High-Level Side Event on the 8th International Tokyo Conference for International Development (TICAD8)

Future of Food Security in Africa in times of Global Food Crisis: How innovation can help our future?

Date: 30 September (Friday) 2022
Time: 10:00-11:30 (GMT), 11:00-12:30 (CET), 18:00-19:30 (JST)

Moderator

Hélène Papper

Director of Global Communications and Advocacy, IFAD

Hélène Papper is the Director of the IFAD Global Communications and Advocacy Division, which is responsible for IFAD’s global internal and external engagement and positioning, communications and advocacy strategies and operations. Before joining IFAD, she was the Director of the United Nations Information Centre for Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela based in Bogotá. She is a conflict and post-conflict strategist and leader with extensive experience in the field of diplomacy, advocacy and communications.

Opening Speakers

Alvaro Lario

President-elect, IFAD

Alvaro Lario is an IFAD’s president-elect. His will start his new duty as IFAD President in October 2022. Formerly he served as Associate Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Controller, Financial Operations Department, at IFAD. He was part of the Executive Management Committee and was responsible for the design and implementation of the financial strategies and policies at IFAD, including oversight of the Treasury, Controller and Financial Management divisions.
Mahmoud Elies Hamza
Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries of the Republic of Tunisia

Mahmoud Elies Hamza is Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries of the Republic of Tunisia. His formerly served as Delegate of Tunisia to the CIHEAM Governing Board of Directors since June 2017. He was also at the head of the Institution of Agricultural Research and Higher Education (IRESA) since 2017.

Mr Shunsuke Takei,
State-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Shunsuke Takei is State-Minister of Foreign Affairs since August 2022 and a member of the House of Representatives (Liberal Democratic Party). He was elected for the first time in 2012. In 2016, He was appointed as Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs under the Second Abe Cabinet (third reshuffle).

Takaaki Katsumata,
State-Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan

Takaaki Katsumata is State-Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries since August 2022 and a member of the House of Representatives (Liberal Democratic Party). He was elected to the House of Representatives in 2012 for the first time and later re-elected 3 times. In 2018-2019, he served as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Environment under the Second Abe Cabinet (fourth reshuffle).

Session 1 Speakers

Solomon G. Ansah
Acting Director, Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana

Dr Solomon G. Ansah is the Acting Director of Crop Services of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. He has been a member of the National Seed Council and National Variety Release and Registration Committee since 2017 and 2012 respectively. He was the National Seed Specialist under the West Africa Seed Program who coordinated the production of climate resilient seeds, building the capacity of the private sector in seed business management. He is currently the Head of the Seed Unit of the Directorate
Doga Makiura

**CEO of Degas Ltd.**

Doga Makiura is a founder and CEO of Degas Ltd. Since 2012, he led an agricultural business with international cooperation agencies, connecting between farmers and the market in East Africa, mainly Rwanda. Project expanded to over 30 cooperatives and over 100 tonnes of agricultural products were provided to over 100,000 people. Currently, he moved the base to Ghana and is tackling agribusiness with local people.

Mochesane Mpali

**CEO of Lema Agrivest**

Mochesane Mpali is a founder and CEO of the Lema Agrivest. The company has been operating since January 2021, specializing in hydroponics farming. Their services include installation of hydroponics systems for home growers and small-scale farmers, training and consultancy services, production of fruits and vegetables and partnerships with local NGOs.

Aboobakar Jakhura,

*Managing Director, Nyama World*

Mr Aboobakar Jakhura is a founding member and Managing Director of Nyama World. He started Malawi-based Nyama World in 2009 and focused on processing beef and goat meat for sale to the domestic market through its own outlets. Today, it operates across the complete livestock value chain: breeding, rearing and feedlot farming, processing and deboning, and selling beef and goat meat for the local and export markets.

**Session 2 Speakers**

Machito Mihara,

*Professor of Tokyo University of Agriculture, Director for Centre for Global Initiatives*

Dr. Machito Mihara is professor at Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan. After obtaining a doctoral degree from Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology in 1993, he initiated his professional career at Tokyo
University of Agriculture. His research field is land and water environmental conservation in Asian and African countries, especially the study on nutrients and carbon losses associated with soil erosion under climate change is the most focused topic.

**Makoto Kitanaka,**  
*President, Sasakawa Africa Association*

Makoto Kitanaka is President of Sasakawa Africa Association since 2019. He has contributed to a lot of rural development projects as JICA official including Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD), Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment and Promotion (SHEP) and Initiative for Food and Nutrition in Africa (IFNA).

**Reji George**  
*Vice president, Olam International*

Reji Geroge is a Vice president of Olam International. He has been with Olam for the past 14 years overseeing the farming initiatives of Olam in Nigeria. He has over 34 years of experience in managing large plantations (Rubber & Tea) in India, commercial rice farms and value chain farming initiatives across East and West Africa. He established Olam’s fully integrated and mechanized commercial rice farming project in Nasarawa State which is, currently, the largest commercial rice farm in Africa.

**Dede Ekoude,**  
*Country Director, IFAD Country Office in Nigeria*

Dede Ekoude is a Country director of IFAD Country Office in Nigeria. Formerly she served for UN women as a country representative in Haiti. Through 2010 to 2015, she served for three ministerial posts of Togo Government such as Minister of Development and Planning, Minister of Environment and Forest Resource, and Minister of Social Affairs, Women Promotion and Literacy.