS IN ASIA AND AFRICA
Locations: In person in the Oval Room at IFAD headquarters / live webcast on YouTube / through Zoom – register here: https://bit.ly/3yPhYNN

Chairperson and moderators
Carl Pray, Distinguished Professor of Agriculture, Food and Resource Economics, Rutgers the State University of New Jersey
Romina Cavatassi, Lead Economist, IFAD

Presentations:
- Promoting sustainable livelihoods and addressing environmental challenges through innovative business models and technologies
  Ankita Chowdhury, Project Manager, SwitchON
- Digital innovation as enabler of backward integration of value chains through agribusiness cluster and inclusive market development
  Patrick Obodokeka, Digital Innovation Specialist, 2SCALE Program
- Farmbetter - from idea to startup and what impact policies have
  Benjamin Gräub, Co-Founder & Co-CEO, FarmBetter
- Accelerating the development of innovative firms to support rural development in Indonesia
  Dan Vadnjal, Co-Founder and CEO, Bali Direct Store BaliDirect

13.00 – 14.00
LUNCH BREAK
Venue: Turkish Lounge, Floor 1, IFAD headquarters (situated between the Oval Room and the Italian Room)

AFTERNOON SESSION

14.00 – 14.50
Plenary session
PUBLIC-PRIVATE-PRODUCER PARTNERSHIPS (4PS) TO FOSTER INNOVATION AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Welcome remarks
Her Excellency Yael Rubinstein, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations Agencies in Rome
AGENDA (Last updated 20 June 2022)

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

**Opening remarks**
Yakov Poleg, Senior Deputy Director General and Head of the Centre for Foreign Trade and International Cooperation (CFTIC), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Israel
- Dana Kedar, Director, GrowingIL
- Hagit Schwimmer, Senior Director, Health, Food, Agriculture, Energy, Environment, Climate, Mobility and Research Infrastructures, ISERD, Israel Innovation Authority
- Sigalit Lidai, Innovation Diplomacy Manager, StartUp Nation Central, Israel
- Carmit Oron, CEO, Salicrop
- Tomer Regev, CEO & Co-Founder, Alta INNOVATION

**Closing remarks**
Francisco Rubio, Senior Technical Specialist, ABC Fund, PMI (Private Sector Advisory and Implementation (PAI)), IFAD

**Moderator:** Yakov Poleg, Senior Deputy Director General and Head of the Centre for Foreign Trade and International Cooperation (CFTIC), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), Israel

**14.00 – 15.00**

**Side event**
**LEVERAGING ADVANCED ANALYTICS FOR TRANSFORMATIVE COUNTRY PROGRAMMES**
*Venue: Oval Room, IFAD headquarters / Live webcast on YouTube / Virtual participation via Zoom – register here: [https://bit.ly/3yPk0h4](https://bit.ly/3yPk0h4)*

**Presentations**
- **Applications of machine learning and natural language processing to inform operations**
  Harsh Anuj, Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank Group
- **Applications of machine learning in fragile situations**
  Sofia Kyriazi, Artificial Intelligence Engineer, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
  Bruno Arcano, Computer Science PhD student, University of Essex, Research Officer for the Embedded and Intelligent Systems Laboratory
- **Applications of machine learning in humanitarian operations (Optimus)**
  Koen Peters, Head of Development for Supply Chain Planning & Optimization, World Food Programme
- **Ethics and due diligence in artificial intelligence processes**
  Tetsuro Narita, Senior Specialist, Investment Unit at IDB LAB, Inter-American Development Bank

**Discussant**
Gerard Sylvester, Investment Officer (Digital Agriculture), FAO
Panagiotis Karfakis, Economist, Agricultural Development Economics Division, FAO

**Moderator:** Alessandra Garberro, Lead Regional Economist, Near East, North Africa and Europe Division (NEN), IFAD
### AFTERNOON SESSION

#### 15.00 – 15.50

**Plenary session**

APPLICATIONS OF GIS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) FOR CLIMATE ACTION  

**Opening remarks**

Sara Savastano, Director, Research and Impact Assessment Division, IFAD
- Ruud Grim, Programme Coordinator, Netherlands Space Office
- Clement Albergel, Climate Applications Scientist, European Space Agency
- Arthur Mabiso, Senior Economist, Research and Impact Assessment Division, IFAD

**Moderator:**  
Arthur Mabiso, Senior Economist, Research and Impact Assessment Division, IFAD  

#### 16.00 – 16.50

**Plenary session**

FROM IDEA TO IMPACT THROUGH INNOVATIVE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS  

**Welcome remarks**

Samuel Rothenberg, Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Agencies in Rome
- Barbara Ranson, Programme Director, National Science Foundation, United States
- Sarah Staton, Deputy Director for the Office of Science and Technology Cooperation (STC), Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, State Department, United States
- Jesse Flanagan, Senior Programme Officer, VentureWell, United States

**Closing remarks**

Advit Nath, Director and Controller, Financial Controller’s Division (FCD), IFAD

**Moderator:**  
Phil Weilerstein, President and Chief Executive Officer, VentureWell, United States
## AFTERNOON SESSION

### 16.00 – 17.00

**Side event**

**INNOVATION, FOOD SYSTEMS AND SUSTAINABILITY**


- Enrico Molinaro, Secretary General, Italian Network for the Euro-Med Dialogue & President of Mediterranean Perspectives
- Almotaz Abadi, Managing Director for Water, UfM, Spain
- Dina Storey, Head Sustainability, Expo Dubai 2020, United Arab Emirates
- Sara Roversi, Founder and Director, Future Food Institute, Italy
- Samaa El Baroudy, Director of the Technical Office, Nile Water Sector-Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Arab Republic of Egypt
- Nomindelger Bayasgalanbat, Senior Technical Specialist (Social Inclusion – Nutrition), ECG/SKD, IFAD

**Closing remarks**

Angelo Riccaboni, President, PRIMA Foundation

**Moderator:** Antonella Cordone, Senior Technical Specialist on Nutrition, IFAD

### 17.00 – 17.30

**CLOSING CEREMONY**


- Jo Puri, Associate Vice-President, Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD), IFAD
- Oscar Di Montigny, Chief Innovation, Sustainability & Value Strategy Officer at Banca Mediolanum and President of Flowe, Italy
- Francisco Jose Noguera Cepeda, President of Innpusla, Colombia

**Moderator:** Gladys H Morales, Senior Innovation Adviser, Change Delivery and Innovation Unit (CDI), Office of the President and the Vice-President (OPV), IFAD

### 18.00 – 20.00

**INNOVATION DAY COCKTAIL hosted by IFAD Change Delivery and Innovation Unit**

*In-person and by invitation only*

Foyer, IFAD headquarters, Rome